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ASHTON-TATE TO SELL dBASE PROGRAMMERS' UTILITY PACKAGE

TORRANCE, Calif., September 29, 1986 -- Ashton-Tate, the second-largest developer and marketer of microcomputer applications software, today announced dBASE Programmers' Utilities, a utilities package for dBASE programmers.

The package contains more than 35 dBASE and 12 DOS utilities designed to aid dBASE developers in performing functions such as repairing and recovering damaged dBASE files, creating dBASE screen and interface designs, structuring and cross referencing command files and controlling communications and parallel ports from within dBASE.

The DOS utilities enable users to manipulate files and subdirectories, perform rapid disk searches, change file attributes and use a screen clock.

The package is a compilation of utilities developed by dBASE experts Robert A. Byers, author of the best-selling book, Everyman's Database Primer, Jeb Long, Ashton-Tate chief technologist and C. Wayne Ratliff, developer of dBASE II.

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The package is available at computer retail stores and bookstores nationwide or through Ashton-Tate's toll-free number (800) 437-4329. The suggested retail price is $89.95.

"This package is particularly valuable because it provides programmers with a variety of useful tools all assembled into one software package," said Lawrence Benincasa, vice president, Ashton-Tate publications. "The utilities included are personal favorites of the package's developers and have proven to save them time in writing dBASE code."

Hardware requirements are an IBM PC, PC/XT, Personal Computer AT or compatible computer with 384K of random access memory and MS-DOS version 2.0 or higher. The utilities are for use with dBASE III PLUS and all versions of dBASE III, including the dBASE III Developer's Release.

dBASE III PLUS is Ashton-Tate's relational database management system for the IBM PC and compatibles. dBASE III PLUS LAN Pack is a network-only version of dBASE III PLUS.

The company also markets MultiMate word processing software, and Framework II, an integrated software package. Ashton-Tate's Publishing Group markets books and software add-ons for its major software products. The company has also signed a letter of intent to acquire Decision Resources, Inc., developers of the best-selling MASTER GRAPHICS Series of business graphics software.

Ashton-Tate, based in Torrance, Calif., reported revenues of $49 million and net income of $6.47 million for the second quarter of fiscal 1987, ended July 31, 1986, increases of 78 percent and 87.5 percent, respectively, from the same period of the previous year.

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