

For release:

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dBASE III PLUS

FACT SHEET

dBASE III PLUS is the most complete database management software (DBMS) product on the market today for microcomputer users. The successor to dBASE III, the No. 1 relational DBMS for 16-bit microcomputers, dBASE III PLUS raises the industry standard because it provides an easy growth path for the beginning user, and power and versatility for the experienced user.

In addition to a stand-alone operating capability, it has a built-in multi-user capability, which provides a direct growth path from single-user to multi-user operation on a local area network (LAN). Multiple users may share dBASE III PLUS either by purchasing additional copies of dBASE III PLUS or by purchasing dBASE III PLUS LAN Pack, sold separately, which allows three additional users to share dBASE III PLUS on a network-only basis.

GENERAL FEATURES

EASE OF USE

- o The menu-driven user interface, The Assistant, helps users accomplish day-to-day data management tasks without programming.
- o The Assistant features Framework-like, state-of-the-art pull-down menus, making the product easier to learn and use than dBASE III.
- o The Assistant's message line describes menu options, its status bar displays the drive and file in use, and its screen constantly displays key navigation messages.
- o The Assistant provides access to multiple databases.
- o The Assistant helps beginning users learn programming without disrupting their work flow by displaying on screen all commands being formed.

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- o For ease of learning, dBASE III PLUS has both on-disk and written tutorials, and an extensive context-sensitive "help" feature.

SPEED AND PERFORMANCE

- o Capacity: An unlimited number of files, up to one billion records per file, 128 fields per record, and 4K bytes per record.
- o Speed: Sorts up to two times faster and indexes up to 10 times faster than dBASE III.
- o dBASE III PLUS requires only 256K bytes of random access memory (RAM) in its stand-alone mode, permitting it to run on entry-level memory size configurations.
- o It handles both structured (numbers, data) and unstructured (notes, memos) fields.
- o File import/export capabilities: PFS:FILE, Lotus 1-2-3, VisiCalc DIF, MultiPlan and ASCII; can import files from dBASE II.

POWER WITHOUT PROGRAMMING

- o The Screen Painter builds customized input screens with multiple file access, cursor-positioned prompts and input fields, and menu options.
- o View provides relational capability within both The Assistant and the dot prompt, combining multiple files for data management and report-writing while maintaining separate files. A true relational database, dBASE III PLUS allows up to 10 files to be open at one time.
- o The Advanced Query System (AQS) uses pull-down menus to help users build complex query requests easily. The commands are on-screen, and users need not memorize highly-specific information. AQS is accessible from both The Assistant and the dot prompt.
- o The Applications Generator rapidly creates custom menus, defines database activities for those menu items, and provides messages to users tailored to the application.

MORE POWER FOR PROGRAMMERS

- o dBASE III PLUS maintains continuity with previous dBASE products, with the dot prompt interface, the powerful dBASE programming language, and other features.
- o Built-in Developer's Release: More than 50 enhancements to the dBASE programming language, including eight new commands, 32 additional functions, and a new command editing capability. Features include improved de-bugging aids, environment testing, event processing, and more.

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- o Built-in Runtime+, including: dBCODE, which encrypts dBASE programs; dBLINKER, which links dBASE files together to save disk space and create a more efficient program; and a coupon for dBRUN (sold separately), an execute-only version of dBASE III PLUS.
- o The Data Catalog organizes and maintains related files by displaying only those files that are needed.

BUILT-IN MULTI-USER CAPABILITY

- o This capability permits sharing of data and peripherals by multiple users on a local area network (LAN).
- o Full compatibility allows all data and programs to migrate from dBASE III to a LAN without changing a single line of code.
- o File and record locking permits simultaneous access to data while protecting the data from corruption, and delivers true multi-user access to the same database at the same time.
- o Eight levels of password protection control access to data.
- o Unique to dBASE III PLUS, high-speed data encryption and decryption between networked computers provide secure transmission lines without degradation of performance.
- o dBASE III PLUS LAN Pack, sold separately, provides three Access programs and three full sets of documentation for network-only use.
- o All the features and benefits of single-user are available in a LAN configuration.

LAN Solutions

- o Multiple copies of dBASE III PLUS provide full stand-alone capability plus multi-user.
- o dBASE III PLUS LAN Pack enables three additional users to access one dBASE III PLUS on an economical, network-only basis.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Stand-alone

- o IBM PC, PC XT, PC AT, or 100 percent IBM compatible.
- o Minimum of 256K bytes of RAM.
- o Dual 5 1/4-inch 360K-byte minimum capacity floppy disk drives, or one fixed disk drive and one 360K-byte floppy disk drive.
- o PC-DOS 2.0 or higher.
- o Any printer with at least 80 columns (optional).

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Local Area Networks

Server/Workstations

- o IBM PC, PC XT, PC AT, or 100 percent IBM compatible.
- o Minimum of 640K bytes of RAM.
- o Monochrome or color monitor.
- o Any printer with at least 80 columns (optional).
- o One fixed disk drive and one 360K-byte minimum capacity floppy disk drive.

Network-Only Workstations

- o IBM PC, PC XT, PC AT, or 100 percent IBM compatible.
- o Minimum of 384K bytes of RAM.
- o Monochrome or color monitor.
- o Any printer with at least 80 columns (optional).
- o One 5 1/4-inch 360K-byte minimum capacity floppy disk drive.
- o dBASE III PLUS LAN Pack requires dBASE III PLUS to operate on the IBM PC Network under PC-DOS 3.1/PC Network Program. Other local area networks that use a 100 percent PC-DOS 3.1 compatible operating system, including 3COM's 3Plus and Novell's Advanced NetWare, Version 1.01 or higher, may also support dBASE III PLUS and dBASE III PLUS LAN Pack.

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE

- o \$695 for dBASE III PLUS, including the single-user system; the dBASE Administrator, the LAN version of dBASE III PLUS; and one dBASE Access program. dBASE III PLUS LAN Pack is priced at \$995 for three dBASE Access programs and three full sets of documentation.

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