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Using this Manual

Welcome to QDS!

Since you are using QDS, chances are that you conduct survey or clinical trials research and are looking for an easy way to take control of your data collection. QDS is a Windows-based application that allows you to design your own data collection form and collect your data without the need for costly and time-consuming programming assistance. QDS features an easy-to-use, Menu-based interface. With QDS, you can move quickly from questionnaire design to data collection and easily make modifications to your forms. Throughout this guide, we may refer to your data collection tool as a questionnaire, form, or survey—QDS can be used to develop a wide array of data collection instruments for a vast range of interests.

System Requirements

Operating System: Windows 95, 98, ME, 2000, NT 4.0, XP

RAM: 32MB Minimum, 64MB Recommended

Disk Space: 12 MB for installation (additional space required for questionnaires)

Audio: A sound card and speakers or headphones are required if you intend to use audio.

Conventions Used in This Manual

There are some standard conventions used throughout this manual to make it easy to follow and understand.

This symbol indicates a definition.

This symbol highlights additional information.

This symbol indicates a tip or trick.

Menu Commands

Menu items are indicated by a vertical pipe (|), followed by the option(s) to select. For example, **File|New** indicates that you should select the option **New** from the **File** Menu**.**

Many QDS commands are available via drop-down Menus, keyboard commands, and toolbar buttons. In this manual, we will generally use the drop-down Menu.

Mouse Commands

Click ..... Click the left mouse button once.

Double-Click ..... Click the left mouse button twice.

Right-Click ..... Click the right mouse button once.

Drag and Drop ..... Use the mouse to select one or more items; hold the left mouse button down and move the item(s) to another part of the screen or window.

Sample Files

Throughout this manual, we refer to sample files to help illustrate certain actions. These files will be posted on NOVA's Web site at http://www.novaresearch.com. For releases 2.1 and higher, these files will be included on the QDS installation CD and will be written to C:\Program Files\QDSv2\Sample Files\ during installation.

This symbol indicates a reference to one of the sample files.

Getting Help

There are several ways to access help in QDS. As with most Windows applications, help is available from the **Help** Menu. You may also obtain context-sensitive (*What's This*) help for individual dialog items by right-clicking directly on the item for which you want more information.

The QDS Web site (www.novaresearch.com) includes FAQs and a Quick Start Guide.

Free e-mail Technical Support is available at support@novaresearch.com.

System Overview

As the name says, QDS is a Questionnaire Development System. It is a complete system for developing and administering data collection applications.

QDS enables you to:

- Produce all materials needed to administer a questionnaire or complete a form from a single set of easily developed and maintained specifications.
- Reuse field-tested questions by copying specifications between questionnaires.

QDS provides you with:

- Rapid development of questionnaires and data collection software (data entry, CAPI, ACASI).
- Multiple modes of administration from a single set of specifications with no additional specifications or programming.
- Computerized interviewing without programming.
- Support for multiple language interviews.
- Codebook and change history.
- Ready-to-analyze data provided directly to SAS, SPSS, or MS Access data sets, or to an ASCII file.
- Paper questionnaires.

Modular Structure

The QDS system consists of several components, or **Modules**:

A **module** is one of the components, or executable programs (*.EXE), that make up the Questionnaire Development System

In order to create your own QDS forms and data collection applications, your system should include the Design Studio and one or more of the Data Collection Modules. It may or may not include the Warehouse Manager. Your system also includes the free Questionnaire Data to ASCII utility (QDA.EXE), which can be used to convert your QDS Data Files to text files.

Function	Module(s)
Development	Design Studio Module (QDS.EXE)
Data Collection	Data Entry Module (QDE.EXE) ACASI Module (QSI.EXE) CAPI Module (QPI.EXE)
Data Management	Warehouse Manager Module (QWM.EXE)

Design Studio Module

The first step in creating a QDS application is to define questionnaire specifications in the Design Studio. Your questionnaire specifications include all content and settings for your questionnaire, including question text, instructions, conditional branching instructions, and internal consistency checks, as well as settings for formatting your questionnaire.

Conditional Branching Instructions: Rules for navigating through your questionnaire that are dependent on responses to previous questions (e.g., you would not want to ask a male respondent if he was pregnant).

Internal Consistency Checks: Rules for checking internal consistency of data (e.g., if a respondent said that he had traveled outside of the country five times, you would want to flag a later response indicating that he had been to Spain ten times).

These specifications make up the **Specifications File** used by the Design Studio to build a QDS **Control File,** which will be used by the Data Collection Modules to administer your data collection application.

The Design Studio is also used to build instrument documentation, including hard-copy questionnaires (self- or interviewer-administered), an Analytical Codebook, and a log of all changes made to your Specifications File (Change History).

Data Collection Modules

Each QDS data collection module supports a separate method of data collection. The data collection modules use the QDS **Control File** to administer your questionnaire based on the specifications entered into the Design Studio.

Data Entry..... Used to key/verify data collection from a paper form

CAPI ..... Used to administer/record data for Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews (interviewer-administered computer interviews)

ACASI..... Used to administer/record data for Audio-assisted Computer-Assisted Self-Interviews (computer-administered interviews, with or without audio)

Although ACASI and CASI are separate methods of data collection—one with audio and one without—QDS uses the ACASI module to conduct both methods; thus, the term ACASI will be used throughout this manual to refer to both ACASI and CASI data collection.

The Data Collection modules create Data Files in a binary file format that may be converted to a flat ASCII file using the Questionnaire Data to ASCII conversion utility (QDA.EXE) or exported to SAS, SPSS, or MS Access using the QDS Warehouse Manager.

Warehouse Manager Module

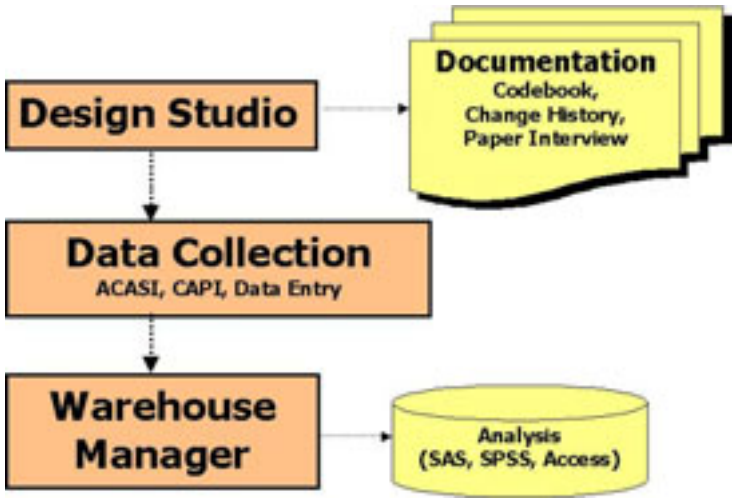
Once data are collected/recorded using one or more of the Data Collection modules, you may import the data into the Warehouse Manager for data management and export data for analysis.

The Warehouse Manager allows you to track the status of collected data and, for multisite studies, whether each completed questionnaire has been shipped to and received by the data Coordinating Center. The Warehouse Manager also allows export of QDS questionnaire data to SPSS, SAS, or MS Access database formats for analysis and reporting.

Recap

In short, the general process is to:

- Create a Specifications File using the Design Studio.
- Build a Control File from Design Studio.
- Collect data using your Control File in conjunction with one or more Data Collection Modules.
- Export data for analysis using the Warehouse Manager.



Now, let's learn more about getting started and creating a questionnaire using the QDS Design Studio Module!

Designing Your Questionnaire: The Design Studio Module

All QDS applications begin in the Design Studio. The **Design Studio** module is the QDS design/development interface—the place where questionnaire specifications are input.

Note: ***While we discuss the Design Studio in terms of questionnaires, QDS can be used to design and implement many types of data collection instruments, including clinical trial forms, laboratory data forms, and diagnostic/assessment forms.***

QDS views each data collection instrument as a linear sequence of data components. These components are called **Elements** in QDS and may include:

- Questions or Data Input Fields (Data Elements).
- Instructions (Information Elements).
- Skips (Skip Elements).
- Consistency Checks (Edit Elements).
- Calculated/Created Variables (Automatic Variable Elements).
- Formatting/Administrative Elements (Section Headers, Comments, and Format Elements).

Opening the Design Studio

The first step is to open the Design Studio. Like many Windows applications, the Design Studio may be opened through the Windows Start Menu or by double-clicking on the Design Studio execution application (QDS.EXE) directly from *Windows Explorer*.

Via Start Menu

Select **Programs|QDS v#.#|Design Studio** from the Windows Start Menu *(where #.# corresponds to the version of QDS installed on your computer; examples in this manual refer to version 2.0).*

Via File Icon

Double-click on the *Design Studio* program icon (QDS.EXE) in the QDS Studio directory (c:\Program Files\QDSv2\Studio).

Once the Design Studio has been opened, you will see a window titled *QDS Design Studio* with a Menu bar with **File**, **View**, and **Help** options.

Creating a Questionnaire

Whenever a new questionnaire is started, the first step is to create a **Specifications File**. The Specifications File will contain all details of the questionnaire: question text, Variable Names, Variable labels, valid ranges, skip instructions, consistency checks, etc.

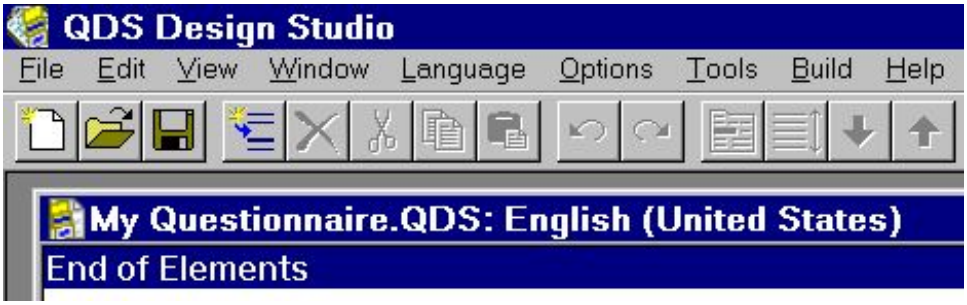
To create a Specifications File:

1. From the Design Studio Menu, select **File|New**.
2. Enter the filename for the Specifications File in the File Name box.

> QDS Specifications Files automatically receive the file extension .**QDS**. For example, if you enter *First Questionnaire Example* in the File Name box, the complete filename will be *First Questionnaire Example.QDS*.

3. Select the path (drive:/directory) where the Specifications File will be saved from the Look in drop-down box. The default location is the **Studio** subdirectory of the QDS folder (c:/program files/qdsv2/studio).
4. Click *Open.*

The Design Studio will now display a new window with the name of your questionnaire in the title bar and a single line reading *End of Elements*. Once a Specifications File has been opened/created, additional Menu Items (**Edit**, **Window**, **Language**, **Options**, **Tools**, and **Build**) are available in the Main Menu Bar of the Design Studio.



Opening a Preexisting Specifications File

To open a preexisting Specifications File:

1. Select **File|Open**.
2. Select appropriate folder from the Look in drop-down box.
3. Select appropriate file—e.g., *First Questionnaire Example.QDS.*
4. Click *Open.*

Saving a Specifications File

To save with same filename and location:

1. Select **File|Save**.

To modify filename or location:

1. Select **File|Save a Copy As**.
2. Enter or modify filename in the File Name box.
3. Select appropriate location in which the file should be saved from the Look in drop-down box.
4. Click *Save*.

By default, QDS retains all Undo Information in your Specifications File. It is this feature that allows QDS to build the Change History and to undo changes.

However, this default setting also increases the size of the Specifications File every time a change is made. Eventually, retention of this information can cause the file size to grow quite large.

It is recommended that undo information be periodically discarded using one of the following **File|Save a Copy As** options:

☒ Discard Undo Information after saving copy

Check this box to eliminate all Undo Information. Prior to eliminating all Undo Information from the Specifications File, QDS will create a copy of the file that includes all previously recorded Undo Information.

☒ Always discard Undo Information before saving

Check this box to disable the Undo capability. When this option is selected, the Undo function will be limited to changes made since the last Save.

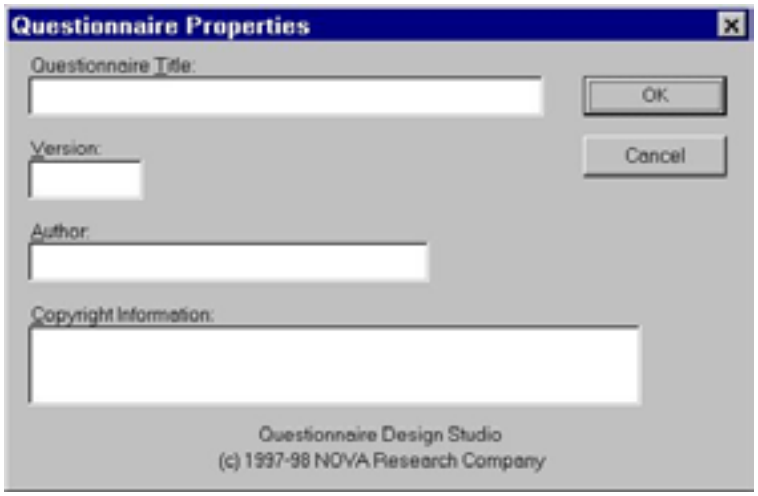
Setting Preliminary Information

Although not required to administer your questionnaires, it is recommended that you enter basic study and file properties for your questionnaire. These options may be changed at any time.

Questionnaire Properties

To enter File Properties:

1. Select **File|Properties**.
2. Enter the title of your questionnaire. If the Questionnaire Title box is left blank, the Specifications File filename, minus the QDS extension—e.g., *My First Questionnaire*—will be used as the questionnaire title on study documentation and paper questionnaires.



3. You may also enter a version code, author's name, and, if applicable, copyright information. This information is not required and may be left blank.

Interview Options

Interview Options are used to define study configuration and specify Variable(s) that will be used as the unique identifier for your questionnaire. For example: Will there be one site or many? Will there be multiple interviews with the same respondent? These parameters may affect how you define your unique identifier.

To setup interviewing and study options:

1. Select **Options|Interviews**.
2. Choose applicable options on the *Study Configuration*, *Identifier Variables*, and *Applicability* tabs.

Interview options specified will be used by the QDS Warehouse Manager to conduct data management activities—e.g., identifying duplicate cases.

In the sample file *First Questionnaire Example.QDS*, all interviewing options have been left at their default settings.

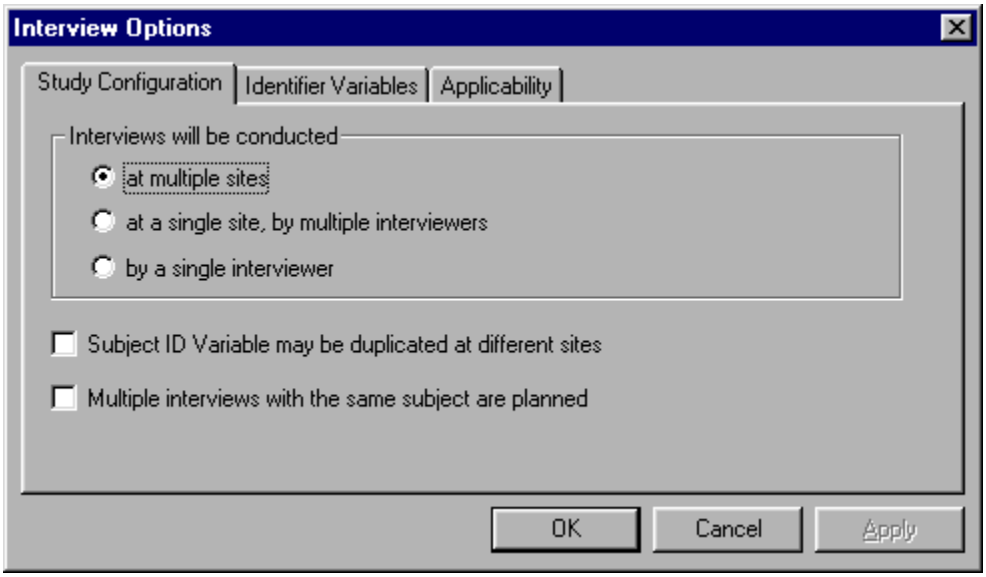
Study Configuration Tab

From **Options|Interviews,** select the *Study Configuration* tab to define how your study will be conducted. Click on the appropriate radio button choice:

at multiple sites

at a single site by multiple interviewers

by a single interviewer



Check the appropriate checkboxes:

Subject ID Variable may be duplicated at different sites

Check this box if the same range of Subject ID numbers will be used at multiple sites.

Multiple interviews with the same subject are planned

Check this box if each Subject ID may be assigned to multiple records.

Identifier Variables

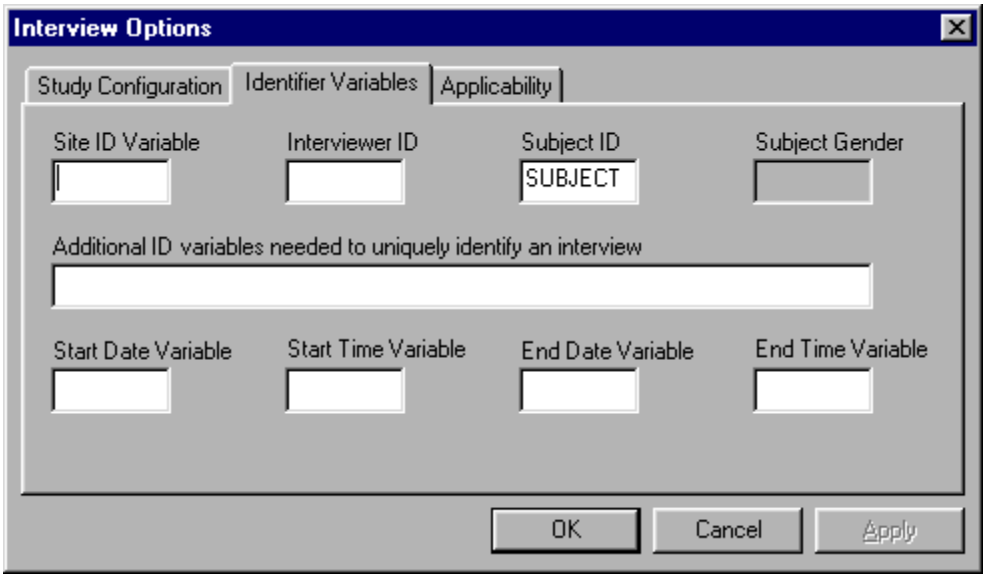
From **Options|Interviews,** select the *Identifier Variables* tab to indicate which Variable(s) will be used as the **Unique Identifier** for your data collect instrument.

The **Unique Identifier** consists of one or more Variables that uniquely identify a particular interview or data collection instance.

By default, QDS expects at least one Variable to be designated as the Subject ID. The Variable Name for this item should be entered in the box labeled Subject ID on the *Identifier Variables* tab. The default Subject ID Variable Name is SUBJECT. You will notice that the Variable Name SUBJECT is already entered in the Subject ID box.

Information entered on the *Study Configuration* tab will be used by QDS to assist you in entering appropriate Variables on the *Identifier Variables* tab.

For instance, in the simplest situation, when a single interview will be done at a single site by a single interviewer, only one Variable is required to uniquely identify each record. The Variable Name for this Identifier Variable should be entered in the Subject ID box.



If **Multiple interviews with the same subject are planned** was checked on the *Study Configuration* tab, the Additional ID Variables box is enabled. Here you should enter the Variable Name for other Variable(s) that, along with Subject ID, will uniquely identify a single interview. Often, this is an interview date or visit type code (e.g., enrollment, 3-month, 6-month).

You can update these settings at any time. However, it is a good idea to review and confirm these settings prior to finalizing your instrument and beginning data collection.

Understanding Elements

As mentioned earlier, your Specifications File can include data collection items, special instructions to the interviewer or interviewee, instructions for changing question sequence (branching or skip patterns), calculations, consistency checks, formatting, and comments.

In QDS, each component of your form is called an **Element**. QDS views your questionnaire as a linear sequence of Elements. By default, QDS will go through each Element sequentially, starting with the first and continuing until it reaches End of Elements.

QDS supports the following types of Elements:

Data ..... Data collection items (questions or data fields)

Information ..... Text to be presented to the interviewer or respondent

Skip ..... Conditional branching instruction

Edit ..... Consistency check to be performed with a specified reconciliation process

Marker ..... A destination point for a branch instruction

Section Header ..... Instruction to begin a new section of the form/questionnaire

Format ..... Formatting instruction for a paper form

Table ..... A repeated group of consecutive Elements for a set of categories

Automatic Variable ..... Value to be entered automatically into the Data File (e.g., today's date, computed value)

Comments ..... Informational text for the form designer

Each Element creates a single line in the Specifications File.

Inserting New Elements

To insert a new Element:

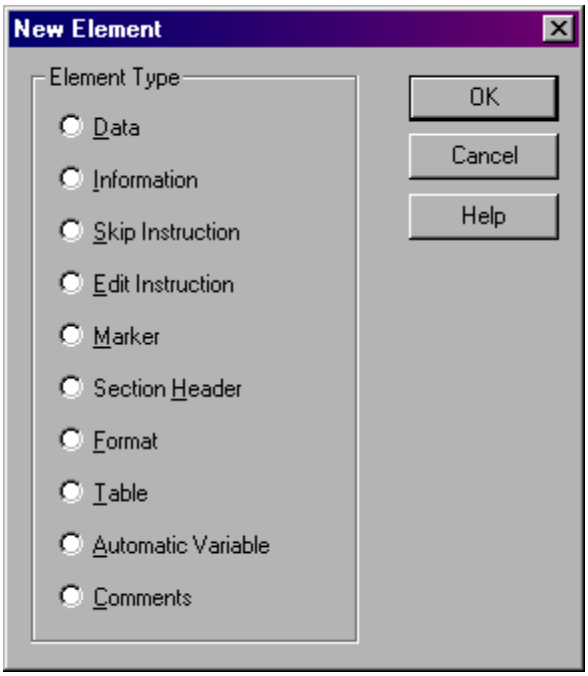
1. Select **Edit|Insert** or click the *Insert Element* button ( ) from the toolbar.

2. Select Element Type.

3. Click *OK*.

New Elements are inserted *before* the current item.

Each Element Type is described in detail in later chapters.



Copying, Moving, and Deleting Elements

It is easy to copy or move any Element or group of Elements from one part of a Specifications File to another. Elements may also be moved and copied from one questionnaire to another. This can be a great time saver when you have similar data collection items in different forms. Field-tested questions can be reused by simply cutting and pasting. Once you have copied an Element, you can edit the parts that are different (such as Variable Name, Label, and Question Text).

Copying and Moving Elements

To copy an Element or group of Elements:

1. Select Element(s) to copy. To select more than one Element, click on the first Element in the group and, while holding down the Shift Key, click on the last Element in the group.
2. Select **Edit|Copy** (to cut instead of copying, select **Edit|Cut**).
3. Highlight the Element just below the point at which you would like the copied items inserted, and choose **Edit|Paste**.

Note: You may also use the **Copy** () or **Cut** () buttons from the toolbar.

Editing Elements

At any time while building specifications in the Design Studio, you can go back and view or edit any of your Element specifications. Double-click on the Element you wish to view or edit from the Specifications File Element list and make your modifications. When you are finished, click *OK*.

Note that you can also use the *Element View* button () from the toolbar. In addition, the *Next Element* () and *Previous Element* () buttons on the toolbar enable you to move quickly between different Element specifications.

Deleting Elements

To delete an Element or group of Elements:

1. Select the Element(s) you would like to delete. To select more than one Element, click on the first Element in the group and, while holding down the Shift Key, click on the last Element in the group.
2. Select **Edit|Delete** or the *Delete Element(s)* () button from the toolbar. The deleted Element(s) will be removed from the Element list.

Locating Elements: Find and Go To

The Find function allows the user to search for words or phrases located in questionnaire elements and response cards. The Go To function allows the user to jump to a new location in the file by specifying an element number.

Find

To access the Find function, select **Edit|Find** from the menu bar. Select **Edit|Find Next** to repeat the last find operation. To use the Find feature, enter your search text in the 'Find What' box.

The following options are available for the Find function:

Match Whole Word Only..... Finds only whole words that match the text in the 'Find What' string.

Match Case ..... Finds only text that matches the case of the characters in the 'Find What' string exactly.

Direction..... Specifies which direction to search. If Up is selected, the search starts at the current element and moves to the top of the file. If Down is selected, the search starts at the current element and moves to the bottom of the file.

Question and Information Text ..... Check this box to restrict the Find function to the question text field of a Data element or the information text field of an Information element.

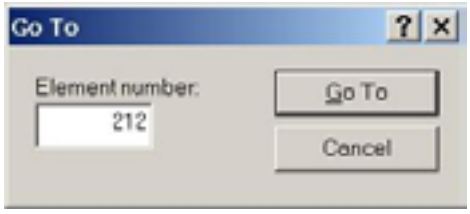
Variable Name..... Check this box to restrict the Find function to the variable name field of a Data element or Automatic variable.

Variable Label..... Check this box to restrict the Find function to the variable label field of a Data element or Automatic variable.

Section Header..... Check this box to restrict the Find function to Section Header elements.

Response Card..... Check this box to restrict the Find function to the response card list.

Go To



To access the Go To function, select **Edit|Go To** from the menu bar. To use the Go To feature, enter the Element Number for the item to which you want to go and click *Go To*. The Element Number is displayed in the bottom status bar of the Design Studio window.

Copying Elements Between QDS Specifications Files

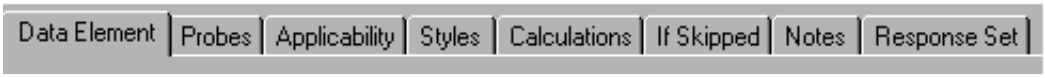
To copy or move Element(s) between QDS Specifications Files, open both files simultaneously within the Design Studio and follow the steps described earlier for copying and moving Elements. You can toggle between files by using the **Window** Menu item. This is particularly useful when you want to reuse a set of questions that you have already defined for QDS.

DATA ELEMENTS

Generally, most Elements in your Specifications File will be **Data Elements**. Data Elements are used to ask questions or other types of information (e.g., laboratory results) and record responses. Each Data Element must be designated as a specific data or Response Type (e.g., numeric or text). QDS supports the following **Response Types**:

Yes/No	**Date**	**Numeric Rating Scale**
Gender	**Time**	**Text**
Response Card	**Time Span**	**Pattern**
Nominal-Pick One	**Local Currency**	
Nominal-Check Each	**Number**	

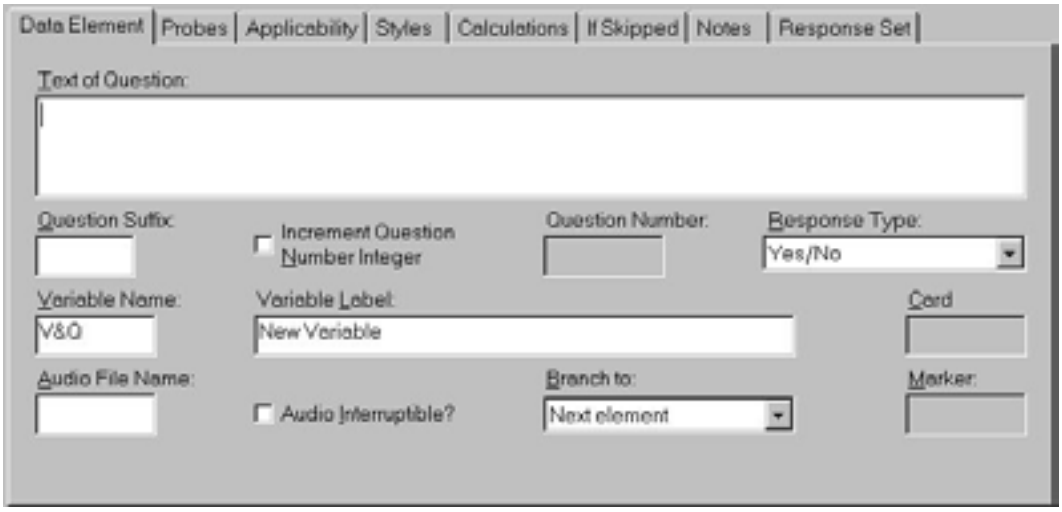
Once a Data Element has been inserted (**Edit**|**Insert**), a new window will appear. This window has eight separate tabs, starting with *Data Element* on the left and ending with *Response Set* on the far right. Each tab allows you to set options for the current Data Element.



You will need to set options on the *Data Element* and *Response Set* tabs for each new Data Element. Although there are additional options available on the other six tabs, you will find that you can often leave these options at their default settings.

Data Element Tab

Select the *Data Element* tab to enter basic information, including question text (or field name), Variable Name, Variable label, and Response Type. You will find that certain options are used more frequently for specific methods of form implementation. For example, question numbering options are more useful for printed questionnaires, whereas audio options are used only for automated ACASI interviews. You will also find that some *Data Element* tab options often remain unchanged.



Text of Question

In the Text of Question box, enter the question as it should appear on the form or screen. The text entered into this box will appear as the question text in a paper interview or be displayed on the screen for an automated interview (CAPI, ACASI).

Basic formatting—**bolding**, *italicizing*, or underlining—may be applied to any portion of the question text by selecting that portion with your mouse and selecting **Edit|Bold**, **Edit|Italic,** or **Edit|Underline** or by selecting the appropriate formatting buttons from the Design Studio toolbar: . To include a line break, press **Ctrl**+**Enter**.

Variable Name

In the Variable Name box, enter the Data Element Variable Name.

Variable Names must begin with a letter, be no longer than 8 characters, and contain only letters, digits, underscores, and/or Substitution Tokens. This ensures compatibility with output file requirements (e.g., SAS, SPSS).

Examples of valid names: GENDER, INTDT, NAME, DOB, LAST30, MM_YY
Examples of invalid names: INTERVIEWDATE, 30DAYS, MM/YY

By default, QDS assigns each Variable the name V&Q. Once the questionnaire is built, the V&Q Variable Name will assign a Variable Name consisting of the letter V and the question number (e.g., V23). See *Substitution Tokens* for more information.

Although QDS assigns default Variable Names, we ***strongly recommend*** that you assign your own unique Variable Names prior to finalizing your questionnaire. Because the default Variable Names are related to the question number (e.g., the default Variable Name for Question #1 would be V1), if the question order is

changed or new questions are inserted, Variable Names will change accordingly. This can cause confusion because identical Variable Names could correspond to different data items in each version of your questionnaire. For instance:

Version 1	Version 2
Q1. Subject ID V1	Q1. Subject ID V1
Q2. Gender..... V2	Q2. Gender..... V2
Q3. Age..... V3	Q3. Race/Ethnicity V3
	Q4. Age..... V4

In the example above, the Race/Ethnicity item was inserted between the Gender and Age questions, causing the question numbers and Variable Names to adjust accordingly. The result is a Variable named V3 in both versions, but, in Version 1, V3 contains Age information, and in Version 2, it contains Race/Ethnicity data.

