BlaiseIS Sample Management

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Abstract:
Since BlaiseIS does not have a sample management system (SMS), the University of Michigan Survey Research Center (SRC) has developed a framework for managing BlaiseIS sample. It has involved building a Web-based SMS and the use of generic Web survey tools.

This paper will discuss the SMS framework and its implementation for managing BlaiseIS sample. We will present the details of five key components:

1. Parallel preload of sample lines in BlaiseIS and the SMS database
2. An external Emailer program that uses SMS data for sending email invitations/reminders, checking bounced back emails, and automating resends
3. SMS authentication (prior to BlaiseIS internal authentication)
4. Tracking survey status through hooks on the BlaiseIS asp pages
5. Managing survey status and incorporating key BlaiseIS paradata variables into SMS for production monitoring

The discussion will focus primarily on the implementation of some BlaiseIS projects that have integrated the new Web survey SMS modules with SRC’s CAPI SMS (SurveyTrak). We will explain how we design and manage the process flow of a BlaiseIS survey project, starting from loading sample lines and key preload information, designing and scheduling email jobs, logging survey status, reporting, and closing out the survey.