

For release:

Immediate

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* Editor's note: Sample slide attached

ASHTON-TATE'S APPLAUSE II
SUPPORTS MATRIX FILM RECORDER

Business graphics users can now include
color, bit-mapped images in their slides

TORRANCE, Calif., June 4, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ: TATE) today announced that APPLAUSE II, the company's business graphics software, now supports an enhanced MATRIX film recorder driver. This new driver lets users produce images ten times faster than they could with the driver previously included in APPLAUSE II.

The driver is available at no charge to registered APPLAUSE II users from Ashton-Tate's Technical Support and Bulletin Board System.

APPLAUSE II includes 37 automatic chart types, support for a wide range of equipment -- from PC/XTs to 386s; from CGA/Hercules to VGA or 8514A monitors; with 512K RAM and above -- and output to printed documents and overheads. These and many other features are accessed through APPLAUSE II's new graphical interface.

"This new MATRIX film recorder driver -- the first in series of new drivers for APPLAUSE II -- further broadens the appeal of our

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business graphics software," said Richard Dym, Director of Graphic Products at Ashton-Tate. "The APPLAUSE II launch has been extremely successful, with over 50,000 copies sold in six weeks."

"APPLAUSE II users can now create images with even more impact, thanks to the high-quality images provided through the MATRIX camera," Dym added.

Commented Dr. Sam Bayer, Director of Marketing for Agfa in Orangeburg, New York, "Ashton-Tate is clearly a leader in the software industry, particularly in PC graphics. We are pleased that they have selected us to be their partner in the graphics marketplace." Added Bayer, "The enhanced compatibility between our products means that customers can receive their output faster than ever before."

Two Modes of Operation

The new MATRIX film recorder driver produces images significantly faster because users can now select a vector mode for increased throughput, or raster mode for superior output of bit-mapped images.

The vector mode is fast, and supports SCODL devices at any resolution, creating slides in up to 256 colors. The raster mode allows users to include bit-mapped or scanned images in 24-bit color, with virtually unlimited color and 2000 or 4000 line addressability.

According to the company, APPLAUSE II is one of the first business graphics products that can generate 35mm slides with full-color raster images. APPLAUSE II is also one of the first software packages to support both 8- and 24-bit SCODL files.

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Raster graphics means that slides can be produced that include full-color, scanned images; they can be output at the user's desk, or via an independent slide service bureau or corporate graphics department.

For those without access to an image recorder, APPLAUSE II includes a built-in link to the ASHTON-TATE GRAPHICS SERVICE. Once the desired image is created on screen, users can transmit it automatically via modem to the ASHTON-TATE GRAPHICS SERVICE for creation of slides, overheads and transparencies -- all with bit-mapped images, if desired.

Availability, Support

The MATRIX film recorder driver is available at no charge to registered APPLAUSE II users. It can be sent on a diskette from Ashton-Tate Technical Support, or downloaded from the Ashton-Tate Bulletin Board.

Ashton-Tate Technical Support can be reached at (408) 268-1711; the local access number for the Bulletin Board can be obtained by calling (800) 848-8980. Technical support is available for the driver as part of the overall product support.

For more information on MATRIX film recorders, customers can contact Agfa at (800) 876-7543 or (914) 365-0190, extension 7212.

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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 international operations in most countries around the world, 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.

MATRIX film recorders are marketed in the United States by the Computer Graphics Business Unit of the AGFA Compugraphic Division. Outside of the U.S., MATRIX slide makers and other related products are available worldwide through Agfa-affiliated offices.

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tm APPLAUSE II is a trademark of Ashton-Tate Corporation.

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