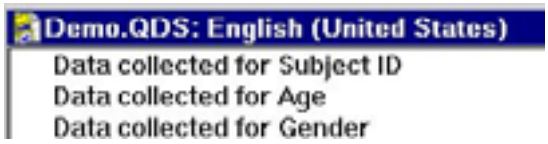
Often, Variables are named to reflect item content. For example, the interview date Variable might be named INTDT. You can see how this eliminates the problems in the previous example:

Version 1	Version 2
Q1. Subject ID ..... SUBJECT	Q1. Subject ID ..... SUBJECT
Q2. Gender..... GENDER	Q2. Gender..... GENDER
Q3. Age..... AGE	Q3. Race/Ethnicity .... RACE
	Q4. Age..... AGE

Variable Label

The Variable Label box is used to enter a descriptive label for the Data Element.

Variable Labels are displayed in the Design Studio *Element List View* to identify Elements (e.g., Data Collected for <*Variable Label*>).

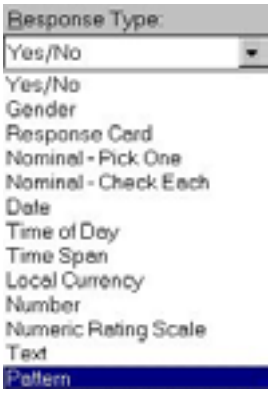


Labels are included in SAS, SPSS, and Access export formats.

Response Type

Use the Response Type drop-down list to select the correct Response Type for your question.

The default Response Type is *Yes/No* (i.e., every Data Element will initially be assigned a Response Type of *Yes/No*). Click on the button [▾] to view possible choices and select the appropriate Response Type.



Subject ID Variables must be defined as Number or Text responses. If Subject ID Variables are assigned any other Response Type, an error message will be generated at the time of validation (see *Validating Your Specifications*).

Question Numbering

In order to properly utilize the question numbering options, it is necessary to understand how QDS automatically generates question numbers, as well as how you can override defaults.

Each Data Element's associated question number consists of three parts:

Prefix [optional]

Integer [required]

Suffix [optional]

For example, in a question numbered A1b:
A is the Prefix, *1* is the Integer, and *b* is the Suffix.

The Prefix may initially be set as one of the QDS Data Defaults and may be omitted or changed using Section Header Elements. The default Prefix is **Q**.

The Integer is determined automatically by QDS, starting with 1 and continuing sequentially. The default (sequential) numbering may be overridden using Section Header or Format Elements.

The Suffix is optional. If a suffix is specified, the first character must be a letter.

Question Suffix

You may optionally enter a question suffix to be appended to the question number integer. For example, to number a question Q24a (rather than Q24), enter **a** in the Question Suffix box.

A new suffix may or may not indicate a new integer. For instance, the letter **a** inserted into the Question Suffix box of the Data Element following Q28 may correspond to Q28a or Q29a. QDS assumes that you want Q28a but allows you to override this assumption using the *Increment Question Number Integer* option (see below).

Increment Question Number Integer

Check this box to force QDS to increment the Integer for that Element. For example, to achieve the following sequence: Q1, Q2a, Q2b; check the *Increment Question Number* option on the Q2a to increase the question number integer between the first (Q1) and second (Q2a) Element. If this option is not checked, the question numbers Q1, Q1a, and Q1b will be assigned.

Question Number

This box displays the current question number, including Prefix and Suffix. Because question numbers are generated/renumbered only when specifications are validated, ***changes made to question numbering are visible only after revalidating specifications.*** (Select **Tools|Validate** from the List View or select the *Validate* button  from the toolbar.)

Audio File Name

The Audio File Name box is used to enter the filename for a manually recorded .WAV file for the question. To suppress audio for an Element, enter No Audio. This is an instruction to QDS not to use the Text-to-speech engine for this item. *This option is applicable only for ACASI applications.*

Audio Filenames are limited to 8 characters and may not contain blanks or the following characters: \ / : * ? " < > |. ***Do not enter the .WAV file extension as part of the Audio File Name***. See *Using Audio* for more information on working with WAV files and other Audio options.

Audio Interruptible

Check this box to allow the respondent to enter a response *before* the entire question has been read. If the box is not checked, the respondent will be prevented from answering until the question has been read in its entirety. *This option is applicable only for ACASI applications.*

Branch to

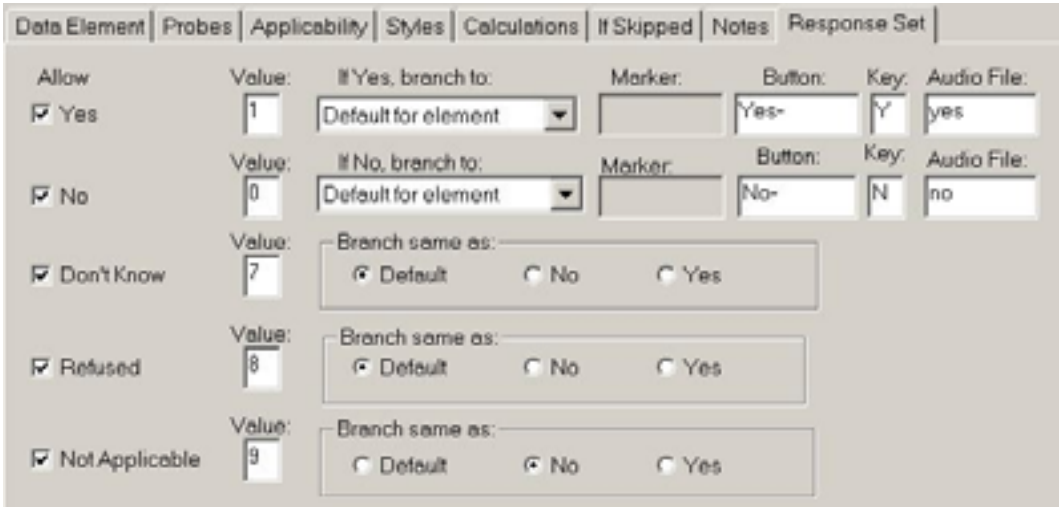
The Branch to box specifies the Element to be processed following a Data Element. By default, QDS will proceed to the next item in sequence. However, you can use this option to specify an alternate order.

Response Set Tab

After entering information on the *Data Element* tab, you will most likely want to review the settings on the *Response Set* tab. Options on this tab allow you to specify numeric values and valid ranges for each Data Element. Specific options vary, and are determined by the Response Type chosen.

Most options are set with a checkbox or radio button choice. For help on a specific option, right-click to view the context-sensitive *What's This* help. The following sections detail the various options for each Response Type.

Response Set Tab: Yes/No



Allow

Checkboxes indicate whether the specified response is allowed for this Element. To disallow a response, uncheck the corresponding box. ***Both Yes and No must be allowed for Yes/No questions***.

Value

Enter the value to be associated with each response. The assigned values for the Special Codes may be changed to an integer between 0 and 9 but should not match codes assigned to Yes or No.

Default values are:

Yes	**1**	**Don't Know**	**7**
No	**0**	**Refused**	**8**
		Not Applicable	**9**

Branching option

Use this option to specify the path to be followed depending on the response selected. (Default branching is set on the *Data Element* tab.). You may indicate that a skip over a specific number of Elements or to a specified Marker should be triggered for certain responses.

Button

Use this box to enter the filename for bitmap images to be used for automated interview response buttons. ***Do not enter the BMP extension.*** QDS provides default bitmap picture buttons (pictured above) for Yes/No questions. Names for the default buttons (Yes-, No-) appear automatically in the Button text boxes. However, you can create your own

buttons to use instead of the QDS defaults (see *Creating Bitmap Buttons* for more information*)*.

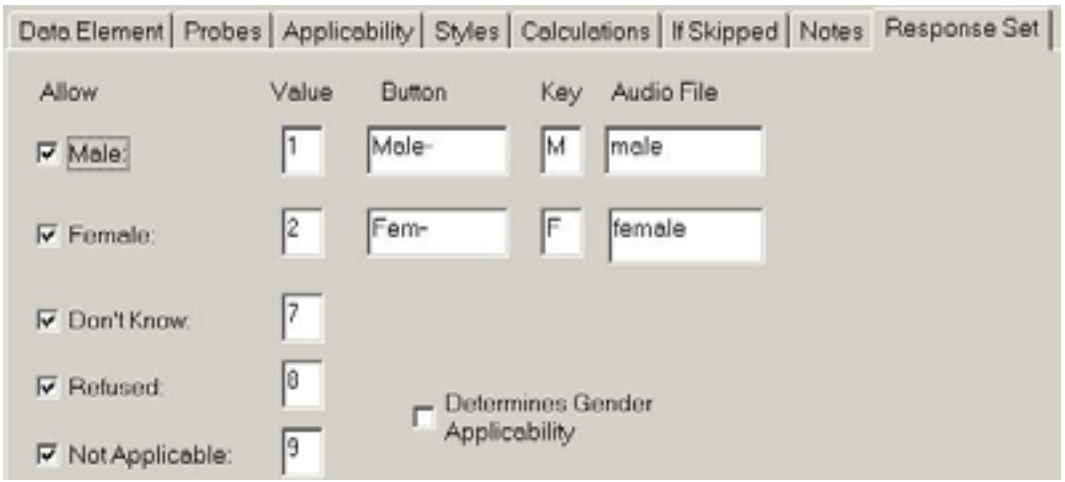
Key

This box indicates a letter that can be pressed on the keyboard to select each button. By default, you will see the letter **Y** in the Yes row and **N** in the No row. In automated interviews (CAPI, ACASI), a response of Yes or No may be indicated by pressing the corresponding letter on the keyboard (Y or N). This option is only available in ACASI interviews if keyboard support has been enabled (see *ACASI* Build Options).

Audio File

This box allows entry of the WAV file name (see Using Audio). This is optional and is applicable only for ACASI interviews.

Response Set Tab: Gender



Allow

Checkboxes indicate whether or not each response is allowed for this Element. **Both Male and Female are required responses for Gender Elements.** To disallow a response, uncheck the corresponding box.

Value

Enter the value to be assigned to each response. The assigned values for Special Codes may be changed to integers between 0 and 9 but should not match codes assigned to the Male or Female response.

Default values are:

Male	**1**	**Don't Know**	**7**
Female	**2**	**Refused**	**8**
		Not Applicable	**9**

Branching option

Use this option to specify the path to be followed depending on the response selected. (Default branching is set on the *Data Element* tab.). You may indicate that a skip over a specific number of Elements or to a specified Marker should be triggered for certain responses.

Button

As with Yes/No Response Types, QDS supplies default buttons for Gender responses. Names of these bitmap file sets (Male-, Fem-) will be entered automatically in the Button text boxes.

If you prefer, you can create your own buttons to replace the QDS defaults. (See *Creating Bitmap Buttons.)*

Key

This box indicates the letter that can be pressed on the keyboard to select each button. By default, you will see the letter **M** in the Male row and **F** in the Female row. In automated interviews (CAPI, ACASI), a response of Male or Female may be indicated by pressing the corresponding letter on the keyboard (M or F). This option is only available in ACASI interviews if keyboard support has been enabled (see *ACASI* Build Options). When creating new bitmaps, it is standard to underline the keyboard shortcut.

Audio File

This box allows entry of the WAV file name (see Using Audio). This is optional and is applicable only for ACASI interviews.

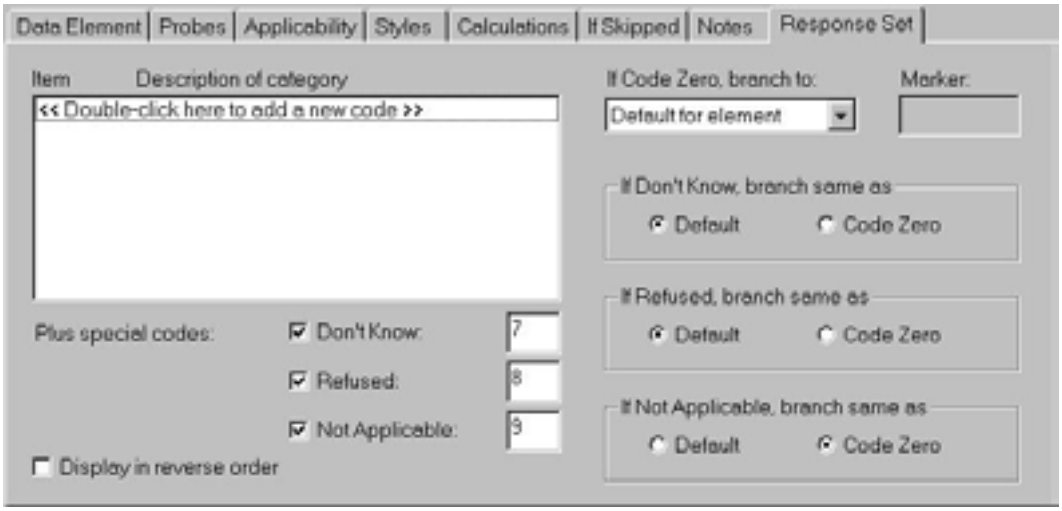
Determines Gender Applicability

Data Elements may be specified as applicable only for men or only for women. (This option is described in the section on the Data Element *Applicability* tab.) Because it is possible to have more than one Data Element with a Response Type of Gender, it is necessary to indicate which gender Variable should be used to determine gender applicability.

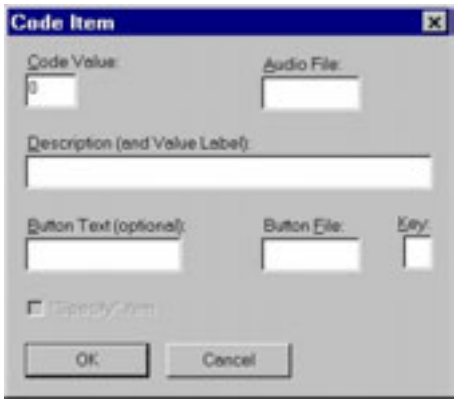
Note: ***Checking this box indicates that this Element should be used to determine gender applicability. This is necessary even if you have only one gender Element in your questionnaire.***

Response Set Tab: Nominal-Pick One

The Nominal-Pick One Response Type is used for Data Elements that require the selection of a single response from a predefined set of categories.



Item/Description of category



On the Nominal-Pick One *Response Set* tab, you will see a box with the headings Item and Description of category. Inside the box is the text <<Double-click here to add a new code>>.

Double-clicking on this text will open the *Code Item* window, which will allow you to input information for each category in the Response Set. Specifically, you will be asked to input the following:

Code Value..... Enter a unique numeric value (By default, QDS will assign 0 to the first category and increment by one for each additional category).

Audio File..... Filename for WAV file (see *Using Audio*). This is optional and is applicable only for ACASI interviews.

Description..... Enter description of the category; this will also provide value labels for SAS, SPSS, and Access.

Button Text..... Enter button text for automated interviews (optional). If this box is left blank, the text entered for the Description will be used.

Button File..... Enter the name of the bitmap file to be used for automated interviews (CAPI, ACASI). Leave this box blank to use a text button that displays the Button Text.

Key ..... For an automated interview, you may provide a key to be pressed to select the code button. This is comparable to the Yes/No Response Type option where pressing Y or N selects Yes or No for automated interviews. This option is applicable only when Bitmap buttons are used. Text buttons will automatically display shortcut letters (A, B, C, etc.).

Click *OK* when you have entered all information for the category. Continue adding Nominal-Pick One items until your list is complete. You may revise and edit this list at any time.

Plus Special Codes

You can use this section to disallow one or more of the QDS Special Codes using the checkbox on the left. You can also modify the default values for these categories.

Display in Reverse Order

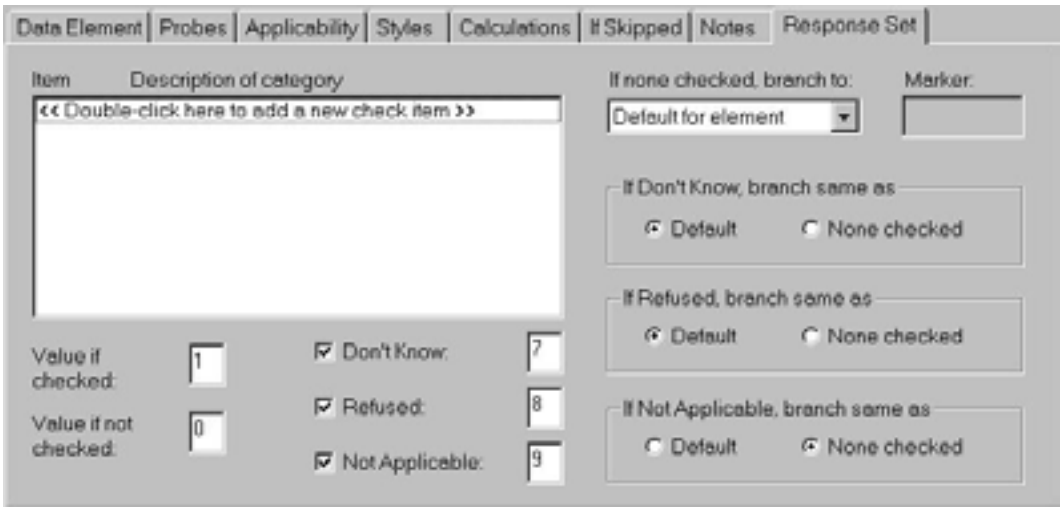
Check this box if you would like the categories to be displayed in reverse numerical order. If the box is unchecked, the categories will be displayed in numerical order, lowest to highest.

If Code Zero, Branch to

This item specifies the next Element to be processed if the response to this question is the category with code value Zero. Select Default for Element to branch as specified for this Element on the *Data Element* tab. To skip over a specified number of Elements when the response is Zero, select Skip *n* Elements. To branch to a specified Marker Element after a Zero response, select Marker... and enter the Marker ID in the box to the right.

Response Set Tab: Nominal-Check Each

Use the **Nominal-Check Each** Response Type when you want to allow the respondent to choose more than one answer from a list of possible options.



Nominal-Check Each Response Types are somewhat different from other Data Element types discussed so far because they will output multiple Variables to the Data File.

Each checklist item will have its own Variable in the output Data File. The Variable's value will indicate whether or not it was checked (default: 1 = checked and 0 = not checked). The resulting Variable Names will be the Variable Name from the *Data Element* tab plus the Variable Name Suffix.

In addition, a single Variable indicating *how many* items were chosen will be written out to the Data File. This Variable Name will match the Variable Name entered on the *Data Element* tab.

For example, if you had the following question and responses for the Data Element FRUIT:

> Of the fruits listed, please select those you have eaten during the past week:
>
> ✓ A) Apples
> B) Bananas
> ✓ C) Grapes
> D) Pears
> ✓ E) Strawberries
> F) Oranges

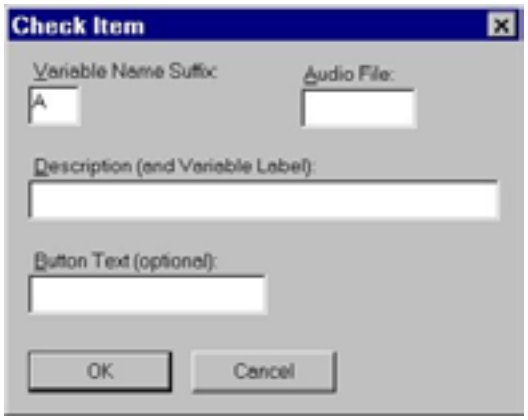
In this example, the respondent has selected Apples, Grapes, and Strawberries. This will result in the following Variables/values being written to the Data File:

FRUITA=1
FRUITB=0
FRUITC=1
FRUITD=0
FRUITE=1
FRUITF=0

FRUIT=3 (three items were selected)

Notice that we have six new Variables for the one question: one for each category of fruit. The Variable Name Suffix letters A through F were added to FRUIT to make the six new Variable Names.

As with the Pick One Response Type, you will need to define the Response Set to be used. Double-click where indicated to open the *Check Item* box to enter categories for the current Data Element.



Variable Name Suffix ..... The letter that will be appended to the Data Element Variable Name. For example, if the Variable Name for the Data Element is FRUIT and the Variable Name Suffix for this checklist item is A, then the corresponding Variable will be FRUITA. Note that QDS suggests a unique suffix to be assigned to each check item, but you may change the suggested suffix to any single letter.

Audio File ..... Name of associated Audio File (optional). **Note: Do not enter .WAV file extension.** See *Using Audio* for more information.

Description..... Variable label will be exported to SPSS, SAS, and Access. This information will also be used to identify the Variable in the Design Studio list view and will be included in the Codebook.

Button Text ..... Text to be displayed on response buttons for an automated interview (optional). If left blank, the Description will be used.

Click *OK* when you have completed these options. Continue adding Check Each items until your list is complete. You may revise and add to this list at any time.

For Nominal-Check Each Response Types you may also want to specify:

Value if (not) checked..... Modify the code values in the *Value if Checked* (default = 1) and *Value if not Checked* (default = 0) boxes.

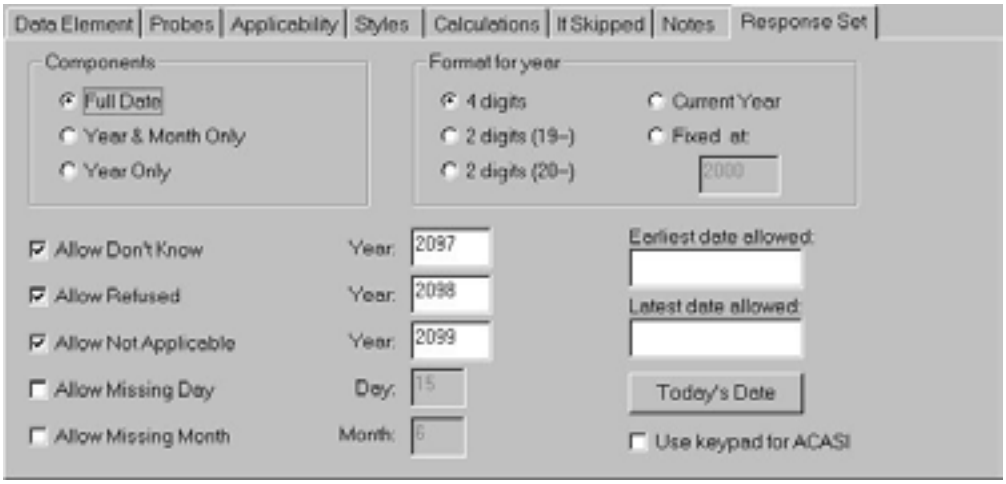
Special Code..... Indicate whether Don't Know, Refused, and/or Not Applicable are allowable responses for this item. The default setting is not checked.

In none checked, branch to ..... Specify a branching option (to skip one or more Elements or skip to a specified marker) if no items are checked. (S*ee Skip*

Instructions and Markers.) To require at least one category, select Disallow.

Response Set Tab: Date

When the response for your Data Element is a Date, you will use this Response Type. Key options to review and possibly modify on the *Response Set* tab include:



Components ..... Select Full Date to include the year, month and day (default setting). Other options are Year & Monthly Only and Year Only. All Date Elements must include at least the year.

Format for year ..... Select the appropriate format for entering the year portion of the date: 4 digits, 2 digits (19--), 2 digits (20--), Current Year, or Fixed at. If you select Fixed at, enter the fixed year in this box. The QDS default is a 4-year date.

Special Codes ..... Indicate whether Don't Know, Refused, and/or Not Applicable are allowable responses for this item. The default setting is not checked.

Allow Missing Day ..... Check this box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with an incomplete date that is missing the day of the month. In the box to the right, enter the day value to be substituted. This should be an allowable value (1-28) for all months so that the full date will be valid for analysis.

Allow Missing Month ..... Check this box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with an incomplete date that is missing the month. In the box to the right, enter the month value to be substituted. This should be an allowable value (1-12) so that the full date will be valid for analysis.

Earliest date allowed ..... Enter the earliest allowable date to be used as the default for date Elements. To see the format in which to enter this date, press the *Today's Date* button and imitate the style. You may

leave this field blank for no minimum date or enter CURRENT to make the earliest allowable date the date of the interview.

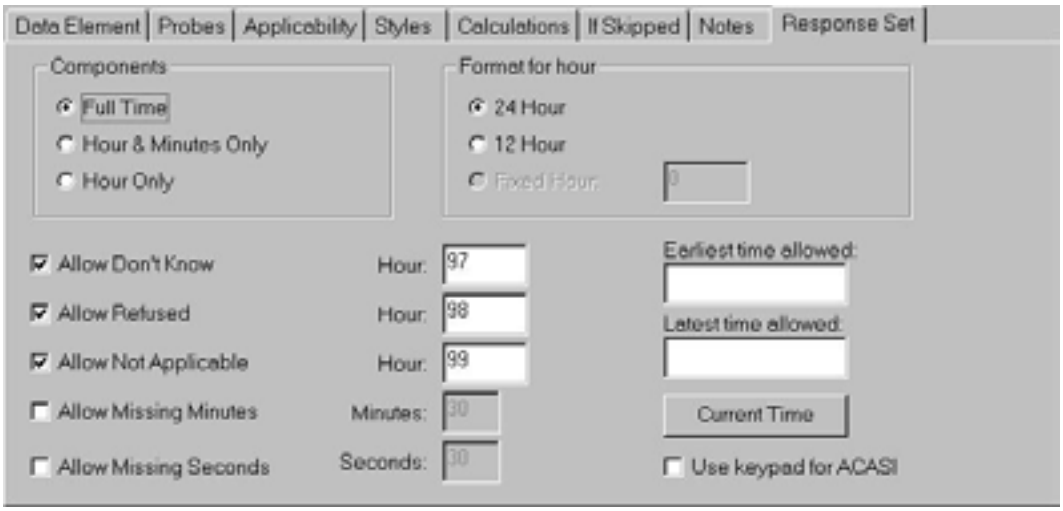
Latest date allowed..... Enter the latest allowable date to be used as the default for date Elements. To see the format in which to enter this date, press the *Today's Date* button and imitate the style. You may leave this field blank for no maximum date or enter CURRENT to make the latest allowable date the date of the interview.

Use keypad for ACASI..... For automated interviews, date components may be selected by using Spin Controls, where the respondent presses buttons to increase or decrease each component to the correct value, or with numeric keypads, where the respondent presses digit buttons on a keypad display to enter the value. Select Use keypad for ACASI to provide keypad rather than Spin Controls as the default for date Elements.

Note: If you choose to use a keypad, separate screens will be displayed for each data component (Spin Controls allow all components to be entered on a single screen).

Example of Spin Controls:

Response Set Tab: Time of Day



The *Response Set* tab options for Time of Day responses are similar to those for Dates.

Components ..... Select Full Time if the Element will include hour, minutes, and seconds (QDS default setting). All Time Elements must include at least the hour.

Format for hour ..... You may select from 24 hour (i.e., 1:00 p.m. is represented by 13:00), 12 hour (will include an a.m./p.m. indicator), or Fixed Hour formats. If you select Fixed Hour, enter the fixed hour in this box.

Special Codes..... You may choose Allow Don't Know, Refused, and Not Applicable by checking these boxes (default setting is not checked).

Allow Missing Minutes ..... Check this box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with incomplete times that are missing the minute(s). In the box to the right, enter the minutes value to be substituted. This should be an allowable value (0-59) so that the full time will be valid for analysis.

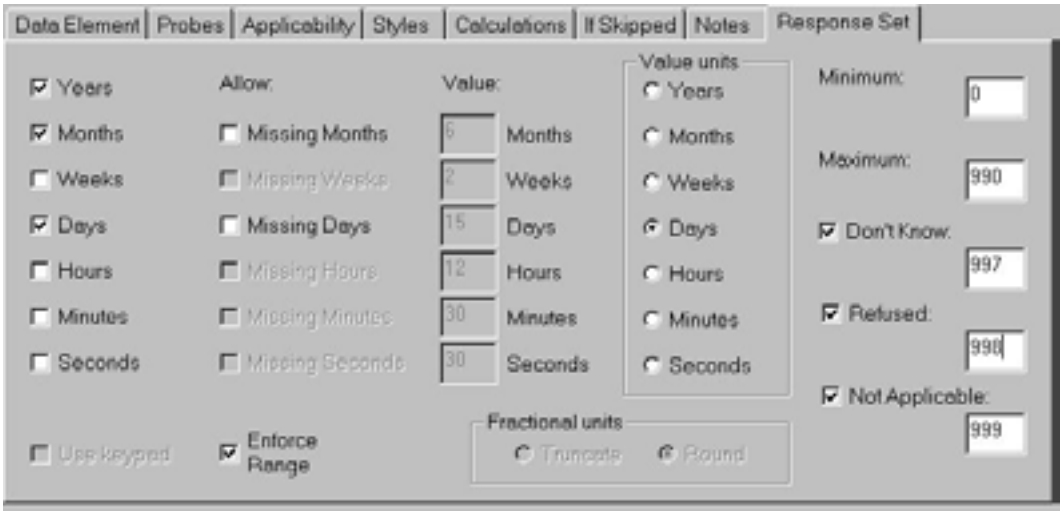
Allow Missing Seconds..... Check this box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with incomplete times that are missing the second(s). In the box to the right, enter the seconds value to be substituted. This should be an allowable value (0-59) so that the full time will be valid for analysis.

Earliest time allowed ..... Enter the default minimum value for Time Elements. You may leave this field blank for no minimum time or enter CURRENT to make the earliest allowable time the time of day at that point in the interview.

Latest time allowed..... Enter the default maximum value for Time Elements. You may leave this field blank for no maximum time, or enter CURRENT to make the latest allowable time the time of day at that point in the interview.

Use keypad for ACASI..... For automated interviews, time components may be selected by using Spin Controls, where the respondent presses buttons to increase or decrease each component to the correct value, or with numeric keypads, where the respondent presses digit buttons on a keypad display to enter the value. Select Use keypad for ACASI to provide keypad rather than Spin Controls as the default for Time Elements.
Note: ***If you choose to use a keypad, separate screens will be displayed for each component (Spin Controls allow all components to be entered on a single screen)*****.**

Response Set Tab: Time Span



Use the Time Span Response Type when you want to record a length of time.

Units of Time..... Select up to three units of time to be used in expressing the timespan. The respondent will be asked to express the length of time using one or more of the selected units (e.g., 3 years and 6 months). You may include up to three contiguous components. For example, a combination of Years, Months, and Days or a combination of Days, Hours, and Minutes is permitted.

Allow Missing ..... Months, Weeks, Days, Hours, Minutes, or Seconds. Check the appropriate box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with an incomplete timespan missing that component. In the box to the right, enter the value to be substituted.

Value units ..... Select the unit to be used to express the combined components of the timespan. ***This must be one of the units of time that are allowed for this Element***. If the selected Value units are not the shortest of the allowed units of time, there may be a fractional value to be truncated or rounded. For example, if Months and Years are selected as the units of time, a response of 1 year and 2 months would be recorded as 14 if the Value unit is months, or 1 if the Value unit is years.

Fractional units..... If the selected Value units (above) for the combined timespan are not the shortest of the allowed units of time, there may be a fractional value to be truncated or rounded. Select Truncate to ignore any fractional units. Select Round to set the combined timespan to the closest value to the combined response.

Special Codes..... Indicate if Don't Know, Refused, and Not Applicable are allowable responses by checking these boxes (default setting is not checked). The value recorded in the box to the right will be recorded for the Value unit.

Minimum Allowable Value..... Enter the shortest timespan that will be considered a valid response. This value is expressed in terms of the Value unit. For example, if 2 is entered as the minimum, and Years is the Value unit, a timespan of at least 2 years must be entered. But if 2 is entered, and Months is the Value unit, the minimum timespan is 2 months.

