ASHTON-TATE SHIPS FULLWRITE PROFESSIONAL,
STATE-OF-THE-ART MACINTOSH WORD PROCESSING SOFTWARE

TORRANCE, Calif., April 27, 1988 — Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ: TATE) today announced the shipping of **FullWrite Professional**, a state-of-the-art word processing product for business, academic and professional users of Apple Computer, Inc.'s Macintosh computers.

FullWrite Professional combines the features of three separate applications -- word processing, page layout and draw-type graphics -- in one completely WYSIWYG (what-you-see-is-what-you-get) program. In a single environment, it allows users to go directly from an outline to a typeset document with integrated graphics in a single environment.

"FullWrite Professional, Ashton-Tate's first word processing product for the Macintosh, establishes a new standard for word processing in the Macintosh arena," said Edward M. Esber Jr., Ashton-Tate's chief executive officer and acting general manager of the Macintosh Software Division. "Unlike most of its competitors, FullWrite Professional was designed from the outset to make maximum use of the Macintosh's unique graphics interface. FullWrite Professional offers Macintosh users a complete writing environment."

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FullWrite Professional guides users through the entire document creation process, from the initial concept through the printed page. "Document integrated outlining," which automatically updates an outline as a document evolves, allows users to begin creation of a document in outline format and then move back and forth from full text mode with a single command. FullWrite Professional shows all formatting (typeface, margins, columns, graphics, etc.) on-screen instantly. In addition to automated index, bibliography and table of contents generations, FullWrite Professional includes sophisticated group productivity features that allow members of a work group to write non-printing "sticky notes" for comments to one another within the document.

Shipping today to retail outlets and to the nearly 5,000 pre-release buyers of the program, FullWrite Professional carries a suggested retail price of $395. **The FullWrite Professional Resellers Guide**, including both a workbook and disk, will be available in May through Ashton-Tate's Publishing Group.

ADVANCED WORD PROCESSING FEATURES

FullWrite Professional supports endnotes, footnotes and citations; and automatically generates tables of contents, indices and bibliographies -- all of which are dynamically updated as the document changes. Powerful, custom style sheet capabilities allow instant formatting of sentences, paragraphs or entire chapters. For law office applications, pre-designed stationery includes pleading paper with automatic line numbering, the ability to generate a table of authorities and "change bars" that allow tracing of revisions (red lining) within a document.

The industry-standard WordFinder ® context-sensitive thesaurus contains 220,000 synonyms and the 100,000-word spelling corrector features advanced phonetic checking. The global find and change function applies to typeface styles and sizes and offers case, style and justification sensitivity.
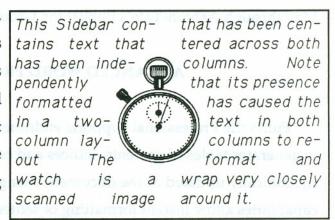
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FullWrite Professional also imports files created by Ashton-Tate's MultiMate Advantage II, as well as MacWrite (versions 2.2 through 4.5) and Microsoft Word (versions 1.5 through 3.02) ASCII files, and data and graphics created by Ashton-Tate's forthcoming Full Impact presentation spreadsheet for the Macintosh. FullWrite Professional's merger printing function accepts data files from Ashton-Tate's dBASE Mac relational database.

Files created with FullWrite Professional can be saved as FullWrite Stationery (template) documents, MacWrite 4.5 documents or as ASCII files. Printing of EPSF (encapsulated PostScript ® files) is fully supported.

PAGE LAYOUT FEATURES

FullWrite Professional lets users place independently-formatted documents -- called "sidebars" -- within the main document, allowing multiple column width layouts on the same page. Text wraps automatically around irregularly-shaped graphic images. Advanced page layout features in FullWrite Professional include kerning and leading controls, guttering and facing (mirrored) pages.

This Sidebar contains text that has been independently formatted in a two-column layout. The watch is a scanned image that has been centered across both columns. Note that its presence has caused the text in both columns to re-format and wrap very closely around it.

HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

FullWrite Professional runs on the Macintosh II, Macintosh SE and Macintosh Plus with 1 MB of RAM (2 MB of RAM recommended). Hardware configuration requirements are one 800K disk drive and a hard disk. The program is fully compatible with MultiFinder, expanded memory, accelerator cards, full-page and two-page displays. FullWrite Professional is fully compatible with all Apple-supported printers, and all PostScript-compatible output devices.

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Based in Torrance, Calif., Ashton-Tate markets best selling microcomputer business applications software in five major categories: database management systems, business graphics, word processing, integrated software and desktop publishing. Ashton-Tate also markets a comprehensive line of service and support programs for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

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