Using the Blaise Component Pack for All Stages of Data Collection

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For complex CAPI surveys that involve interviews of selected household members, collection of biospecimens, psychological tests, and special reports, usage of the Blaise Component Pack (BCP) helps make data collection efficient and accurate.

We will present our experience with the BCP in collecting and processing the data for a recent project. During the development stage of the project, we created a number of applications in Visual Basic 6 and .Net to address our client's requirements. The paper will include examples of Blaise alien routers to run a series of selection algorithms, execute external applications, and pass collected external data into the Blaise interview. It will also include a description of a program used to generate interviews on the laptop immediately after completion of the screener, and to generate interviews at RTI after receiving a completed screener. During nightly processing at RTI, additional programs are called to pass collected data to external applications such as biospecimen tracking and control systems and generate e-mail if a mandatory report is triggered.

The paper will have examples of common Visual Basic 6 code and .Net classes used in the described programs to monitor calls to executables and to log discovered problems or errors.