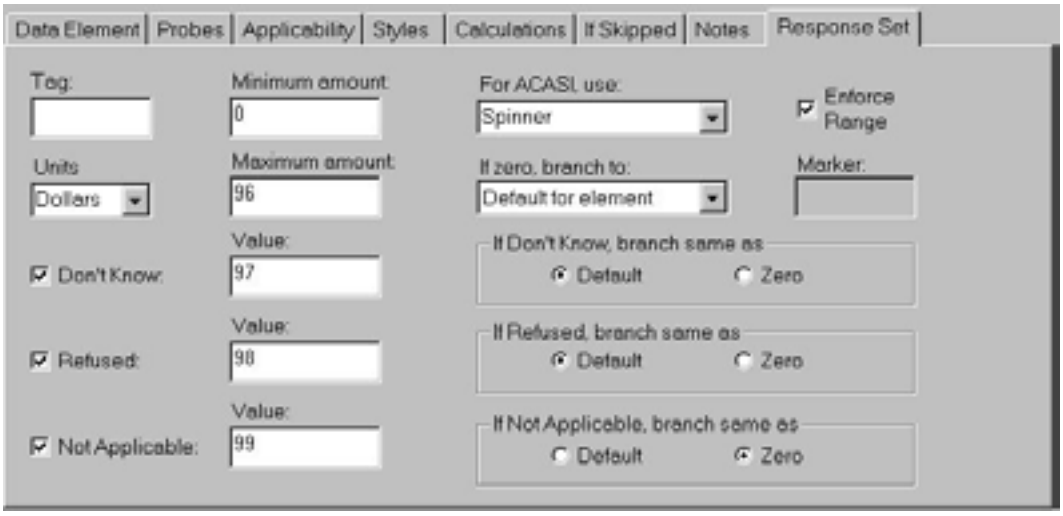
Maximum Allowable Value..... Enter the longest timespan that will be considered a valid response. This value is expressed in terms of the value unit. For example, if 2 is entered as the maximum, and Years is the value unit, a timespan of no longer than 2 years must be entered. But, if 2 is entered, and Months is the value unit, the maximum timespan is 2 months.

Use keypad ..... For automated interviews, timespan components may be selected by using Spin Controls, where the respondent presses buttons to increase or decrease each component to the correct value, or with numeric keypads, where the respondent presses digit buttons on a keypad display to enter the value. Select Use keypad to provide keypad rather than Spin Controls as the default for timespan Elements.
Note: ***If you choose to use a keypad, separate screens will be displayed for each component (Spin Controls allows all components to be entered on a single screen)*****.**

Enforce Range..... Check this box to prevent a span outside the allowable range for a Data Element to be entered. If this box is not checked, a warning will be issued for out-of-range timespans, but they will be allowed.

Time Span Variables write out multiple Variables to the final Data File. The value of the timespan response converted to the specified Value Unit is written out to a Variable with the *Data Element* tab Variable Name. Additionally, separate Variables are written out with the values entered for each selected component. For example, for a Time Span response named TIME with Months and Years selected and Months designated as the Value unit, a response of 2 months and 1 year will result in the following Variables being written to the Data File: TIME=14, TIMEY=1, and TIMEM=2.

Response Set: Local Currency



When the response for your Data Element is in Currency, use this Response Type. There are several options on the *Response Set* tab to review and possibly modify:

Tag ..... This is a short descriptor to appear beside the value. For example, a question about the respondent's income might have a tag of INCOME. The text entered in this box will appear beside the response box on the interview screen. The Tag is optional and may be left blank.

Units ..... Select the appropriate unit. The specific units listed are determined by Windows, based on the system locale. For instance, for the US, you may select Dollars or Cents.

Special Codes ..... You may choose to allow Don't Know, Refused, and Not Applicable by checking these boxes (default setting is checked). In the box to the right, you may modify the value to indicate the Special Code.

Minimum Allowable Value ..... Enter the smallest amount to be allowed for this Data Element.

Maximum Allowable Value ..... Enter the largest amount to be allowed for this Data Element.

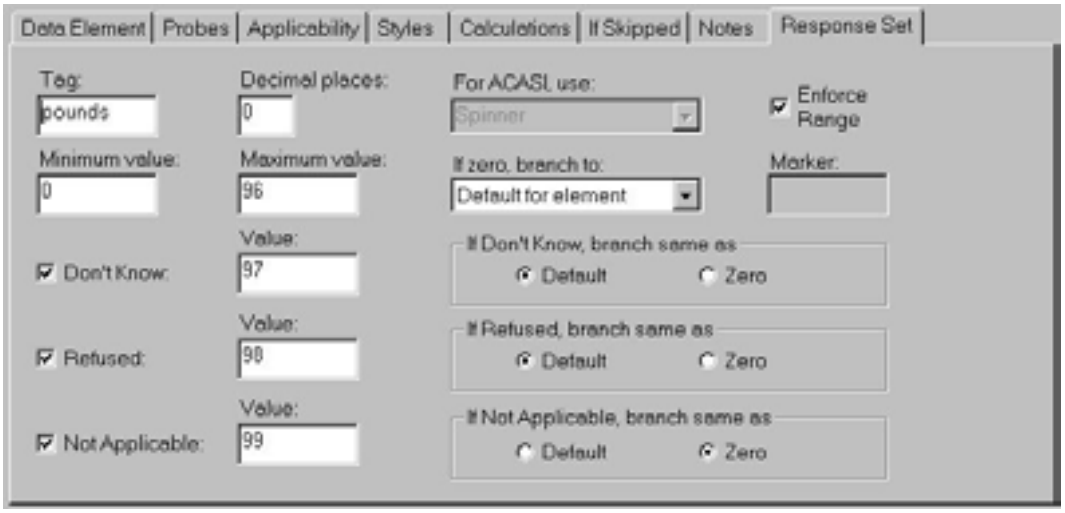
For ACASI use ..... For automated interviews, the numeric responses may be entered using Spin Controls or a keypad. With Spin Controls, the respondent presses buttons to increase or decrease the displayed value until it is correct. With a keypad, the respondent presses digit buttons on a keypad display to enter the value.

Enforce Range ..... Check this box to prevent an entry outside the allowable range for a Data Element. If this box is not checked, a warning will be issued for out-of-range items, but they will be allowed.

If zero, branch to ..... You can specify a branching option (to skip one or more Element[s] or skip to a specified Marker) if the response is equal to zero. (See *Skips and Markers.*)

Click *OK* when you have completed these options.

Response Set: Number



The following options are available for numeric responses:

Tag ..... A short descriptor to appear beside the value. For example, a question about how many times the respondent did *x* might have a tag of TIMES. This descriptor will appear beside the response blank on the data collection screen. The Tag is optional and may be left blank.

Decimal places ..... The number of decimal places to be used for this Data Element. The default setting is zero.

Special Codes ..... Indicate which Special Codes (Don't Know, Refused, and Not Applicable) are allowed by checking the appropriate box(es). Indicate the value to be used for each Special Code in the box to the right.

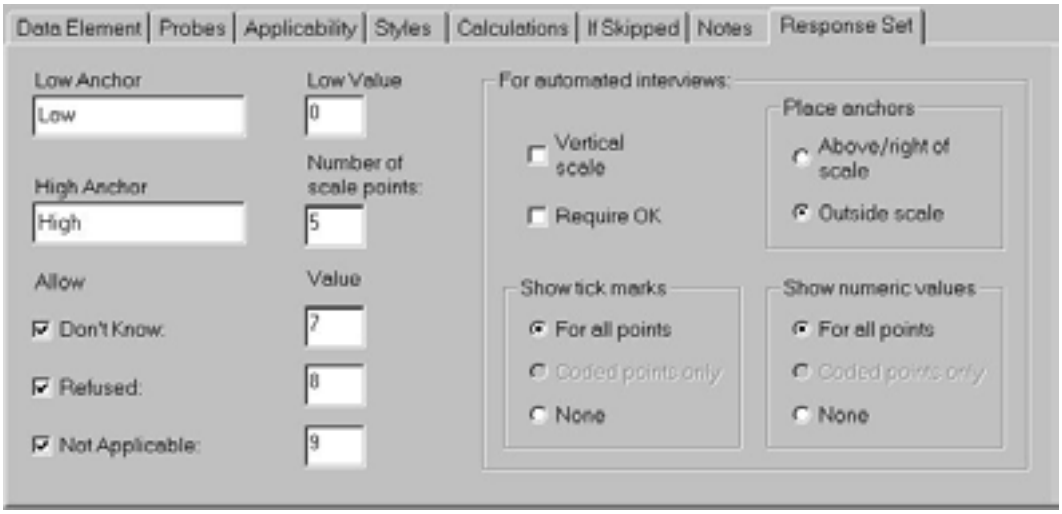
Minimum value ..... Enter the smallest value allowed for this Data Element. The Special Code values should lie outside this range.

Maximum value ..... Enter the largest value allowed for this Data Element. The Special Code values should lie outside this range.

Enforce Range ..... Check this box to prevent an entry outside the allowable range for a Data Element. If this box is not checked, a warning will be issued for out-of-range numbers, but they will be allowed.

If zero, branch to ..... Specify a branching option if a response of zero is entered.

Response Set Tab: Numeric Rating Scale



Use a Numeric Rating Scale when responses will be selected from a numeric continuum; for example: **1 = Not at All** to **10 = Completely**. In an automated survey, respondents may answer anywhere in the range without necessarily specifying an exact number.

For rating scale Elements, use the *Response Set* tab to specify low and high values, as well as several other options:

Low and High Anchors..... Enter descriptive text labels for the lowest and highest scale points. You must use a Response Card to label interim scale points (See *Response Cards*).

Low Value..... Enter the numeric value for the lowest scale point. This point corresponds to the Low Anchor. The value may be positive, negative, or zero.

Number of Scale Points..... Enter the number of points on your scale. For example, if you want your scale to go from 1 to 10 with possible responses at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, enter 10.

Special Codes..... Indicate which Special Codes (Don't Know, Refused, and Not Applicable) are allowed by checking the appropriate box(es). Indicate the value to be used for each Special Code in the box to the right.

There are several options that will affect how your scale is displayed for automated interviews only. These include:

Vertical scale ..... For an automated interview, the scale can be drawn on the screen in a horizontal (—) or a vertical (|) orientation. Check this box to have the scale drawn vertically on an automated interview screen. (For a paper questionnaire, the scale is always horizontal.)

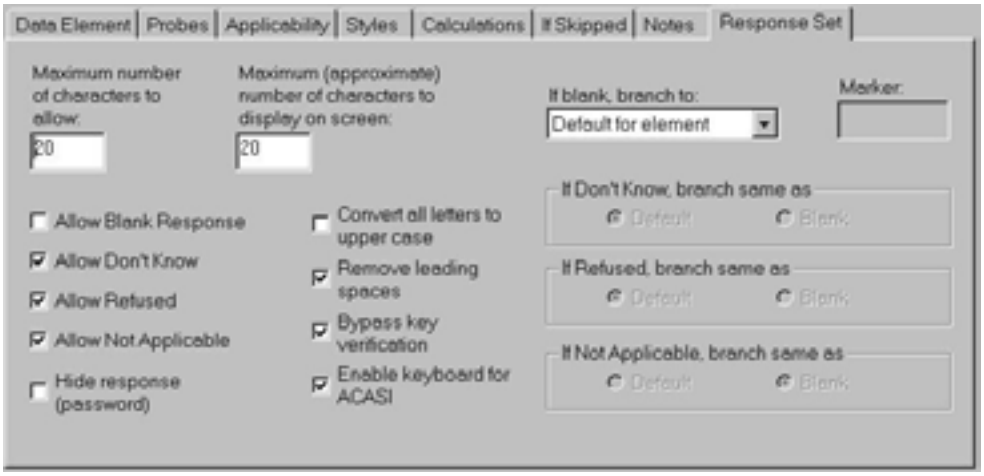
Require OK..... Check this box to require the respondent to hit *Next Question* before moving to the next question. If this box is not selected, QDS automatically will go on to the next question as soon as the respondent selects a scale point.

Place anchors..... Indicate if labels for the low and high anchors should be placed Above/right of scale or Outside scale. If Above/right of scale is selected for a horizontal scale, the anchors are placed above the endpoints; for a vertical scale, the anchors are placed to the right of the endpoints. If Outside scale is selected, the anchors are placed to the left and right of a horizontal scale or above and below a vertical scale.

Show tick marks..... Indicate if/where tick marks should be drawn along the length of the scale. Options are: 1) For all points; 2) Coded points only (Response Cards only); and 3) None.

Show numeric values ..... Indicate if/where numeric values should be displayed along the length of the scale. You can choose 1) For all points; 2) Coded points only (Response Cards only); and 3) None.

Response Set Tab: Text



Use a Text response to record open-ended text.

For text fields, the primary options to specify on the *Response Set* tab are: 1) Maximum number of characters to allow; and 2) Maximum (approximate) number of characters to display on screen (in an automated interview).

Other text options are:

Allow Blank Response .....Check if a blank response is allowed. Default is unchecked (i.e., a response is required).

Allow Don't Know.....Check if a response of Don't Know is allowed. Default is checked (i.e., Don't Know is allowed).

Allow Refused.....Check if a response of Refused is allowed. Default is checked (i.e., Refused is allowed).

Allow Not Applicable .....Check if a response of Not Applicable is allowed. Default is checked (i.e., Not Applicable is allowed).

Hide response (password).....Use this option if you do not want the value entered to be visible on the screen. The default is unchecked (i.e., response will be visible as it is entered).

Convert all letters to upper case.....Check this box to automatically convert the entire text response to uppercase. Default is unchecked.

Remove leading spaces .....Check this box to automatically remove leading spaces. For example, if this box is checked, a response entered as “ Sunday” would be written out as “Sunday” (the three leading blanks have been removed). Default is checked.

Bypass key verification.....Check this box to bypass this Variable during key verification. This option is applicable for Data Entry only and allows the verifier to skip reentry of open-ended text Elements. The default is checked.

Enable keyboard for ACASI.....Check this box to allow respondents to use the keyboard to enter text responses.

Response Set Tab: Pattern

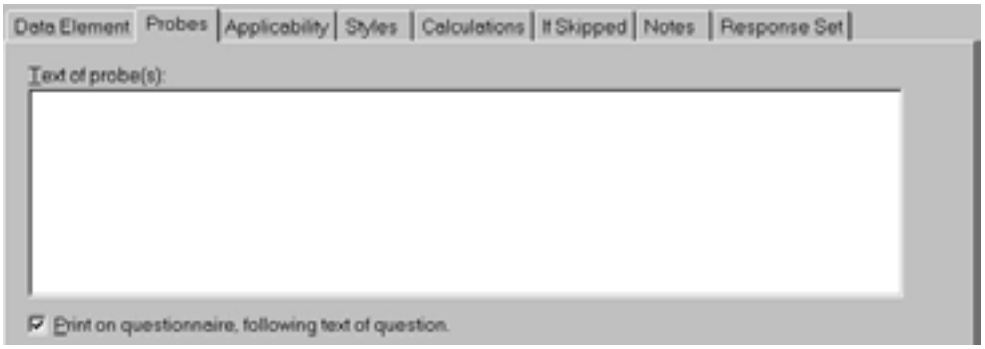
On the *Response Set* tab, you can choose a ZIP Code–5 digits response pattern for printed and automated interviews. (No other options are available at this time.)

Using the Other Data Element Tabs

In many cases the *Data Element* and *Response Set* tabs may be the only ones that require input. However, the remaining *Data Element* tabs provide more specialized control for your QDS form and are often useful as you begin to use more advanced QDS features.

Probes Tab

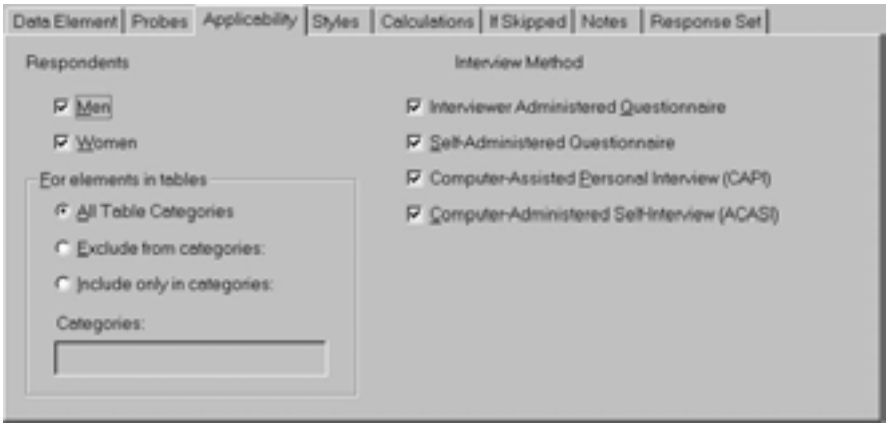
On the *Probes* tab you may enter any text into the Text of probe(s) box and use character formatting (Bold, Italic, Underline) options from the **Edit** Menu. This text information will be made available upon request to assist the interviewer during an automated (CAPI) interview. The interviewer can select **Help|For this Question** (or Ctrl-Q), and a dialog box will be displayed showing the Probe text.



The QDS default specifies that this text will be printed on a paper questionnaire following the question text.

Applicability Tab

Use the items on this tab to restrict applicability of the Element based on the respondent's gender, interview method, or specific categories in a Table.



Applicability: Respondent's Gender

By QDS default, all Elements are applicable for all respondents. To restrict a Data Element based on respondent's gender, uncheck the Men or Women option box. For example, if the Men box is unchecked, the Data Element will be asked only for female respondents.

In order to use Gender Applicability, you must have at least one Data Element with Response Type set to Gender. Additionally, the Determines Gender Applicability option box must be checked on the *Response Set* tab on the Gender Element. Since there may be multiple gender Variables in a single Specifications File, it is the Determines Gender Applicability setting that allows QDS to know which Variable will be used for gender applicability.

Applicability: Table Categories

By default, all Table Elements apply to all Table categories *(*See *Tables* for an explanation of Elements and Categories in Tables*)*. You may exclude specified categories for any Element in your Table by choosing one of the following options in the For Elements in Tables box:

All Table Categories ..... Select this option to indicate that this Element is applicable for all Table categories.

Exclude from categories ..... Select this option to indicate that this Element should be excluded from one or more Table categories. List the categories for exclusion (for example, B, E, F). For help creating this list, select **Tools|Tables Categories**. This

provides a list of categories and allows you to build the list by double-clicking on the category to be inserted. Category Suffixes may be separated using spaces or commas.

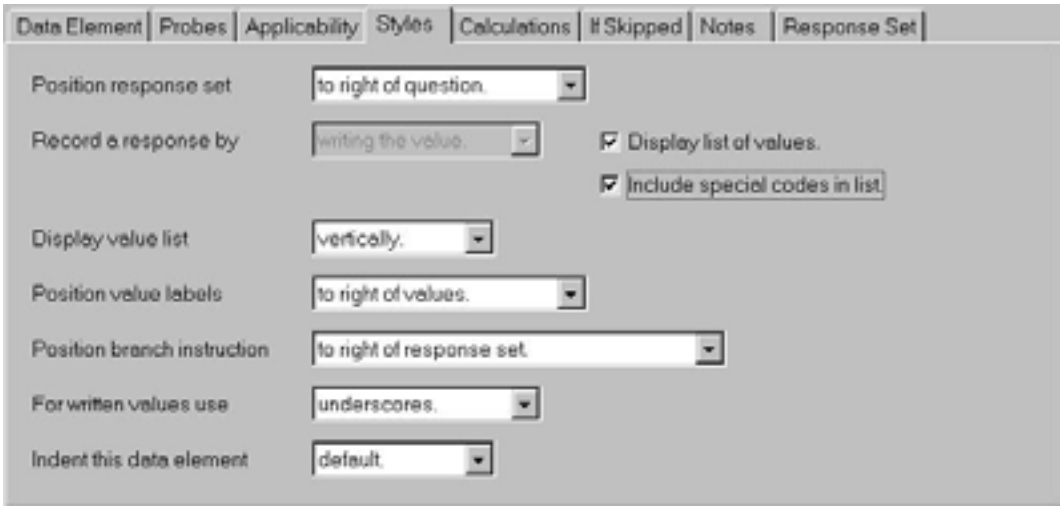
Include only in categories..... Select this option to indicate that this Element should be included only for a subset of Table categories. List the categories for inclusion (for example, B, E, F). For help creating this list, select **Tools|Tables Categories**. This provides a list of categories and allows you to build the list by double-clicking on the category to be inserted. Category Suffixes may be separated using spaces or commas.

Applicability: Interview Method

Applicability may also be based on the Interview Method. By default, all Elements are applicable for all Interview types. Uncheck the boxes for method(s) for which the Data Element does not apply.

Styles Tab

The *Styles* tab controls positioning and layout styles for printed questionnaires. These settings do not apply to the screen layout for Data Entry, CAPI, or ACASI.



The following options may be changed:

Position Response Set..... Indicate if the Response Set will be positioned to right of question (default) or below question.

Record a response by ..... Indicate whether responses will be recorded by circling a value (default), writing the value, or by circling a label.

Include Special Codes in list..... Indicate whether the Special Codes should be included in the response list. (Default is checked.)

Display value list ..... Indicate whether the value list will be displayed vertically (default) or horizontally.

Position value labels ..... Indicate whether the value labels will be displayed to right (default) or to left of values.

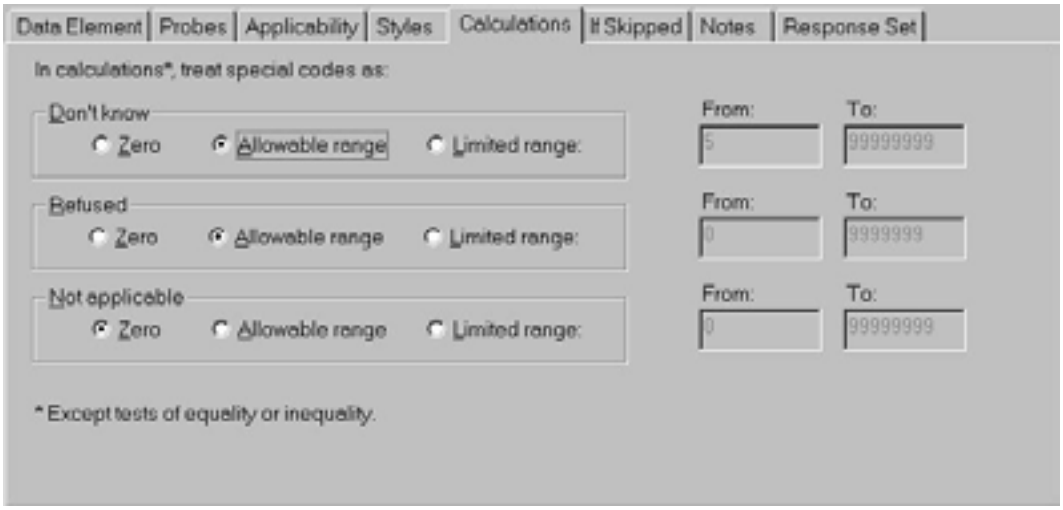
Position branch instruction ..... Indicate whether the branch instruction will be displayed to right (default), to left, or below Response Set.

For written values use ..... Specify the format of the response field: underscores (_), three-sided box (|_|), or four-sided box (☐). Underscores is the default.

Indent this Data Element ..... Specify the level of indentation for Response Sets. Select default indentation to let QDS control the indentation. Select None to indicate that there should be no indentation. Or specify a specific indentation level (1-3).

Format settings may be overridden if the program is unable to lay out the information as requested. For instance, even if Display Value List has been set to horizontally, categories may be displayed vertically if there is not enough room to display all categories in a single line.

Calculations Tab



The *Calculations* tab dictates how Special Codes (Don't Know, Refused, Not Applicable) should be handled when using this Data Element in a calculation or a conditional test. For each Special Code, there are three choices:

Zero ..... Evaluate as if this Data Element had a value of zero.

Allowable range ..... Evaluate as if this Data Element had an unknown value somewhere within the allowable range.

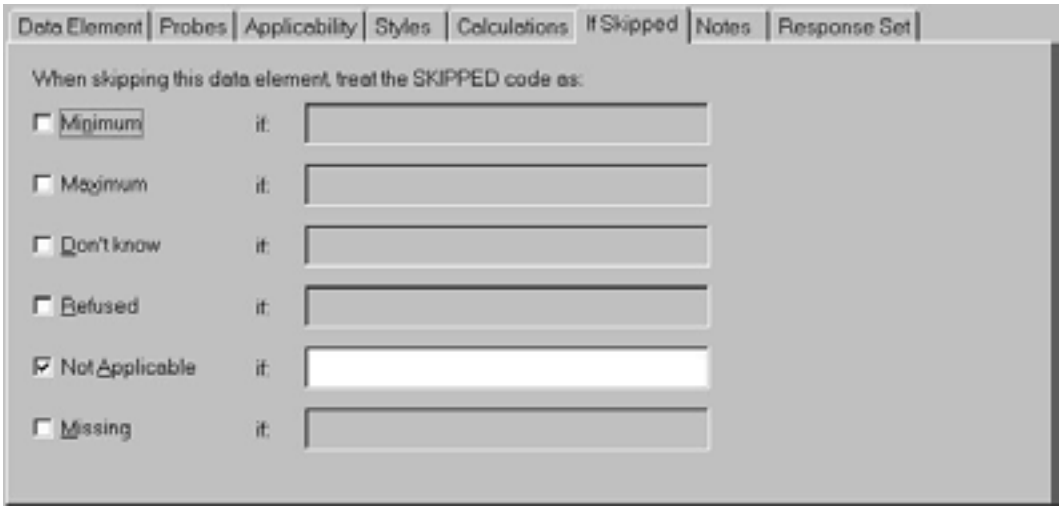
Limited range..... Evaluate as if this Data Element had an unknown value somewhere within a more restricted, specified range.

The default value for Don't Know and Refused is Allowable range, and the default value for Not Applicable is Zero.

These instructions affect only the value used in performing internal calculations and do not alter the value stored in the raw data for this interview.

If Skipped Tab

The *If Skipped* tab specifies how a Data Element will be interpreted for internal calculations and tests if it is skipped during the interview due to a branching instruction.



There are six choices for how a skipped question will be evaluated.

Minimum

Maximum

Response of Don’t know

Response of Refused

Response of Not Applicable

Missing (In QDS a missing value is treated as the allowable range)

The QDS default selection is Not Applicable. If both the *Calculations* (see above) and *If Skipped* tab options are left at their default settings, the skipped Data Element will be evaluated as zero for internal calculations and tests.

You may also specify conditions for a choice with an “If …” logical statement in the text box to the right of the selection. In this case, you could select more than

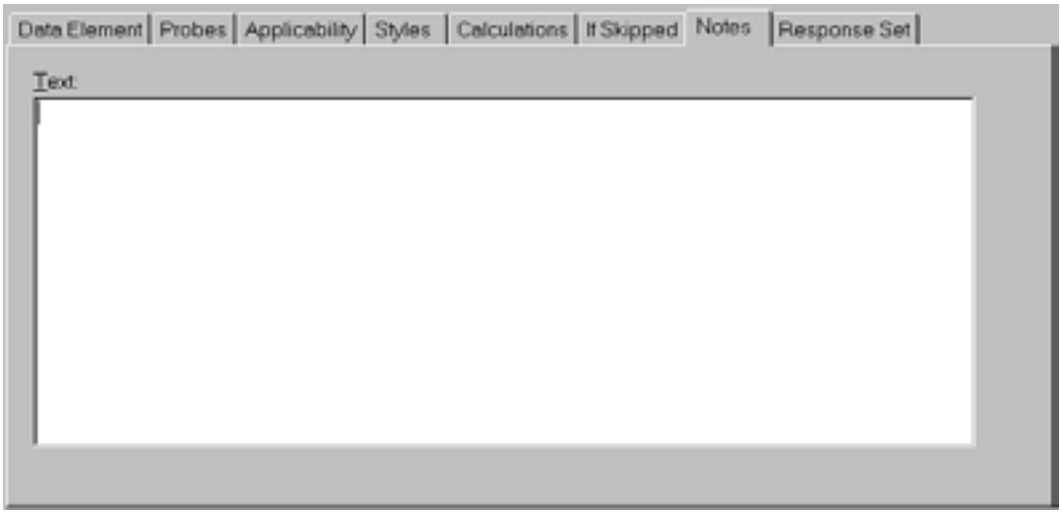
one choice. The condition for one choice may be omitted to indicate that that choice should be selected if all other conditions evaluate FALSE. If more than one specified condition evaluates TRUE, the first (higher in the list) will be selected.

If you check more than one box, you ***must*** enter a logical condition

Keep in mind that the *If Skipped* tab instructions affect only the value used in performing internal calculations and tests; they do not alter the Skip Code value stored in the raw data for this interview.

Notes Tab

Enter any information into the text box that you want to keep on file to assist other researchers (or yourself) concerning the use of this Element. This is a good place to record notes about how this Element should be handled during analysis.



Controlling the Flow: Skips and Markers

Typically, a questionnaire follows a sequential path from the first Element in the Specifications File to the last, one item at a time. Sometimes, however, you will want to skip one or more items based on responses to previous items. In addition to the Conditional Branching Instructions specified on the Data Element *Response Set* tab, **Skip Elements** provide another way to control the flow of your questionnaire.

With paper questionnaires, skip instructions are written for the interviewer or respondent. Automated forms (CAPI, ACASI, Data Entry) perform skips automatically. Data for the skipped Elements are recorded with the specified Skipped value (default of 9..9).

You can use Skip Elements to skip a specific number of Elements (1-5) or to move to a specific fixed point in the questionnaire. To skip to a specified location, you must use a **Marker Element**. Marker Elements serve no purpose other than to mark a spot in the questionnaire as a destination point for a Skip Element.

Just as you can tell someone either to get off the subway in three stops, or to get off at a specific station, you can tell QDS to skip a specific number of Elements, or skip to a specific Marker.

If you have only a short distance to go, it's easy to count stops.

If you have a long way to go, it's easier to look for a specific destination.

The same rationale works in deciding when to use a Marker:

Use Markers when skipping larger sections.

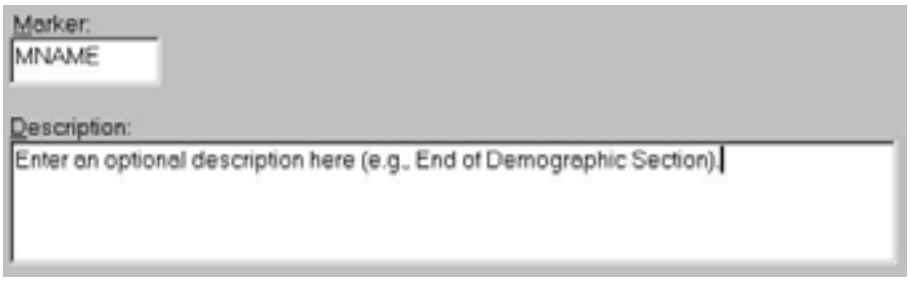
Use Markers if you anticipate adding/deleting items in the skipped section.

Marker Elements

Markers may be used as destination points for Branching, Skip, and Edit Instructions.

