

**IMMEDIATE**

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**ASHTON-TATE NAMES ROBERT CARR CHIEF SCIENTIST**

TORRANCE, Calif., March 5, 1986 -- Ashton-Tate, the second largest developer and marketer of microcomputer business applications software, today announced the appointment of Robert Carr as chief scientist.

Carr succeeds Wayne Ratliff, who has left the company to pursue other interests.

As chief scientist, Carr becomes the primary technical manager of Ashton-Tate, responsible for coordinating the efforts of Ashton-Tate's research and development teams and investigating new areas of technological importance to the company.

He will oversee the activities of Ashton-Tate's 125-member development staff located at distributed development centers in Glendale, Sunnyvale, and Torrance, Calif., East Hartford, Conn., and at several independent small development companies nationwide. Carr reports directly to Harvey Jeane, Ashton-Tate's vice president of product development.

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"Robert is without doubt one of the industry's most talented individuals," said Edward M. Esber Jr., president and chief executive officer of Ashton-Tate. "His technical expertise and managerial skills make him a well qualified individual to serve as Ashton-Tate chief scientist," added Esber.

Ratliff joined Ashton-Tate in August 1983 after operating his own software development and consulting business. Ratliff authored dBASE II, the industry-standard database management system for 8-bit microcomputers that Ashton-Tate licensed in 1981. He also contributed to the development of dBASE III. The staff of Ashton-Tate's Glendale Development Center developed dBASE III PLUS, the recently-introduced successor to dBASE III.

"Wayne contributed a great deal to the early success of Ashton-Tate," Esber said. "We regret his decision to leave the post of chief scientist, and wish him well in his future activities."

A pioneer in the field of integrated software, Carr is the designer and principal developer of the award-winning Framework and its successor, Framework II.

Previously, Carr served as chairman of Forefront Corporation, a company he co-founded in July 1983 to complete the development of Framework that he had begun on his own fifteen months earlier. Ashton-Tate financed Forefront's development efforts and two years later purchased the company, establishing it as the Forefront Development Center of Ashton-Tate.

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Before co-founding Forefront, Carr worked as a programming consultant on the development of Context MBA, one of the first integrated packages introduced.

Previously, Carr served with Xerox's Palo Alto Research Center, where he worked on predecessors of the Xerox Star and Small Talk products. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in computer science from Stanford University, Palo Alto, Calif.

Ashton-Tate's products include dBASE III PLUS, dBASE III PLUS LAN Pack, Framework II and the MultiMate word processing line.

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tm Framework II is a trademark of Ashton-Tate.