Linda Duttenhaver
Ashton-Tate Corp.
(213) 538-7011

ASHTON-TATE SHIPS FRAMEWORK III RUNTIME

Royalty-free integrated runtime
for application development

TORRANCE, Calif., May 9, 1989 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation
(NASDAQ: TATE) today began shipping Framework III RunTime, an
integrated runtime environment designed for royalty-free application
development.

At a suggested manufacturer's price of $995, Framework III
RunTime includes the RunTime diskettes and documentation, a copy of
Framework III, a sample calendar/scheduling application and one year
of free support. The product is available directly from Ashton-Tate.

"We're pleased to offer Framework III RunTime to our developers,
not only because it is the first integrated runtime product
available, but also because it offers these developers increased
productivity and profitability," said Bill Lyons, Ashton-Tate's Vice
President of PC Applications.

"The increased productivity comes from the seamless integration
of Framework III functions," added Bob Kimball, Ashton-Tate's
Director of Decision Support Product Management, "so now developers
don't have to patch together incompatible programs. The increased
profitability is the benefit of a royalty-free license."

(more)

Framework III RunTime includes:

--   FRED, a powerful object-oriented programming (OOP) language
        with over 175 commands, that provides easy integration and
        data exchange between modules.

--   Six full-featured applications -- word processing,
        spreadsheet, database, graphics, data communications and
        outlining -- which developers can integrate into their
        applications. This eliminates the need to build modules
        from scratch or combine incompatible programs.

--   Integrated electronic mail, unique to Framework III RunTime,
        which provides developers with yet another tool to develop
        applications where electronic communication is required.

--   The "frames" approach, which allows developers to break
        segments of code into smaller pieces. This is conducive to
        creating modular applications, which are easy to modify.

--   An object-oriented programming environment, including
        encapsulation, message passing, inheritance and late
        binding. This allows programmers to create flexible program
        modules that can be easily reused in different applications.

The combination of these elements offers an ideal application

development environment for software solutions such as hypertext

tools, project management software, personal information managers

(PIM's), and specialized applications for vertical markets such as

legal and manufacturing. These elements, in conjunction with

Framework III's tight connection to dBASE, also offer dBASE

developers the ability to add office automation functions to their

database applications.

                              (more)

Ashton-Tate Corporation markets best-selling business application software for DOS, Macintosh and OS/2 environments. Products are available in six major categories: database management systems, word processing, graphics, desktop publishing, integrated decision support software and spreadsheets. The Tate Publishing division offers third-party software applications as well as books and periodicals. The company also markets a comprehensive line of service and support programs for individuals, corporations, and government agencies.

#   #   #   #

R   Ashton-Tate, Framework and FRED are registered trademarks of Ashton-Tate Corporation.

TM   Framework III is a trademark of Ashton-Tate Corporation.