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**ASHTON-TATE CERTIFIES dBASE IV FOR VMS SYSTEMS**

Torrance, Calif., -- October 31, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ: TATE) today confirmed that dBASE IV for VMS systems has passed their internal testing and certification procedures. The product is now at Digital Equipment Corporation for production and distribution.

dBASE IV for VMS is a full implementation of dBASE IV version 1.1 software, runs on VAX systems and workstations, and uses Digital's Network Applications Support (NAS). NAS is Digital's open system for multi-vendor, distributed application integration. dBASE IV for VMS was announced in July 1990 and will be marketed and supported worldwide by Digital.

"Reaction to the product by our various beta sites have been extremely positive," said Ken Rhie, Group Product Manager of Ashton-Tate. "Among the major benefits cited by this group are true application portability, ease of use and optional front-end access to VAX Rdb/VMS database servers."

According to Rhie, dBASE IV for VMS delivers on Ashton-Tate's and Digital's shared vision of providing distributed, enterprise-wide application solutions and data sharing.

### Product Overview

dBASE IV for VMS is a version of Ashton-Tate's dBASE IV for DOS version 1.1 which is optimized to take advantage of the VMS environment and features, including enterprise-wide networking, multi-user and multi-tasking capabilities, virtual memory and full security. This fully-integrated 4GL (Fourth Generation Language) product combines a comprehensive data management system and flexible application development language with 4GL programming and productivity tools.

dBASE IV for VMS maintains the same look and feel as the DOS version of dBASE IV and allows existing DOS-based dBASE applications to run on VAX VMS systems with little or no modification.

dBASE IV for VMS can operate as a front-end tool for VAX Rdb/VMS databases throughout the network, using the NAS SQL data access services. It can also be used as a self-contained data management system without the use of Rdb. And, through Digital's VAX to IBM connectivity products, dBASE IV for VMS can also function as a front-end to IBM mainframe databases such as DB2.

### Pricing and Availability

dBASE IV for VMS, with identical features as the Developer's Edition on a PC, starts at \$1,295, with a introductory price of \$995, for Digital single user workstations. For mid-range VAX systems like the VAX 4000, dBASE IV costs \$21,000 and for the VAX 6000-410, dBASE IV is priced at \$33,000.

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In addition, Digital offers a 4-user license for any VAX system for \$4,995, with an introductory price of \$4,200.

#### System Requirements

dBASE IV for VMS will run on all VAX Systems including VAXstation, MicroVAX and VAXcluster with Digital's VAX VMS version 5.2.

Digital Equipment Corporation, headquartered in Maynard, Massachusetts, is the leading worldwide supplier of networked computer systems and services.

Digital offers a full range of computing solutions and systems integration for the entire enterprise -- from the desktop to the data center.

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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