Using a Pen-Based Windows XP Tablet PC for Data Collection Demo

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IFDTC, Santa Monica, May 2007
Project Requirements/Constraints

- Respondents: outpatient substance abuse service recipients and their health care providers
- CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interview) programmed in Blaise 4.7; data transmitted securely to RTI on a nightly basis.
- Project interest in road testing the tablet PC.
Tablets chosen over laptops for their light weight, ergonomic design, and their computing capabilities.
LS800 Motion Computing Tablet PC

- **Dimensions**: 8.94 x 6.69 x 0.87 inches
- **2.2 pounds**
- Standard computing environment (Windows XP Tablet PC Edition)
- Active digitizer pen and inking capabilities, handwriting recognition
- Bluetooth®
- WiFi
- Fingerprint Reader
- Current project: Modem / Phone Transmission
- Windows XP EFS (Encrypting File System)
Tablet PC computing environment allowed modifications for field deployment

- Project Share
- Master Database
- Instrument data stored in Master Project Database
- Control System – MS Access 2002

- Tablet PCs
  - Nightly phone transmission

- Instruments
  - Baseline – case ids generated randomly as respondents agree to answering the survey
  - Practitioners – caseids preloaded
Project Information From The Field

- In the field, since March 2007
- 629 interviews and counting …
- Interviews are averaging 25 minutes
- 18 field interviewers
- Multiple interview sites across the country
Field Interviewer-Reported Advantages

Size matters

- Lightweight, portable, compact size, good battery life for cordless use, easily-read screens

Novelty draws in respondents

- Respondents were drawn to new technology, useful as an ice-breaker and to help build rapport
Software Development Findings

- On-Screen Keyboard impacted **security** decisions. Dictated the use of Windows XP EFS encryption for project folders instead of the RTI standard, pointsec®.

- Although intriguing to use, **character or writing pad options less reliable** than the on-screen keyboard option for entering data especially for open-ended responses for these interviews. Signature capture available.

- **Formatting a challenge** with the more complicated screen-layouts and/or more numerous and lengthy response options.
Demo

- Abbreviated Blaise 4.7 instrument designed for the XP tablet.
- IFMS (Integrated Field Management System) software
- Digitized Pen and Use of On-screen Keyboard.
- Arnie Aldridge, Jeremy Bray, Rich Budzinski, Todd Grabill, Lilia Filippenko, Valentina Grouverman, Preethi Jayaram, Jay Levinsohn, Maurice Martin, Jon Morris, Joe Nofziger, Gil Rodriguez, Rick Squires, Amy Overby, Stacie White

- RTI International

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