

Posit Benefit Corporation

2024 Annual Report

A Message from our CEO

Posit endeavors to create free and open-source software for data science, scientific research, and technical communication in a sustainable way, because it benefits everyone when the essential tools to produce and consume knowledge are available to all, regardless of economic means.

We believe corporations should fulfill a purpose beneficial to the public and be run for the benefit of all stakeholders including employees, customers, and the community at large.

As a Delaware Public Benefit Corporation (PBC) and a Certified B Corporation®, Posit's open-source mission and commitment to a beneficial public purpose are codified in our charter, requiring our corporate decisions to balance the interests of community, customers, employees, and shareholders.

B Corps™ meet the highest verified standards of social and environmental performance, transparency, and accountability. Posit measures its public benefit by utilizing the non-profit B Lab®'s "Impact Assessment", a rigorous assessment of a company's impact on its workers, customers, community, and environment.

In 2019, Posit (then RStudio) met the B Corporation certification requirements set by the B Lab. In 2023, our certification was renewed, and we are proud to share that our B Lab Impact Assessment score rose from 86.1 to 92.5 with this renewal. The B Lab certification process uses credible, comprehensive, transparent, and independent standards of social and environmental performance. Details of these assessments can be found at [\[web link\]](#).

As a PBC, Posit publishes a report at least once every two years that describes the public benefit we have created, along with how we seek to provide public benefits in the future. This is the fourth of these reports. Previous published reports are available at [\[here\]](#).

To fulfill its beneficial purposes, Posit intends to remain an independent company over the long term. With the support of our customers, employees, and the community, we remain excited to contribute useful solutions to the important problems of knowledge they face.

J.J. Allaire, CEO, Posit PBC

Introduction

Posit's mission is to create free and open-source software for data science, scientific research, and technical communication. We do this to enhance the production and

consumption of knowledge by everyone, regardless of economic means, and to facilitate collaboration and reproducible research, both of which are critical to the integrity and efficacy of work in science, education, government, and industry.

In addition to our open source products, Posit produces a modular platform of commercial software products that enable teams to adopt R, Python, and other open-source data science software at scale, along with online services to make it easier to learn and use them over the web.

Together, Posit's open-source software and commercial software form a virtuous cycle. In most companies, a "customer" is someone who pays you. For us, the definition of a customer must include the open source community, with whom we exchange the currencies of attention, respect, and love. When we deliver value to our open source users, they are likely to bring our software into their professional environments, which opens up the possibility of commercial partnerships. To keep this cycle flowing, our open source developers have to know and care about the integrations with proprietary solutions that matter to our enterprise customers. It also means that Posit's commercial teams need to consistently provide value to individuals who may never spend a dollar with us directly.

Posit's approach is not typical. Traditionally, scientific and technical computing companies created exclusively proprietary software. While it can provide a robust foundation for investing in product development, proprietary software can also create excessive dependency that is not good for data science practitioners and the community. In contrast, Posit provides core productivity tools, packages, protocols, and file formats as open-source software so that customers aren't overly dependent on a single software vendor. Additionally, while our commercial products enhance the development and use of our open-source software, they are not fundamentally required for those without the need or the ability to pay for them.

In 2023, Posit spent [33%?] of its engineering resources on open-source software development, and led contributions to over [xx] open-source projects. Posit-led projects targeted a broad range of areas including the RStudio IDE; infrastructure libraries for R and Python; numerous packages and tools to streamline data manipulation, exploration and visualization, modeling, and machine learning; and integration with external data sources. Posit also sponsors or contributes to many open-source and community projects led by others, including NumFOCUS, the R Consortium, the Python Software Foundation, DuckDB, Pandoc, pyodide, and prose mirror, as well as dozens of smaller projects via the Open Source Collective or directly on Github. Additional information about our products and company contributions for the past two years can be found in our "Year In Review" blog posts. [available here].

Today, millions of people download and use Posit open-source products in their daily lives. Additionally, more than [how many paying customers?] organizations that purchase our professional products help us sustain and grow our mission. It is an inspiration to consider that we are helping many participate in global economies that increasingly reward data literacy, and that our tools help produce insights essential to navigating our complex world.