ABSTRACT

A recent posting on SAS-L asked the question ‘How do I drop a variable in a SAS dataset if all the values for that variable are 0 (zero).’ A rather harmless question that seemed at the time should be easy to answer. Well after several solutions were posted, then critiqued, corrected and re-posted, the thread had grown to almost 30 articles. We found that it was more difficult to accomplish the task than initially anticipated. One result of all this was that some excellent code was produced and tested and some of us thought others that do not subscribe to SAS-L might have a similar need and be interested in the techniques that were developed. Since SUGI 22 was approaching, we felt that it would be an ideal forum in which to present the material.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

SAS is a registered trademark of SAS Institute Inc. in the USA and other countries. ® indicates USA registration.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions or further information the author can be contacted at the following address:

Clark Roberts, Principal Consultant
Decision Analytics, A SAS Quality Partner
5663 Balboa Avenue, Suite 400
San Diego, California 92111

or by

Phone: (619) 565-9627 or (619) 565-9998
Fax: (619) 565-9627
Voice Mail/Pager: (619) 975-0758
e-mail: dacmr@mindspring.com

Code for the examples in this paper and related programs can be downloaded from the SAS File Contribution Server FTP site at:

ftp://ftp.uga.edu/pub/sas/contrib

or by contacting the author.