

IMMEDIATE

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ASHTON-TATE'S TATE PUBLISHING DIVISION INTRODUCES dBASE FILE  
RECOVERY, A FILE RECOVERY PROGRAM FOR DAMAGED dBASE FILES

TORRANCE, Calif., May 8, 1989 -- Tate Publishing, a division of Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ:TATE) today introduced dBASE File Recovery, a new software product that recovers and restores damaged dBASE III, dBASE III PLUS, and dBASE IV files.

dBASE File Recovery, which carries a suggested retail price of \$99.95, is available directly from Tate Publishing or through computer retail outlets nationwide.

Designed by Keith Mund of Mund Information Systems, the product is the first and only Ashton-Tate-certified file recovery program created specifically for dBASE Users. dBASE File Recovery works by first allowing users to assess the type of damage their files may have suffered. The program then allows the user to search existing, undamaged files for portions of the damaged or corrupted file, while also searching the damaged or corrupted floppy or hard disk for remnants of the lost file.

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"Even the most careful dBASE user can, from time to time, experience the frustration of losing a file due to an improper floppy disk swap, power failure or unintentional deletion of a file," said Rick Gibson, Director of Sales and Marketing for Tate Publishing. "Now, as long as your data still exists somewhere on your disk (and it almost always does), dBASE File Recovery can help you restore up to 100 percent of virtually every type of corrupted file."

Among the types of damaged files dBASE File Recovery will restore are files with embedded End-of-File and Null Characters; files with shifted data, even multiple shifted areas in the same file; and files with damaged or nonexistent headers. The product will also restore data that is not contained in a file listed in the directory, deleted or ZAPped files and disks with corrupted directories or File Allocation Tables.

dBASE File Recovery features a series of pull-down menus similar to those used in the dBASE family of products, and on-line help. Many of the same dBASE keystrokes were designed into the product in an attempt to enhance ease of use. "What makes this product a landmark is that it works just like dBASE products. You get dBASE functionality and you get to work on files that actually look like dBASE files." Gibson said. "This is a significant improvement over existing file recovery products which only recover strings of data and nothing more."

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"Unfortunately, no database file is totally immune to loss, damage or corruption. Even a back-up file doesn't guarantee safe data," he added, "but with dBASE File Recovery, users can feel secure in knowing that they have the ability to recover lost data and files if a problem should occur."

Early feedback from dBASE developers who have worked on pre-release versions of dBASE File Recovery has been enthusiastic. "I loved the program ... I think anyone who works with .DBF files should own a copy," said one developer, while another added, "I killed a couple of .DBF files to see what would happen. The program did a good job of fixing the problems. This one is a real winner."

dBASE File Recovery runs on an IBM PC, XT and AT; PS/2 Models 50, 60 and 80, and 100 percent compatible computers with 256K of RAM. Operating system requirements are PC-DOS or MS-DOS 2.1 or higher.

dBASE File Recovery can be obtained from software dealers or directly from Tate Publishing by calling 1-800-254-TATE (1-800-254-8283).

dBASE File Recovery is part of a new line of software products designed by independent developers and published and marketed by Tate Publishing.

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Based in Torrance, Calif., Ashton-Tate markets best-selling microcomputer business applications software for DOS, OS/2 and Macintosh environments. Products are available in six major categories: database management systems, word processing, graphics integrated decision support software, spreadsheets and desktop publishing. The Company offers a variety of software applications, tools and utilities under the Tate Publishing software label, as well as a library of best-selling computer hardware and software-related books and periodicals. Ashton-Tate also markets a comprehensive line of service and support programs for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

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