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For Immediate Release

ASHTON-TATE DISCONTINUES DOMESTIC SHIPMENT
OF MULTI-USER VERSION OF dBASE II

CULVER CITY, Ca., January 29, 1985. Ashton-Tate, a leading publisher of microcomputer software, today announced it has discontinued shipment in the U.S. and Canada of the Multi-User version of dBASE II. Shipment of the product will continue in international markets.

According to Ashton-Tate Multi-User product manager Ron Arons, the company plans to make a multi-user version of dBASE III available in the future. "The multi-user version of dBASE III will take advantage of newly available hardware. This product will allow corporate users to enjoy the efficiencies that can result from an accessible departmental database," Arons said.

Arons added that the Multi-User version of dBASE II will continue to be marketed overseas. "The product has enjoyed broader interest overseas," he commented.

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dBASE II Multi-User was first shipped in May 1984 and has been available for use with 3-COM systems. Development efforts for the Turbo-DOS version have ceased.

All registered end-users of dBASE II Multi-User version will continue to be supported by Ashton-Tate and will receive an update free-of-charge by early Spring 1985.

Ashton-Tate is a leading developer and marketer of microcomputer software products and related books and periodicals. The Company publishes Framework, a multi-function, integrated program as well as a family of data management products that includes: dBASE III, an advance microcomputer database management system; dBASE/Answer, a micro-mainframe link; dBASE II; and Friday!, an easy-to-use file management system.

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MULTI-USER dBASE II Q & A
January 29, 1985

- Q: When will the dBASE III Multi-User version be available?
- A: Ashton-Tate is committed to developing a dBASE III Multi-User product. Additional information on this product will be provided as it becomes available.
- Q: When will the update version be available for those who already have dBASE II Multi-User?
- A: By early Spring, all registered owners will receive the update automatically from Ashton-Tate. Customers who are not currently on file must send in their registration cards to Ashton-Tate in order to be placed on the update list.
- Q: What will this update consist of?
- A: The update will consist of a newly enhanced system diskette, along with documentation on advanced programming techniques.
- Q: How many units of Multi-User dBASE II have been shipped, total? In the U.S.? Canada? Internationally? In Europe? etc., etc.?
- A: It is Ashton-Tate's policy not to discuss sales figures for its software products.
- Q: Where overseas will Ashton-Tate continue to market dBASE II Multi-User?
- A: Primarily in Europe
- Q: When was dBASE II Multi-User first shipped?
- A: In May of 1984
- Q: Why is dBASE II Multi-User being shipped internationally and not in the U.S.?
- A: Because foreign markets have indicated more interest in the product.
- Q: What is the 3-COM system mentioned in the release?
- A: The 3-COM local area network allows PC's or their equivalents to be tied together into a communication network. (For more detailed information, refer caller to Ron Arons.)

Q: How low actually were sales of dBASE II Multi-User? Are you experiencing this problem with any of your other software products?

A: It is Ashton-Tate's policy not to discuss sales figures for its software products. However, we are not experiencing this problem with any of our other software products. In fact, Ashton-Tate has just reported record revenues for our most recent third quarter.

Q: Are you planning to discontinue shipment of other software products?

A: We have no plans to do so at this time.

Q: How are sales of your other software products?

A: Ashton-Tate has never been stronger.