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**ASHTON-TATE'S FULLWRITE PROFESSIONAL AND FULL IMPACT
TO SUPPORT SOUND-IN CAPABILITY OF APPLE MACINTOSH**

TORRANCE, Calif., October 15, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate® Corporation (NASDAQ:TATE) today announced that future versions of its FullWrite Professional™ and Full Impact® software programs will support the sound-in capability of Apple® Computer's new Macintosh® LC and Macintosh IIsx personal computers.

FullWrite Professional, an advanced, full-featured word processor, lets users progress from simple typing and editing to sophisticated document processing without outgrowing their software. It provides page layout power through easy graphics and layout capabilities, and offers intuitive support for advanced documents through its book metaphor and powerful note architecture.

Full Impact is a presentation spreadsheet designed to deliver easy data access and maximum productivity to Macintosh users. Key features include 3-D graphs, Excel data import and export, intelligent recalculation, new chart types and borders, and developer tools such as buttons.

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Slated to appear in version 1.5s of FullWrite Professional, sound-in capability support is an important extension of the product's note architecture, according to FullWrite Professional product manager, Steve Pederson.

"FullWrite Professional already offers a simple but elegant approach to managing all of the elements that go into a complex document, including table of contents, indexing, footnotes, endnotes, sidebars and graphics," said Pederson. "By supporting the Macintosh's new sound-in capability, FullWrite will extend that architecture to allow users to attach voice and sound notes to documents."

Pederson added that in the future, many users may find they prefer a sound note over written notes as a means of annotating documents.

Sound-in support will give Full Impact users the ability to use sound-in conditional statements within a spreadsheet cell to create "custom audio alert messages," according to Full Impact product manager, Dan Real.

"For example, in a cell that compares revenue to expenses, a user can program a sound message alert that will be triggered to play back should an unfavorable ratio occur," Real explained. "This will be extremely valuable to developers who create custom Full Impact applications, while serving as a tool for users to easily monitor key results within a spreadsheet."

Sound-in will also add sound annotation capabilities to further enhance Full Impact's current written annotation features, Real added.

Ashton-Tate has not announced pricing or release dates for the sound-in versions of either product.

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 is an international company with products available in 20 languages in more than 50 countries. The company also offers a comprehensive line of consulting, training and support services for individuals, corporations and government agencies.

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