

# Development of Survey and Case Management facilities for organisations with minimal survey infrastructure

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In order to conduct a survey you need more than just a questionnaire and a computer to run it on. You also need to have a system which can manage your survey and manage the case records that will be created. Unless you have existing facilities to do this, however, you will need to build them yourself.

This paper describes the development of basic survey and case management facilities that have been used to operate one or more Blaise surveys by organisations that have minimal existing survey infrastructure.

The systems were developed to be used mainly by field staff (using notebook computers) and include the following features:

- Establishment of the survey environment;
- Installation and removal of surveys;
- Identification of the operator;
- Display of current surveys;
- Display of cases for the selected survey;
- Management of the interview entry and exit;
- Managing the status of cases;
- Packing up of cases for return to the office.

The systems were written using Maniplus because it can readily communicate with Blaise data files. The ease of use of Maniplus, and similarity of style to Blaise, also makes it easy for the survey designers to modify the survey and case management systems to meet their needs.