To add a Marker Element:

1. Select **Edit|Insert** and choose Marker.

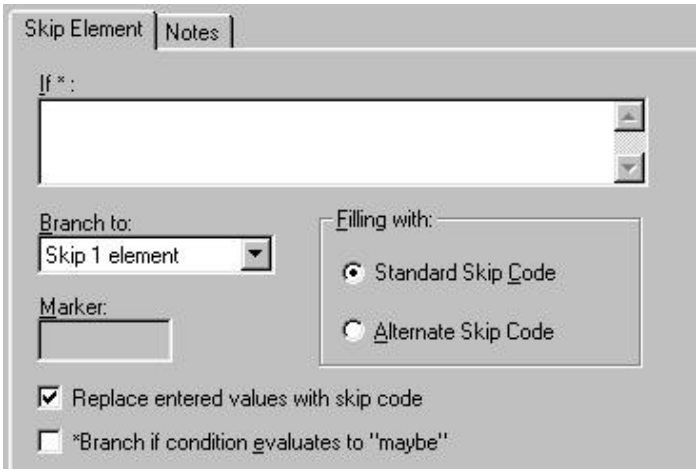


2. In the *Marker* box, enter the Marker name. Marker names must be unique within the questionnaire and must follow QDS Variable-naming conventions.
3. Enter a description in the Description box (optional).
4. Click *OK*.

The file *Marker.QDS* gives an example of the use of a Marker.

Skip Elements

Skips that require multiple Variables or a complex calculation cannot be implemented using a simple branching instruction. In these cases, you can use a Skip Element.



To add a Skip Element:

1. Select **Edit|Insert** and choose Skip Instruction.
2. In the If* text box, enter the expression to be tested.
3. From the Branch to box, select the destination for the skip (i.e., Skip 1 to 5 Elements or Skip to a Marker).
4. If you selected Skip to a Marker, enter its name in the Marker box.
5. Click *OK*.

Additional Skip options:

Filling with..... Select the Standard Skip Code (default) or Alternate Skip Code button. When the skip condition is true, the Data Elements that are skipped will be set to a generated Skip Code. QDS allows two Skip Codes, Standard and Alternate, to distinguish between reasons for skipping. The values used for the Standard and Alternate codes are defined on the *Special Codes* tab in **Options|Data Defaults**.

Replace entered values … ..... When a response is changed by the respondent or data entry operator, it can affect the branching paths that follow. Previously entered values might now be skipped. Leave this box checked to replace previously entered values by the skip code. Uncheck the box to retain values. The default setting (Replace entered values with skip code) is checked. This option overrides a similar global Build option.

Branch if … "maybe"..... With QDS, calculation of a logical condition may evaluate to TRUE, FALSE, or MAYBE. An evaluation of MAYBE can be treated as TRUE or FALSE. Check this box to treat a MAYBE evaluation as TRUE. Leave the box unchecked to treat MAYBE as FALSE (default = not checked).

The following example can be found in *Skip Example.QDS*.

1. Respondent's ID Number **__ __ __ __ ID**

2. How many pets do you have? **__ __**

If Q2 is not greater than 1, then skip to Q4.

3. How long have you had more than one pet? __ __ Months __ __ Years

Respondents will be asked: *How long have you had more than one pet?* only if they report having more than one pet in Q2.

EDIT ELEMENTS

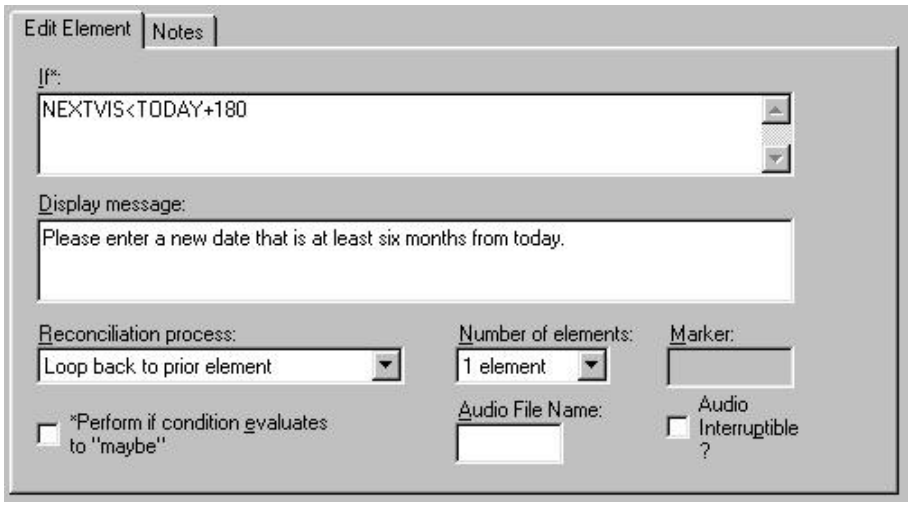
In addition to range restrictions set on the *Response Set* tab, there may be additional range checks that require comparing responses to multiple items. **Edit Elements** allow you to implement and address internal inconsistencies *at the time of data collection*. For example, if you asked for both the respondent's age and birthdate, an Edit Element can be used to prompt the user to reenter one or both items in the case of an inconsistency.

All Edit Element inconsistencies will display a message to the interviewer, respondent, or data entry clerk. Inconsistencies may be resolved by looping back and modifying previously entered data or by requiring that the user answer additional items. You may also opt not to require that the inconsistency be resolved before proceeding. In these cases, a message describing the inconsistency will be displayed, but the user will not be required to resolve it.

To add an Edit Element:

1. Select **Edit|Insert** and choose Edit Instruction.

Note: The Edit Element must be inserted after the Elements to be included in the check.



2. In the If* text box, enter the condition to be checked by the Edit Element.
3. In the Display message box, enter the text of the message to be displayed when the condition is TRUE. The message generally explains the nature of the inconsistency and requests a resolution.

4. In the Reconciliation process box, select what you would like to happen when the condition is true:

No further special processing .....If you select No further special processing, only the message will be displayed.

Reconciliation Elements follow .....If you select Reconciliation Elements follow this, you will need to include additional Elements to clarify or restate one or more questions related to the identified inconsistency. They must immediately follow this Edit Element and will be bypassed if the condition was FALSE.

Loop back to prior Element.....The final option is to Loop back to prior Element. The Number of Elements box indicates how far back to go or how many reconciliation Elements follow. This option has the potential disadvantage of introducing an infinite loop into the questionnaire if the inconsistency is not resolved in an earlier Element.

5. If Loop back to prior Element was selected, specify the number of Elements to loop back.

Number of Elements..... Select Skip *n* Elements (1-5) or Marker. When deciding how many Elements to loop back, remember that all Elements (including Skips, Section Headers, etc.) must be counted.

Marker..... Enter the name of the destination Marker. This box is enabled only when Marker is selected for Number of Elements.

Additional options include:

… evaluates to "maybe" ..... With QDS, calculation of a logical condition may evaluate to TRUE, FALSE, or MAYBE. An evaluation of MAYBE for this skip condition can be treated as TRUE or FALSE. Check this box to treat a MAYBE evaluation as TRUE. Leave the box unchecked to treat MAYBE as FALSE.

Audio File Name..... The filename, without the directory or file extension, for the audio (.WAV) file with the text for this message. To suppress audio for this Element, enter *No Audio* in the Audio File Name box. File names are limited to 8 characters and may not contain the characters \ / : * ? " < > | or blanks.

Audio Interruptible? ..... Check this box if you would like to allow the Subject/Respondent to interrupt the Audio File in automated interviews by responding before it has finished playing.

Information, Comment, Section Header, and Format Elements

The remaining Element types: **Information**, **Comment**, **Section Header**, and **Format,** are used to display information to the developer, interviewer, or respondent or to control the numbering or style for paper questionnaires. These Elements do not output information to the Data File, nor do they control the flow or sequencing of the instrument.

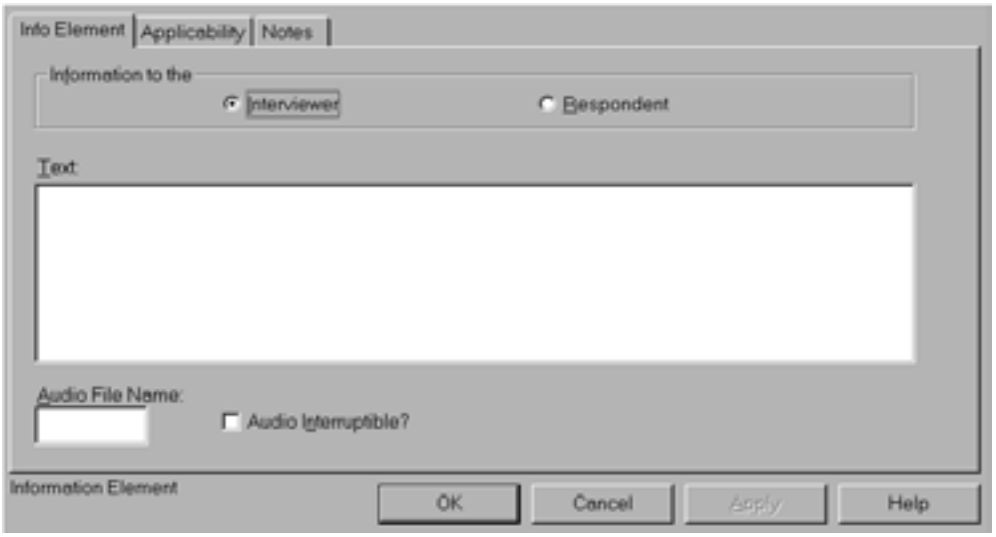
Information Elements

Information Elements allow you to display information to an interviewer or respondent. Information Elements can be used to display instructions, definitions of terms, and other pertinent information.

Inserting an Information Element

To add an Information Element:

1. Select **Edit|Insert.**
2. Choose *Information* and click *OK.*
3. You will now see the *Information Element* specifications box.



4. Indicate whether this information will be displayed to an interviewer or a respondent by clicking the appropriate radio button.

> Items identified as Information to the Interviewer will be included in interviewer-administered forms and CAPI Control Files but will be omitted from self-administered forms and ACASI Control Files.

5. Enter text to be displayed in the text box.

Information Element Tabs

In addition to the settings described above, there are other Information Element options.

Info Element

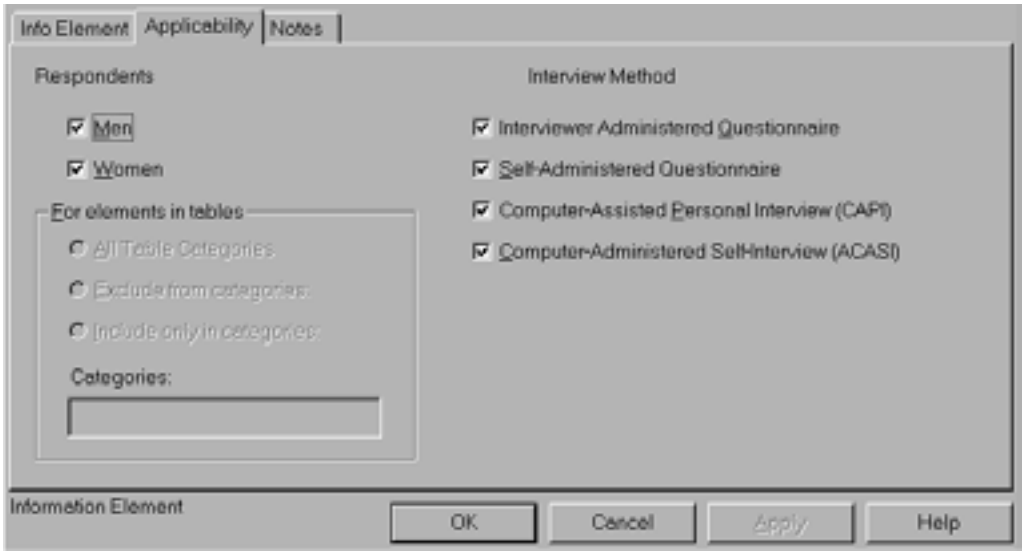
Other options on the *Info Element* tab are:

Audio File Name ..... Enter name of Audio File corresponding to this Element (only applicable for ACASI interviews using recorded files for audio).

Audio InterrupTable ..... Check this box to allow the respondent to proceed to the next Element before the entire text has been read.

Applicability

You can use the settings on the *Applicability* tab to restrict the inclusion of this information. By default, this Information Element will be applicable for both men and women and for all interview methods.



To restrict applicability, uncheck box next to one or more categories. (Remember, to use gender applicability you *must* have a gender Data Element designated as Determines Gender Applicability.)

Notes

Enter notes to the developer (you). This information will not appear on paper forms or in computer-administered interviews and is available in the Design Studio only.

Comment Elements

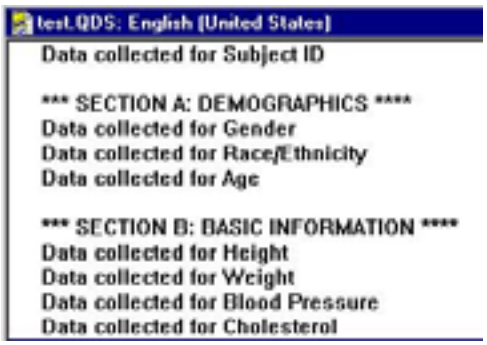
Comment Elements allow you to enter comments available only within the Design Studio—i.e., information that will not be included in any QDS output products.

Inserting a Comment Element

To add a Comment Element:

1. Select **Edit|Insert.**
2. Choose Comments and click *OK*.
3. Enter comment text in the text box and click *OK*.

Comment Elements are often used to document question origin or reason for inclusion. Comment Elements can also be used to aid in the readability of your Specifications File. For instance, a blank Comment Element inserts a blank line into your Element list.



Section Header Elements

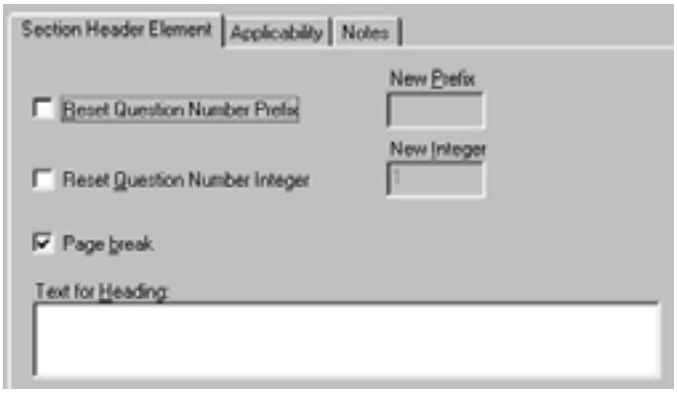
Section Header Elements are used to create section breaks in your instrument. Information from Section Header Elements will appear in paper forms and Codebooks. They do not appear in computer-administered interviews (CAPI, ACASI).

Section Header Elements can also be used to control question numbering.

Inserting a Section Header

To add a Section Header:

1. Select **Edit|Insert.**
2. Select Section Header and click *OK*.



3. In the Text for Heading box, enter the section title.

Additional Section Header options are as follows:

Section Header Element Tab

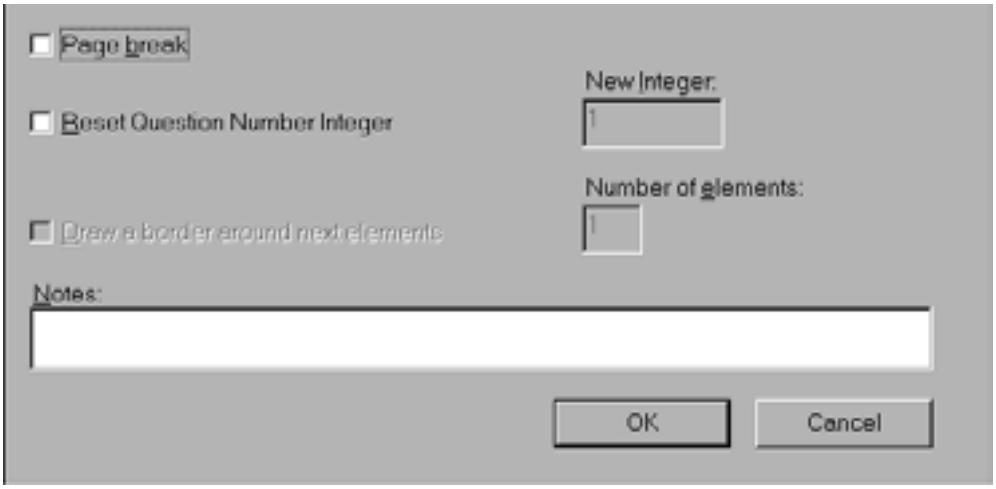
Reset Question Number Prefix..... Check this box to reset the question number prefix for Data Elements in this section. Question number prefixes are alphanumeric strings no more than 3 characters in length.

Reset Question Number Integer.... Check this box to reset the question numbers for Data Elements in this section. For example, if you wanted to begin numbering again at 1 for the next Data Element, enter 1 in the box.

Page break ..... Check this box to insert a page break in paper questionnaires. This option has no effect on computer-administered interviews.

Format Elements

Format Elements allow you to insert a page break or reset question numbers without starting a new section.



To insert a new Format Element:

1. Select **Edit|Insert.**
2. Choose *Format* and click *OK*.
3. Select the appropriate options:

Page break ..... Check this box to insert a page break in paper questionnaires. This option has no effect on computer-administered interviews.

Reset Question Number Integer..... Check this box to reset the question numbers. If checked, the new question number should be entered in the New Integer box.

Notes..... Enter information to be displayed in the Design Studio List view.

Other formatting options for paper questionnaires can be set on the *Options* button from **Build|Questionnaire**.

PREPARING TO BUILD:
VALIDATING YOUR SPECIFICATIONS

Once you have completed entering the specifications for your questionnaire—or any time you want to test/review your specifications during development—you will need to build the appropriate QDS product (e.g., a paper questionnaire or a CAPI Control File). However, before you can build anything, you must **Validate** your specifications.

Your Specifications File will automatically be validated each time you try to build any QDS product (other than the Change History). However, it is good practice to periodically check for errors during development. This allows you to fix problems along the way and avoid the possibility of a large set of errors to fix at the end.

To validate your specifications:

1. Select **Tools|Validate** from the Design Studio Menu.
2. Correct any errors identified by QDS.
3. Repeat steps one and two until all errors have been resolved.

This process will validate your specifications—i.e., it will identify any errors that would prevent building a data collection administration file.

If there are no errors, QDS will report:

If validation errors are found, a new *Errors* window automatically opens. Each error is identified on a separate line in the window.

This error message would be displayed if both the second and third Element in the Specifications File had been assigned the same name (GENDER).

Right-clicking on each error message produces an option window with two choices: Explain or Fix.

Select Explain to request an explanation of the error message.

Select Fix to go to the item that requires correction.

Double-clicking on the error accomplishes the same purpose as selecting Fix; i.e., it will also take you to the item that requires correction.

You will need to correct ***all*** validation errors before you will be able to build most QDS products. The only product that can be built from specifications containing validation errors is the Change History.

After correcting any problems, run the validation step again to confirm that all errors have been resolved (and that no new errors have been introduced).

Validation Error Messages

While the QDS validation step cannot ensure that all Skip and Edit Elements have been implemented appropriately, it can catch a number of errors that would cause problems during data collection. See below for a complete listing of validation error messages.

Identifier Variables

Element # defines the ID Variable <Variable Name> with a Response Type that is not appropriate for a Subject ID.

There is no Data Element for the Interview Date/Time Variable <Variable Name>.

There is no Data Element for the Interview ID Variable <Variable Name>.

There is no Data Element for the Site ID Variable <Variable Name>.

There is no Data Element for the Subject ID Variable <Variable Name>.

Question Numbers

Beginning at Element #, the Question Numbers are out of sequence, but locked.

Element # resets the Question Number Integer to a number already used.

Element # resets the Question Number Prefix to prefix which is also set in Element #.

Languages

Card <Response Card name> has no translation for the <language name> language for response item #.

Element # has no character string for the <language name> language.

Element # has no information text for the <language name> language.

Element # has no message text for the <language name> language.

Element # has no question text for the <language name> language.

Element # has no translation for the <language name> language for response item #.

Table Element # does not have <language name> language translations for all category labels.

Tables

Element # (Element type) is not allowed inside a Table. Note: Element type can be section header, subject ID, gender Element, checklist, info Element, edit Element, marker Element, or Table Element.

Element # branches over count Elements, past the end of its Table.

Element # branches to Marker <marker name> outside its Table.

Element # defines a Table that has no Data Elements.

Element # is inside a Table but the Question Number Suffix does not include the required &C token.

Element # is inside a Table but the Variable Name does not include the required &C token.

Element # is inside a Table. The Question Text for all languages must include a &TXT, &ALT or &LBL token.

Element # is not in a Table but the Audio File Name includes the &C token.

Element # is not in a Table but the Question Number Suffix includes the &C token.

Element # is not in a Table but the Question Text (for one or more languages) includes a &TXT, &ALT or &LBL token.

Element # is not in a Table but the Variable Name includes the &C token.

Element # is not in a Table. Applicability should be reset to All Table Categories.

Element # specifies a Table applicability criterion for a non-existent category <category name>.

Marker NEXTCAT may only be used in a Table.

Code List

Element # has an empty code list.

Element # has too many codes for a checklist.

Warning: Element # has too many codes for automated interviewing; only first 24 will be used.

Duplicate Names

Element # defines Marker <marker name> which is duplicated in Element #.

Element # defines Variable <Variable Name> which is duplicated in Element #.

Warning: Element # redefines Variable <Variable Name>. Information in Element # may be lost. *Note: This warning is only issued for Automatic Variables.*

Branching

Element # branches over count Elements, past the end of the questionnaire.

Element # branches to an undefined marker <marker name>.

Element # branches to Marker <marker name> which is earlier in the questionnaire.

Element # loops back count Elements, past the beginning of the questionnaire.

Element # loops back to Marker <marker name> which is later in the questionnaire.

Miscellaneous

Element # has been corrupted and cannot be processed. Please delete it.

Element # is gender specific but gender has not yet been ascertained.

Element # may not reset Gender Applicability established in Element #.

Element # produces an improper Variable Name <Variable Name>. The name must begin with a letter is limited to 8 characters.

Element # references a Variable <Variable Name> which has not yet been collected.

Element # references an undefined Variable <Variable Name>.

Element # references the text Variable <Variable Name> where only a numeric Variable is permitted.

Text for Element # includes a substitution for an undefined Variable <Variable Name>.

The specifications for Element # cannot be read. Restore this Element before validating.

The text for Element # substitutes the value of a Variable <Variable Name> that has not yet been collected.

The trial version of QDS cannot process more than 10 questionnaire Elements.
Trial version only.

Using Your Specifications File

In QDS you may create, or **Build**, several products from a single Specifications File. For instance, you can build Control Files for data entry, CAPI, and ACASI administration, as well as a paper questionnaire and an Analytical Codebook.

All QDS products—Questionnaires, Codebooks, Change History Reports, and Control Files—are created through the Design Studio **Build** Menu.

The ability to build multiple **Control Files** can be very useful, even when you anticipate using just one mode of administration for most data collection. For example, although you may choose to administer an ACASI interview (Audio-assisted Computer-Administered Self-Interview) to most respondents, you may desire to switch to CAPI (Computer-Assisted Personal Interview) for respondents who have difficulty either working with computers or reading. During a power failure, or in a remote location, you may want to use a paper-and-pencil version of your form. If you're undecided about which method(s) to employ for your study, try each to see what works best.

A **Control File** translates your design specifications into commands that the Data Entry/CAPI/ACASI program uses to administer or collect data during interviews or data entry.

Types of Interview/Data Collection Products

QDS allows you to generate several types of interview/data collection products from the same set of specifications (file), including:

Questionnaire (Interviewer) ..... Builds an RTF (Rich Text Format) file for a paper form/survey that will be completed by an interviewer/data collection clerk.

Questionnaire (Self-Administer) ... Builds an RTF file for a paper form/survey that will be self-administered.

Data Entry Application ..... Builds a QDS Control File for entering data from a paper form into an electronic Data File.

CAPI Application ..... Builds a QDS Control File for administering a CAPI (Computer-Assisted Personal Interview) interview.

In a **CAPI** interview, an interviewer reads the questions from the computer and enters the respondent's answers into the computer.

ACASI Application ..... Builds a QDS Control File for administering an ACASI (Audio-assisted Computer-Administered Self-Interview) interview.

In an **ACASI** interview, respondents read/are read the questions directly from the computer and enter their answers directly into the computer.

Codebook ..... Builds an RTF file containing question numbers, Variable Names, Variable labels, code ranges, and item length for each item in your Specifications File.

Change History ..... Builds an RTF file documenting changes that were made to your QDS Specifications File.

Individuals administering the survey, collecting data, or performing data entry need access only to the Control File and the corresponding data collection module. They do not need to have access to the Design Studio or Design Specifications File.

Default Naming Conventions

QDS employs default naming conventions for each data collection/documentation product. The list below shows default filenames for a Specifications File named *Sample.QDS*.

Codebook .....Sample Codebook.RTF

Change History .....Sample History.RTF

Questionnaire (Interviewer).....Sample EN Qx.RTF

Questionnaire (Self-Admin).....Sample EN Self.RTF

Data Entry Application.....Sample DE.QDE

CAPI Application.....Sample EN CAPI.QPI

ACASI Application.....Sample EN ACASI.QSI

You can rename QDS files. However, keep in mind that the QDS naming conventions make it easy for you to keep track of which data collection and documentation files are associated with each Specifications File.

Note: You cannot change the file extensions (e.g., QDE, QPI, QSI) of the Control Files.

The sections that follow examine each product individually, starting with the paper forms: the Codebook, Change History, and Paper Questionnaires.

BUILDING STUDY DOCUMENTATION

Building a Codebook

The **Analytical Codebook** lists question numbers, Variable Names, Variable labels, code ranges, and item length. Once you have started analysis, the Codebook will be an invaluable tool.

Variable Names ..... Contents of Variable Name box on *Data Element* tab.

Variable Labels ..... Contents of Variable Label box on *Data Element* tab.

Code Ranges ..... Numeric ranges from *Data Element* and *Response Set* tabs.

Item Length ..... For numeric Variables, code range (i.e., a range of 1 to 100 will have a length=3) from *Data Element* and *Response Set* tabs; for Text Elements, length is set on the *Response Set* tab.

To build your Codebook:

1. Select **Build|Codebook** from the Design Studio Menu.
2. In the Save In drop-down box, select the folder in which you would like your file saved. (Default location is the folder where the Specifications File resides.)
3. In the File Name box, specify a name for the Codebook File. (Default filename is the name of your Specifications File name plus *Codebook.RTF*).
4. Click *Save*.
5. You will then be prompted, *Would you like to open the RTF document now?*
   - If you click *Yes*, QDS will launch your default word processor (e.g., Word, WordPerfect) and open the newly created Codebook File.
   - If you respond *No,* you will return to the Design Studio (but the Codebook File will still be created).

View the sample file *First Questionnaire Example Codebook.RTF*.

Note that the range for the SUBJECT Variable is 1 to 100, and for the RACE Variable, we have decided to accept a Special Code of *Refuse to Answer* equal to 98.

Building a Change History File

The Change History file is a Rich Text Format (RTF) file document that lists any changes made to your Specifications File.

The Change History document is based on the Undo Information stored in your Specifications File. This information can be discarded periodically or every time the file is saved, at your option. The Change History document will not include any revisions prior to the most recent discard**.**

By default, QDS retains all the Undo Information in your Specifications File. It is this feature that allows QDS to build the Change History and allows you to undo changes. However, this default setting also increases the size of your Specifications File every time you make a change. After you have made many changes, your file can grow quite large.

From time to time, it is a good idea to discard this change history using one of the following **File|Save a Copy As** options.

☒ Discard Undo Information after saving copy

Check this box to eliminate all prior Undo Information. After making a copy of your current Specifications File, including all previously recorded Undo Information, QDS will eliminate prior Undo Information, "compressing" your working copy of the file.

☒ Always discard Undo Information before saving

Check this box to restrict the Undo capability to changes made since the last Save command.

The Change History lists:

Element Type .....Data Element, Skip Element, Information Element, etc.

Element Number.....Sequential number of Element in List View.

Action.....Action taken to Element, such as Inserted, Updated, Deleted.

Title .....Text of Variable Label or Skip/Edit Instruction.

Question.....Question text, if applicable.

Changed Items.....Attributes (Question Text, Variable Name, Response Type) changed, if applicable.

Date/Time .....Date and time of changes.

To create a Change History:

1. Select **Build|Change History** from the **Design Studio** Menu.
2. In the Save In drop-down box, select the folder in which you would like your file saved. (The default location is the folder where the Specifications File resides.)
3. In the File Name box, specify a name for the Change History File. (Default filename is the name of your Specifications File plus History.RTF.)
4. Click *Save*.
5. You will then be prompted, *Would you like to open the RTF document now?*
   - If you click *Yes*, QDS will launch your default word processor (e.g., Word, WordPerfect) and open the newly created Change History File.
   - If you respond *No*, you will return to the Design Studio (but the Change History File will still be created).

Building a Printable Questionnaire

Even if you plan to conduct the bulk of your data collection via computer-assisted interviewing, you will most likely still want a paper copy of your interview. This can be useful for reference, when the power is out, or if you do not have access to a computer for any other reason.

To build a paper questionnaire:

1. Select **Build|Questionnaire (Interviewer)** or **Build|Questionnaire (Self-Admin)** from the Design Studio Menu.
2. In the Save In drop-down box, select the folder in which you would like your file saved. (Default is the folder where your .QDS file resides.)
3. In the File Name box, enter the filename for your questionnaire file. (Default name for Interviewer-Administered questionnaires is the name of the Specifications File plus *en Qx.RTF*; for Self-Administered, the name of the Specification File, plus *en Self.RTF*.)
4. Select the *Options* button to refine settings for your questionnaire. (See *Questionnaire Build Options* for details.)
5. Click *Save*.
6. You will then be prompted, *Would you like to open the RTF document now?*
   - If *Yes*, QDS will launch your default word processor (e.g., Word, WordPerfect) and open the newly created questionnaire file.
   - If *No*, you will return to the Design Studio (but the questionnaire file will still be created).

Building a paper questionnaire can be a good way to proof and spell-check items in your Specifications File. However, be sure to make any corrections to the Specifications File rather than the RTF file; otherwise, your corrections will not be registered in QDS and subsequently will be overwritten the next time you build your paper questionnaire.

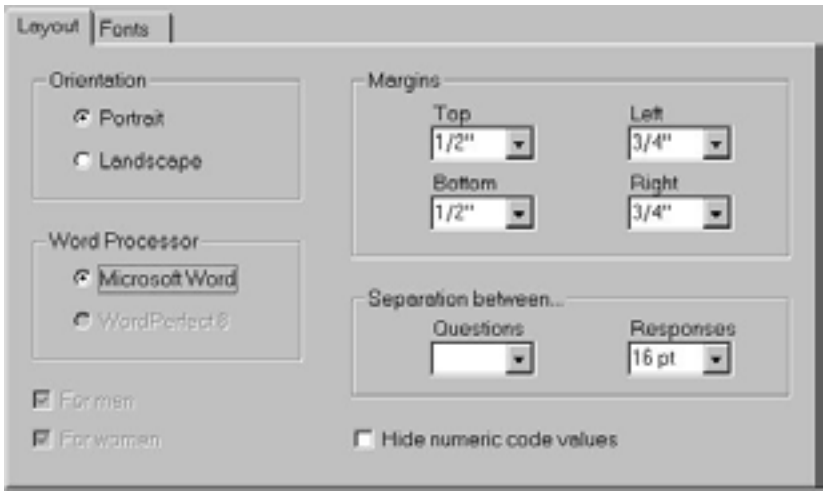
Questionnaire Build Options

Although you may find that the default settings meet your needs, QDS does allow you to customize settings for the layout and formatting of your paper questionnaire.

