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Designing Data Collection Instruments (Questionnaires) with Reusable Metadata

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Choices for Respondents

Traditional paper questionnaires
Computerized self administered questionnaire (CSAQ)
Internet reporting

3

Solution

Create a general instrument design system to allow questionnaire content to be reused across paper and electronic variations

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Generalized Instrument Design System (GIDS)

GIDS is a set of software tools to be used by nonprogrammers to create complex survey questionnaires which can be deployed as paper or electronic instruments for survey response collection

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The Key to Reusability

Segment questionnaires metadata into:

Content
Layout
Behavior

6

GIDS Forms Design

Content:
Questions
Answers
Related text and Instructions

Layout:
Position (coordinates on page),
Font, Font size, Color
Appearance (graphics)

Behavior or Constraints:
Item comparisons, edits,
Permissible answer values,
Error and Warning messages
Navigation

Other Uses:
Also used as labels and help for IPSE & description for dissemination
Also define the OLTP data base and the source of tabulations
Also used for help and dissemination text

Also used for KFI, Scanning/OCR

Subset of complex edits, also used in data capture
Also used as database rules
May also be used in IPSE

Paper Forms



Electronic Forms

