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**ASHTON-TATE CHAIRMAN ED ESBER DISCUSSES COMPANY STRATEGY AND  
PC INDUSTRY ISSUES AT ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING**

LOS ANGELES, June 11, 1987 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation  
(NASDAQ: TATE) Chairman and CEO Edward M. Esber Jr. today told  
company stockholders that Ashton-Tate is strategically positioned  
to extend its lead in the microcomputer database management  
market.

Speaking today at the company's annual stockholders' meeting  
at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel, Esber outlined Ashton-Tate's  
"high fork/low fork" strategy in which the company will continue  
to enhance current products that operate on 8086/8088 personal  
computers, while delivering new products that take advantage of  
the advanced capabilities offered by 286/386, OS/2-based machines  
in IBM's new line of personal computers.

"We expect the existing standard -- now supporting more than  
8 million PC's -- to continue to evolve and flourish," Esber  
said. "Widespread acceptance of the 32-bit environment may take  
longer than many believe, thus strengthening the positions of  
companies such as Ashton-Tate that will deliver software for  
future DOS generations to address ever-increasing power,

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performance, connectivity and ease of use demands.

"We will continue to support the DOS standard with enhancements to current products -- building in the necessary file and language compatibility bridges users need to move smoothly up to the OS/2 environment.

"With the 32-bit architecture of the new OS/2-based IBM microcomputers, we have an opportunity to create software with capabilities no one thought possible as recently as five years ago. Increased vertical and horizontal connectivity, multiple applications, improved speed and functionality, and better user-interfaces are all benefits we will provide in future Ashton-Tate products."

Esber cited a number of major strengths that keep Ashton-Tate a leader in the database market, including the installed base of 1.5 million dBASE users. "IBM and others are cognizant of this user base, as well as the tens of thousands of applications developers who build their applications with dBASE and the hundreds of third party add-on programs that stem from it. These are powerful incentives for maintaining the dBASE standard.

"For five years, we have been developing products, soliciting feedback from customers, analyzing what works and what doesn't work, and producing next generation products that improve upon their predecessors. We are far ahead of any potential competitor in knowing what DBMS users need and when to

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provide it, and no other company can develop a smoother upgrade path than Ashton-Tate."

Esber reaffirmed that Ashton-Tate will incorporate Standard Query Language (SQL) in future versions of dBASE. "SQL is becoming the standard for database connectivity between micros and mainframes," Esber said. "We plan to embed SQL capabilities within the familiar dBASE user interface, a solution that allows us to join the dBASE standard with the emerging SQL standard. By linking the two environments, we are providing the user with the means to access the power of mainframe and minicomputer databases through the ease and familiarity of the dBASE interface. As we pursue this strategy, the dBASE standard will become even more widely accepted."

Esber reflected on Ashton-Tate's successful year ended January 31, 1987 -- the company's fifth consecutive year of financial growth, representing compound annual growth of more than 85 percent in sales, 130 percent in after-tax profit and 99 percent in earnings per share. During fiscal 1987, the company posted revenues of \$210.8 million and net income of \$30.1 million, increases of 73.4 percent and 81.3 percent, respectively, from fiscal 1986.

Cash and short-term investments increased to more than \$70 million, while total assets nearly doubled to almost \$175 million.

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Esber attributed the company's increased earnings to continued demand for dBASE III PLUS and Framework II, a full year's contribution from the MultiMate product line and increased international shipments.

dBASE III PLUS maintained a market share of better than 60 percent, increasing the worldwide installed base to more than 1.5 million dBASE users. MultiMate also became a stronger standard in fiscal 1987, registering sales in excess of \$39 million -- a 27 percent increase over the previous year and second only to WordPerfect in the word processing market.

Ashton-Tate entered a fourth market category in September 1986 with the acquisition of Decision Resources, Inc., the leading microcomputer business graphics software developer. Sales of MASTER-GRAPHICS products and other non-database products accounted for 37 percent of fiscal 1987 net revenues, lessening Ashton-Tate's reliance on dBASE sales.

Esber also discussed the addition of key senior management and technical talent capable of taking Ashton-Tate to the \$500 million level and beyond. Luther J. Nussbaum, president and newest board member, came to the company in October 1986 after three years in senior management positions at Businessland and 12 years at Cummins Engine Company. George L. Farinsky, executive vice president and chief financial officer, brings 25 years of executive-level finance and administrative experience in Fortune

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500 companies. On the R&D side, Ashton-Tate added Dr. Harry Wong, a nationally recognized SQL expert, who has spent the last 14 years researching advanced database management systems.

At the annual meeting, stockholders approved the following proxy proposals:

- o The election of nine nominees as Directors.
- o An amendment to the Company's Certificate of Incorporation to increase the authorized number of shares of Common Stock from 50,000,000 to 100,000,000.
- o The adoption of the 1987 Stock Option Plan in which 1,000,000 shares of Common Stock have been authorized for issuance.
- o Amendments to the Company's Non-Employee Directors' Option Plan (i) to increase the number of shares of Common Stock authorized for issuance from 300,000 to 400,000 shares and (ii) to amend the vesting schedule for options granted under this Plan.
- o The ratification of the appointment of Price Waterhouse as Ashton-Tate's independent auditors for the fiscal year ending January 31, 1988.

The third-largest developer of microcomputer software, Ashton-Tate markets leading products in four major categories: in database management systems, with dBASE III PLUS and RapidFile; in word processing, with the MultiMate product line; in graphics, with the MASTER-GRAPHICS Series; and in integrated software, with Framework II.

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