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ASHTON-TATE AND F.J. BARRETT AND ASSOCIATES ANNOUNCE TWO dBASE DIRECT FOR 3270 ADD-ONS

TORRANCE, Calif., February 12, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ:TATE) and F.J. Barrett and Associates today announced the introduction of two add-on products for Ashton-Tate's newest connectivity product, dBASE DIRECT for 3270. The products, seaca+ and interaq.2, were developed and are being marketed by F.J. Barrett. Suggested retail is $149.95 for seaca+ and $395.00 for interaq.2. Both products are available now directly from F. J. Barrett and Associates.

seaca+ is a dBASE DIRECT development tool which eliminates the manual steps required to analyze 3270 screens and supports 3270 applications, according to Fred Barrett, president of F. J. Barrett and Associates. With seaca+ and dBASE DIRECT for 3270, developers are able to capture any sequence of 3270 screens, store them to a PC file, display the screens with all of the field attributes highlighted and print them with or without the field attributes indicated.

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"We believe that dBASE DIRECT users will find seaca+ to be an indispensable tool for developing, documenting and supporting intelligent 3270 workstation applications," Barrett said.

interaq.2 is a dBASE DIRECT application that enables users to bring DB2 data into a dBASE file using IBM's QMF (Query Management Facility). According to Barrett, with interaq.2, users are able to request and store DB2 table definitions, create SQL SELECT statements using pop-up windows and store those statements for subsequent replay. interaq.2 also allows the user to append DB2 data to existing dBASE files or automatically create files that match the DB2 table definition. "interaq.2 is a simple, easy to use DB2 interface which exploits the power potential of the dBASE III PLUS and dBASE DIRECT combination," Barrett said.

"We are pleased with the added functionality that seaca+ and interaq.2 offer to users of our dBASE III PLUS and new dBASE DIRECT for 3270," said Ed Esber, chairman and chief executive officer of Ashton-Tate Corporation. "These products enhance our ability to provide existing dBASE users with immediate access to data resident on IBM mainframes as well as transparent data transfer and manipulation capabilities," Esber added.

Ashton-Tate's dBASE DIRECT for 3270 links the company's dBASE III PLUS database management system for PCs with IBM 370 mainframe data and applications via standard 3270 terminal emulators.

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With dBASE DIRECT for 3270, users can access, transfer and manipulate mainframe data and applications without leaving their PC. dBASE DIRECT is resident on the PC so no modifications or additions to the mainframe are required.

F.J. Barrett and Associates is a commercial development company, headquartered in Huntington Beach, California, which specializes in developing micro-to-mainframe connectivity solutions. In addition to seaca+ and interaq.2, the company has a PC based mainframe simulator, a dBASE code generator for the dBASE DIRECT Control Center sequences and a computer operators' intelligent workstation under development. seaca+ and interaq.2 may be purchased directly from F.J. Barrett and Associates by calling 1-800-266-5544.

Based in Torrance, California, Ashton-Tate markets microcomputer business application software for DOS and Macintosh operating systems. Products are available in five major categories: database management systems, word processing, integrated decision support, 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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R   dBASE III PLUS is a registered trademark of Ashton-Tate Corporation.

tm   dBASE DIRECT is a trademark of Ashton-Tate Corporation.