News

For release: **Immediate**

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ASHTON-TATE ANNOUNCES
SQL LINK FOR FRAMEWORK III

TORRANCE, Calif., February 12, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate
Corporation (NASDAQ: TATE) today announced SQL Link for Framework
III, a utility that enables users to bring data from SQL Server into
Framework III. SQL Link for Framework III is in the final stages of
certification and will be available for a suggested retail price of
$49.95 through selected Ashton-Tate authorized resellers.

"This new utility is the first step in our front-end strategy; it
represents added value to our users of SQL Server and Framework III,"
said Ed Esber, Ashton-Tate chairman and chief executive officer.
"SQL Link for Framework III will be followed by other Ashton-Tate
products such as dBASE IV 1.1 Server Edition, which will be a fully
integrated, easy-to-use front-end to SQL Server."

Framework III is Ashton-Tate's integrated decision support
software that includes word processing, spreadsheet, database,
outlining, telecommunications, graphics and electronic mail
functions. The software has a suggested retail price of $695.

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Based on a client/server architecture, the Ashton-Tate/Microsoft SQL Server is a database server that, unlike a file server, offers processing power of its own in a local area network (LAN) environment. As a result, processing can be effectively distributed between the server and LAN workstations. SQL Server's processing power also provides many of the minicomputer-based network benefits -- such as performance, integrity, security and concurrency -- at a fraction of the cost. SQL Server sells for a suggested retail price of $2495.

"SQL Link for Framework III offers Framework users access to important decision support data," said Bill Lyons, vice president and general manager for Ashton-Tate's Applications Group. "And this data is available to users on less powerful machines -- such as 8086 or 8088-based PC's -- since Framework III runs on this class of personal computers."

Product Specifics

With SQL Link for Framework III, data stored in SQL Server can be loaded into a Framework III spreadsheet, database or word processing document by composing queries in TRANSACT-SQL. That data can be analyzed, graphed, mail-merged or integrated into documents using Framework III. Users can also write data back to SQL Server, so that updated information is available to other users.

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SQL Link for Framework III consists of two modules: a Framework III macro and an OS/2 program that resides on the server. The OS/2 program submits queries from Framework III to the SQL Server and returns the results to Framework III.

Three variables allow the system administrator to adjust the load on the server. Security is guaranteed by individual log-ons at each workstation accessing the server.

System Requirements

The following is required for SQL Link for Framework III:

- Framework III or Framework III LAN
- 3COM 3+ Open (version 1.1) or Novell Advanced
  Netware (version 2.1 or higher)
- 504K free DOS memory

The product can be used by two types of end-users: information professionals who use Framework and know SQL, and end-users who can access SQL Server data through stored, pre-specified queries. These queries can be developed by MIS professionals or others familiar with SQL, thereby eliminating the need for end-users to learn TRANSACT-SQL.

Price, Availability, Support

SQL Link for Framework III is in the final stages of certification and will be available for a suggested retail price of $49.95 through selected Ashton-Tate authorized resellers. Technical support for SQL Link for Framework III will be available from Ashton-Tate via comprehensive pay-for-support plans.

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Based in Torrance, California, Ashton-Tate markets microcomputer business applications for DOS and Macintosh operating systems. Products are available in five major categories: database management systems, word processing, integrated decision support, spreadsheets and graphics. Ashton-Tate also markets a comprehensive line of service and support programs for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

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