

For release:

Immediate

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**ASHTON-TATE ANNOUNCES dBASE IV RUNTIME PLUS
AT MACWORLD EXPOSITION**

Runs dBASE IV DOS Applications on the Macintosh

TORRANCE, California, August 7, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ: TATE) will introduce dBASE IV RunTime PLUS tomorrow, on the opening day of MacWorld Exposition in Boston. dBASE IV RunTime PLUS runs most dBASE IV and dBASE III PLUS DOS applications on the Apple Macintosh without modification.

dBASE IV RunTime PLUS also offers the dBASE IV language and Dot Prompt for manipulating and browsing data, and creating or modifying applications on the Macintosh. These applications can then be moved back to the PC, unchanged.

dBASE IV RunTime PLUS is based on dBASE IV version 1.1, which Ashton-Tate announced and began shipping last week. dBASE IV includes over 440 commands and functions that enable developers to build complete applications without programming in C.

"dBASE IV RunTime PLUS plays a vital role in Ashton-Tate's cross-platform strategy of delivering dBASE-compatible products for DOS, Macintosh, VAX VMS and UNIX systems," said Bill Lyons, Ashton-Tate's President and Chief Operating Officer. "It offers the connectivity and flexibility our customers and developers need to run their DOS-based applications on the Macintosh."

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Added Dave Proctor, Vice President and General Manager of Ashton-Tate's Database Division, "dBASE RunTime PLUS gives our customers access to thousands of dBASE applications -- many of which are listed in Ashton-Tate's Developer Registry -- that were previously unavailable to Macintosh users. These applications are designed for virtually every vertical category, including office automation, accounting, manufacturing and inventory control."

Features and Benefits

dBASE IV RunTime PLUS includes the following major features:

- *Cross-Platform Compatibility*

Most applications written in dBASE IV, dBASE III PLUS and dBASE III can be moved between the Macintosh and the PC with little or no reprogramming or modification.

- *dBASE IV Programming Language*

Users can edit and customize off-the-shelf dBASE applications. Developers can take advantage of the capabilities of the dBASE IV application programming language, including the dBASE IV interactive debugger and built-in compiler. As a result, both save programming time and increase the portability of their applications.

- *Multi-user Access*

Applications and data can be shared between PCs and Macintoshes on local area networks that adhere to the AppleShare File Protocol. This saves companies money by allowing them to use the same applications on multiple hardware platforms.

- *Data Security*

File security is ensured with automatic record locking, transaction processing with rollback, automatic change detection, screen refresh, eight-level password protection and data encryption.

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Features and Benefits (continued)

• *Import/Export*

For smooth interoperability, dBASE IV RunTime PLUS allows users to import and export files in the following formats: ASCII, dBASE II, dBASE III, dBASE III PLUS, RapidFile, Lotus 1-2-3 (.wks and .wk1), Framework II, PFS:FILE, DIF, SDF, and SYLK.

• *Macintosh Enhancements*

Macintosh MultiFinder, printer and mouse support allow applications to run seamlessly in the Macintosh environment.

Price. Availability. Support

dBASE IV RunTime PLUS will be sold through the Ashton-Tate authorized reseller network. Upgrades from dBASE Mac will be available at product ship by calling Ashton-Tate Customer Service at (800) 2-ASHTON. Pricing and availability are not being announced at this time.

At MacWorld Exposition in Boston

dBASE IV RunTime PLUS will be on display at MacWorld Exposition in Boston, August 8-11, 1990. Interested users are encouraged to stop by booth #5458 at the World Trade Center to view demonstrations of this product, as well as Ashton-Tate's other Macintosh products: FullWrite Professional 1.5 and Full Impact 2.0.

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 operations worldwide, 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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