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RapidFile Fact Sheet

Ashton-Tate's RapidFile is a high-performance file manager that allows business users to easily and quickly manage data, create reports and write form letters. It directly uses files created by Ashton-Tate's industry-standard dBASE III PLUS, providing transparent access to dBASE data and a growth path to more sophisticated database applications.

RapidFile, backed by Ashton-Tate's full user support, marketing and distribution resources, extends the company's leadership position in the microcomputer database category.

In addition to file compatibility with dBASE, RapidFile offers several features and benefits not contained in other file managers. It is easy to learn and use, through the inclusion of two standard interfaces -- dBASE III PLUS pull-down menus and a Lotus 1-2-3-like interface. RapidFile combines the speed of a RAM-based program with the capacity of a disk-based program through support of virtual memory. Because it requires a minimum of 256K bytes of RAM, RapidFile can run on most entry-level hardware memory configurations. All of RapidFile's functions are contained on a single disk, eliminating the need for swapping disks as users change tasks.

TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

- o Name and address list management.
- o Reporting.
- o Mailing labels.
- o Form letters.

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GENERAL FEATURES

- o Up to twice as fast and more responsive than other file managers.
- o Directly uses files from dBASE II, dBASE III, dBASE III PLUS. Easily imports and exports Framework II, pfs:File, Lotus 1-2-3 and ASCII.
- o Employs data compaction techniques to increase storage capacity on disk up to two-fold over other file managers.
- o Uses variable length fields. Supports 254 character fields or up to 64K linked documents per field.
- o Compatible with 3Com, PC-Net and Novell Netware networks without requiring additional software.
- o Provides access to DOS without quitting or reloading.
- o Supports keyboard macros for storage and recall of commonly used command sequences.
- o Offers a variety of data formatting options including European date and currency styles and "written" format for printing checks.
- o Complete context-sensitive help with online index provides direct access to on-screen documentation.
- o Shortcut commands enable experienced users to bypass menus.
- o Address file and inventory applications templates included.
- o On-line tutorial included.

FILE MANAGEMENT

- o Multiple, customizable layouts for forms or tables.
- o Powerful sort and query capabilities using multiple criteria including, AND, OR, NOT, partial or exact match. Data also may be sorted by alphabetic, numeric or date criteria.
- o Queries automatically performed on substring or partial values to simplify the query process.
- o Modification of form or table layouts without data loss or cumbersome copying or remapping of database.
- o Indices are transparent to the user and not required for optimum performance.
- o Data entry validation.

REPORT WRITING

- o Built-in report writer with calculation (string and numeric) offers columnar and free-form reports with minimal setup time.

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- o Automatic suppression of repeated columnar data in reports or labels.
- o Multi-line page breaks, headers and footers with imbedded fields provides flexibility for creating sophisticated reports.
- o "What you see is what you get" report formatting allows users to view layouts before printing.
- o Full-featured calculation capabilities, including minimum, maximum, average and percent.

MEMO WRITING

- o "Form letters by example" provides visual method of setting up mail merge form letters without programming.
- o Reads ASCII files directly to provide easy import of files from word processors.
- o Provides standard word processing capabilities such as copying and moving blocks of text, search and replace, boldface, underlining, super- and subscript, text justification, headers, footers and on-screen page breaks.

MAILING LABELS

- o Instantly and automatically creates mailing labels in standard sizes.
- o Prints up to 10 mailing labels across.
- o Provides standard or custom layouts for labels.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- o IBM PC, PC/XT, Personal Computer AT and 100 percent compatibles.
- o Requires 256K bytes of RAM; 384K bytes when running on a network.
- o Storage requirements are two 360K floppy disk drives or one floppy and one hard disk drive.
- o Supports monochrome or color monitors.

PRICE AND AVAILABILITY

- o \$395 suggested retail price.
- o Available in fourth quarter 1986.

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