To access Questionnaire Build Options*:*

1. Select **Build|Questionnaire (Interviewer)** or **Build|Questionnaire (Self-Administered)**.
2. Click on *Options*.

You will now see the *Build Options* box that has *Layout* and *Fonts* tabs.



Layout Tab

The following options are available on the *Layout* tab:

Orientation..... Sets page orientation; default is Portrait.

Word Processor..... Word or WordPerfect; determined by what is installed on your machine.

Margins ..... Sets document margin; default values are ½" top and bottom, ¾" left and right.

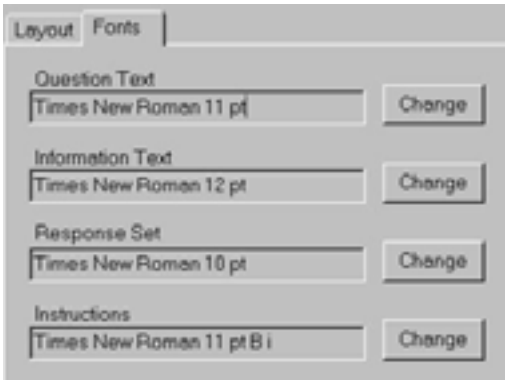
Separation between..... Sets paragraph spacing for the questionnaire; default values are 10 points for questions and 4 points for responses.

Men and Women ..... Disabled (this feature is not available).

Hide Numeric Code Values .... Check this box to suppress display of numeric values for response categories. This option is not available for interviewer-administered questionnaires.

Fonts Tab

Use the options on the *Fonts* tab to customize font settings for the questionnaire file. Click *Change* to modify settings. Default values are as follows:



Question Text .....Times New Roman, 11 pt

Information Text.....Times New Roman, 12 pt

Response Set.....Times New Roman, 10 pt

Instructions.....Times New Roman, 11 pt, bold/italic

View the sample files: *First Questionnaire Example EN Qx.RTF* and *First Questionnaire Example EN Self.RTF*. Note that the default name assigned by QDS was retained. Hide Numeric Code Values was checked for the Self-Administered form; all other Build Options were left at their default settings.

Working with Paper-and-Pencil Forms: Using the Data Entry Module

The QDS Data Entry Module is used to perform data entry for forms initially completed using paper and pencil (whether self- or interviewer-administered).

Building a Data Entry Control File

To enter data collected using paper forms, you must first build a Data Entry Control File. The Control File translates information from your Specifications File into a file that can be used by the Data Entry Module to create a data entry interface for your form.

To build a Data Entry Control File:

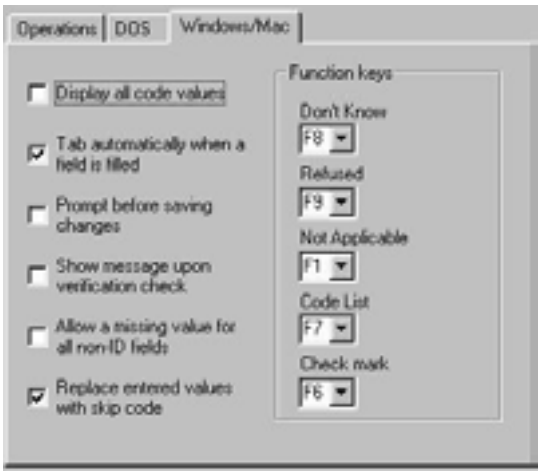
1. Select **Build|Data Entry Application** from the Design Studio Menu.
2. In the Save In drop-down box, select the folder where you want your file saved. (The default is the folder where the Specifications File resides.)
3. In the File Name box, enter the filename for the Data Entry Control File. (The default is the name of the Specifications File plus *DE.QDE*.)
4. Click the *Options* button to refine settings for your data entry application. (See the next section, *Data Entry Build Options*, for details.)
5. Hit *Save*.
6. You will then be prompted: *The requested product has been built. Would you like to try out the Control File now?* Click *No* to return to the Design Studio (the Control File will still be created). Click *Yes* to test the Data Entry Application. QDS will launch the QDS Data Entry Module and open the newly created Control File. (See *Entering Data*.)

Data Entry Build Options

Although default settings work for most situations, the Data Entry Build Options allow you to refine settings relating to missing values, verification, and data entry screen navigation.

To access the Data Entry Build Options:

1. Select **Build|Data Entry Application.**
2. Click on *Options.*



The Data Entry *Build Options* window has *Operations*, *DOS*, and *Windows/Mac* tabs. Available options are described below.

Windows/Mac Tab

QDS is currently available only for Windows. The following options are available on the *Windows* tab:

Display all code values.....Displays a list of codes and code values for each field. When unchecked, the code values are available on request. By default, this box is not checked.
Note: ***This feature does not work; codes are available only upon request.***

Tab … when filled.....Automatically proceeds to the next field once the current field has been filled. If this box is not checked, the operator must press the Tab key after every field. By default, this box is checked.

Prompt before saving … .....Prompts before saving data for each interview. If not checked (default setting), all interview data will be saved automatically.
Note: ***This feature does not work; data are always saved automatically.***

Show verification message.....Displays a message whenever a verification error occurs. By default, this box is not checked.

Allow a missing value … .....Allows the data entry operator to enter a missing value code (.) for any field that is not part of the unique identifier. If this item is unchecked, the operator must enter a valid response for every field. By default, this box is not checked.

Replace entered values … .....Replaces previously entered values with a skip code if a response is changed, triggering a new skip pattern. When a response is changed, it can affect subsequent branching paths and may cause previously answered items to be skipped. Check this box if you would like those values to be replaced by a skip code. Leave this box unchecked to retain previous values. The default setting replaces previously entered values. This setting will be overridden by settings on individual Skip Elements.

Function keys .....Assigns function keys to enter responses of Don't Know, Refused, Not Applicable; display the list of available codes; and check a value for a check-all item. Select None if no key is assigned.

DOS Tab

These options are not operational; this tab will be removed in future releases.

Operations Tab

These options are not operational; this tab will be removed in future releases.

Opening a Data Entry Application

Although you can start the Data Entry Program through the Windows Start Menu (from the Windows Start Menu, select **Programs|QDSv2.0|Data Entry Program**), it is recommended that you launch your data entry application via *My Computer* or *Windows Explorer*.

1. Locate the Data Entry Control File (*.QDE) icon using *Windows Explorer*. The location for your QDE Control File was set by your selection in the Save In drop-down box during the Data Entry Build step.
2. Double-click on the icon.
3. You will now see the Data Entry *Open* dialog box.

You can also create a Windows shortcut to launch the data entry Control File. Launching from the Control File (*.QDE) will automatically launch the QDS Data Entry Module and display the correct data entry Control File in the File Name box.

If you choose to open from the Start Menu, you will need to locate the correct Control File from the Data Entry *Open* dialog box.

Using a desktop shortcut is often the simplest method for data entry staff to launch the Data Entry application and begin data entry.

Data Entry Open Dialog Box

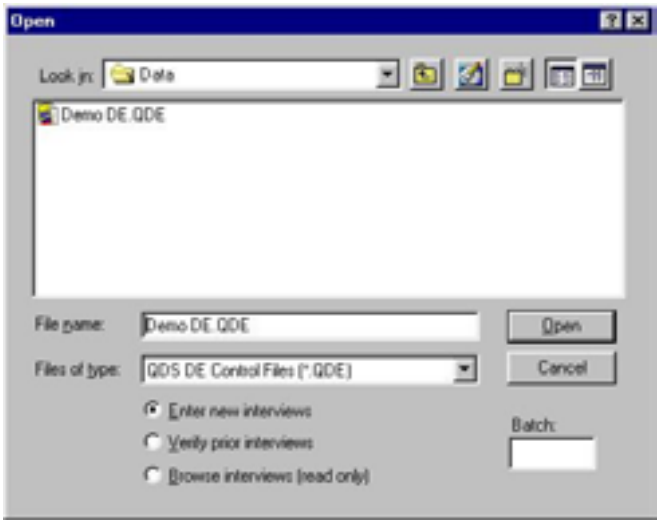
On the Data Entry *Open* dialog box you will see the following:

Look in..... Displays Control File location.

File name..... Displays Control File name.

Files of type ..... Displays QDS DE Control Files (*.QDE).

Action..... Select button for intended data entry mode: Enter new interviews (default), Verify



prior interviews, or Browse interviews. Browse interviews is a read-only mode that does not allow modification of entered data.

Batch..... Enter Batch Code.

Once the correct options are selected, hit *Open* to begin Data Entry.

Batches

To facilitate data entry, verification, and management, it is recommended that paper forms be entered in groups, or **Batches**, of about 10 to 20. Each Batch represents a separate Data File.

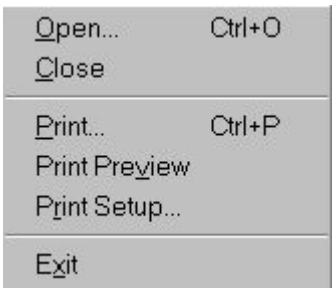
Typically, a specific naming convention will be established for all Data Files. This can be something as simple as a numeric sequence or a certain characteristic of the file itself (e.g., site, date, interviewer, or computer). The Batch Code entered on the Data Entry Open screen will be included in the Data Filename. For example, if the name of the Data Entry Control File was My Questionnaire DE.QDE the Data File for Batch 012 would be My Questionnaire DE 012.QPD.

Enter the Batch Code in the data entry Open dialog Batch box. The Batch Code may be any series of letters and/or numbers. Batch Codes can be as simple as sequential numbers or may indicate an identifying characteristic of the file itself (e.g., site, machine, keyer ID).

Note: ***If you do not assign a Batch Code, all Data Files keyed using a single QDS Control File will be assigned the same filename. Forms keyed on the same machine will be appended to the end of the existing Data File.***

Data Entry Menu Commands

File Menu



Open..... Use this command to open a new or existing Batch of interviews for a specified Data Entry Control File. If you open a Paper Interview Data (*.QPD) file, the corresponding Control File will be opened. If you open a Data Entry Control (*.QDE) file, make sure you indicate the Batch Name for the Data File you want. If you leave the Batch Name blank, a file with a

blank Batch Name will be opened or created. Shortcut keys: (Ctrl+O).

Close ..... Use this command to close the active Data and Control Files and exit the program. Any changes you have made to the data will be saved automatically.

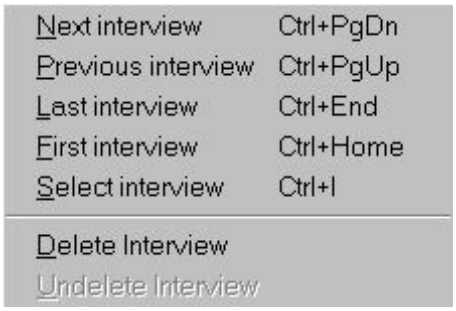
Print ..... Use this command to print the list of interviews in the current Data File. This command presents a *Print* dialog box in which you may specify the range of pages to be printed, the number of copies, the destination printer, and other printer setup options. Shortcut keys: (Ctrl+P).

Print Preview ..... Use this command to display a list of interviews in the current Batch as it would appear when printed. When you choose this command, the main window will be replaced with a *Print Preview* window in which one or two pages of the list will be displayed in the printed format. The **Print Preview** toolbar offers options to view either one or two pages at a time; move back and forth through the document, zoom in and out of pages, and initiate a print job.

Print Setup ..... Use this command to select a printer and a printer connection. This command presents a *Print Setup* dialog box in which you specify the printer and its connection.

Exit ..... Use this command to leave the QDE program. You can also use the *Close* command on the application **Control** Menu. Any changes you have made to the data will automatically be saved. Shortcut keys: (ALT+F4). Mouse: Double-click the application's *Control Menu* button.

Interview Menu



Next Interview ..... Move to the next interview in the same Data File. Shortcut keys: (Ctrl+PgDn).

Previous Interview ..... Move to the preceding interview in the current Data File. Shortcut keys: (Ctrl+PgUp).

Last Interview ..... Move to the final interview in the current Data File. Shortcut keys: (Ctrl+End).

First Interview ..... Move to the first interview in the current Data File. Shortcut keys: (Ctrl+Home).

Select Interview ..... Select a specific interview from a list of all interviews in the current Data File. Shortcut Keys: (Ctrl+I [as in Interview]).

Delete Interview ..... Delete the current interview from the Data File.

Code Menu

Don't Know..... Enter the code for Don't Know in the current field. Shortcut keys: Function key (if any) assigned to this Menu item. (See *Data Entry Build Options.*) Toolbar: .D.

Refused ..... Enter the code for Refused to Answer in the current field. Shortcut keys: Function key (if any) assigned to this Menu item. (See *Data Entry Build Options.*) Toolbar: .R.

Not Applicable ..... Enter the code for Not Applicable in the current field. Shortcut Keys: Function key (if any) assigned to this Menu item. (See *Data Entry Build Options.*) Toolbar: .N.

Show List..... Display a list of codes for the current field. Shortcut keys: Function key (if any) assigned to this Menu item. (See *Data Entry Build Options.*) Toolbar: .

Check Mark ..... Enter the code for a checkmark in the current checkbox field. Shortcut keys: Function key (if any) assigned to this Menu item. (See *Data Entry Build Options.*) Toolbar: .

Clear..... Clear the current field. Shortcut keys: (Shift+F6). Toolbar: .

Help Menu

Help Topics ..... Displays the **Help** screen. From the opening screen, you can get step-by-step instructions for using the QDE program and various types of reference information. Once you open **Help**, you can click the *Contents* button whenever you want to return to the opening screen.

About QDE ..... Displays the copyright notice and version number of your copy of the QDE program.

Entering Data

Entering Coded Items

Sometimes, data entry staff will be able to key directly from the form into the Data Entry Screen. For example:

```
Male    1
Female (2)
```

In the example above, it is clear that 2 is the code to be entered. However, occasionally a form may be designed such that the numeric codes are not included:

```
Male
(Female)
```

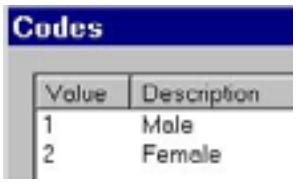
In these cases, it may be necessary to look up the appropriate numeric code for the circled (or checked) response.

To view and/or select response codes for coded Response Types (Gender, Pick one, Check all that apply, Yes/No, Rating Scale, Response Card):

1. Select **Code|Show List.**

> The *Codes* window can also be accessed via the:
>
> **Code List toolbar button** 
>
> **Predefined Function Key (See *Data Entry Build Options*)**

2. The *Codes* dialog box will appear and display the numeric values associated with each response for the current data item. For example, for a GENDER Element, you might see:



3. To enter from the Code Value list and return to Data Entry, click on the appropriate code.
4. To return to Data Entry without selecting a value, click *Esc* or the *Close Window* button.

Entering Check-Each Items

For Check-Each Response Type items, you may enter the appropriate numeric value (default is 0 = not checked; 1 = checked) or click the *Check* toolbar button ☑. You may also view values for checked/not checked using the **Code|Show List** command as described in the previous section.

Entering Special Code Responses

There are three ways to enter a Special Code (i.e., Don't Know, Refused to Answer, or Not Applicable) in the Data Entry program:

- Select Code|Don't Know/Refused/Not Applicable/Missing.
- Click appropriate toolbar button [.D][.R][.N][.].
- Select appropriate Function key. The Function key assigned to each Special Code is specified in the Data Entry Build Options. Default values are F8 = Don't Know; F9 = Refused to Answer; and F10 = Not Applicable.

Only Special Codes that are allowed based on Data Element *Response Set* tab settings will be enabled. You do not need to record skip codes for correctly bypassed questions. The Data Entry Module will automatically fill items skipped as a result of branching and Skip Elements with **.S**.

Special codes are displayed in the Data Entry program as follows:

.D	**Don't Know**
.R	**Refused to Answer**
.N	**Not Applicable**
.S	**Skipped**
.	**Missing (See *Entering Missing Values*)**

Entering Missing Values

By default, missing values are *not* allowed. However, if you select the Allow Missing Value for all Non-ID Fields Build Option, you will be allowed to enter a missing value for any item that is not an Identifier Variable. To enter a missing value code: select **Code**|**Missing**, click the *Missing* toolbar button ([.]), or enter a period (.) into the data field. The **Code**|**Missing** command and [.] button will be enabled only if missing values are allowed.

A period (.) will be written to the Data File for all missing data items.

Entering Interviewer Comments

While entering data, you may enter comments for any item by going to **Code|Comments** and entering explanatory text into the *Interviewer Comments* dialog box. Your comments may be exported to a text file from the QDS Warehouse Manager Module to aid in data management.

Continuing Data Entry in an Existing Batch File

You may take a break from Data Entry and resume in the same Batch at any time. The Data Entry application will continually save your work as you go along (i.e., each item is written to the Data File as it is entered); there is no *Save* command. You may exit the Data Entry application at any time by selecting **File|Exit**.

To continue Data Entry after a break, go to the Data Entry *Open* dialog box. (See *Opening a Data Entry Application.*)*:*

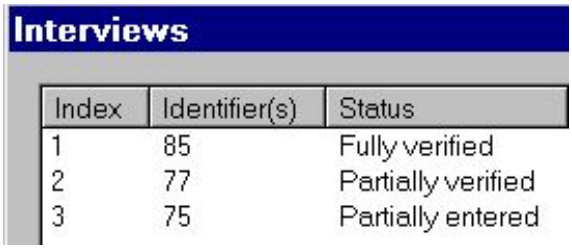
1. Select the correct folder from the Look in drop-down box.
2. Select **QDS Paper Interview Data Files (*.QPD)** from the Files of type drop-down box.
3. Select the *QPD* file from the list box that contains the correct Batch Code.
4. Select the Enter New Interviews radio button.
5. Click *Open.*
6. You will see a blank *New Interview* data entry screen.
7. Begin data entry.

Completing a Partially Entered Interview

If data entry is stopped in the middle of an interview, the partial record is written to the Data File with a status of Partially Entered (form status can be seen in the Status Bar at the bottom of the Data Entry window).

To complete data entry:

1. Follow steps for *Continuing Data Entry in an Existing Batch File*.
2. Select **Interview|Select Interview**.
3. From the *Interviews* dialog box (right), select the interview you would like to complete.



4. Click *OK*.
5. Complete data entry. (You will return to the incomplete interview at the item where you left off.)

Viewing/Editing Previously Entered Interviews

While in the process of Data Entry, you may navigate between records with the following commands:

Interview|Next Interview ..... Go to next record.

Interview|Previous Interview ..... Go to previous record.

Interview|Last Interview ..... Go to last record in current Data File.

Interview|First Interview ..... Go to first record in current Data File.

Interview|Select Interview ..... Shows a list of all records in current Data File and allows selection of a particular case.

Data entered using the QDS Data Entry Module are written out to QDS Paper Interview Data (*.QPD) Files. There is no limit to the number of interviews that may be stored in a single QPD file or to the number of QPD files that may be created for a single questionnaire.

QDS Filenames for Data Entry

Data Entry Module .....QDE.EXE

Data Entry Control File .....*.QDE

Data Entry Data File .....*.QPD

Deleting/Undeleting Interviews

If you need to delete an interview, go to **Interview|Delete Interview**. This will delete the current interview (as displayed on the Status Bar at the bottom). The entered items for this interview will now appear grayed out, and the Status Bar and dialog box will display Deleted.

To undelete a deleted interview, navigate to the record you wish to undelete and select **Interview|Undelete Interview**.

Test the Data Entry Module using the *First Questionnaire Example DE.QDE* Data Entry Control File. Double-clicking on the Control File in *Windows Explorer*/*My Computer* will open the Data Entry *Open* dialog box. (Default file name and build options were used.)

Verification of Data Entry

When conducting data entry from paper forms, it is not mandatory, ***but is highly recommended,*** that you perform double-keying, also known as "key verification." The process involves a second keying of data during which values are compared with those entered during the first keying. The second keyer should be a different individual from the first. The operator performing the second keying, or ***verification***, cannot see the previously entered values. Any discrepancies detected during verification must be resolved before the operator can move on to the next item in the Data File. This process helps ensure accurate keying from the paper form to the Data File.

During the verification process, the data entry operator is not shown values keyed during the initial data entry. If the value entered by the verification operator matches the value on file, the Data Entry Module continues to the next field. When a discrepancy is detected, the operator must read and enter the value again. If the newly entered value now matches the value on file, the process continues. If the newly entered value matches the value entered during verification, the value on file is changed. If the newly entered value matches neither, the verification operator must continue reentering the value until it matches the original value or until the same new value is entered twice in succession.

It is highly recommended that you select the Show Verification Message Build Option. When this option is selected, a message window will pop up whenever a verification discrepancy is encountered. Because this window requires acknowledgment from the user (user must select *OK* to continue), it limits the possibility that a verifier will change a value without realizing that an error has occurred.

If this option is not selected, the program will beep but will proceed as soon as the same value has been keyed twice in succession.

A log file is kept to document any changes made during verification. By examining the log, you can learn where data entry staff may be having problems and confirm that the correct choices were made during verification. The log file has the same name as the Data File, but with an extension of .LOG.

Verifying an Interview Batch

Once a Batch of data entry is completed, it is ready for verification. It is recommended that the original keyer and verifier not be the same person.

To verify a Batch:

1. Locate the Data Entry Control File (*.QDE) icon using *Windows Explorer*.
2. Double-click on the icon.
3. You will now see the Data Entry *Open* dialog box.
4. Select the correct folder from the Look in drop-down box.
5. Select *QDS Paper Interview Data Files* (*.QPD) from the Files of type drop-down box.
6. Select the appropriate QPD file from the list box.
7. Select the Verify Prior Interviews radio button.
8. Click *Open.*

You will now see what appears to be a blank *Data Entry* screen. However, if you look at the Status Bar at the bottom of the *Data Entry* screen, you can see details of the current record. For instance, the example below shows that we are currently verifying the second of three cases in the current Batch, that the record is currently partially verified, and that the Identifier for the current record is 77.

At this point, the verifier will begin entering the case in the same manner as the original data entry operator. If any discrepancies are detected (i.e., the verifier does not key the same value as the original keyer), the Data Entry program will beep and—depending on the Build Option settings—display an error message.

At this point, the verifier must reenter the value for the disputed item. If the second entry by the verifier:

- **Matches the original value keyed by data entry operator**, that value will be written out to the Data File.
- **Matches the original value keyed by the verifier,** that value will be written out to the Data File.
- **Does not match either original entry,** the verifier will be required to enter the value again. This process will continue until the same value has been entered twice in a row.

For example:

Initial Value Keyed 1
Value Keyed by Verifier..... 1
Prompt?..... No
Action..... Accept 1 as correct value.

Initial Value Keyed 1
Value Keyed by Verifier..... 2
Prompt?..... Yes
Action..... Require second input from verifier.
Verifier inputs 1: 1 is accepted as the correct value.
Verifier inputs 2: 2 is accepted as the correct value.
Verifier inputs some other value: Require third entry.
Repeat until the same value has been entered twice consecutively.

As with partially completed data entry interviews, you may also complete a partially verified interview at a later time. (See *Completing a Partially Entered Interview.*)

Verification Log File

As you verify a Batch, QDS will write out a Log File to record all values changed during verification. This file is written out in Rich Text Format (RTF) and may be reviewed in your word processor. The name for the Log File matches the Data File name, except that the .QPD extension is replaced with .LOG.

If desired, this file can be used to monitor data entry accuracy or confirm that verification changes are accurate.

You can view the sample file called *First Questionnaire Example DE **A01**.LOG*, which shows:

```
Verifying 01
Verifying 02
Q7/EARLY: was changed from 2 (Somewhat Agree) to 1 (Strongly
Agree)
```

You can see that interviews for respondents 01 and 02 have been verified. For interview 02, the value for the Variable EARLY has been changed from 2 to 1.

Browsing in Data Entry

If you would like to view previously entered data without the risk of inadvertently changing a response, you can choose to browse interviews. To open a Data File in Browse mode:

1. Locate the Data Entry Control File (*.QDE) icon using *Windows Explorer*.
2. Double-click on the icon.
3. You will now see the Data Entry *Open* dialog box.

4. Select the correct folder from the Look in drop-down box.
5. Select **QDS Paper Interview Data Files (*.QPD)** from the Files of type drop-down box.
6. Select the QPD file from the list box that contains the correct Batch Code.
7. Select the Browse interviews (read only) radio button.
8. Click *Open.*

You will now see the Data Entry Screen and all the entered responses, but they are grayed out and cannot be changed. You may navigate to specific interviews by going to **Interview|Select Interview**.

Data Entry Application Output

Each partially or completely keyed/verified interview will be written to a Paper Interview Data File (*.QPD); these files can be brought into the QDS Warehouse Manager Module for further processing and export (see *Working With Collected Data*). Each new Batch Code prompts the creation of a new Data File.

For example:

Control File	Batch Code	Output Data File(s)
First Questionnaire Example DE.QDE	A01	First Questionnaire Example DE A01.QPD
	A02	First Questionnaire Example DE A02.QPD
	B01	First Questionnaire Example DE B01.QPD

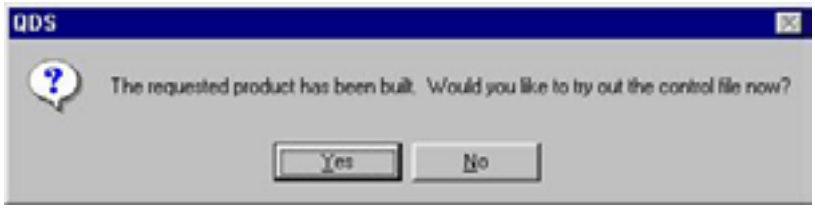
COMPUTER-ASSISTED PERSONAL INTERVIEWS: CAPI

Building a CAPI Control File

Before you can start collecting data using the CAPI Module, you need to build a CAPI Control File (*.QPI). This file is used by the CAPI Data Collection Module to administer a CAPI interview or form. Interviewing staff do not need access to the Specifications File of the Design Studio to conduct interviews.

To create a CAPI Control File:

1. Select **Build|CAPI Application** from the **Design Studio** Menu. Any validation errors identified during the Build process must be resolved before proceeding. (See *Validating Your Specifications*.)
2. In the Save In drop-down box, select the folder in which you would like your file saved. The default is the folder where the Specifications File resides. (The default filename is the name of the Specifications File plus *en CAPI.QPI*.)
3. Click on the *Options* button to refine settings for your application. (See *CAPI Build Options*).
4. Click on the *Save* button.
5. You will then be prompted: *The requested product has been built. Would you like to try out the Control File now?*



6. Click *Yes* to test your CAPI application. Click *No* to return to the Design Studio (the Control File will still be created).
7. If you click *Yes*, QDS will launch the QDS CAPI Module and open the newly created Control File.
8. The CAPI *Open* dialog box will appear with the name of the CAPI Control File in the File Name box and the Begin a New Interview radio button selected.

9. Click *Open* to test the CAPI application.

Continue reading to learn how to enter data.

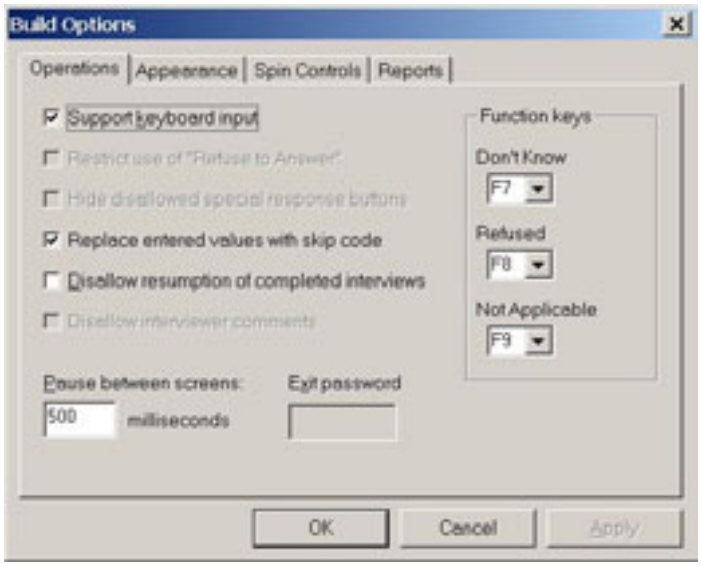
CAPI Build Options

Although the default settings will often meet your interviewing requirements, CAPI Build Options provide the opportunity to refine settings for input and formatting.

To access the CAPI Build Options:

1. Select Build|CAPI Application
2. Click on *Options*.

You will now see the *Build Options* box, which includes four tabs: *Operations*, *Appearance*, *Spin Controls, and Reports (new in version 2.1)*.



Operations Tab

The *Operations* tab allows you to refine input settings. The following options can be modified for CAPI applications (grayed outo:

Support keyboard input ..... By default, CAPI interviews will accept keyboard, touchscreen, and mouse input. Uncheck this box to disable keyboard input. This option can be overridden by settings on the *Response Set* tab for Text Response Data Elements.

Replace entered values ..... Replaces previously entered values with a skip code if a response is changed and triggers a new skip pattern. When a response is changed, it can affect subsequent branching paths and may cause previously answered items to be skipped. Leave this box checked if you would like those values to be replaced by a skip code. Uncheck this box to retain prior values. The default setting is to replace previously entered values. This setting will be overridden by settings on individual Skip Elements.

Disallow resumption ..... Check this box to prohibit access to completed interviews. Interrupted (incomplete) interviews can still be resumed, but once an interview has been completed, the user will not be able to reopen it using the CAPI program.

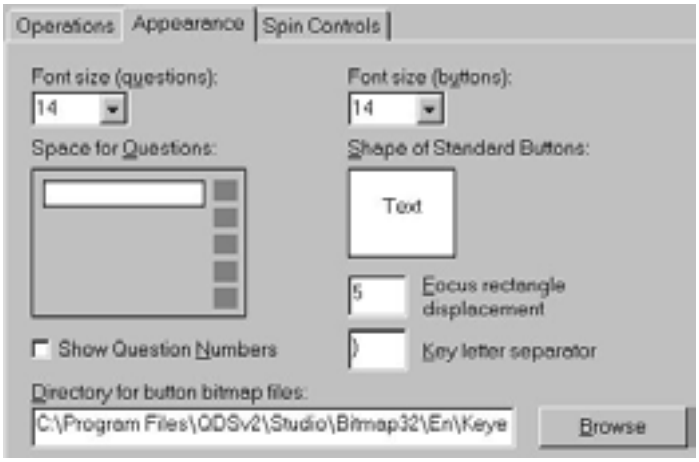
Pause between screens ..... This option determines the length of time a Data Element will remain on screen after a response has been entered (default=500 milliseconds). If zero is entered, the screen may be cleared before the interviewer has time to verify the value entered.

