Web-based CAI System for Blaise Instruments Development

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Outline

- Background
- Hatteras™ Web-based CAI System for CAWI, CATI, and CAPI instruments
- Conclusion
Background

- **Questionnaire Specifications Database (QSD)**
  - Used for development of bilingual and ACASI Blaise instruments since 2004 (presented at IBUC in 2007)

- **Web-based CAI System Hatteras™**
  - Used for all web instruments since 2006
    - **SurveyEditor** provides interface for entering and editing instruments
    - **SurveyEngine** creates pages on-the-fly to conduct web interview
    - **Commander** assists with specs loading, code testing, debugging and other needed utilities
Hatteras™ SurveyEditor

- Meta-data in SQL Server
- Access to the website
  - Study Admin
  - Programmer
  - Language Specialist
  - Spec Writer
  - Client
Hatteras™ SurveyEditor - Dashboard

- My Studies
- Tools
  - Drill-down Editor
  - Print specs
  - Comments
  - Check-in forms
  - Search
  - Help
Hatteras™ Drill-down Editor Overview

- Instrument Elements
- Available options for a selected element
- Element Properties
Hatteras™ Instrument Elements in Editor

- **Instrument Elements**
  - **Section**
  - **Form**
    - **Question**
    - **Item**
      - **Item Option**

- **Usage in Blaise Instrument**
  - Field Name = Item Name
  - Question Text = Question Text + Item Text
Hatteras™ Blaise Specific Options

- Blaise user-defined types - “UserType” property
- Don’t Know/Refusal/Empty - “DK/RF/RQ Override” properties
- “Set of” type in Blaise - question as “check box” and its item as “radio”
- Field attributes “Description” and “Tag” - “Documentation” tab
Managing Languages in Hatteras™

- Translated text can be imported into Hatteras™ Database
- Edits can be made via Hatteras™ Editor
- Text for fills is entered as item options
Client Utility (Blaise)
- Instrument configuration
- Blaise Code
- Multi-language
- Specs Loader
Generate Blaise Code in Hatteras™ Commander

- Types file and Module Fields file – updated every time change is made in Hatteras™ Editor
- Programmers work in the Logic files only
- Files are created as UTF-8 Unicode to use with Non-Western languages (Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, etc.)
ACASI in Hatteras™ Commander
Hatteras™ Comments and History

Comments - a way to communicate needed changes and testing results

History - provides a detailed record of all changes made to the form
Features of Hatteras™

- **Multiple Language Support**
  - Translation specialists can enter and edit instruments in Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and more...

- **Output of Programming Code**
  - Generate simple code and update question text in different languages

- **Enhanced Workflow Process**
  - Documented communication of specifications between programmers, designers, and clients
  - History of all changes

- **Import and Output Specifications in Multiple Formats**
Thank you!

Questions?

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