covers "physical defects in the physical software disks or printed materials." Ashbee-Tate's liability is limited to replacing the defective material; this fee company will do at no charge, which is a bonus.

There is also a limited money-back guarantee. "Significant errors in the software that make it unusable" are covered. At Ashbee-Tate's option, it may give a refund during the first 90 days after you've received the package. Finally, for a problem in this complexity, we think it unlikely that such an error could be found during that short a period. However, the fact that the firm has broken with the industry tradition of complete disavowal of the product makes this warranty better than most.

The program is copy-protected.

We called Ashbee-Tate's toll line for some help and a few of the difficulties we encountered. We were greeted with a recorded message informing us that support lines are open from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pacific time and that the helpline hours are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pacific time. We were then put on hold. Periodically, an advertisement would come on the line. We waited 10 minutes and then gave up. In the past, we have heard Ashbee-Tate's software support to be helpful on those occasions when we were able to get someone on the line. Our advice is to call early in the morning.

Ashbee-Tate goes to a lot of trouble to support the product through documentation; electronic bulletin boards; publications; and knowledgeable staff. It also provides a somewhat more enlightened limited warranty than most other vendors of its size. We rate support excellent.

A higher score is not warranted for two reasons: the limitations of an overloaded support line and Ashbee-Tate's continued insistence on copy protection.

VALUE: Deluxe III Plus continues the great tradition of pricing software. List price for the single-user version is $995. The multiuser version requires the purchase of additional three-gigabyte LAN Packs, at $995 each, which support three additional users and which include three full sets of documentation. Surveys indicate that the average network will have five workstations, bringing the total cost to $4,975, or $995 per workstation at list. Larger networks will have lower costs per user. Ashbee-Tate insists that it will provide no site licensing, though dealers may give discounts to favored customers and Ashbee-Tate will offer training and support to corporate customers through the dealers. Given all this, we cannot justify a very good score to value.

On the other hand, it is a very powerful software. The most amazing thing about this program is that it runs in only 256K of memory, which is becoming a remarkable feat in this day of megahertz. In the end, we feel the power and price are roughly balanced, leading us to give a rating of satisfactory in value.

Despite shortcomings in copy protection and the method used to implement LAN software, there is a lot to like about Deluxe III Plus.

Wordstar 2000
Upgrades Speed, But for Hard Disk Customers Only

By John V. Lombardi
Network World

The first incarnation of Wordstar 2000. Wordstar 2000 is a word processing program that offers greater power and more features in a smaller, more compact package. It offers the same word processing features as Wordstar 3.3. However, it suffers from sluggish response, an unappealing copy protection scheme, and a complicated installation process. Our review found the product less than satisfactory.


Soon after Wordstar 2000's first release, Micropro dropped the copy protection scheme. Recently, the company delivered Release 2, with a number of improvements in speed and performance, including a language selection feature new to the product line. Some additions include WordPerfect 4.1, by WordPerfect Software International, WordStar Advantage 3.6, by Aschbee-Tate, and a Basic compiler for IBM.

Wordstar 2000's word processing functions become more efficient as much as possible for output for the IBM PC family. The editor, version 3.0, now runs on an IBM PS/2 with 256K of memory, and it will run on an IBM PC AT with 640K of memory. It offers a 386K floppy, and a 72-Mbyte fixed disk. You can expect better performance on an IBM PC AT compatible with a fast hard disk drive. We found that the text produced by Wordstar 2000 and Wordstar 2000, Release 2 represents a competitive, state-of-the-art word processing product.

FEATURES: Wordstar 2000's list of features goes on and on. Briefly, the product includes a novel word processing language, a large array of text editing and formatting options, and a variety of features that make it very powerful.

The word processing language is novel and innovative. The word processor handles all the text editing and formatting tasks, including for better control of text.

Deluxe III Plus is a multiprocessing, but it's not a very good match.
Print SIDEWAYS from inside Lotus 1-2-3!

THAT'S RIGHT WITHOUT LEAVING YOUR SPREADSHEET!

With your Lotus 1-2-3 or any other spreadsheet on the screen, this Printer Boss printer driver can produce printed output in a vertical orientation, without having to write your own printer control code. With Driver Boss, you can produce printed output in a vertical orientation, without having to write your own printer control code.

1. Open your Lotus 1-2-3 spreadsheet.
2. Select Printer Boss from the Tools menu.
3. Choose the vertical orientation option.
4. Click on the Print button to print your spreadsheet in a vertical orientation.