Function keys ..... Assigns Function keys to enter responses of Don't Know, Refused, and Not Applicable. Select None if no Function key is assigned.

Appearance Tab

The *Appearance* tab is used to refine settings related to the appearance of the screen.

It is important to note that these settings apply to every item in the questionnaire. **Note:** ***When necessary, font size settings may be overridden by QDS in order to fit an entire set of Response Set buttons on the screen.***



Font size (questions) ..... Sets font size for Question and Information text items (default = 14).

Font size (buttons) ..... Selects font size for Button Text (default = 14).

Space for Questions ..... Use this box to set the portion of the screen that will be used to display Question Text. During the interview, each question will be displayed in a box at the top of the screen. The size of the box remains fixed throughout the interview. The white box on the *Appearance* tab shows the portion of the screen that will be devoted to the question box. Use the left mouse button to drag and resize the box.

Shape of Standard Buttons ..... Throughout an automated interview, *Navigation* and *Special Code* buttons are permanently displayed along the right edge of the screen. These include buttons for responses Don't Know, Not Applicable, etc. These buttons will be the same size. The program determines the height of the buttons based on screen height. The button displayed on the *Appearance* tab indicates the approximate height-to-width ratio for the buttons. Use your left mouse button to drag and resize the button.

Focus rectangle displacement ..... It is standard practice to show that a button has the focus (i.e., is currently active) by drawing a dotted rectangle inside the button's border. For picture buttons, you must supply a separate bitmap for the focus state. The focus rectangle may be included as part of the bitmap or can be drawn by QDS. To have QDS draw the rectangle, enter the number of pixels to offset the focus rectangle from the outside edge of the button. Enter 0 (zero) if you do not want QDS to draw the focus rectangle (default = 5).

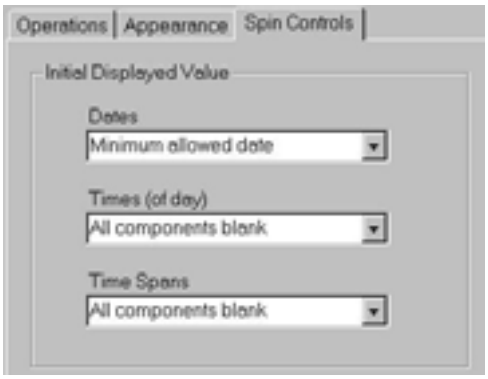
Key letter separator ..... For interviews with keyboard input, text buttons may include a letter code that can be keyed to select the button. This “key letter” precedes the normal text for the button. You may indicate here any text you would like to insert between the key letter and the button text. The default is a right parenthesis.

Show Question Numbers ..... For an automated interview, it is generally unnecessary to display the number associated with each question. However, if you prefer to show the question number on the screen, check this box (default is unchecked).

Bitmap Directory ..... Enter the directory path for the location of button bitmap files to be used as picture buttons for automated interviews. QDS provides standard bitmaps for Yes, No, Male, and Female buttons. If you want to use only the standard QDS buttons, you can leave this at the default path. All bitmaps for an instrument must reside in a single directory.

Browse button ..... Click this button to select a directory for button bitmap files by browsing the directory structure of your computer.

Spin Controls Tab



Spin Controls are used in automated interviews to input responses for date, time, and timespan Elements without using the keyboard. By default, these items will be blank. However, you can choose to have an initial value displayed.

You may choose to have:

All date or time components blank.

Minimum date or timespan allowed.

Midpoint of each component.

Note: these settings apply to all date, time, and timespan Elements in the questionnaire and cannot be set on an item-by-item basis.

Reports Tab (available as of v2.1)

The *Reports* tab allows you to produce a Rich Text File (*.RTF) report that will list all responses for each CAPI interview. The following options can be specified:

Enable Case Reports ..... Check this box to enable the production of a report listing all responses at the end of each interview.

Prompt to View Report ..... Check this box if you would like the program to display a message box at the end of each interview, asking whether or not you wish to view the report.

File Name Prefix ..... Enter a prefix for the report filename. The complete filename for each report will contain this prefix text plus the interview identifiers defined on the Options > Interview Options > Identifier Variables property page.

When you enable reports for a CAPI interview, QDS produces an RTF file containing question number, variable name, variable label, and response (including applicable value labels) for that individual interview. You will have a separate report file for *each* CAPI interview. If you also select the option "**Prompt to View Report**" a message box will pop-up after the interview has been saved, reading:

> Interview Data has been written to the file First Questionnaire Example En CAPI 100.RTF. Would you like to open the document now?

If you select *Yes* the report will open up in your default word processor.

The sample below contains the report generated from the First Questionnaire Example survey, where the subject ID was 100. Note that the subject ID (100) appears in the filename following the prefix. The question number appears in the first column, followed by variable name and variable label. The response and corresponding value label appear beneath the variable label (*if there is no value label, the response value appears again*). In the following sample, the value chosen for GENDER was 2 with the value label of *Female*.

First Questionnaire Example En CAPI 100.RTF

```
Q1          SUBJECT     Subject ID
                        Value:  100         100

Q2          GENDER      Respondent's Gender
                        Value:  2           Female

Q3          DOB         Date of Birth
                        Value:  09/12/1940

Q4          RACE        Respondent's Race
                        Value:  2           White/Caucasian/European

Q5          JOB         Currently has a job
                        Value:  1           Yes

Q6          FULLTIME    Works full-time (40 hours or more per week)
                        Value:  1           Yes

Q7          EARLY       I like to get up early in the morning
                        Value:  4           4

Q8          EXERC       I try and exercise at least twice a week
                        Value:  1           1

Q9          DIET        I try to stick to a healthy diet
                        Value:  2           2

Q10         FRUIT       Fruits eaten during past week
                        Value:  1100101

Q11         FRUIT_S     Specify other fruit(s) eaten during past week
                        Value:  Blueberries

Q12         SERVING     How many servings of fruit ate yesterday
                        Value:  4           4
```

Report Filenames

The complete filename for each report contains the prefix text specified on the *Reports* Tab plus the interview identifiers defined on the Options > Interview Options > Identifier Variables property page. With identifier variables of SITE, TODAY, and VISIT, the resulting filename for the example would be:

First Questionnaire v2 en CAPI 1 100 06-03-2003, Baseline.RTF

where 1=SITE, 100=SUBJECT, 06-03-2003=TODAY, and Baseline=VISIT. The report files are saved into the same folder as the CAPI .QAD data files.

Special Notes on Reports:

Check Each component values are displayed as a single string of zeros and ones, where '1' indicates checked and '0' indicates not checked.

Calculated values are included in the report.

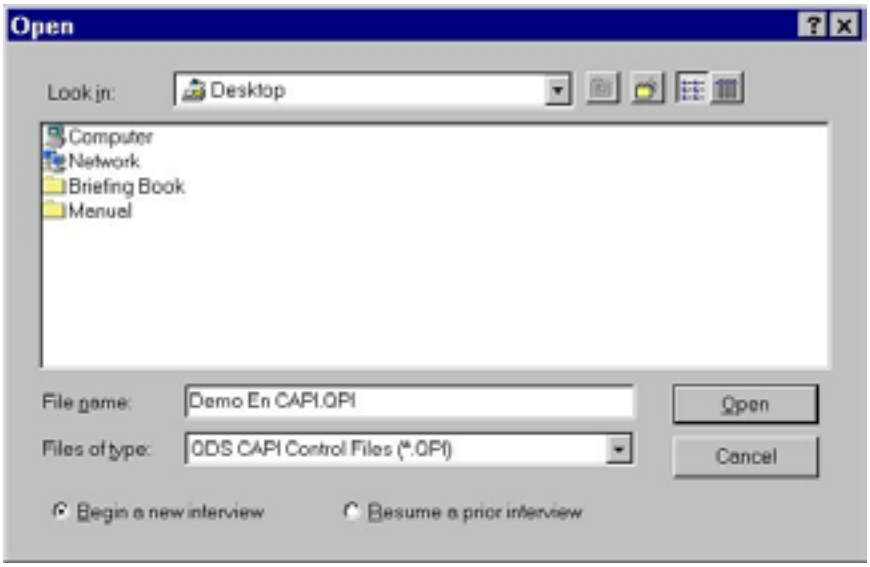
Numeric rating scale value labels are not included in the report.

Opening a CAPI Application

To launch a CAPI Application:

1. Locate the CAPI Control File using *My Computer* or *Windows Explorer*. (The default Control File name is *Specifications File name + En CAPI.QPI*.)
2. Double-click on the Control File.
3. You will now see the CAPI *Open* dialog box.

CAPI Open Dialog Box



The CAPI *Open* dialog box displays the following:

Look in ..... Displays the Control File location.

File name ..... Displays the Control Filename.

Files of type ..... Displays Q*DS CAPI Control Files (*.QPI).*

Begin a new interview ..... Select to start a new interview *(default).*

Resume a prior interview ..... Select to resume a previously interrupted interview.

If necessary, navigate to the correct folder and file. Once you have confirmed that all information is correct, select *Open* to launch your CAPI application.

After clicking *Open* on the *CAPI Application* dialog box, your application will open in a separate window. CAPI displays only one item at a time. Question text appears in a box at the top, and special response and navigation buttons are located along the right edge of the screen.

CAPI Menu Commands

The CAPI Menu at the top of the screen provides the following commands:

Interview|New Interview ..... Begin a new interview.

Interview|Comment ..... Enter an interviewer comment. Keyboard shortcut: Ctrl+C.

Interview|Exit ..... Exit interview prior to completion. (You may resume later.) Keyboard shortcut; Alt+F4.

Help|For this Question ..... If available, view additional information for this item (text specified on the *Data Element Probes* tab). This item will be unavailable if no Probes text exists for this item. Keyboard shortcut: Ctrl+Q.

Help|General Help ..... Retrieve general help on the CAPI program. Keyboard shortcut: Ctrl+H.

Conducting CAPI Interviews

After clicking *Open* in the CAPI *Open* dialog box, the CAPI application will open a new window displaying the first Information or Data Element of the questionnaire.

Entering Interview Responses in CAPI

CAPI responses can be entered using the keyboard, mouse, or (if available) touchscreen. The exact configuration of the screen will change slightly depending on the type of item being displayed. For example, a Yes/No Response Type will display the *Yes* and *No* buttons. A Pick-One Response Type will display a button for each possible response.

Yes/No

For a Yes or No question, the response area has two buttons: one for Yes and one for No. QDS provides standard versions of these buttons, which appear at right.

You may select buttons by:

- Pressing the appropriate button using the mouse or touchscreen.
- Using the Tab key on the keyboard to navigate through each button on the screen and hitting *Enter* when the appropriate button is highlighted.
- Using the keyboard shortcut indicated on the *Response Set* tab in the Specifications File.

Gender Response

Gender responses work in the same manner as Yes/No questions (see above).

Nominal-Pick One, Response Cards

Each choice will have a separate button. The buttons may contain plain text or pictures. A button may be selected by clicking on it with the mouse or pressing it on a touchscreen. If a button has an associated letter key (see *Response Set* tab settings), that key may be pressed to select the button. You may also use the Tab key to navigate through buttons until the desired one is in focus and then press *Enter*.

Nominal-Check Each, Response Cards

A Check List Response allows you to select one or more of the displayed choices. Each choice is a separate text button. (Picture buttons are not permitted for Check Lists.) When you press a choice button or key its corresponding letter, a checkmark appears inside the button to indicate that it has been selected. Press the button again, and the checkmark will disappear.

Checked: **Unchecked:**

Spin Control Responses (Dates, Times, Timespans)

Date, Time of Day, and Timespan responses utilize **Spin Controls** for inputting responses in the CAPI environment.

Each response component has a separate input box, with selection buttons to the left and right.

Use the <<, <, >, and >> buttons to scroll through the allowed range for each component. The < and > buttons scroll though values one at a time, down or up, respectively. The << and >> buttons move through the allowable range in larger intervals.

Numeric values can also be entered directly from the keyboard, using the mouse or Tab key to navigate from box to box. For months, key the corresponding number for the month—e.g., 4 for April—and not the name of the month.

Sometimes you will be required to enter a response for each component; other times, you can leave blanks. This is determined by the settings on the Specifications File *Response Set* tab.

If a special response such as Don't Know is permitted, it applies to the entire question. That is, you can respond Don't Know to the whole question but not to individual components. The same applies to Refuse to Answer and Not Applicable.

Currency, Number

A Keypad Response is used to enter a numeric value within a specified range. The range is specified on the *Response Set* tab in the Design Studio. If a value entered is outside the allowed range, an error window will be displayed. Press *OK* to return to the keypad and enter a new value.

If the *Enforce Range* box has not been checked on the *Response Set* tab, you will be allowed to override the range. In these instances, a warning message will still be displayed; however, you will be given options to accept or reenter the value. If the *Enforce Range* button has been checked, you will be required to enter a value within the valid range in order to continue.

Decimals may or may not be permitted (again, this is determined in the Specifications File on the *Response Set* tab). If decimals are not permitted, the decimal point button at the lower right will be disabled (grayed out).

If negative values are permitted, use the +/- key to change the sign of the value you have entered.

Press the *Clear* button to erase any value you have entered and start over.

Scale Response

Scale Responses consist of a linear scale with a fixed number of points displayed vertically or horizontally. Text is displayed at each end of the scale describing the extreme endpoints (anchor points) of the scale. Specifics regarding the display

and labeling of intermediate points and display and keyboard entry of numeric values are set on the *Response Set* tab in the Specifications File.

For any of these variations, responses may be entered by selecting the appropriate position along the scale using either the mouse or touchscreen. You may also enter an appropriate numeric code using the keyboard.

Text Response

Text responses may be entered using the keyboard or displayed buttons. The blank key on the screen enters a single space. Two sets of buttons are available for text responses: one that displays letters only and a second that displays numbers and punctuation. Press the Alt key to toggle between the two sets of buttons.

Entering Special Code Responses

The buttons for Special Codes—*Don't Know*, *Refused to Answer*, and *Not Applicable*—appear along the right edge of the screen for every question in a CAPI interview. These buttons are enabled only if the Special Code is designated as allowable on the *Response Set* tab for that Element.

You do not need to record Skip Codes for bypassed questions. The CAPI program automatically fills items skipped as a result of branching and Skip Elements with the appropriate Skip Code.

Interviewer Comments

While in the CAPI Module, you may enter comments at any point in the interview by selecting **Interview|Comment** and entering text into the *Notes* dialog box.

Your comments may be exported to a text file from the QDS Warehouse Manager Module. (See *Exporting the Interviewer Comments Log.)*

Probes

While on any CAPI screen, you may retrieve additional information specified on the Data Element *Probes* tab in the Design Studio. This Menu option is enabled only if Probe text exists for the current Element.

Saving CAPI Interviews

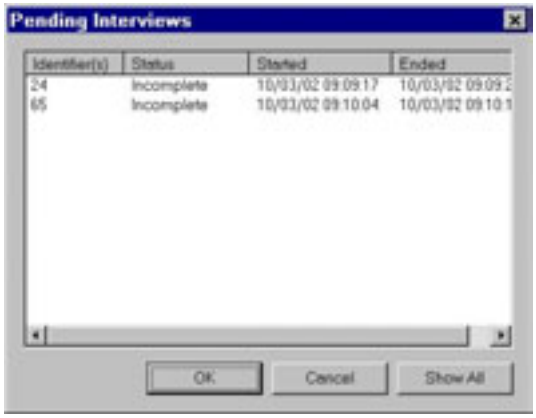
At the end of the interview, the CAPI module will ask if you would like to save the data from your interview. If you click *Yes*, the record will be written out to the Data File (*.QAD). If you respond *No*, the program will require confirmation prior to discarding the data.

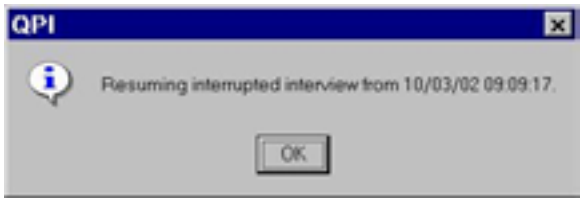
If an interview is interrupted or the computer or program shuts down unexpectedly, **all data recorded to that point *will* be written out to the Data File**.

Resuming an Interrupted CAPI Interview

As with the Data Entry Module, you may take a break from an interview and resume later. (You may exit the interview at any point by typing Alt+F4.) To resume an interrupted interview:

1. Go to the CAPI *Open* dialog box.
2. Select the appropriate folder from the Look in drop-down box.
3. Select your QPI file from the list box.
4. Select the Resume a prior interview radio button.
5. Click *Open*.
6. The *Pending Interviews* dialog box will display a list of any incomplete cases in the current Data File. (Clicking the *Show All* button will display all cases in the current Data File, regardless of their status.)
7. Use the mouse to select the interview to resume and click *OK*.
8. A dialog box will confirm the interview that is being opened.





9. The CAPI program will take you to the screen at the point at which the interview was interrupted so that the interview may be continued.

Note: You may also open a previously completed interview using this method.

CAPI Application Output

Each CAPI interview (complete or partial) will be written to an Automated Interview Data File (*.QAD). These files can then be brought into the QDS Warehouse Manager Module for further processing and export (see *Working With Collected Data*).

QDS Filenames for CAPI

CAPI Module .....QPI.EXE
CAPI Control File .....*.QPI
CAPI Data File .....*.QAD

Renaming CAPI Output Data Files (QAD)

At this point, you may notice a key difference between Data Entry and Automated Interview Data Files. For Data Entry Files (*.QPD), files can be distinguished by the use of Batch Codes—i.e., each file has a separate Batch Code and, therefore, a unique filename.

Note: ***Each CAPI Data File for a specific questionnaire is initially assigned the same filename. Unlike in Data Entry, there are no Batch Codes.***

Whenever you begin a new interview with a particular QPI file, it will always write out the data to a QAD file of the same name. For example, if you begin a new interview with the *First Questionnaire Example En CAPI.QPI* application, it will automatically add interviews to *First Questionnaire Example En CAPI.QAD*.

Note: ***Until you move or rename the Data File, interviews will continue to be appended to the end of the current QAD file. As soon as the current QAD file is moved or renamed, the next CAPI interview will create a new QAD file.***

We recommend that you develop a naming protocol for Data Files at the beginning of your study. Common schemes involve date information and, if applicable, information specifying site and/or computer.

A QAD file can be renamed at any time and then selected in order to add interviews on the *Open CAPI Application* dialog box. For example, if you select ***QDS Automated Interview Data Files (*.QAD)*** from the Files of type drop-down box and then select a specific ***QAD*** file from the list box, it will add interviews to that file.

The sample Data Files illustrate how you might develop a naming convention for your files.

Data File	Description
First Questionnaire, Site 2, 1.QAD	Data collected at Site 2, Time 1
First Questionnaire, Site 2, 2.QAD	Site 2, Time 2
First Questionnaire, Site 1, 3.QAD	Site 1, Time 3
First Questionnaire, Site 1, 1.QAD	Site 1, Time 1
First Questionnaire, Site 1, 2.QAD	Site 1, Time 2

Audio Computer-Administered Self-Interview: ACASI

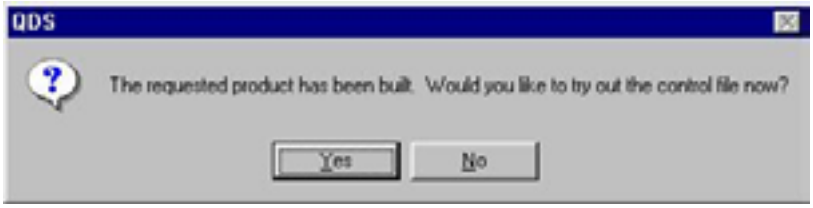
In this data collection mode, the respondent records answers directly into the system using a mouse, touchscreen, or keyboard. Optionally, a computer voice or recorded human voice can be used to "read" questions aloud as they are displayed on the screen. For computer security, it is possible to add a password and/or lock the keyboard to restrict participant access to the rest of the computer.

Building an ACASI Control File

Building an ACASI Module produces an ACASI Application Control File with the extension .QSI that is used as a standalone application for administering interviews. Your staff will not need access to the Specifications File (see *Data Collection With the ACASI Module*) in order to conduct interviews.

To create your ACASI Module:

1. Select Build|ACASI Application.
2. In the Save In drop-down box, select the folder where you want the Control File saved.
3. In the File Name box, enter the filename. (The default is the Specifications Filename + *en ACASI.QSI*.)
4. Click on the *Options* button to refine settings for your application (See *ACASI Build Options*.)
5. Click *Save.*
6. A dialog box will pop up: *A Script File has been produced. Would you like to open the RTF document now?*
7. Click *Yes* to view the Script (see *Script Files*). Click *No* to continue.
8. You will be prompted, *The requested product has been built. Would you like to try out the control file now?*



9. Click *Yes* to try out your ACASI Application. Click *No* to return to the Design Studio. (The Control File will still be created).
10. If you select *Yes,* QDS will launch the ACASI program and open the newly created Control File.
11. The ACASI *Open* dialog box will appear with the name of your ACASI Control File in the File Name box and the Begin a New Interview radio button selected.
12. Click *Open* to test your ACASI application.

Continue reading to learn how to enter data.

The next section, *ACASI Build Options,* explains how to customize your ACASI screens in several ways, including modifying font size, changing space allotted for questions, setting whether or not to display question numbers on the screen, and changing keyboard/mouse navigation options.

Options unique to ACASI include the ability to: restrict the respondent's access to *Refuse to Answer* choices, hide disallowed special response buttons, control support for keyboard input, and specify exit passwords.

ACASI Build Options

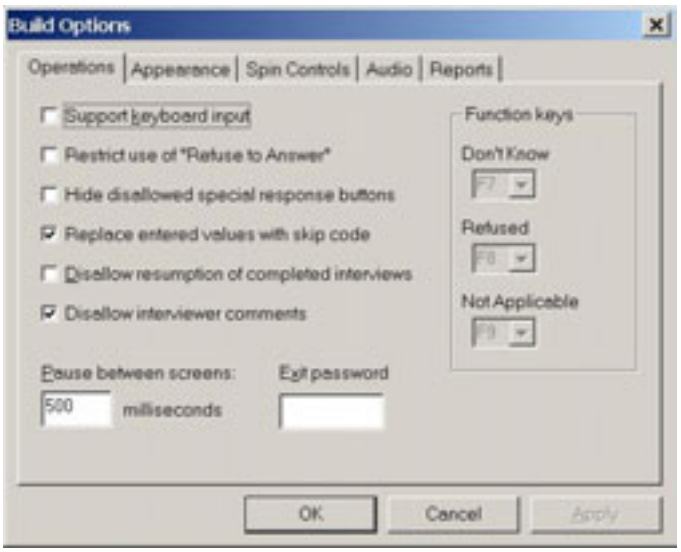
To access Build Options for your ACASI Module.

1. Go to Build|ACASI Application.
2. Click on *Options*.

You will now see the *Build Options* box with the following tabs: *Operations* (set input options*), Appearance (*set screen formatting options)*, Spin Controls* (set options for entering Date and Time Elements), *Audio* (control audio settings), and *Reports* (interview data report options; new in version 2.1).

Operations Tab

The following options are enabled and can be modified for ACASI applications:



Support keyboard input ..... Specify whether to allow keyboard input. By default, this box is not checked for ACASI interviews (requiring input using a mouse or touchscreen). This option is overridden (i.e., keyboard support is always enabled) for items with the keyboard support option checked on the *Response Set* tab and Elements with No Audio entered for the Audio Filename.

Restrict "Refuse to Answer" ..... Check this box to disable the Refuse to Answer button for all questions during an ACASI interview. The button can be re-enabled by simultaneously clicking the left and right mouse buttons in the upper right corner of the ACASI screen. Default setting is not checked.

Hide disallowed buttons ..... Check this box to hide buttons for disallowed Special Codes (i.e., Don't Know, Refuse to Answer, or Not Applicable). If this option is not checked, buttons for disallowed codes will appear grayed out (i.e., not enabled). Default setting is not checked.

Replace entered values ..... Leave this box checked to replace previously entered values with a skip code if a response is changed that triggers a new skip pattern. When a response is changed, it can affect subsequent branching paths and may cause previously answered items to be skipped. Uncheck this box to retain prior values. The default setting is to replace previously entered values. This setting will be overridden by settings on individual Skip Elements.

Disallow resumption ..... Check this box to prohibit access to completed interviews. Interrupted (incomplete) interviews can still be resumed, but once an interview has been completed, the user will not be able to reopen it using the ACASI program.

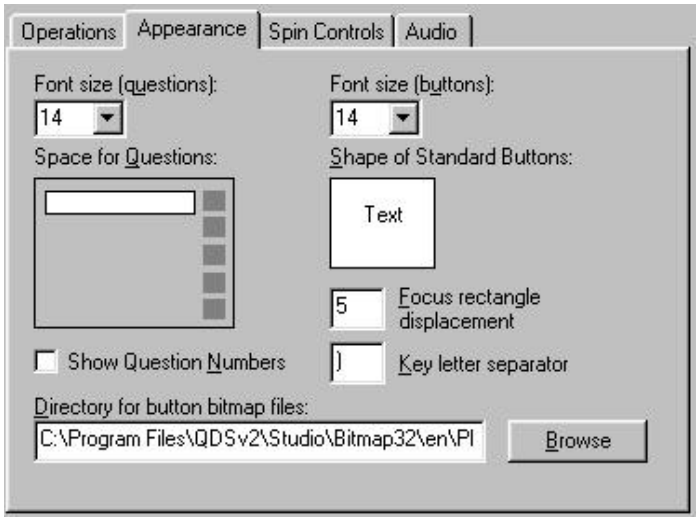
Disallow Interviewer Comments ... Check this box to disable the Interviewer Comments keyboard commands (Ctrl-C and F2) during an ACASI interview. Disabling this feature will prevent study subjects from adding comments to the interview response data (new in version 2.1).

Pause between screens ..... This option determines the length of time a Data Element will remain on screen after a response has been entered (default=500 milliseconds). If zero is entered, the screen may be cleared before the interviewer has time to verify the value entered.

Exit password ..... To prevent a respondent from exiting an ACASI interview and working with other applications on the computer, enter a password in this option box that will be prompted for and required before the interview can be terminated. **Available only for ACASI.**

We recommend that you specify an Exit Password on ACASI Module Build Options. This option will require a password to be entered for the ACASI program to terminate. This prevents a respondent from gaining access to other applications on the computer upon completion of the interview. This will also ensure that a staff member has the opportunity to ensure that each interview is saved.

Appearance Tab



The ACASI Appearance Build Options are the same as the CAPI Appearance Build Options.

The *Appearance* tab is used to refine settings related to the appearance of the screen.

It is important to note that these settings apply to every item in the questionnaire. *When necessary, font size settings may be overridden by QDS in order to fit the entire set of Response Set buttons on the screen.*

Font size (questions) ..... Sets font size for Question and Information items (default = 14).

Font size (buttons) ..... Selects font size for Button Text (default = 14).

Space for Questions ..... Use this box to set the portion of the screen that will be used to display Question Text. During the interview, each question will

be displayed in a box at the top of the screen. The size of the box remains fixed throughout the interview. The white box on the *Appearance* tab shows the portion of the screen that will be devoted to the question box. Use the left mouse button to drag and resize this box.

Shape of Standard Buttons ..... Throughout an automated interview, Navigation and Special Code buttons are permanently displayed along the right edge of the screen. These include buttons for responses Don't Know, Not Applicable, etc. These buttons will be the same size. The program determines the height of the buttons based on screen height. The button displayed on the *Appearance* tab indicates the approximate height-to-width ratio for the buttons. Use your left mouse button to drag and resize this button.

Focus rectangle displacement ..... It is standard practice to show that a button has the focus (i.e., is currently active) by drawing a dotted rectangle inside the button's border. For picture buttons, you must supply a separate bitmap for the focus state. The focus rectangle may be included as part of the bitmap or can be drawn by QDS. To have QDS draw the rectangle, enter the number of pixels to offset the focus rectangle from the outside edge of the button. Enter 0 (zero) if you do not want QDS to draw the focus rectangle (default = 5).

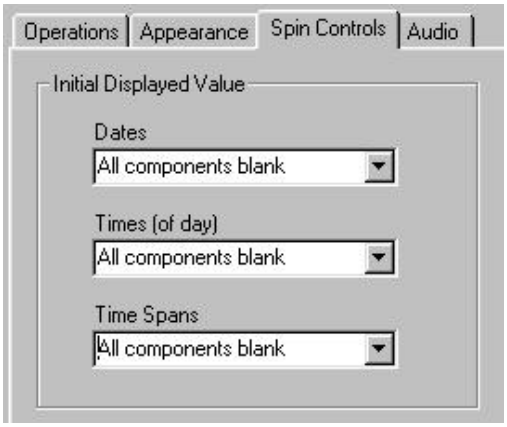
Key letter separator ..... For interviews with keyboard input, text buttons may include a letter code that can be keyed to select the button. This “key letter” precedes the normal text for the button. You may indicate here any text that you would like to insert between the key letter and button text. The default is a right parenthesis.

Show Question Numbers ..... For an automated interview, it is generally unnecessary to display the question number associated with each question. However, if you prefer to show the question number on the screen, check this box (default is unchecked).

Bitmap Directory ..... Enter the directory path for the location of button bitmap files to be used as picture buttons for automated interviews. QDS provides standard bitmaps for *Yes, No, Male*, and *Female* buttons. If you want to use only standard QDS buttons, you can leave this at the default path. All bitmaps for an instrument must reside in a single directory.

Browse button ..... Click this button to select a directory for button bitmap files by browsing the directory structure of your computer.

Spin Controls Tab



ACASI Spin Controls Build Options are the same as CAPI Spin Control Build Options.

Spin Controls are used in automated interviews to input responses for date, time, and timespan Elements without using the keyboard. By default, these items will be blank. However, you can choose to have an initial value displayed.

You may choose to have:

All date or time components blank.

Minimum date or timespan allowed.

Midpoint of each component.

Note: These settings apply to all date, time, and timespan Elements in the questionnaire and cannot be set on an item-by-item basis.

Audio Tab

The *Audio* tab options enable you to further customize your computer-generated or recorded human voice settings:

Directory for audio files..... Enter the full path for the directory that includes the human voice recordings for this questionnaire in the currently selected interview language (for example, C:\Program Files\QDSv2\Audios\EN), or click the *Browse* button and specify the directory by locating and selecting it. This path must be followed on all machines that will be used to administer the ACASI application.

Use Text-to-Speech..... Check the Use Text-to-Speech box to substitute DECtalk® Text-to-Speech audio when there is no audio file (.WAV) specified for a given Element or when the specified file cannot be found. By default, this option is checked.

Read choices ..... Check this option to have DECtalk® Text-to-Speech audio read response options for Pick-one and Check-all questions and labeled points on numeric rating scales. By default, this option is not checked.

Language..... ***This option is not currently operational.***

Reports Tab (available as of v2.1)

The *Reports* tab allows you to produce a Rich Text File (*.RTF) report that will list all responses for each ACASI interview. The following options can be specified:

Enable Case Reports ..... Check this box to enable the production of a report listing all responses at the end of each interview.

Prompt to View Report ..... Check this box if you would like the program to display a message box at the end of each interview, asking whether or not you wish to view the report.

