



Immediate

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ASHTON-TATE SHIPS ARABIC VERSION OF
FRAMEWORK III

TORRANCE, Calif., May 8, 1989 - Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ: TATE) has announced the Arabic version of Framework III, the company's integrated software package for MS-DOS computers. Framework III Arabic combines word processing, spreadsheet, database management, business graphics and outlining into one integrated environment. This is the first Ashton-Tate product available in the Arabic language.

Framework III Arabic is also the first PC software to offer full graphic display in Arabic with "contextual analysis" - the correct display of Arabic character shapes. Arabic and English can be mixed in the same document, and full search and sort capabilities can be used on mixed language data.

The Arabic version of Framework III was jointly developed by Ashton-Tate and International Computer Systems Ltd. (ICS), London. ICS is one of the world's leading experts in bilingual computerized systems for the Arab world.

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"Framework is already a leader in the integrated software market in Europe," said Floyd Bradley, Ashton-Tate's European Vice President. "We expect Framework III Arabic to achieve the same popular status in the Middle East, thanks to the full functionality the product provides to Arabic-speaking users."

"Customers who have seen pre-release versions of the product have been very impressed by its range and depth of functionality. They feel that the product specifically meets the needs of Arabic-speaking users," added Esam Samara, Managing Director of ICS.

The first order of Framework III Arabic is destined for the Jordanian secondary school system. The software is part of a multi-million British pound project -- awarded to ICS through the UK crown agents via funds made available by the British government Overseas Development Administration -- that will supply PCs and Arabic software to be used throughout the secondary school system in Jordan.

"Framework has been particularly successful in the education and financial sectors throughout the world," said Bobby Suleman, Middle East Area Manager for Ashton-Tate. "Major companies in the Middle East have already shown great interest in the product. We are confident that the Arabic version will help us increase our market share in these sectors."

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Price, Availability

Framework III Arabic is available now from Ashton-Tate authorized distributors in the Middle East. Pricing varies from country to country, so customers should contact the Ashton-Tate sales office in their country for pricing information.

Ashton-Tate markets best-selling business application software for DOS, Macintosh and OS/2 environments. Products are available in five major categories: database management systems, word processing, graphics, decision support integrated software and spreadsheets. The Tate Publishing division offers third-party software applications as well as books and periodicals. The company also markets a comprehensive line of service and support programs for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

ICS offers a wide range of Arabic products and systems, including minicomputers, printers, plotters, terminals and application software.

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