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To: DQvista Sites
From: Decision Support Inc.

This document accompanies the DQvista software and DQvista Getting Started. Version 3.01.0015 contains the enhancements described in this letter. Read DQvista Getting Started for more specific information about the installation and validation procedures and other considerations.

New features

Joins

You can now join tables interactively with DQvista. Choose the Join Tables command (Tools menu). DQvista displays the Join Tables dialog box, where you decide how to create the join.

You can create a join in one of two ways:

- If you use the join wizard, DQvista steps you through process of selecting the tables and matching the key items that define the join.
- If you choose to create the join manually, you use a single dialog box to specify all the elements of each join.

DQvista stores join specifications in files with the extension .dqj. You can open a join specification to begin a new report.

Crosstab reports

The crosstab report allows you to display information for up to three "dimensions." The crosstab report shows the summary information you request for each unique combination of the dimensions you request. For example, if you choose to summarize salary information by company number, the crosstab report shows you the summary for each value of company number. If you choose two dimensions, company and department, for example, the report includes a summary for each combination of company and department. If you specify a third dimension, the report shows a summary for each unique combination of all three elements.

You specify the crosstab report by selecting Crosstab in the Style drop-down list on the Layout tab of the Report Options dialog box.

Delimited report output

DQvista now allows you to produce comma-delimited output. The Delimited option appears in the Format drop-down list in the Output dialog box. When you produce a report with delimited output, DQvista prompts you to save the file or to open it. If you choose to open it, the system launches the application associated with comma-separated value (.CSV) files (for example, Microsoft Excel).

Support for complex aggregates expanded

You can perform calculations that include complex aggregates (calculations that require multiple passes of the data). For example, you can calculate the weighted average of two aggregate values at the same break level. A command called Complex Aggregates is available in the Data menu. When you choose this command, the Complex Aggregates dialog box appears. To add a formula, choose the Add button. The Sums Ratio dialog box appears. It allows you to name your aggregate item and specify the columns or virtual fields you want to use as the numerator and denominator for the formula.

If you are creating a crosstab report, the Complex Aggregate Selection dialog box appears after you choose the Add button. It contains a drop-down list that allows you to choose whether you are creating a Sums Ratio or a Percentage. If you choose Percentage, the Percentage dialog box appears. It allows you to specify a column as a percentage of a total. This option applies to crosstab reports only.

Support for virtual fields in runtime input

For any filter condition, you can specify that you want to supply the comparison value(s) each time you run the spec. When you execute a report that contains filter conditions marked for runtime input, DQvista prompts for comparison values for each expression you marked for runtime input. Now, you can mark virtual fields as well as columns for runtime input.