Filename Prefix..... Enter a prefix for the report filename. The complete filename for each report will contain this prefix text plus the interview identifiers defined on the Options > Interview Options > Identifier Variables property page.

The report format for CAPI and ACASI are parallel. See *CAPI Build Options|Reports Tab* for more information.

Text-to-Speech or Recorded Audio Files?

If you plan to conduct computer-administered self-interviews you will want to consider how, or if, you want to use audio. The text of each question and other information for the respondent can be read aloud using the built-in Text-To-Speech engine (DECtalk®) or recorded Audio Files (*.WAV). Unless otherwise specified, QDS will automatically use the default Text-To-Speech (TTS) engine.

When deciding whether to use the built-in TTS engine, recorded Audio Files, or a combination, there are a few issues to keep in mind:

- Using the TTS engine allows question text to be built at run time (i.e., at the time of data collection) through the use of Substitution Tokens. Although you can display substitution text when using recorded Audio Files, a generic version of the question must be used for recording the question. For example, if a previous question asked the date of the respondent's last visit to the doctor (Variable Name = LASTVIS), you could use a Substitution Token to insert the response to that question in a subsequent question:

  Since your last visit, 6/10/02, how many times have you…?

  However, the recorded audio file would have to say the more generic, "Since your last visit, how many times have you…?"

- Using text-to-speech, the exact question, including the date would be read. Using recorded Audio Files, it would be necessary to create an Audio File that did not include the specific date (i.e., that said: *Since your last visit, how many times have you …?*).

- Utilizing TTS substantially reduces development time and file management. Unless it is necessary to create a custom dictionary (see *Creating a Custom Dictionary*), no audio-specific work is needed to implement TTS audio. On the other hand, recorded Audio Files require the developer to ensure that each question and response is recorded and that the appropriate Audio Filename is entered into the Specifications File. Any time a question or response category is revised, the Audio File will have to be re-recorded.
- TTS does not sound quite human. Using default settings, there is little or no inflection in the computer-generated voice, resulting in a "robotic" sound.
- At times, text-to-speech software may pronounce a word incorrectly. This is especially true of homographs (words that have different pronunciations for the same spelling). You may find that a question about bass fishing sounds as if it is asking about bass guitars. However, it is possible to “teach” DECtalk® how to pronounce new words (see *Creating a Custom Dictionary*).

For ease of development and maintenance, we generally recommend using the TTS engine. Remember, even if you weary of listening to the computerized voice during development and testing, most respondents will hear it only a few times.

Using DECtalk® Text-to-Speech

Text-to-speech is an automated process through which text is rendered as audio at run time (i.e., at the time of interview administration). This process involves translating text into phonemes that are converted into audible sound. The software that provides text-to-speech functionality in QDS ACASI is called DECtalk® Speech Engine. The DECtalk® text-to-speech engine supports US English (default), Latin American Spanish, Castilian Spanish, German, UK English, and French (new for version 2.1).

Because the DECtalk® Speech Engine is included as part of the QDS ACASI software, no additional software is necessary to fully implement TTS audio for your application. By default, QDS will assume that TTS should be used if no Audio Files are specified.

Several options exist that may be used to refine audio settings. For example, by default, QDS does *not* read response categories and does *not* allow a response to be entered until the entire question has been read. However, both of these settings can be changed using options described in *Audio Options*.

Creating a Custom Dictionary

There will be times when you need to add a word to the DECtalk® dictionary or change the way DECtalk® pronounces a word. For example, you may want to have the word “ID” pronounced *eye dee*, rather than *ihd*. To do this, you must

create a custom DECtalk® User Dictionary. This can be done using the WinDic utility program that was installed with QDS.

To create a custom dictionary:

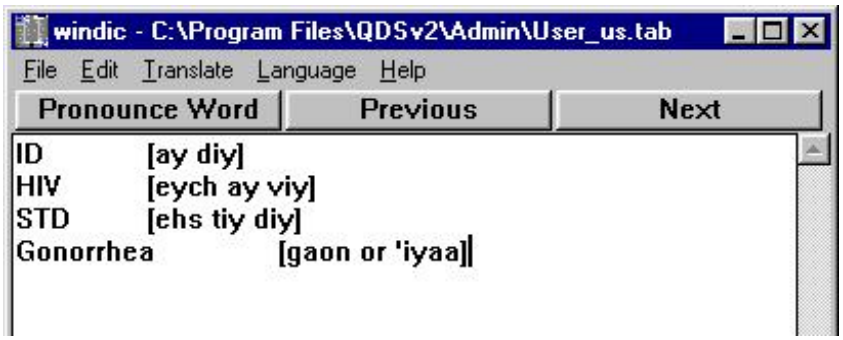
1. Open the WinDic program (WinDic.EXE) located in c:\Program Files\QDSv2\Admin.
2. Select **File|New**.
3. Create a new file named USER_US.TAB. (USER_US.TAB is the filename QDS expects for a custom dictionary.)

> **Source Files** are simple text files with a file extension of .TAB and may be created or edited using any text editor. It is recommended that you use the WinDic program as the text editor. This will allow you to test the pronunciation as you go.

4. Enter the word to be defined.
5. Enter a space, followed by the phonemic string enclosed in square brackets.

> See the *DECtalk® Reference Guide* for a complete list of phoneme codes. The *Reference Guide* is available on line at: http://fonix.com/downloads/dectalk/manuals.

For example, a sample Source File for a study of sexually transmitted diseases might include:



1. To check phonemic strings, place the cursor on the line to be tested and select *Pronounce Word*.
2. Correct your phonemic strings, as needed, and save your updated Source File.
3. Move to the next line of the Source File and repeat steps 4 through 7 until all words have been defined.
4. To create the Custom Dictionary File, select **File|Compile Dictionary**.
5. If there are any problems with your Source File (e.g., a phoneme code that DECtalk® does not recognize), you will receive an error message. If no errors are found, the Custom Dictionary will be saved in a file named

USER_US.DIC. This file should be copied to the QDS Admin folder for any computers using your ACASI application.

See the Fonix Web site at http://fonix.com/products/dectalk/ for more information on how to correct pronunciation errors, select different types of voices, and use DECtalk® Commands.

Using WAV Files

If you decide to use human voice recordings, you will need to create recorded WAV files for all Data Element question-and-response category text, Information Element text, and Edit Element messages. Although the actual creation of WAV files will be done outside of QDS, QDS includes a number of features to help track and manage Audio Files.

If you elect to use human voice recordings, each text item (e.g., question text, information text) must be recorded in a separate Audio File with a unique filename. The filename of each Audio File (minus the .WAV extension) must be entered into the Audio File box for each Element in the Design Studio.

One of the first things to decide is how to name your WAV files. You may assign filenames manually, or you can have QDS automatically assign names.

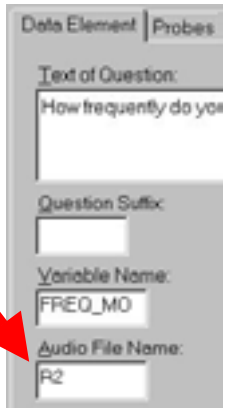
Naming Audio Files

To have QDS automatically assign filenames (and enter appropriate references in the Audio File Name box prior to recording):

1. Select Tools|Audio Files.
2. In the resulting *Audio File Renaming* dialog box, enter a File Name Prefix.

The File Name Prefix must be a single letter that will be used to create unique names for each WAV file to be associated with your Specifications File. WAV filenames will consist of the File Name Prefix followed by sequential numbers generated by QDS.

3. Select the Rename all audios radio button.



This process will assign (or reassign) filenames for Data Element Question Text items. The new filename will automatically be entered in the Audio File Name box on the *Data Element* tab for Data Elements. A complete list of the new filenames can be viewed by building a new Script File (**Build|ACASI Application).**

QDS does *not* automatically assign filenames for *all* items with which an Audio File can be associated. You will need to manually assign and enter filenames for Information Element text, Edit Element text, and *Response Set* tab text for Data Elements.

Despite these limitations, having QDS assign filenames will ensure that they are unique and saves the time and trouble of entering filenames for Data Element question text items.

There are options available for renaming only some of your .WAV files. From **Tools|Audio Files**, open the *Audio File Renaming* dialog box. Use the Audio files to rename setting to specify how and when Audio Filenames should be changed.

Rename only if necessary..... Select this option to assign a new Audio Filename if the current name is empty or duplicates a filename assigned to another item in your specifications.

Rename if necessary or if text changed ..... Select this option to assign a new Audio Filename if the current name is blank or a duplicate or if the question/information text has changed since the last rename.

Rename all audios..... This option will assign a new Audio Filename to all Data and Information Elements.

You can suppress audio for any given text by typing No Audio in the Audio File Name box on the *Data Element*, *Information Element*, or *Edit Element* tab.

When audio is suppressed in this way, the ACASI Control File assumes that the question is intended for staff use and allows keyboard input.

Script Files

Each time you build an ACASI Control File, QDS creates a Script File. The Script File is designed to help in the creation and management of voice recordings. It is built directly from the Specifications File and contains the exact text to be recorded. (*If you plan to use TTS exclusively, you may ignore the Script File.*)

Text corresponding to items from the *Response Set* tab for Data Element are not included in the Script File. This is a current limitation that should be corrected in a future release. For now, Audio Files for response items (including Response Cards) must be managed separately (i.e., outside of the Script File).

As part of the ACASI Build process, you will be prompted: *A Script File has been produced. Would you like to open the RTF document now?* If you select *Yes*, QDS will open the Script File using your default word processor. The default name for QDS Script Files is <*Specifications Filename*> *En Script.RTF*.

The Script File contains three columns: Status, File, and Text. For each item, the Status column shows the status of the Audio File; the File column shows the filename; and the Text column shows the text to be recorded. The Text column serves as a script while recording the Audio Files.

Status Codes

There are three WAV file Status Codes: No Name, No File, and New Text.

No Name ..... Indicates that no filename has been entered in the Design Studio.

No File ..... A filename has been entered, but no file exists in the path designated for Audio Files.

New Text ..... Filename has been entered, and the file exists in the appropriate path, but the question text has been modified.

Files requiring no action will have a blank Status Code, indicating that a filename has been entered and that a file with that name exists in the designated path.

First Questionnaire Example En Script.RTF is a sample Script File.

Location of Audio Files

By default, QDS expects Audio Files to be stored in *c:\program files\QDSv2\Studio\Audios\EN*.

A sample hierarchy of folders for your questionnaires might look like this.

QDSv2\Studio\My Questionnaire #1\Audios\EN

QDSv2\Studio\My Questionnaire #1\Audios\SP

You are free to change this organization or the folder names as you like. To change the default location:

1. Create your ACASI application from **Build|ACASI Application.** (See *Audio Computer-Administered Self-Interviews: ACASI.*)
2. Click *Options*.

3. Go to the *Audio* tab to refine audio settings (See *Audio Computer-Administered Self-Interviews: ACASI.*)
4. Select the appropriate folder from the Directory for Audio Files drop-down box.

When preparing to administer your ACASI with recorded human voices, it is important to remember that in addition to installing the ACASI module and copying the Control File(s) to the data collection station, you must copy all WAV files.

Note: These files must reside in the same path/directory on the collection stations as that specified in the Audio Build Options.

Recording WAV Files

The actual creation of audio WAV files must be done outside of QDS. You can use any sound card or software package that will create a *.WAV sound wave file. Most computers that come with sound cards installed will also come with a sound-recording utility. For instance, if you have a Sound Blaster™ card, you probably also received Creative Labs WaveStudio™ software for making or editing Audio Files. You should refer to the documentation that came with your software for instructions on how to create and record WAV files.

Audio Files may be saved in 8-bit or 16-bit formats, and various sampling rates are available. For voice recordings, 8-bit files with low sampling rates are generally adequate. If you are unhappy with the sound quality, you may want to experiment with other options that produce larger Audio Files.

Audio Files will need to be re-recorded each time a Response Set or Question, Information, or Edit Element text is modified. Therefore, it is recommended that you wait until all specifications have been finalized before recording.

Starting an ACASI Interview

To open an ACASI interview:

1. Locate the ACASI Control File (*.QSI) in *My Computer* or *Windows Explorer*. (The default Control Filename is the Specifications Filename plus *En ACASI.QSI*. *En* represents the current language—English.)
2. Double-click on the Control File; this will open the ACASI *Open* dialog box

You may also create a Windows shortcut for the ACASI Control File. Placing a shortcut on the desktop is a good method for keeping the interview process as simple as possible.

ACASI Open Dialog Box

The ACASI *Open* dialog box is similar to the CAPI *Open* dialog box. The ACASI *Open* dialog box displays the following:

Look in ..... Displays the Control File location.

Filename ..... Displays the Control Filename.

Files of type ..... Displays Q*DS ACASI Control Files (*.QSI).*

Begin a new interview ..... Select to start a new interview *(default).*

Resume a prior interview ..... Select to resume a previously interrupted interview.

If necessary, navigate to the correct folder and file. Once you have confirmed that all information is correct, select *Open* to launch your ACASI application.

After clicking *Open* on the *ACASI Application* dialog box*,* your application will open in a separate window. You will see ***only*** the ACASI Interviewing Screen, on which the first question will appear; you will not see any Menus or Status Bars.

ACASI also displays only one item at a time on a screen. Question text appears in a box at the top, and special response and navigation buttons are located along the right edge of the screen.

Entering ACASI Responses

ACASI Responses are entered in the same manner as those for CAPI. (See *Entering CAPI Responses*.)

Saving ACASI Interviews

At the end of the interview, the ACASI module will ask if you would like to save the data from your interview. If you click *Yes*, the record will be written out to the Data File (*.QAD). If you respond *No*, the program will require confirmation prior to discarding the data.

If an interview is interrupted or the computer or program shuts down unexpectedly, **all data recorded to that point *will* be written out to the Data File**.

Interrupting an ACASI Interview

There are two ways to stop an ACASI interview prior to completion. If keyboard input is allowed (specified on ACASI Build Options), interview staff can hit Alt+F4 to exit. If keyboard input is not allowed, a staff member can move the mouse pointer to the upper left corner of the screen, then simultaneously click the left and right mouse buttons. If an Exit Password has been specified (see *ACASI Build Options*), the *Password* dialog box will open, and the Password will need to be entered to exit the program.

Resuming Prior ACASI Interviews

ACASI interviews may be resumed following the same procedures as those used for CAPI. (See *Resuming an Interrupted CAPI Interview.*)

ACASI Application Output

Each complete or incomplete interview will be written to an Automated Interview Data File (*.QAD); these files can be brought into the QDS Warehouse Manager Module for further processing and export.

QDS File Names for ACASI

ACASI Module.....QSI.EXE
ACASI Control File.....*.QSI
ACASI Data File.....*.QAD

Renaming ACASI Output Data Files (QAD)

See *Renaming CAPI Output Data Files (QAD).*

Working With Collected Data: The Warehouse Manager

Warehouse Manager Overview

The Warehouse Manager's major functions include:

- Adding collected data to a single storage Warehouse.
- Tracking data shipments between field sites and a data Coordinating Center.
- Viewing and editing data.
- Deleting data.
- Identifying cases with duplicate identifiers.
- Reconciling multiple form versions into a single Standard Version.
- Exporting data to SPSS, SAS, or MS Access file formats.

Using the Warehouse Manager as your data management tool creates the following data flow:

	Create a Warehouse for data collection instrument
	Copy case(s) from Data File(s) to Warehouse
If multiple data collection sites	**At Field Site:**
	Create Shipment File (new cases to be sent to Coordinating Center)
	At Data Coordinating Center:
	Receive Shipment File
	Copy Shipment File to Local Warehouse
	Generate Receipt File
	At Field Site:
	Post Receipt File
If multiple versions	Reconcile and convert multiple versions
Analysis and reporting	Export data

Warehouse Manager Files

Extension	Description
.QDW	Data Warehouse: contains Warehoused data and reconciliation rules
.QSR	Data Receipt File: used to confirm receipt of data; e.g., confirmation that a central coordinating location has received data from a field site
.QTD	Data Shipment File: used to transport data from one Warehouse to another; e.g., a field site submitting its data to a central coordinating location
.QVR	Reconciliation File: used to export reconciliation rules from one Warehouse to another; e.g., a central coordinating location sends standardized rules to all study sites

Warehouse Manager Basics

Once you have begun data collection you can begin processing data within the Warehouse Manager.

Opening the Warehouse Manager

You can open the Warehouse Manager Module (QWM.EXE) either of the following ways:

- From the Windows **Start** Menu, select **Programs|QDS v2.0|Warehouse Manager**.
- Double-click on the *Questionnaire Design Studio* icon in the Data folder in your QDS directory (typically, *C:\Program Files\QDSv2\Data*).

Creating a New Warehouse

To create a new Warehouse:

1. Select **File|New Warehouse**.
2. Enter the name for the new Warehouse File (e.g., the name of the corresponding Control File). QDS will add the .QDW extension to create the complete Warehouse Filename. For example, if you entered *My Questionnaire*, the complete Warehouse Filename will be *My Questionnaire.QDW*.
3. Click *Open*.

This will create a new window showing the empty Warehouse. The Status Bar across the top displays the following fields for each data record or case:

A **record, case,** or **interview** is a single instance of data collection for one subject. In QDS, every case is uniquely identified by the SUBJECT Variable plus any other Variables specified as Identifier Variables.

Status	Complete, Incomplete, Duplicate, Deleted, Resumed, Transferred, Shipped, etc.
Version	Version number for form
Recorded	Date and time of automated interview or data entry
Subject ID	Based on Variables specified in Interview Options in the Design Studio
Date In	Date case was transferred into the Warehouse
Date Out	Date case was deleted
Changed	Date case was modified

Opening a Warehouse

Once you have created a Warehouse, you may open it by going to **File|Open Warehouse**, and selecting your Warehouse File (*.QDW). You may view the sample Local Warehouse File called *First Questionnaire.QDW*, which contains collected data.

Note: ***You must open a Warehouse File (*.QDW) before opening any other type of file that can be read by the Warehouse Manger.***

Warehouse Status Codes

The first column of each record in a Warehouse File indicates the record's **status**. Possible Status Codes are:


Complete: A completed case (where none of the below status apply)


Incomplete: A case that was terminated before completion


Empty: An empty case


Duplicate: A case that shares the same Identifier Variable(s) with another case


Unverified: Cases keyed, but not verified, with the Data Entry Module


Shipped: Cases that were transferred to a QDS Shipment File (*.QTD)


Transferred: Cases that have been copied to another QDS Warehouse File


Changed: Cases in a Source Data File that were changed *after* being transferred or shipped


Deleted: Cases that have been deleted but not removed from a Warehouse File


Resumed: For ACASI or CAPI data collection that was interrupted and then resumed. The **Resumed** case represents the final, complete data

Adding Data

The first thing you need to do is to open the Warehouse to which you would like to add new data.

Open the Warehouse:

1. Open the Warehouse Manager, select **File|Open Warehouse** and select the appropriate Warehouse File (*.QWM).

Open the Data File:

2. Go to File|Open.
3. Select the correct file type from the Files of Type drop-down box.
   - For data collected on paper and then data-entered, select Paper Interview Data Files (*.QPD).
   - For data collected with an automated interview (CAPI/ACASI), select Automated Interview Data Files (*.QAD).

Although you need a separate Warehouse for each data collection instrument (i.e., each Specifications File), data collected via different methods (e.g., Data Entry and CAPI) using Control Files built from the same Specifications File may be added to the same Local Warehouse. You may also combine data collected from different versions or different languages of your same Specifications File (see Working With Multiple Versions).

4. Select the Data File to add.
5. Click *Open*.

You will now see the empty *Warehouse* window as well as a new *Data* window containing the data for the file you selected. The Status Bar across the top of the *Source Data* window displays the following fields for each data record or case:

Status ..... Complete, Incomplete, Duplicate, Deleted, Resumed, Transferred, Shipped, etc.

Version ..... Version number for form

Recorded ..... Date and time of automated interview or data entry

Subject ID ..... Based on Variables specified in Interview Options in the Design Studio

1. Select the case(s) you would like to copy from the Source File to the Warehouse.
   - To select ***all interviews*** in your Source File, go to **Edit|Select All**.
   - To select ***a group of interviews***, click on the first case in the group, then hold the Shift key down while clicking on the last case in the group.

You can rearrange the list of interviews through the **View|Sort Menu** option (see *Sorting Cases*).

2. Add the cases to the Warehouse by selecting **Edit|Copy**. Note that the Status Code for each case in the Data File is changed as it is copied.

You can also transfer selected interviews by dragging and dropping them from the Data File to the Warehouse File. To drag and drop, use the mouse to select the cases to be copies to the Warehouse, hold the left mouse button down, and drag the group to the *Warehouse* window.

For the *First Questionnaire* example, we have collected data at Site 1—some with CAPI and some with DE. Because we eventually plan to conduct interviews at more than one site and at more than one visit, we have included Variables for site (SITE), and visit (VISIT) in the Specifications File. VISIT has been specified as a part of the Unique Identifier. You may view the following sample specifications, interview Local Warehouse and Data Files:

First Questionnaire v2.QDS *(Specifications File)*

First Questionnaire.QDW *(Local Warehouse)*

First Questionnaire, Site 1, 1.QAD *(CAPI Data, Site 1, time 1)**

First Questionnaire, Site 1, 2.QAD *(CAPI, Data, Site 1, time 2)**

First Questionnaire v2 DE 101.QPD *(Data Entry Data, Site 1, Batch 101)*

Note: After data collection, the QAD files were renamed so that they would have unique filenames. In this case, the names reflect the site and visit.

First Questionnaire.QDW includes the cases from the .QAD files and the .QPD file. In the Source Data Files, the Status field reads *Transferred*, indicating that they have been transferred to a Warehouse File. In the Local Warehouse, the Date In field reads 07/26/01 for the date on which the cases were transferred.

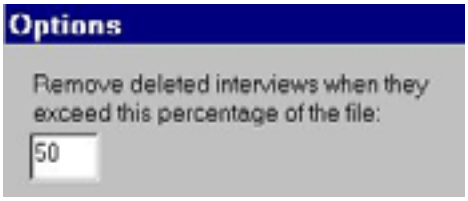
Deleting Cases

From within the Warehouse Manager, you can delete cases from both Warehouse and Data Files. Select the case to be deleted and go to **Edit|Delete** (you may also use the *Delete* button from the toolbar). To select a group of cases to be deleted, click on the first case in the group, then hold the Shift key down while clicking on the last case in the group.

The status of each deleted case will be **Deleted** (✕). It is important to understand that, at this point, the record has only been ***marked*** for deletion, not actually deleted—you can still view or undelete the case. To undelete a case, highlight the record(s) and select **Edit|Undelete**.

Records marked for deletion can be retained in the Warehouse to allow for later restoration (undeletion) or physically removed to reduce file size. The QDS default setting specifies that deleted cases will be removed when they exceed 50 percent of the file size.

Note: Cases are removed once the Warehouse is closed and changes saved.



You can change this setting by going to **View|Options** and changing the percentage in the *Remove Deleted Interviews when...* box. Set the percentage to 0 (zero) to always remove deleted interviews from the Warehouse. Set the percentage to 100 to always retain deleted interviews in the Warehouse. Set to an intermediate value to remove deleted records once they represent the specified percentage of the file.

The case with ID=9 has been deleted from *First Questionnaire.QDW*. The default *Remove Deleted Interviews when…* setting (50%) has been retained.

Modifying Cases

You may also modify data from within either the Source File or the Local Warehouse. To modify the response value for one or more Variables (including an Automatic Variable):

1. Highlight the case to be edited.
2. Select **View|Details** or double-click the selected case.
3. Select the *Variables* tab.
4. Double-click on the Variable to be updated. (Remember, component Variables are located at the end of the Data File.)
5. In the resulting window, change the numeric code and display value by: entering a new numeric value or numeric code in the box labeled Numeric Code, entering a new text string in the box labeled Display Value, or checking Don't Know, Refused to Answer, or Not Applicable.
6. Click *OK*.

To change the value of Variables that are made up of components, such as date (month, day, year) or timespan (seconds, minutes, hours), you will need to change the value of the ***components.*** Once you make a change to a component and click *OK,* the main Variable value will be updated. The component Variables will always be found at the ***bottom*** of the Variable list. Also found at the bottom of the Variable list are the components of check-each Variables.

In *First Questionnaire.QDW,* you can view the date-of-birth component Variables (DOBY, DOBM, DOBD) and FRUIT Check-each Variables (FRUITA…FRUITF) at the bottom of the Variable listing.

Data Correction Log File

Optionally, you may choose to maintain a Data Correction Log File. This file will contain a listing of all edits made to data in the Warehouse File. (Note: it will only include changes made after the Log File was created.)

To maintain a Data Correction Log File:

1. Select **View|Options**.
2. Specify the full path and filename for the Log File (e.g., c:\MyStudy\Corrections.log).
3. Press the *Browse* button to select an existing file. If the File Name box is left blank (QDS default setting), changes will not be recorded.

Data Correction Logs may be created only from Warehouse Files, not Source Files.

For our *First Questionnaire.QDW* Warehouse you may view the data correction log named *First Questionnaire Log*. The changes we made resulted in the following log:

```
Changes made 07/17/01 to G:\QDS Manual\Sample Programs\First
Questionnaire.QDW

ID            Variable(s) Changed

1 5 Baseline  RACE

1 7 Baseline  RACE
```

Identifying Duplicate Cases

When you are adding cases to a Local Warehouse from a Source File, QDS will alert you to any cases in your Source File that duplicate those already existing in your Warehouse. During the transfer process you will be prompted with a *Replace Interview?* dialog box that asks whether to overwrite a ***duplicate*** case.

A case is identified as a **duplicate** when the identifier(s) of that case exactly match the identifier(s) of a case already in that Source File or Warehouse.

If you elect not to overwrite a duplicate case, the Warehouse will display a Status Code of Duplicate (4) for both cases.

For example, in *First Questionnaire.QDW* you can see that we have a ***duplicate case*** for Subject ID 1, Site 1, collected at Baseline. When we copied the second instance of this case from our Source Data File to our Local Warehouse, a QDS dialog box popped up, which displayed:

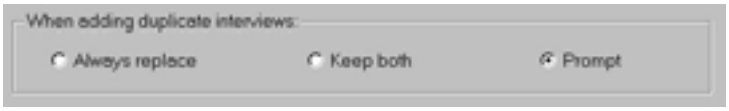
You may choose *Yes*, *Yes to All* (to replace all duplicates), or *No*.

If you select *Yes,* the case currently being added will replace the case already in the Warehouse. The status for the replaced case will changed to Deleted.

If you select *No*, the case currently being added to the Warehouse will be added without replacing the duplicate already in the Warehouse. Both cases will be marked with a status of Duplicate.

If we modify data in a duplicate case such that the Subject Identifier has changed and is now unique, the Status field will change from Duplicate to Complete.

Setting Replacing Duplicates Options



If you would like to change how QDS treats duplicate cases as they are brought into a Local Warehouse, go to **View|Options**. You have three choices:

Always Replace ..... Always replace the old interview in the Warehouse with the new one, without prompting.

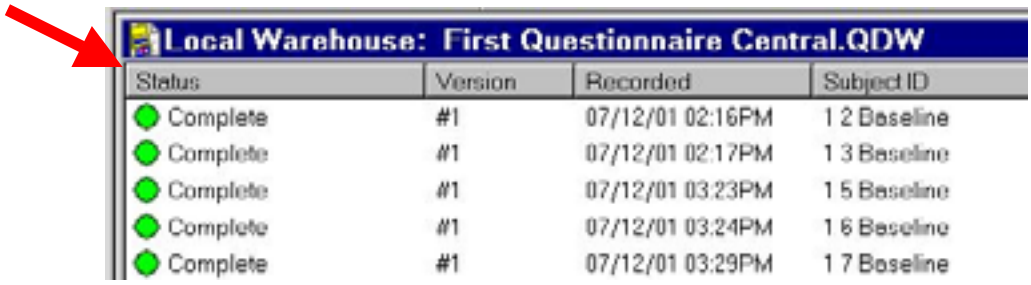
Keep Both..... Always keep both interviews, marking them as duplicates.

Prompt ..... Prompt for each duplicate (default).

Sorting Cases

Warehouse cases are initially displayed in the order in which they are added. To sort by status, questionnaire version, interview data, or case identifier, click on the column heading or go to **View|Sort By**. You can select only one Sort field.

Click here to sort by Status



Viewing and Printing Database Characteristics

To view information about your Source data or Local Warehouse:

1. Select **View|Versions**.
2. Select a version to view.
3. Click *Details*.
4. You will first see the *Version* tab which provides details on:

   Version Name [editable]

   Status

   Specifications Dated

   Interview Language

   Data Collection Mode

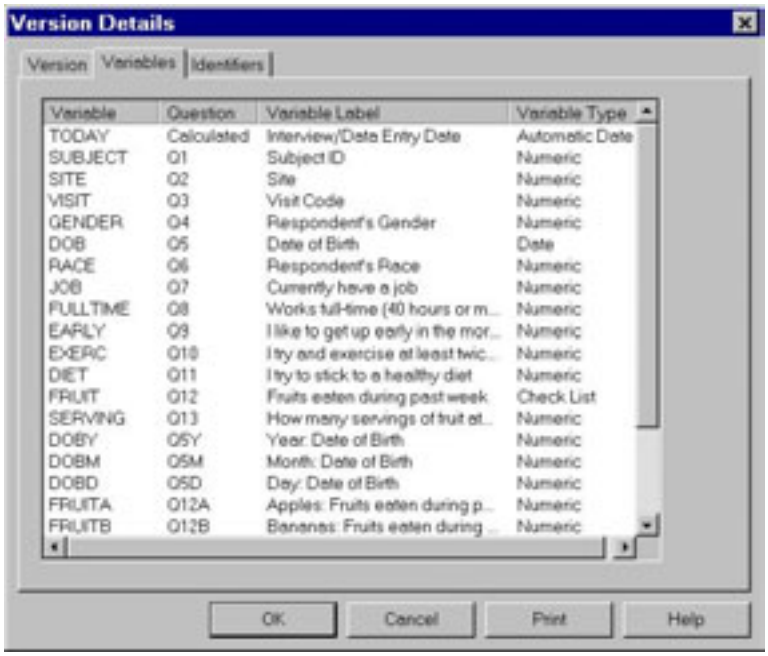
   Operating Platform

   Active Interviews [number of]

   Deleted Interviews [number of]

   Total Interviews [number of]

5. Next, click on the *Variables* tab to see a listing of Variable Names, Question Numbers, Variable Labels, and Response Types.



6. Double-click on a Variable Name to view additional information, including:

   Label ..... Label specifications, which you may edit.

   Text ..... Text used to collect data for that Variable.

   Type ..... (numeric, text, date, ...) of data stored for that Variable.

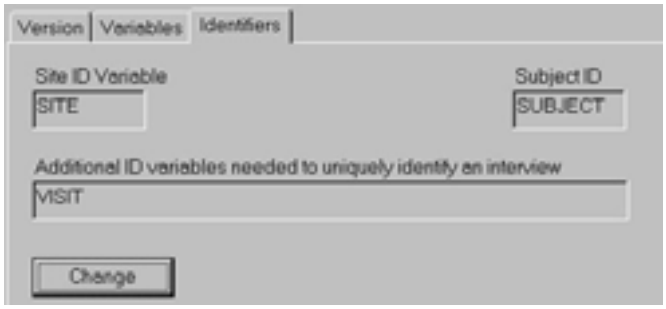
   Part of ..... If the Variable is a component part of a composite Variable, this item is the name of that composite Variable. Checklists, dates, times, and timespans all have composite and component Variables.

