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LYONS ELECTED CEO OF ASHTON-TATE

TORRANCE, Calif., Dec. 12, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ:TATE) today announced that its Board of Directors elected William P. Lyons chief executive officer and a member of the board.

Lyons, 46, has been president and chief operating officer since April 1990.

Dr. Carmelo J. Santoro, an outside director and chairman and chief executive officer of Silicon Systems, Inc., will continue as non-executive chairman of the Ashton-Tate board.

"The board has elected Bill Lyons as CEO in recognition of the significant accomplishments he has made during his tenure as president. He has returned the company to profitability, been instrumental in delivering a stable and reliable dBASE IV 1.1, and renewed the company's focus on customer service," said Santoro, speaking on behalf of the board.

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Lyons joined the company in October 1988 as vice president and general manager of Ashton-Tate's PC Applications Division. For several months during 1989, Lyons also was acting vice president of sales.

Before joining Ashton-Tate, Lyons spent 19 years with IBM Corporation, most recently as vice president, PC software marketing for IBM's National Distribution Division.

Headquartered in Torrance, California, Ashton-Tate Corporation develops and markets microcomputer business applications and advanced connectivity software. The company's major product categories include database management systems, word processing, integrated decision support, spreadsheets, graphics and software utilities. Ashton-Tate has international operations in most countries around the world, with products available in 20 languages in more than 50 countries. The company also offers a comprehensive line of training and support services for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

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