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<u>ASHTON-TATE SHIPS</u>
<u>SQL LINK FOR FRAMEWORK III</u>

Framework users now have link
to SQL Server data

TORRANCE, Calif., May 1, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation
(NASDAQ: TATE) today announced that SQL Link for Framework III has
begun shipping. A utility that enables users to bring data from SQL
Server into Framework III, SQL Link for Framework III has a suggested
retail price of $49.95. It is available now through selected
Ashton-Tate authorized resellers.

"This new utility is the first step in our front-end strategy; it
represents added value to our users of SQL Server and Framework III,"
said Bill Lyons, vice president and general manager for Ashton-Tate's
Applications Group.

"SQL Link for Framework III offers Framework users access to
important decision support data," Lyons added. "And this data is
available to users on a broad range of machines -- from 8086 or
8088-based PCs through the latest 486s -- since Framework III runs
on all of these personal computers."

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"We're very pleased to have Framework III be the first integrated decision support software front-end to SQL Server," said Dwayne Walker, product manager, SQL Server at Microsoft Corporation.

Framework III is Ashton-Tate's integrated decision support software that includes word processing, spreadsheet, database, outlining, telecommunications, graphics and electronic mail functions. The software has a suggested retail price of $695.

Based on a client/server architecture, the Ashton-Tate/Microsoft SQL Server is a database server that, unlike a file server, offers processing power of its own in a local area network (LAN) environment. As a result, processing can be effectively distributed between the server and LAN workstations. SQL Server's processing power also provides many of the minicomputer-based network benefits -- such as performance, integrity, security and concurrency -- at a fraction of the cost. SQL Server sells for a suggested retail price of $2495.

Product Specifics

With SQL Link for Framework III, data stored in SQL Server can be loaded into a Framework III spreadsheet, database or word processing document by composing queries in TRANSACT-SQL. That data can be analyzed, graphed, mail-merged or integrated into documents using Framework III. Users also can write data back to SQL Server, so that updated information is available to other users.

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SQL Link for Framework III consists of two modules: a Framework III macro and an OS/2 program that resides on the server. The OS/2 program submits queries from Framework III to SQL Server and returns the results to Framework III.

Three variables allow the system administrator to adjust the load on the server. Security is guaranteed by individual log-ons at each workstation accessing the server.

The product was designed for two types of end-users: information professionals who use Framework and know SQL, and end-users who can access SQL Server data through stored, pre-specified queries. These queries can be developed by MIS professionals or others familiar with SQL, thereby eliminating the need for end-users to learn TRANSACT-SQL.

"SQL Link for Framework III, in conjunction with Framework's FRED programming language, offers developers a new frontier in PC application development. Complex reports based on server databases can be updated and printed with a few keystrokes," said Joe Brilando, vice president of corporate marketing and developer services.

System Requirements

The following is required for SQL Link for Framework III:

- Framework III or Framework III LAN
- 3COM 3+ Open (version 1.1) or Novell Advanced
  Netware (version 2.1 or higher)
- 504K free DOS memory

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Price, Availability, Support

SQL Link for Framework III has a suggested retail price of $49.95 and is available now through selected Ashton-Tate authorized resellers. Technical support for SQL Link for Framework III is available from Ashton-Tate via comprehensive pay-for-support plans.

Headquartered in Torrance, California, Ashton-Tate Corporation develops and markets microcomputer business applications and advanced connectivity software. The company's major product categories include database management systems, word processing, integrated decision support, spreadsheets, graphics and software utilities. Ashton-Tate has international operations in most countries around the world, with products available in 20 languages 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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