

Authoring Blaise questionnaires - A task for the survey specialist or an IT programmer?

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All organisations approach the development of Blaise questionnaires using their own unique model. Their approaches, however, can be broadly divided into two models. In the first, a dedicated team of Blaise programmers develops the questionnaire based on specifications produced by the survey specialist. In the second, survey specialists develop the Blaise questionnaire themselves.

Most Blaise-user organisations have been using the package for between five and ten years, and therefore now would be an appropriate time to review these two approaches.

This paper will provide a review of current Blaise authoring practices across organisations - based on information obtained from Blaise users within the organisations. Each user will be asked to provide detail about their current practice, including, a description of the model used to develop Blaise questionnaires, how the current approach has evolved, an estimate of development time and if possible an indication of the scope and level of accuracy of their Blaise questionnaires.

The discussion will include a review of models: looking at the advantages and disadvantages of each, exploring why approaches differ between organisations, and drawing some conclusions about the efficiency of the various models.

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Abstract