

For release: **IMMEDIATE**

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ASHTON-TATE CONTINUES STOCK REPURCHASE PROGRAM

TORRANCE, Calif., Dec. 17, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ:TATE) today announced that it is continuing its previously announced stock repurchase program.

Ashton-Tate's stock closed at \$6.25 Friday, Dec. 14, following a ruling by U.S. District Court Judge Terry J. Hatter that the company's copyrights on certain of its dBASE products were invalid. The company said it will immediately file a motion for reconsideration by Judge Hatter of his ruling, or alternatively, appeal his ruling to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The company's board of directors has authorized the repurchase of up to 3 million shares of the company's \$.01 par value common stock, of which 1.7 million shares already have been repurchased.

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Headquartered in Torrance, California, Ashton-Tate Corporation develops and markets microcomputer business applications and advanced connectivity software. Major product categories include database management systems, word processing, integrated decision support, spreadsheets, graphics and software utilities. Ashton-Tate is a worldwide organization with products available in 20 languages and in more than 50 countries.

The company also offers a comprehensive line of training and support services for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

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