Printer Boss V6.0

- No need for printer control code
- Instant vertical orientation
- Print to any printer supported by Printer Boss

Version 6.0 is currently compatible with PC printers compatible with Lotus 1-2-3, Windows 95, Windows NT, and Macintosh printers compatible with Lotus 1-2-3. Other printers may require additional configuration. Please contact us for details.

For more information, visit our website: www.printerboss.com

Connecticut Software

203-838-1844
800-321-0409

Connecticut Software

TAXI PLEASE RUSH MY ORDER!
Document from Wordstar to Wordstar 1.0 is about eight minutes. The converter, which was not in Wordstar 2.0, requires about 30 minutes. The other applications in Wordstar 2.0 can be converted to and from Wordstar 2.0 in about 10 minutes.

Wordstar 2.0 also includes a new feature called "Concentric," which allows users to create and manage documents from within the program. The feature is similar to the "Concentric" feature in Wordstar 1.0, but it is easier to use and more powerful. In Wordstar 2.0, users can create and manage documents from within the program, and they can also edit documents from within the program.

Overall, Wordstar 2.0 is a powerful word processor that offers many new features and improvements over Wordstar 1.0. It is a good choice for anyone who needs a powerful word processing program.
New Release Of VP-Planner Should Assuage Many Critics

By Ralf Kollenbach

Review Board

When we first reviewed VP-Planner, a Lotus 1-2-3 look-alike and multidimensional database manager from Paperpack Software, it had a few shortcomings, primarily speed.

Ralf Kollenbach is a free England-based independent microcomputer consultant and former technical editor.

and at least one serious bug. (See "VP-Planner: 1-2-3 Choice Not Up To Par," February 11, 1985.) We've been pleased to learn that this bug has been eliminated in Version 1.1 and that the program operates much faster merging data with 1-2-3. Changes and upgrades occur in the areas of features, performance, documentation, support, and value.

FEATURES: Version 1.1 adds the capability to copy files stored in the data application format (DAF). That is the only significant feature added to either the spreadsheet or database sections of the program.

PERFORMANCE: The new version of VP-Planner connects the bug discovered in Version 1.0, in which a worksheet with future value calculations, vertical lookups, and nested "IF" formulas locked the program into a calculation loop. In Version 1.1, the same worksheet now calculates to a conclusion taking 42 seconds; 1-2-3, Version 1A is still faster, checking in at 38 seconds.

The new version does improve on the speed of other operations. VP-Planner's 1-2-3 version 1A took 49.3 seconds to load the same worksheet, compared with 37.5 seconds in Version 1.0. This makes it slightly faster than 1-2-3. Version 1A, which takes 33.5 seconds, takes 33.5 seconds, 8-2-3, and 12.2 seconds.

Although some operations are faster, loading appears to be slower. The latest release of VP-Planner takes 47.5 seconds to load a large spreadsheet, compared with 37.5 seconds with Version 1.0. This makes it slightly slower than 1-2-3, Version 1A, which takes 33.5 seconds, but faster than 1-2-3.

The bug found in sorting names in a worksheet still exists in the new version of VP-Planner, Version 1.1. The bugs, however, have been found in the correct order.

Although some operations are faster, the bugs have not been eliminated. However, the bugs are not as severe as those found in earlier releases.

LOTUS 1-2-3:
FARSIGHT

WHY THEY'RE ALIKE.

For starters, the Farsight Spreadsheet works like a clone copy of Lotus version 1A, the one on a million people already use. If you're among them, you already have Farsight all the commands, macros, all the keyboards and menus, all the macros.

We don't have to re-learn a thing. Your existing 1-2-3 files, menus, and templates will never know the difference, either-so your investments in 1-2-3 data and procedures are secure. But Lotus itself wants you to surrender your copy of 1A and spend $150 or so on a new release that requires a lot of re-training.

That's as much as Lotus is willing to pay you to surrender your copy of 1A and spend $150 or so on a new release that requires a lot of re-training.

WHY THEY'RE DIFFERENT.

Farsight lets you use the same hardware: 90% of your existing Lotus 1-2-3 applications will run without modification. Macintosh 128K is under $2000. Lotus 1-2-3 is over $10,000.


Farsight runs on any Macintosh. Farsight runs on any Macintosh. Farsight runs on any Macintosh.

Farsight runs on any Macintosh. Farsight runs on any Macintosh. Farsight runs on any Macintosh.

Farsight runs on any Macintosh. Farsight runs on any Macintosh. Farsight runs on any Macintosh.

Farsight runs on any Macintosh. Farsight runs on any Macintosh. Farsight runs on any Macintosh.