

**MICHAEL L. KAZAR, DRIVER OF NETWORKED DATA STORAGE ADVANCEMENTS,  
TO RECEIVE 2013 IEEE REYNOLD B. JOHNSON INFORMATION STORAGE SYSTEMS AWARD**



***Contributions to Early Global Data Storage Systems  
Paved the Way for Today's Cloud Storage Technology***

New York, N.Y. (8 May 2013) – Michael L. Kazar, an engineer whose expertise in network file system architectures has strongly influenced today's cloud storage systems, is being honored by IEEE with the [2013 IEEE Reynold B. Johnson Information Storage Systems Award](#). IEEE is the world's largest technical professional association.

The award, sponsored by Hitachi Data Systems, recognizes Kazar for developments in networked global file systems and clustered data storage that shaped commercial networked file access and the emergence of cloud storage. The award will be presented on 22 May 2013 at the IEEE International Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge, Overlooking Boston.

Kazar was a co-creator of the Andrew File System (AFS), a networked system developed in 1988 that has highly influenced subsequent file system and data storage technology. AFS used a set of trusted servers to present a homogeneous, location-transparent file name space to all client workstations, much like today's cloud storage technology. The system was designed to be manageable at reasonable cost, despite the large number of servers and users on the network.

At start-up company Spinnaker Networks, Kazar led the creation of a clustered storage system called SpinFS that incorporated many of the ideas of AFS. The system allowed customers to use off-the-shelf storage access protocols without modifying client operating systems. Kazar showed that it was possible to provide nondisruptive data movement with clients using these standard access protocols instead of AFS-like custom protocols. When Spinnaker was acquired by NetApp in 2004, Kazar's SpinFS became the basis for the Ontap/GX product for high-performance/high-capacity storage systems and a forerunner to cloud storage systems.

Kazar is chief technology officer at Avere Systems, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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