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**ASHTON-TATE CORPORATION ANNOUNCES
FIRST QUARTER REVENUES AND EARNINGS**

TORRANCE, Calif., May 19, 1987 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (OTC: TATE) today reported net income for the quarter ended April 30, 1987, of \$9.09 million, a 77.5 percent increase over net income of \$5.12 million for the same period last year. Earnings per share were \$.36, compared with \$.23 (restated to reflect a 100 percent stock dividend distributed to stockholders in January 1987) for last year's first quarter.

Revenues for the quarter were \$60.21 million, up 46.2 percent over the \$41.17 million reported for the first quarter last year.

"Our first quarter results reflect continued demand for our products," said Edward M. Esber Jr., Ashton-Tate chairman and chief executive officer. "We continue to experience strong sales of dBASE III PLUS, which maintained its position as the best-selling microcomputer database software package.

(more)

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"MultiMate sales momentum continued, with the introduction and shipment of MultiMate Advantage II, our new flagship word processing package, spurring increased demand," Esber said.

In addition to shipping MultiMate Advantage II, the company recently announced availability of all of its products in 3 1/2-inch disk format to run on IBM's Personal System/2 microcomputers. Copy protection was removed from the MASTER-GRAPHICS Series, fulfilling the company's promise to remove copy protection from all products.

"The availability of our products in 3 1/2-inch disk format to run on the new IBM PS/2 family is just the first step in our plan to optimize our products to take full advantage of these new systems," Esber said. "While we will continue to fully support and upgrade our products for current standard personal computers running DOS, we have made significant progress in developing a family of products that takes advantage of the PS/2 family and OS/2, and which will address the future needs of departmental and work-group computing."

Also during the quarter, Ashton-Tate:

- o Announced the appointment of Dr. Harry K.T. Wong as senior scientist. Dr. Wong, who has more than 14 years experience in research and teaching the implementation of advanced database management systems, is providing technical direction in the areas of Structured Query Language (SQL) and advanced database architectures.

(more)

o Appointed George L. Farinsky as executive vice president and chief financial officer.

o Shipped the Framework II Developer's Toolkit.

Ashton-Tate markets leading products in four major categories: database management systems, with dBASE III PLUS and RapidFile; word processing, with MultiMate Advantage II; graphics, with the MASTER-GRAPHICS Series; and integrated software, with Framework II. The company also markets comprehensive support and service programs for individual users, corporations and government agencies.

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tmdBASE III PLUS, RapidFile, Framework II, MultiMate Advantage II and MASTER-GRAPHICS are trademarks of Ashton-Tate.

COMPARATIVE QUARTERLY RESULTS
(In thousands, except per share data)

	THREE MONTHS ENDED		
	<u>April 30, 1987</u>	<u>April 30, 1986</u>	<u>January 31, 1987</u>
Net Revenues	\$60,211	\$41,171	\$62,898
Pre-Tax Income	16,245	9,668	20,727
Net Income	\$ 9,098	\$ 5,124	\$10,570
Earnings Per Share	\$.36	\$.23*	\$.43*
Average Shares Outstanding	25,154	21,888*	24,746*

* Restated to reflect a 100 percent stock dividend distributed to stockholders in January 1987.