Document 1973 Ashton-Tate Corp. reported a net loss of \$ 19.4 million , or 74 cents a share , for the third quarter , which was burdened by severance costs and the expense of upgrading its database software inventories named:x-c n:x v_to:e-i-p q:i-h-h n:x n_of:x-i _ n:x card:i-i-c _ card:i-i-c _ n:x p:e-u-i n_of:x _ p:e-u-i The software company said revenue slid 28 % to \$ 53.9 million q:i-h-h n:x n_of:x-i v_to:e-i-h-i n:x v:e-i card:i-i-c n_of:x p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c with the year-ago quarter i _ q:i-h-h a:e-p n_temp:x , when the company had net income of \$ 11.7 million , or 45 cents a share , on revenue of \$ 75.7 million — q:i-h-h n_of:x-i v:e-i-i n:x n:x p:e-x-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c | card:i-i For the nine months , Ashton-Tate had a loss of \$ 27.6 million , or \$ 1.05 a share p:e-u-i q:i-h-h card:i-i-c n:x _ named:x-c v:e-i-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ n:x card:i-i-c _ n:x card:i-i-c p:e-u-i n_of:x-i _ n:x card:i-i-c _ n:x card:i-i-c _ n:x _ n:x card:i-i-c _ n:x _ n:x card:i-i-c _ n:x _ n In the year-ago period , the company had profit of \$ 34.3 million , or \$ 1.32 a share . pre-u-i q:i-h-h a:e-p n_of:x-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i v:e-i-i n:x p:e-x-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c q:i-h-h n_of:x-i v:e-i-i n:x p:e-x-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c p:e-u-i n_of:x-i v:e-i-i n:x p:e-x-i n:x card:i-i-c p:e-u-i n_of:x-i v:e-i-i n_of: Revenue in the period slid almost 8 % to \$ 203.2 million from about \$ 220 million last year n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i v:e-i x:e-u card:i-i-c n_of:x p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c p:e-u-i n:x card:i-i-c card:i-i-c q:i-h-h n:x He said the company was "encouraged by feedback " it received from selected customers now testing Version 1.1 pron:x v_to:e-i-h-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ v:e-i-p _ n:x _ pron:x v:e-i-p p:e-u-i v:e-i-p n_of:x-i a:e-e v:e-i-p named:x-c card:i-i-c , a harbinger of continued losses in the fourth quarter q:i-h-h n:x p:e-x-i v:e-i-p n_of:x-i p:e-u-i q:i-h-h ord:i-i-c n_temp:x The red ink came as no surprise to Wall Street , but analysts said they saw ominous hints of a further delay in volume shipments of Version 1.1 q:i-h-h a:i-i n:x v:e-i p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x p:e-u-i named:x-c "The loss is in line with our expectations , " said John C. Maxwell III , an analyst with Dillon , Read & Co. in New York __ q:i-h-h __nof:x-i __ p:e-u-i __nof:x __ p:e-u-i __named:x-c _ He added gross margins and operating profit "eroded quite dramatically "from the prior quarter pron: v_o:e-i-h-i n:x n:x n:x v:e-i p n:x v:e-i v "The success of a new product in the database line is needed q:i-h-h n:x p:e-x-i q:i-h-h a:e-p n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i n_of:x v:e-i-p

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