

IMMEDIATE

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ASHTON-TATE SHIPS FRAMEWORK III DEVELOPER'S TOOLKIT

TORRANCE, Calif. August 14, 1989 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ:TATE) today announced the shipment of Framework III Developer's Toolkit, a set of utilities and detailed documentation designed to help software developers extend the capabilities of Framework III.

The product carries a suggested manufacturer's price of \$250 and can be purchased directly from Ashton-Tate. To order, customers should call Ashton-Tate Customer Service at (213) 329-9989.

Upgrades from the Framework II Developer's Toolkit to the Framework III Developer's Toolkit are available for \$100. Customers wishing to upgrade must send in the Table of Contents page from the Framework II Developer's Toolkit documentation.

Introduced in July 1988, Framework III is an integrated decision support software program that includes six application functions: word processing, spreadsheet, database, graphics, outlining and data communications (including electronic mail). Framework III also includes FRED, an object oriented programming

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language that can be used to modify the application modules within Framework III or to create new applications.

"The shipment of the Framework III Developer's Toolkit demonstrates Ashton-Tate's commitment to providing developers with the tools they've asked for to enhance their Framework applications," said Bill Lyons, vice president and general manager of Ashton-Tate's Applications Group.

"Designed for both beginning and advanced developers, this product offers detailed documentation on learning and using the FRED programming language," Lyons added. "And seasoned programmers will benefit from routines, tips and techniques on the subtleties of FRED."

Among many features, the product includes ninety-nine user-defined functions (UDF's), a utility program for customizing Framework III's setup options, a low level interface with 24 built-in services, and printer and screen driver construction kits. The Framework III Developer's Toolkit also allows developers to create Framework III applications that seamlessly access data stored in dBASE III PLUS or dBASE IV at the record level.

Ashton-Tate Corporation markets best-selling business application software for DOS, Macintosh and OS/2 environments. Products are available in five major categories: database management systems, word processing, graphics, integrated decision support software and spreadsheets. Ashton-Tate also offers a variety of software applications, tools and utilities,

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as well as a library of best-selling computer books. The company also markets a comprehensive line of service and support programs for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

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