Case Scenario Library for Testing Large Blaise Applications

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Why Jason is not here…
Evelyn was born 9/14/07
What is HRS?

• Health and Retirement Study
  – Longitudinal Survey
  – Complex Multi-Sectional Survey
  – Over one hour long interview per participant
  – 22,000 participants / every two years
  – More than 400 variables from previous wave data as preload
  – Seven interview types and language combination
What is a “Scenario”? 

- A specific flow through the application
- A scenario entry is
  - Preload environment (XML or SQL)
  - Scenario specifics
    - (section, purpose, testing needs)
  - Keystroke (ADK or ADT)
Why a Scenario Library?

- Preload management
- Tracking what had been tested
- Needed ability to re-test quickly
- Enable running of a test in another types
- Recalling scenarios from previous waves
- Create test data quickly
Utilities for the System

• Preload/Case Manager Utility
  - Save and re-use
    – Develop delimited string and XML files
    – Save in a SQL database
    – Allow recall
    – Allow easy alteration

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Utilities for the System

• Keystroke Restore Utility
  – Recreating environment
    • Read ADT/ADK files and apply keystrokes into Blaise Dep

• Scenario Utilities

• Record and recall major flows
  – Save ADT and Preload
  – Record scenario details
  – ID in library fashion

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Preload Lifecycle

• Stored in a SQL server
  – Allowing faster access
  – Less size restrictions
• Allow alteration, saving and retrieval
  – Preload can be reused
• Each case includes 400+ variables.
• Allow sharing across testers
Preload Editing

- Any previous wave data referenced this wave is brought forward
- We allow editing for scenario needs
- Changes can be saved temporarily or permanently
Scenario Utilities

- **Finder**
  - Find a scenario with a certain field
- **Restore**
  - Inserts keystrokes without watching
- **Replayer**
  - Allows pauses and alterations
- **Save options**
  - Can save after the fact
- **Scenario description**
  - A description of the scenario purpose and flow is stored
Scenario Description

- Allow view of descriptions and preload criteria that had been saved.
- Selection restores ADK and preload into tester’s own work space.
Replayer Utility

- Quick application of saved keystrokes
- Play to a point, stop and alter keystrokes
Uses of System

- Tester can use last wave to check any changes (additions, deletions, or modifications)
- Programmer will run tests on changes
- Language Specialists will re-run to ensure language accuracy
- Design Coordinator can use all as final quality control check.
Outcomes

• Preload process lifecycle
  – Reduced time needed to generate case load
  – Ensure more coverage of HRS population in testing

• Scenario process lifecycle
  – Finder – Finding a scenario that quickly fills needs
  – Recall  - reach a point in application without stopping
  – Replayer – can stop and change flow
  – Save options – can save post – test
  – Scenario description - catalog purpose of scenario

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Progress Outcome

• The “Old Way”
  – Excel spreadsheets – out of date, hard to find, not sharable across sections

• The “New Way”
  – Easy to re-test
  – Sharing across section
  – Re-testing made easy
  – Time save

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Conclusion

– More comprehensive testing
– Shorter testing time
– Less testing staff hours
– Fewer field problems reported
– Reusable test data across waves and across sections
Thank You

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Questions

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