

For release:

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ASHTON-TATE SELLS DBASE MAC

New Era Software to actively develop and support database software for the Macintosh

TORRANCE, California, July 16, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation

(NASDAQ: TATE) today announced that, effective immediately, the company has sold dBASE Mac, its database software for the Macintosh, to New Era Software Group, Inc. of Miami, Florida.

New Era Software specializes in Macintosh software development. As of August 15, 1990, New Era will support all current dBASE Mac users; until then, dBASE Mac customers can continue to call Ashton-Tate Technical Support. New Era has acquired Ashton-Tate's dBASE Mac inventory and intends to upgrade the product. Ashton-Tate retains the right to distribute and support dBASE Mac for New Era in Japan.

"We were impressed by New Era's expertise and enthusiasm, and felt that they could best meet the needs of our dBASE Mac customers. Their ownership of dBASE Mac will give that product a renewed future," said Bill Lyons, Ashton-Tate's

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President and Chief Operating Officer. "At the same time, the sale allows us to focus our development efforts on a language-compatible version of dBASE IV for the Macintosh. This will enable our customers and developers to run their DOS-based programs on the Macintosh."

"We are building our business around software for the Macintosh, and dBASE Mac is a perfect addition to our business software product line," said Dean Meyers, Chief Executive Officer of New Era Software. "Our plans for the product include porting it to other platforms, such as UNIX and Windows, and translating it to an even wider range of foreign languages. In addition, we plan to broaden dBASE Mac's usability by developing a multi-user version."

Michael D. Rossetti, New Era's Software President of the Software Products Division and Chief Technical Officer, was the designer of the original dBASE Mac. He began developing the product in 1984; it was purchased by Ashton-Tate in April 1985. Says Rossetti, "I look forward to working again on the future of dBASE Mac. New Era is committed to providing the dBASE Mac tools, tips and training for Macintosh users."

Product Features

dBASE Mac is a relational database management system that includes a programming language, complete support of the Macintosh user interface and multiple file views. It features a wide array of file import and export formats, a virtually unlimited number of records and fields, and pull-down menus. It is designed for easy use by both novice database users and advanced developers.

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Ashton-Tate will continue to actively market its other Macintosh products: Full Impact in spreadsheets, FullWrite Professional in word processing and Full Paint in graphics.

Ashton-Tate Corporation

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.

New Era Software

Headquartered in Miami, Florida, New Era Software specializes in Macintosh software development. The company's Consulting Services Division provides application design, programs, training and installation for Macintosh users and developers. New Era's management team includes Dean Meyers, the founder of New Era Software and a long-standing advocate of dBASE Mac; Michael D. Rossetti, the designer of dBASE Mac; several members of Rossetti's original dBASE Mac development team, and Gary Spierer of the New York-based investment banking firm Capital Hill Group, as financial and marketing advisor.

New Era Software can be reached at (305) 670-4844.

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