ASHTON-TATE
NEWS

ASHTON-TATE PROVIDES SUPPORT THROUGH FREE BULLETIN BOARD FOR PC, MACINTOSH USERS

TORRANCE, Calif., November 10, 1987 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ: TATE) today announced Ashton-Tate Support BBS, a multi-user bulletin board service available free of charge to users of IBM Personal Computers, PC compatibles and Apple Macintosh computers.

The primary purpose of the service is to provide technical support and answer customer questions about Ashton-Tate software products. Customers receive answers to their questions from Ashton-Tate technicians within 24 hours of their call.

The multi-line system allows simultaneous access by more than one user, making possible features such as multi-user tele-conferencing. Other Ashton-Tate Support BBS services include electronic mail, classified ads, separate bulletin boards for each Ashton-Tate software product, and a file library of sample software programs and articles from Ashton-Tate's monthly publication, TechNotes. Ashton-Tate will also use the service to conduct subscriber marketing surveys.

"We hope to serve thousands of Ashton-Tate customers with this new support alternative," said Rich DiGiovanni, vice

(more)

president of Ashton-Tate's Support, Services, and Information Group. "It also gives us a direct line to the people who use our products, serving as a valuable mechanism for feedback."

In addition to a computer and operating software, users need a modem and communications software such as that in Framework II, CrossTalk or SmartCom. They can access Ashton-Tate Support BBS by calling (213) 538-6196.

Customers outside the 213 dialing area may wish to subscribe to a long distance computer access service such as Telenet's PC Pursuit Service. For a monthly charge of $25, PC Pursuit allows subscribers to access long-distance databases and bulletin boards with a local phone call.

Ashton-Tate, one of the largest developers and marketers of microcomputer business applications software, reported revenues of $63.6 million and net income of $10.1 million for the second quarter ended July 31, 1987, increases of 29.8 percent and 55.4 percent, respectively, from the previous year.

Based in Torrance, Calif., Ashton-Tate markets best-selling microcomputer business applications software in five major categories: database management systems, with industry-standard dBASE III PLUS, dBASE Mac and RapidFile; business graphics, with the MASTER GRAPHICS Series; word processing, with MultiMate Advantage II; integrated software, with Framework II; and desktop publishing, with Byline. Ashton-Tate also markets a comprehensive line of service and support programs for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

# # # #

R   Ashton-Tate, dBASE and MultiMate are registered trademarks of
     Ashton-Tate Corporation.
tm   dBASE III PLUS, RapidFile, Framework II, MultiMate Advantage II,
     MASTER GRAPHICS and Byline are trademarks of Ashton-Tate
     Corporation.