

For release:

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**ASHTON-TATE ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR
COMPAQ COMPUTER'S NEW WORKSTATION, SERVER AND
LOCAL AREA NETWORK PRODUCTS**

TORRANCE, Calif., November 6, 1989 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ:TATE) today announced support of the new COMPAQ SYSTEMPRO, a powerful, server-oriented microcomputer; COMPAQ DESKPRO 486/25, a personal computer; COMPAQ LAN MANAGER 386/486 network system from Compaq Computer Corporation.

The announcement, made at Compaq's introduction of the three products in Houston, Texas, represents another step in Ashton-Tate's efforts to place the Ashton-Tate/Microsoft SQL Server and the forthcoming dBASE IV Version 1.1 Server Edition on a variety of new and strategic workgroup computing platforms, said company executives.

"The combination of the COMPAQ SYSTEMPRO, COMPAQ DESKPRO 486/25 and COMPAQ LAN MANAGER 386/486 will provide Ashton-Tate with an extremely powerful platform for our DOS and OS/2 products, especially the SQL Server/dBASE IV-based workgroup computing solution," said Edward M. Esber, Jr., Ashton-Tate's Chairman, President and Chief executive officer. "Compaq has assembled a promising network platform with the performance, storage and memory muscle to maximize the benefit of a

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client/server architecture."

Esber added that he believed the COMPAQ SYSTEMPRO and the COMPAQ LAN MANAGER 386/486 in a network environment would serve as a key strategic platform for Ashton-Tate's network-based products of the future.

"Ashton-Tate's support for the new COMPAQ SYSTEMPRO, DESKPRO 486/25 and COMPAQ LAN MANAGER platform is very important in today's market," said Mike Swavely, President, North America, Compaq Computer Corporation. "We are confident the dBASE IV/SQL Server combination running on these new COMPAQ platforms will offer one of the most compelling solutions for meeting sophisticated networking challenges."

The Ashton-Tate/Microsoft SQL Server is a database server product that, unlike a file server, offers processing power of its own in a local area network (LAN) environment. As result, processing can be effectively distributed between the server and LAN workstations. This environment provides many of the minicomputer multiuser benefits in a PC-based network, including performance, data integrity, security and concurrency, all at a fraction of the costs of equivalent power in a minicomputer or mainframe environment.

Currently undergoing internal testing at Ashton-Tate, the dBASE IV Version 1.1 Server Edition is designed for use with SQL Server in LAN environments. Developed for 286- and 386-based microcomputers, this software acts as a front end to SQL Server, giving network users the ability to access and manipulate data

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across client/server-based LANs.

Headquartered in Torrance, California, Ashton-Tate markets microcomputer business applications software for the DOS, OS/2 and Macintosh operating systems. The company offers products in five major categories: database management systems, word processing, integrated decision support software, spreadsheets and graphics. Ashton-Tate also markets a comprehensive line of service and support programs for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

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