

ASSESS meeting Q and A session with SPSS.

Q 1: Can SPSS 18 read old output files?

A1: " Yes....but really no!" Only by using a legacy output viewer - which is downloadable- just Google it.

Q2: How will SPSS fit into IBM?

A2: IBM is a publically owned company therefore there is no "safe harbour" , however there is "cognos" architecture is enabling the two teams to work together. They do not intend to "strip" the algorithms - building in more flexibility but did not wish to speculate further.

Q3: How will IBM price Clementine (I didn't hear the full question)?

A3: He didn't know the answer.

Q4: Are there any plans for versions of Dimensions in Europe?

A4: This is a collaborative effort and he is not allowed to talk about it due to share prices.

Q5: (actual Q4) Are there any plans for Directions conference in Europe?

A5: Plans are "forthcoming" and not announced internally yet.

Q6: Are there any plans to update the graphics?

A6: They have just updated the graphics incorporating GPL capability to build particular graphs. There is Visdesigner facility– for a technical person to design style sheets or templates and production quality output. There is also access to R graphics into SPSS output.

Q7: Are there any plans to further integrate R into the platform?

A7: There is more smooth integration into 18 – installed with disc. It is the end user choice because R is free they can't "sell" it. One can wrap R code with XML tags and put it on Devcentral.

Q8: Can you elaborate on the relationship between IBM and user groups?

A8: Details are now emerging, we are customer focused and wish to keep a dialogue going.

Q9: Is SPSS going to support syntax with documentation and training materials?

A9: The syntax guide is the best documentation and is in pdf format. Training is important, and is more integrated with Python referring to SPSS Training.

Q10: Will your slides be available?

A10: The slides will be available on the ASSESS website.