

Notes re Trace (.CSV) files and Amplitude Values for the PSA1302/2702

There has been a change to the way that trace data is stored within trace CSV files. This change is relevant only to external applications such as PSA Manager and other third party programs into which the data might be loaded.

The two ways in which the data is stored are referred to as Relative and Absolute.

When the format is Relative, the file values are relative to the reference level. Thus for a signal amplitude of -45.0dBm and a reference level of 0dBm, the stored value would be -45.0. However for a signal amplitude of -45dBm and a reference level of -20dBm, the stored value would be -25.0.

When the format is Absolute, the file values are independent of the reference level setting. Thus for a signal amplitude of -45.0dBm the stored value would be -45.0 regardless of the reference level setting.

Firmware versions 1.1x and 1.2x

For spectrum analyzers using these firmware versions, the format is always Relative and can not be changed.

Firmware version 1.31

For spectrum analyzers using this firmware version, the default format is Relative but the user can change it to Absolute if required.

To change the format go to:

Setup/Functions > System/File Ops > System Utilities (or press the Status hard key)

Select - Status/System > Prefs. > Trace CSV - and select Absolute from the pop-up menu.

Firmware version 2.xx

For spectrum analyzers using these firmware versions, the default format is Absolute but the user can change it to Relative if required.

To change the format go to:

Setup/Functions > System/File Ops > System Utilities (or press the Status hard key)

Select - Status/System > Prefs. > Trace CSV - and select Relative to Ref. from the pop-up menu.

PSA Manager

Note that PSA Manager version 1 assumes data to be Relative to the reference, and therefore Absolute should not be selected if the files are to be viewed using it.

PSA Manager version 2 (released in mid 2014) can recognise which format is being used and therefore files can be in either Relative or Absolute format

PSA Manager version 2 can be downloaded without charge from the support site. (Go to the Support page of the web site www.aimtti.com).