

News



For release:

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At COMDEX Booth #H8218

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ASHTON-TATE SHOWS NEW PRODUCTS,
OFFERS dBASE CROSS PLATFORM CHALLENGE AT COMDEX

dBASE IV version 1.1 on multiple platforms,
Framework XE and more highlighted at booth #H8218

LAS VEGAS, Nev., Nov. 12, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ: TATE) kicked off its exhibit at today's opening of COMDEX Fall '90 with a number of new products and promotional activities. Among the announcements:

Ashton-Tate Signs Agreement with Pocket Soft, Inc.

The company announced it is entering into an agreement with Pocket Soft Inc., of Houston, Texas, to license .RTLink/Plus linker for inclusion in Ashton-Tate's dBASE Professional Compiler. .RTLink/Plus is industry-leading linking technology that allows developers to control the memory requirements of their programs, allowing them to run large applications in smaller amounts of memory than would normally be required. The dBASE Professional Compiler is currently under development, and a beta version is being demonstrated at the Ashton-Tate booth throughout the show.

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dBASE Cross Platform Challenge

This is an opportunity for customers to run their DOS-based dBASE applications on VAX VMS systems, UNIX workstations or Macintosh computers. Participants can watch an existing dBASE application run on another platform virtually without recompilation or modification.

Said Dave Proctor, the company's newly appointed executive vice president, product development, "This portability allows over 3 million dBASE users to easily migrate their applications to other hardware platforms, protecting their investments in software, data and training."

Customers can come to the Ashton-Tate booth to schedule an appointment for the dBASE Cross Platform Challenge.

Award-Winning dBASE IV on PCs, DEC, Macintosh, Sun

Demonstrations of dBASE IV version 1.1 running under a range of operating systems -- including UNIX, RISC ULTRIX, VAX VMS, Sun OS, UNIX, Macintosh and DOS -- are ongoing throughout COMDEX. In addition, theatre presentations on dBASE IV begin almost every half hour all five days of the show.

dBASE IV version 1.1 recently received the number one rating from Software Digest in its Ratings Report on Multiuser Database Programs. PC World readers also selected dBASE IV version 1.1 for the publication's World Class Award in the relational database category.

Free copies of dBASE IV version 1.1, as well as other Ashton-Tate software products, are being given away to drawing winners after each product demonstration.

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dBASE Applications

Eight independent software vendors are demonstrating accounting, report generation and other business applications, all created using dBASE products.

Customers can see these applications in action and ask questions on dBASE programming. Product demonstrations are ongoing throughout COMDEX; a schedule is posted in the booth.

dBASE IV Technical Sessions

dBASE IV version 1.1 Technical Sessions are being held Tuesday through Thursday, Nov. 13 - 15, at the Sands Hotel in the Grand Ballroom. These in-depth sessions cover such subjects as new features in dBASE IV version 1.1 and user-defined functions.

Reservations are not needed; customers can simply come to the Grand Ballroom at the Sands. Sessions start at 9 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

"Meet the Developer"

Several well-known dBASE developers and dLAB (dBASE Language Advisory Board) members -- including Bill French, Bob Davies and Candy Prince -- are on-hand in the booth to answer questions on dBASE application design and development.

Customers are encouraged to stop by the booth and ask questions on any aspect of dBASE products; a schedule of each developer's availability is posted in the booth.

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New Addition to the Framework Family

Ashton-Tate is also highlighting Framework XE, the company's new low-priced version of Framework III. Both Framework XE and Framework III are integrated software packages that include word processing, spreadsheet, database, electronic mail, telecommunications, outlining and graphics. Framework XE has an easy-to-use "quick start" menu, bundled MHS (Message Handling Service) for electronic mail, and a calendar/"to do" list utility. Its suggested retail price is \$149.

Framework XE demonstrations are being held in the major presentation area of the booth throughout the show.

Applications Products

In addition, Ashton-Tate's wide range of applications products is on display. These products include:

- **MultiMate version 4.0**
Word processing designed with productivity in mind. Useful features include integrated electronic mail, grammar checking and transparent document conversions.
- **APPLAUSE II**
Presentation graphics software that features charting, drawing and electronic slide show features. The software includes 37 automatic chart types, minimum hardware requirements and a new graphical user interface.
- **Control Room**
A new utility offering users an easy and convenient way to inspect their computer configuration, personalize their systems, and protect their machine and software investments.
- **PowerStep**
The beta version of spreadsheet software for the NeXT machine including such features as 3-D graphics, voice annotation and spreadsheet publishing capabilities.
- **RapidFile**
A flat-file database manager that lets users quickly and easily manage data, create reports, write form letters and produce mailing labels.

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-- **Macintosh applications**

Recently released FullWrite Professional version 1.5 and Full Impact 2.0 take advantage of the easy-to-use Macintosh interface and include sound capabilities.

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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