

For release: **Contact: SITRICK AND COMPANY**
Michael Sitrick, 213/538-7345
or Steven Stern, 213/538-7348
Contact: **ASHTON-TATE**
Delia Fernandez, 213/538-7345
Brad Stevens, 213/538-7348
Linda Duttenhaver, 213/538-7011

20101 Hamilton Avenue
Torrance, California 90509-9972
Telephone: 213-329-8000
Fax: 213-538-7998

ASHTON-TATE ANNOUNCES MANAGEMENT REALIGNMENT

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APRIL 30, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ:TATE) today announced a senior management realignment.

The Board of Directors has elected William P. Lyons, 45, president and chief operating officer. Most recently, he was vice president and general manager of Ashton-Tate's applications group. Edward M. Esber, Jr., 37, has resigned as chairman and chief executive officer. He will continue as a director and will be vice chairman of the board. Dr. Carmelo J. Santoro, 48, an outside director and chairman and chief executive officer of Silicon Systems, Inc., has been elected non-executive chairman of the Ashton-Tate board. Dr. Santoro has been a director of Ashton-Tate since 1983 and previously served as Chairman of the Ashton-Tate board.

Speaking for the board, Dr. Santoro said these events reflect the changing nature, scope and needs of the company and should add momentum to its recovery.

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Dr. Santoro said that he would not be an employee of Ashton-Tate, but rather, as his title suggests, a non-executive chairman of the board. He said that he will continue as chief executive officer of Tustin, California-based Silicon Systems, a designer and manufacturer of integrated circuits, which was acquired by TDK Corporation of Japan in 1989.

"Ed Esber has made significant contributions to Ashton-Tate during his five-year tenure as chief executive officer," Dr. Santoro said. "As vice chairman of the Board, Ed will concentrate his expertise on areas related to customers, products and strategies."

Mr. Lyons joined Ashton-Tate in October 1988 as vice president and general manager of the company's P.C. applications division. In July 1988, he assumed management responsibility for the company's Macintosh product division and during the fall of 1989, was acting vice president of US sales. Before joining Ashton-Tate, he was employed by IBM for 19 years, most recently as vice president, P.C. software marketing for IBM's national distribution division.

"Bill has done an outstanding job in each of the positions he has held at Ashton-Tate," Dr. Santoro said. "He is an executive of exceptional scope. He brings a great deal of knowledge, expertise and operating experience to his new position."

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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.

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