News

For release: **IMMEDIATE**

Contact: Judy Marie Merrill
           Ashton-Tate
           (213) 538-7321

           Susan Ritchie
           Miller Communications
           (213) 822-4669

ASHTON-TATE TO OFFER TOOLKIT FOR FRAMEWORK II DEVELOPERS

TORRANCE, Calif., September 30, 1986 -- Ashton-Tate, the second-largest microcomputer applications software company, today introduced a Developer`s Toolkit for Framework II.

The product, announced at Ashton-Tate's Developers' Conference, is a collection of routines and programs designed to aid developers in writing faster and more efficient custom applications using Framework II's FRED development language.

"Framework II is the only integrated software product designed for developers and end users with a sophisticated high-level development language," said Lydia Dobyns, Ashton-Tate acting vice president of marketing. "The toolkit enables developers to more fully utilize the development language's capabilities and take better advantage of its power to create custom or vertical market applications."

The software provides Framework II developers with the tools to create and customize printer drivers, create new import and export file utilities, maintain and use dBASE files (.DBF) from within Framework II and develop computer-based training

(more)

materials. Also included are more than 20 user defined library functions designed to provide shortcuts to writing routines.

Example applications and routines with documented source code are included to illustrate each utility. Additionally, the kit contains previously undisclosed documentation of the Framework II assembly/high-level language interface to provide a link between Framework and the native capabilities of the personal computer.

The package, which contains two disks and a reference manual, will be available in the fourth quarter at an introductory price of $99.95. The suggested price is $149.95. To order, call 1-800-437-4329.

Hardware requirements are an IBM PC, PC XT, PC AT, 3270 PC and compatibles with 384K bytes of RAM and two 360K-byte floppy drives, or a single 360K-byte floppy and a hard disk. Both color and monochrome monitors are supported. The utilities may be used with Framework II version 1.0 or 1.1.

Version 1.1 upgrades are available to registered Framework II owners for $45, if the software was purchased prior to July 5, 1986. Products purchased after July 5 will be upgraded at no additional cost. For further upgrade information call 1-800-2-ASHTON.

Framework II, Ashton-Tate's integrated software product, combines a word processor and spreadsheet with ancillary

graphics, file management, and communications capabilities.
Its FRED programming language permits the development of
specialized applications.

In addition to Framework II, Ashton-Tate markets leading
products in the database category with dBASE III PLUS and word
processing with the MultiMate product line. Upon completion of
the acquisition of Decision Resources, Inc., of Westport, Conn.,
the company will market leading business graphics products.

Ashton-Tate reported revenues of $49 million and net income
of $6.47 million for the second quarter of fiscal 1987, ended
July 31, 1986, increases of 78 percent and 87.5 percent,
respectively, from the same period of the previous year.

                          #   #   #   #

R
  Ashton-Tate, dBASE and Framework are registered trademarks of
Ashton-Tate. MultiMate is a registered trademark of MultiMate
International Corp., an Ashton-Tate company.

tm
  dBASE III PLUS, Framework II and FRED are trademarks of
Ashton-Tate. MASTER GRAPHICS is a trademark of Decision
Resources, Inc.