   Part ..... If the Variable is a component part of a composite Variable, this item identifies which part is represented.

   Codes ..... A list of all code values and code labels defined for this Variable.

7. At the bottom of both the *Version* and *Variables* tabs, click *Print* to print the displayed information.

In the Warehouse File, you will see an additional tab called *Identifiers*.



This tab gives information on the Site ID Variable Name, Subject ID name, and any additional ID Variable(s) needed to uniquely identify an interview. Clicking on the *Change* button will allow you to change your Identifier Variables.

Viewing Case Characteristics

To view information for a specific case, select the case and go to **View|Details** (or double-click on the case). The *Interview* tab will give information specific to that case including:

- **Original Version**
- **Current Version**
- **Started [date/time]**
- **Ended [date/time]**
- **Site [if applicable]**
- **Subject ID**
- **Other IDs [if applicable]**
- **Status**
- **Added to Warehouse [date/time]**
- **Latest Data change [date/time]**
- **Shipped from Warehouse [date/time]**
- **Deleted from Warehouse [date/time]**

Clicking on the *Variables* tab will show you the Variable Name, Question Number, and Variable Label and type, as well as the data value for that specific case. You may double-click on a Variable row to view and edit the data for that case (see *Modifying Cases* for more information on editing your data).

Printing Warehouse Information

To print a full listing of your Source File or Local Warehouse cases, go to **File|Print** (or **File|Print Preview**). Your printout will give you the name of your file and a listing of all your cases with their interview status, version number, collection date and time, and interview ID(s).

Saving Files

To save your Source Data or Local Warehouse File, go to **File|Save** to save your file under the same name or **File|Save As** to save a copy under a different name. You will be prompted to save every time you close a data or Warehouse File, as well as when you exit the Warehouse Manager (therefore, closing any open file).

Save and Compact

A new Save and Compact feature was added with the release of Version 2.0. This function eliminates unused portions of the file that sometimes occur as a result of reconciliation and conversion procedures. To run this feature, go to **File|Save and Compact**; QDS will save the file under the same name.

Working With Multiple Versions

While you are developing your form, it is likely that you will go through many different versions before finalizing the product. Often, this process continues even after data collection has been started.

QDS produces a new "version" of your data collection application **every** time you rebuild your Control Files. This occurs whether or not you have made any changes since the last build.

Note: ***Control Files built for the same instrument for multiple languages or data collection modes will always have separate version identifiers.***

Multiple versions of a single data collection instrument ***may*** be warehoused together (i.e., in a single Warehouse). The version is displayed in the second column of the Warehouse File.

Local Warehouse: Example Transportation-Unreconciled.QDW

Status	Version	Recorded	Subject ID	Date In
Complete	#1	07/10/01 04:56PM	1	07/26/01
Complete	#1	07/10/01 04:57PM	2	07/26/01
Complete	#1	07/10/01 04:57PM	3	07/26/01
Complete	#2	07/10/01 04:58PM	4	07/26/01
Complete	#2	07/10/01 04:58PM	5	07/26/01
Complete	#2	07/10/01 04:58PM	6	07/26/01

Whenever you have multiple versions in your Warehouse, one version is considered the **Standard Version**. By default, QDS will designate the first version (i.e., the version added to the Warehouse first) as the Standard Version.

Note: ***When exporting data, only data collected from the Standard Version of your specifications will be exported.***

This restriction is necessary so that QDS has a single database structure for exported Data Files. In order to be able to export *all* of the cases in your Warehouse, you will need to determine which version is the Standard Version and help QDS determine how the other versions "map" to the standard.

As QDS compares the two versions, any instances in which there appears to have been a change between the two versions will result in a prompt from QDS asking how you would like to resolve the discrepancy. You can tell QDS to treat the two Variables as the same or as two separate Variables. You can also tell QDS to delete Variables from one version that do not appear in the Standard Version. This process is called ***reconciliation***, or ***defining the reconciliation rules***. Once the reconciliation rules have been set, QDS will allow you to convert nonstandard

completed cases to the Standard version (which will then allow these cases to be included in an export operation).

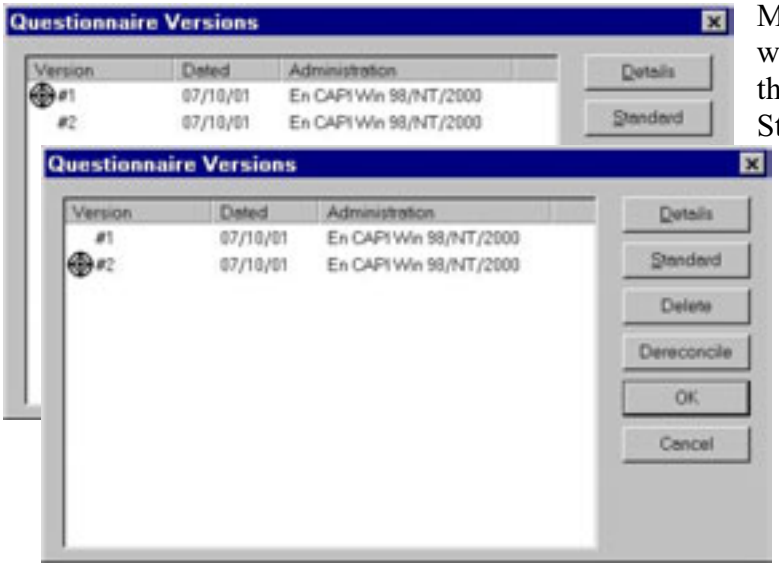
Warehouse Reconciliation Process
1. Define a Standard Version.
2. Define rules for reconciliation.
3. Convert cases to the Standard Version.

To view a list of the versions in your Warehouse, select **View|Versions**. A window entitled *Questionnaire Versions* will show all the versions that have been added to the Warehouse. You will notice that one version will have a bull's-eye (◎) next to it; this is the current Standard Version. The Dated field lists the Build date for that version.

ⓘ Once a version has been added to the Warehouse, it will remain on the Questionnaire Version list even if all cases originally completed in that version have been deleted or converted.

Choosing a Standard Version

Choosing a Standard Version is the first step in the process of reconciling/converting all cases to a single version for export.



Most of the time, you will want to designate the *latest* version as the Standard Version.

To change the Standard Version, click on the version that you want to make the new standard and click the *Standard* button. Click *OK*.

If you go back into **View|Versions**, you will see that the bull's-eye has moved to the *new* Standard Version.

Understanding How QDS Defines Reconciliation Rules

Now that a Standard Version has been selected, define the rules for reconciliation.

There are many types of changes you might make once data collection has begun that would result in substantively different versions; you might add and/or delete items, reword a question, or add new response categories for an item. During reconciliation, QDS will evaluate the differences between versions and prompt you for some decisions.

QDS will always try to find the best possible match for each Variable. The criteria used by QDS to determine if a Variable in a non-Standard Version matches a Variable in the Standard are:

Creation Time ..... The date/time that the Element was inserted into the Design Studio (Note: Internal information accessible only to QDS)

Variable Name..... The Variable Name from the *Data* tab on a Data Element

Question Text ..... The Question text from the *Data* tab on a Data Element

Response Type..... The Response Type from the *Data* tab on a Data Element

Code List ..... The Code list from the *Response* tab on a Data Element

Reconciliation Rules

Comparison Criteria
(✖ indicates a match between Variables in Standard Version and version being reconciled)

Creation Time	Variable Name	Question Text	Response Type	Code List	User Prompt	Conversion label
✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	No prompt	Marked as "Identical" Automatically mapped to Standard
✖		✖	✖	✖	No prompt	Marked as "Name Change" Automatically mapped to Standard
✖	✖		✖	✖	Equivalent?	Yes: Marked as "Identical" No: Renamed and appended to Standard
✖			✖	✖	Equivalent?	Yes: Marked as "Name Change" No: Variable appended to Standard
✖	✖	✖	✖		Equivalent?	Yes: Marked as "Equivalent" No: Renamed and appended to Standard
✖	✖	✖		✖	Equivalent?	Yes: Marked as "Equivalent" No: Renamed and appended to Standard
✖	✖		✖		Equivalent?	Yes: Marked as "Equivalent" No: Renamed and appended to Standard
✖		✖	✖		Equivalent?	Yes: Marked as "Equivalent" No: Variable appended to Standard
	✖	✖	✖	✖	No prompt	Marked as "Recode Needed" Renamed and appended to Standard
		✖	✖	✖	No prompt	Marked as "Recode Needed" Appended to Standard
✖			✖		No prompt	Marked as "Recode Needed" Appended to Standard
✖					Variable not in Standard version: Discard?	Yes: Not included in Standard No: Marked as "Recode Needed" and appended to Standard
					Variable not in Standard version: Discard?	Yes: Not included in Standard No: Marked as "Recode Needed" and appended to Standard

QDS Renaming Conventions

Sometimes, QDS has to assign a new variable name during the reconciliation process. The overwhelming majority of the time, the renaming can be described simply as:

- *If the original name is less than 8 characters and ends with a number…*
  - ➥ Add A to the end of the variable name
- *If the original name is less than 8 characters and ends with a letter…*
  - ➥ Add 1 to the end of the variable name.
- *If the original name is 8 characters…*
  - ➥ Drop the last character and add A or 1 (based on the new last character).

However, sometimes these simplified rules result in a duplication of a variable name already included in the data. The scheme that QDS uses to create a new unique variable name is described by the following rules. *(You will notice that our basic rules above correspond to the first renaming attempts below.)*

If **variable name is 8 characters** (maximum length for QDS variable name), drop the last character before proceeding. *The truncated variable name will be considered the variable name for all subsequent steps.*

If the variable name **ends with a digit**:

First, attempt to add a letter to the end of the variable name. Start with A and continue through the alphabet until a unique name is found.

If no unique name found, try adding a number to the end of the variable name. Start with 1 and continue with 2, 3, 4…0 until a unique name is found.

If there is no unique name and…

The variable name **is less than 7 characters**, add a **zero** to the end and (continue until a unique name is found):

Add a letter to the end of the variable name (A, B, C…Z)

Add a number to the end of the variable name (1, 2, 3…0)

The variable name **is 7 characters**, drop the 7th character, add a **one** to the end and (continue until a unique name is found):

Add a letter to the end of the variable name (A, B, C…Z)

Add a number to the end of the variable name (1, 2, 3…0)

If the variable name **ends with a character**:

First, attempt to add a number to the end of the variable name. Start with 1 and continue with 2, 3, 4…0 until a unique name is found.

If no unique name found, try adding a letter to the end of the variable name. Start with A and continue through the alphabet until a unique name is found.

If there is no unique name and…

The variable name **is less than 7 characters**, add a **zero** to the end and (continue until a unique name is found):

Add a number to the end of the variable name (1, 2, 3…0)

Add a letter to the end of the variable name (A, B, C…Z)

The variable name **is 7 characters**, drop the 7th character, add a **one** to the end and (continue until a unique name is found):

Add a number to the end of the variable name (1, 2, 3…0)

Add a letter to the end of the variable name (A, B, C…Z)

Variable Names are one of the primary tools used by QDS for reconciling versions; this is yet another reason it is strongly recommended that you assign Variable Names rather than use QDS default auto-naming for final forms.

Reconciling

To begin the reconciliation process select **View|Versions** from the **Warehouse Manager Menu**. Select the (nonstandard) version that you wish to reconcile to the Standard and click *Details*.

Versions with a blue arrow (➔) next to them have already been reconciled to the Standard.

A window will open saying, *This version is not the current standard and has not yet been reconciled to the standard. Reconcile now?* Click *Yes.* QDS will then walk through both versions of the questionnaire, prompting you as necessary to define the rules for reconciling the non-Standard Version to the Standard.

If you are not ready to reconcile, click *No*.

Reconciliation Example

Now that we have reviewed QDS's reconciliation rules, it may be easiest to understand the process with an example.

In Versions #1 and #2 of our Example Transportation Study we have survey forms with the following specifications:

Transportation Study Form: Version 1

Variable	Question
SUBJECT	Subject ID
METRO	Do you take the Metro?
LINE	What line do you ride?
CAR	Do you own a car?
CARPOOL	Do you ever carpool?

Transportation Study Form: Version 2

Variable	Question
SUBJECT	Subject ID
SUBWAY	Do you take the subway?
OWNCAR	Do you own a car?
CARPOOL	Do you ever carpool?
PARK	Do you have to pay to park?

We have created a separate sample file for each version so that you can view the specifications for each; see *Example Transportation v1.QDS* and *Example Transportation v2.QDS.*

The example source Data File *Example Transportation en CAPI.QAD* contains sample interviews that have been transferred to the Local Warehouse File named, *Example Transportation-Unreconciled.QDW*. It contains cases with two versions that have not been reconciled. The file, *Example Transportation-Reconciled.QDW*

contains the same cases following reconciliation and conversion to the Standard Version.

This example shows the steps to designate Version #2 as the Standard and to reconcile Version #1 to Version #2.

Designate Version #2 as new Standard:

1. Select **View|Versions**.
2. Select Version #2.
3. Click *Standard* and *OK*. (Version #2 should now have the bull's-eye.)

Reconcile Version #1 to Standard Version

4. Select **View|Versions**.
5. Select Version #1.
6. Click *Details*.
7. You should now see a dialog box asking: *This version is not the current standard and has not yet been reconciled to the standard. Reconcile now?*
8. Click *Yes*. You should now see a dialog box displaying: *Reconciling version #1 to version #2, the current standard.*
9. The Warehouse Manager then goes through the following steps for reconciliation:
   - The Variables SUBJECT and CARPOOL are identical and are merged automatically without prompts. The Variable Name CAR in Version #1 was changed to OWNCAR in Version #2. Since this was the only change, the name CAR is changed to OWNCAR without prompts.
   - In our example, the Variable LINE was used only in the first (non-Standard) Version, triggering the message, *Variable LINE is not in the standard Version. Discard it?* Click *No*, and the Variable LINE will be appended to the end of the Standard Version. Subjects who completed Version #1 will have data for the Variable LINE. Subjects who completed Version #2 will have a System-Missing value for the Variable LINE. Click *Yes*, and the Variable will not be included in the Standard Version. We chose to respond *No* and keep the LINE Variable.
   - We are prompted with the *Equivalent? Do these two Variables have the same meaning?* dialog box for our Variables METRO (Version #1) and SUBWAY (Version #2). They are considered *Possibly Equivalent* because their original creation time was the same and the Response Sets are identical; the Variable Name and question text were changed. In this study, we wish the SUBWAY question to be equivalent to the METRO question, so we select *Yes*. In the reconciled version, the data for METRO from Version #1 will be merged into the SUBWAY Variable, and the METRO Variable will be dropped. Select *OK*.

- The PARK Variable is in the Standard Version (#2) but was not in the first Version. The QDS reconciliation process will automatically keep this Variable. PARK will have a System-Missing code for interviews that were not conducted in Version #1.

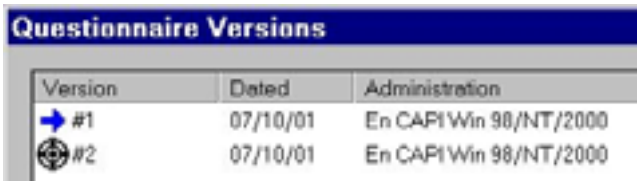
You can view the Warehouse File following reconciliation in *Example Transportation-Reconciled.QDW*. Go to **View|Versions**, highlight Version #2, click *Details*, and select the *Variables* tab. It contains the data after they were reconciled and converted to the standard Version (Version #2). We chose to keep the LINE Variable, so the final Variables are as follows:

Transportation Study Form: Reconciled

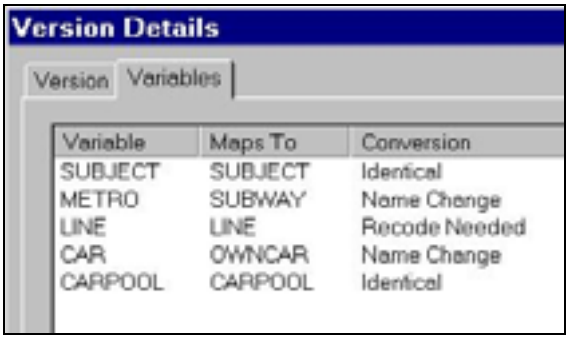
Variable Label	Variable Name
Subject	SUBJECT
Do you take the subway?	SUBWAY
Do you own a car?	OWNCAR
Do you ever carpool?	CARPOOL
Do you have to pay to park?	PARK
What line do you ride?	LINE

Reviewing Reconciliation Rules

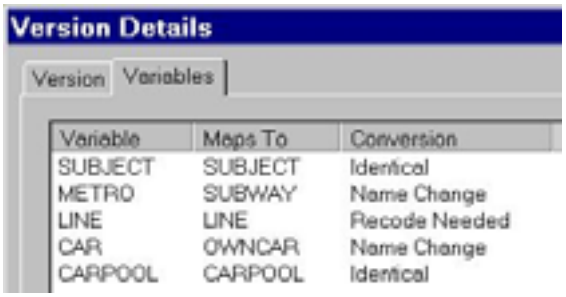
To view and print details about your reconciliation, select **View|Versions** to open the *Questionnaire Versions* dialog box. Next, highlight a Version that has been reconciled. These are marked with a blue arrow (➔) to the left of the Version number in the list box.



Select *Details* to open the *Version Details* property sheet. Select the *Variables* tab to view and print a list of Variables and their conversion mapping. In our example, you would view the following for Version #1:



Changing Reconciliation Rules



If you would like to change a reconciliation rule you can do this from the *Version Details* property sheet. This ***must*** be done prior to converting cases to the Standard. To modify your reconciliation rules, go to **View|Versions**, select the version whose rules you wish to modify, click *Details*, and select the *Variables* tab.

From the *Variables* tab, double-click on the Variable whose reconciliation rule you would like to modify. You may change the Variable in the Standard it is mapped to, as well as the conversion type (Identical, Name Change, Equivalent, Meaning, Recode Needed).

Dereconciling

If you decide to undo your reconciliation rules, select **View|Versions** to open the *Questionnaire Versions* dialog box. Then, select a Version that has been reconciled (marked with a blue arrow (➔) to the left of the Version # in the list box). Click on the *Dereconcile* button. QDS will pop up a window stating, *This version has been reconciled to the current standard. Are you sure you want to undo that reconciliation?* Click *Yes* and *OK*.

Note: ***The dereconcilation process does not undo changes to the Standard Version made as a result of reconciliation. For example, the LINE Variable in our example will remain a part of our Standard (#2) after Version #1 has been dereconciled.***

Dereconciliation does **not** revert cases that have already been converted to the Standard to their original version. ***Therefore, it is very important to make sure that your rules are correct before converting.***

Converting Cases to the Standard Version

Once you have completed the reconciliation process (and backed up your Warehouse and checked your rules), you must still **convert** the cases to the Standard. The reconciliation process merely tells QDS ***how*** to convert from one version to another, but it does not actually conduct the conversion process. To convert a version to the Standard, highlight the case(s) to be converted from the Local Warehouse and select **Edit|Convert to Standard Version**.

It is ***strongly recommended*** that you back up your Warehouse data and carefully review your reconciliation rules before actually converting data to a Standard Version. Once cases are converted, you CANNOT undo the conversion.

Remember, only Standard Versions are included in data Exports from the Warehouse. This may include cases that were originally conducted using the Standard, as well as those conducted using older versions that have been converted to the Standard. This restriction is necessary so that the resulting database will have a single structure that can be read by other database programs such as SAS and SPSS. (See *Exporting Data from the Warehouse Manager for Data Analysis.*)

Converting Multiple Versions to the Standard

As you progress in data collection for your study, it is possible that you will go through several different versions of your QDS instrument. You will most likely be adding data to your Local Warehouse as you go along. When you expect to have more than two versions of your data, we recommend that you reconcile/convert versions sequentially as you go through data collection:

1. Reconcile/convert Version 1 to Version 2.
2. Reconcile/convert Version 2 to Version 3. **Note:** ***This includes cases originally collected with Version 1, which have already been converted to Version 2***.

3. Reconcile/convert Version 3 to Version 4. **Note:** ***Includes cases originally collected with Versions 1 and 2, which have already been converted to Version 3.***

When forms are reconciled and converted using this procedure, it is easier for QDS to track subsequent changes to each version.

Exporting Reconciliation Rules

If you are conducting a multisite study, it is recommended that you define one set of Reconciliation Rules for use at all sites to ensure that everyone is using the same set of rules. Because Reconciliation Rules can be complicated for lengthy questionnaires, sending a printout of your rules and asking everyone to follow them is a less than ideal solution. It is not necessary to do this. Once you have defined Reconciliation Rules, you can export them from one Warehouse to another i.e., you can define them at a central location and export them for distribution to each research location).

Once the Reconciliation Rules have been established, you can export them via the **File|Export Reconciliations** Menu option. The Export Reconciliations step will produce a Version Reconciliation File (*.QVR) containing all Reconciliation Rules from the current Warehouse. This file can then be shipped to other sites and applied to those Warehouses.

Applying Reconciliation Rules

To apply Reconciliation Rules created elsewhere to your Warehouse:

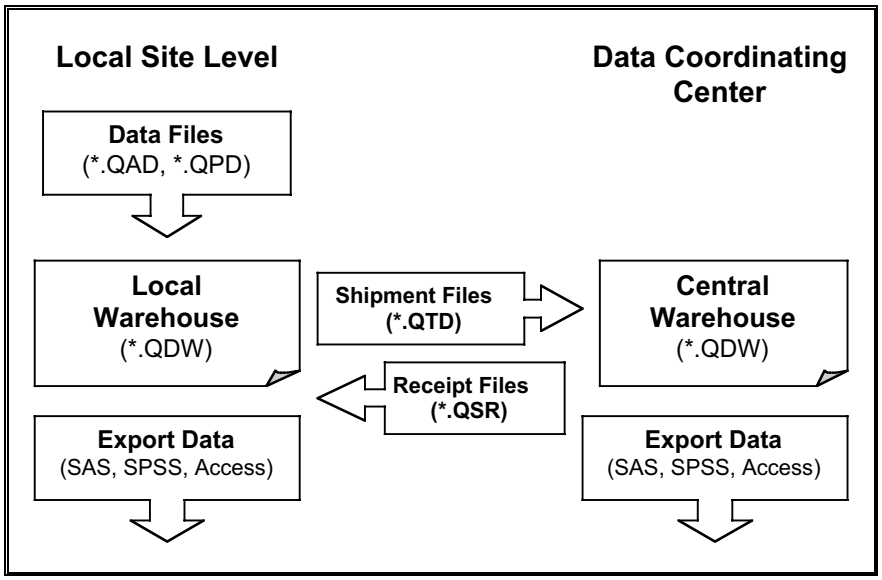
1. Open the Warehouse Manager.
2. Open the Warehouse (**File|Open Warehouse**).
3. Open the Version Reconciliation File (*.QVR).
   - Select **File|Open**.
   - From the Files of type drop-down box choose Version Reconciliation Files (*.QVR).
   - Select the QVR file you wish to add and click *Open.*

Your Warehouse now has the same set of reconciliation rules that were defined by the person who sent you the QVR file. You will still need to convert all non-Standard cases to the new Standard. However, you will not need to go through the process of defining the rules for reconciliation.

Working With Multiple Sites

When you are working on a study in which you plan to collect data at individual sites and then send your data to a Coordinating Center for processing, QDS can help by tracking shipments and generating receipts.

In a multisite study in which the Warehouse Manager is being utilized at both the site and Central levels, the data flow may look something like:



Site Level	Data Coordinating Center
Collect Data	
Add Data to Warehouse	
Create Shipment files	
Send Shipment files to Coordinating Center	
	Receive Shipment files
	Add Shipment files to Warehouse
	Generate Receipt Files
	Send Receipt Files to sites
Post Receipt Files	
Continue adding/shipping data as needed	

Export Data from Warehouse for Analysis, as needed

Shipping Data

When you are ready to send data from a Local Site to your Coordinating Center you will start by creating an Interview Shipment File:

1. Select **File|Open Warehouse** to open the Local Warehouse containing the data to be shipped.
2. Select **File|New Shipment** to create the Shipment File.
3. Enter the filename for the Shipment File in the File Name box. (It will have the extension .QTD.)
4. Click *Open*.
5. Select **Window|Tile Horizontally** to view the Local Warehouse and Shipment window at the same time.
6. Select the *Local Warehouse* window and highlight the interviews to be shipped. You may also Select **Edit|Select All**, to select all interviews.
7. Select **Edit|Ship from Warehouse**.
8. You will see these interviews in the *Interviews to Ship* window.

Note that the status of the transferred interviews changes to *Shipped* (➔) as they are copied. Dragging and dropping between the *Local Warehouse* and *Interviews to Ship* windows will also transfer the selected interviews for shipment.

When you have finished adding cases to your Interview Shipment File, send the Shipment File (*.QTD) to your Data Coordinating Center using your preferred method (e-mail, FTP, USPS, etc.).

Receiving Data

The Data Coordinating Center will be receiving data collected at field sites. To receive data:

1. Create a new Warehouse (**File|New Warehouse**) or open a preexisting Warehouse (**File|Open Warehouse**).
2. Select **File|Open**.
3. Select the folder from the Look in box containing the Shipment File(s).
4. Select Interview Shipment Files from the Files of type box.
5. Select the Shipment Filename you would like to add.
6. Click *Open*.
7. Select **Window|Tile Horizontally** to view the *Warehouse* and *Shipment* windows at the same time.

8. From the *Shipment File* window, select the interview(s) to transfer to the Warehouse (or select **Edit|Select All** to select all interviews).
9. Select **Edit|Copy to Warehouse**.
10. Repeat steps 2-9 for additional Shipment Files.
11. Once all Shipment Files have been copied, Save **(File|Save)** and Close **(File|Close)** your Shipment and Warehouse Files.

Note that the status of the copied interviews changes to Transferred as they are copied. Dragging and dropping between the *Shipment File* and *Local Warehouse* windows will also transfer selected interviews.

Generating Receipt Files

After you have closed your Warehouse File, QDS will automatically generate a **Receipt File** for each Shipment File that you added to that Warehouse File. Each file will have the Shipment name plus the extension .QSR and will reside in the same folder as your Warehouse File.

Now, you can send the Receipt Files (*.QSR) to the data collection site at which the Shipment Files originated.

Posting Receipts

At the data collection field site, you will receive one or more Receipt Files (*.QSR). To process these:

1. Select **File|Open Warehouse** to open the local Data Warehouse.
2. Select **File|Open** to open the Receipt File.
3. Select **Shipment Receipt Files** from the Files of type box.
4. Select the Receipt File (*.QSR) to post.
5. Click *Open*.
6. Select **Window|Tile Horizontally** to view *Local Warehouse* and *Receipt* windows at the same time.
7. From the *Receipt File* window, select the interview(s) to post receipts for (or select **Edit|Select All** to select all interviews in Receipt File).
8. Select **Edit|Post Receipts**.

Note: ***The status of each corresponding interview in the Local Warehouse changes from Shipped (➔) to Transferred (✔). The status of each posted interview in the Shipment Receipt File is now Deleted (✖). Since all the cases in the Shipment Receipt File are deleted after posting, the cases are removed and the file becomes empty. For this reason, we have not included any sample .QSR files.***

Multiple Sites Example

For the *First Questionnaire* example, we initially collected baseline data at Site 1 with some automated CAPI interviews and some paper interview forms. Next, we collected baseline data at Site 2 with some automated CAPI interviews. Finally, we collected some follow-up data at Site 1. At this point in our data collection, we have decided to send our Site 1 and Site 2 baseline and follow-up data to our Data Coordinating Center for processing and some preliminary data analysis.

Local Warehouses:
First Questionnaire Site 1.QDW
First Questionnaire Site 2.QDW

Central Data Warehouse:
First Questionnaire Central.QDW

Site Data:
First Questionnaire, Site 2, 1.QAD
First Questionnaire, Site 2, 2.QAD
First Questionnaire, Site 1, 3.QAD

Shipment Files:
First Questionnaire Site 1.QTD
First Questionnaire Site 2.QTD

Warehouses after Posting Receipts:
First Questionnaire Site 1-Receipts Posted.QDW
First Questionnaire Site 2-Receipts Posted.QDW

Site 1

At Site 1, we first created a new Local Data Warehouse called *First Questionnaire Site 1.QDW*. Next, we added the following Data Files to this one Warehouse:

First Questionnaire Site 1, 1.QAD
(Data collected with CAPI at Site 1, visit 1)*

First Questionnaire Site 1, 2.QAD
(Data collected with CAPI at Site 1, visit 2)*

First Questionnaire v2 DE 101.QPD
(Data keyed from paper form using DE at Site 1 with Batch Code = 101)

First Questionnaire Site 1, 3.QAD
(Data collected with CAPI at Site 1, visit 3)*

* *Note that we renamed the .QAD files following data collection so that they would have unique names; in this case, the names reflect the site and data collection time instance.*

After the cases were transferred to the Local Warehouse, their status changed from Complete to Transferred. The data collected in CAPI formats were designated as Version #1, and data collected in Paper/Data Entry format were designated as Version #2. (The Warehouse Manager assigns version numbers based on the order in which cases are added to the Warehouse.)

Because it was the first version added to the Warehouse, Version #1 was automatically designated as the Standard Version. We then reconciled and

converted Version #2 to the Standard Version (Version #1). Because the only difference between versions was in the mode of data collection (i.e., the Specifications File was not changed between building the CAPI and the DE Control Files), the Versions were reconciled without any prompts. (See *Working With Multiple Versions.*)

Next, we created a new Shipment File, *First Questionnaire Site 1.QTD*, and selected all cases in our Local Warehouse (*First Questionnaire Site 1.QDW*) for shipment. As we transferred our Local Warehouse cases for shipping, their status changed from Complete to Shipped in *First Questionnaire Site 1.QDW*.

Finally, we sent our Shipment File, *First Questionnaire Site 1.QTD*, to our Data Coordinating Center.

Site 2

At Site 2, we initially created a new Local Data Warehouse called *First Questionnaire Site 2.QDW*. Next, we added the following Data Files to this Warehouse:

First Questionnaire Site 2, 1.QAD (Data collected with CAPI at Site 2, time 1)*

First Questionnaire Site 2, 2.QAD (Data collected with CAPI at Site 2, time 2)*

* *Note that we renamed the .QAD files following data collection so that they would have unique names; in this case, the names reflect the site and data collection time instance.*

After we transferred all cases to the Local Warehouse (*First Questionnaire Site 2.QDW*), their status changed from Complete to Transferred in the .QAD files. All these cases were in the same version.

Next, we created a new Shipment File, *First Questionnaire Site 2.QTD*, and selected all cases in our Local Warehouse for shipment. As we transferred our Local Warehouse cases for shipping, their status changed from Complete to Shipped in *First Questionnaire Site 2.QDW*.

Finally, we sent our Shipment File, *First Questionnaire Site 2.QTD*, to our Data Coordinating Center.

Data Coordinating Center

At the Data Coordinating Center, we first created a new Local Warehouse called *First Questionnaire Central.QDW*. Next, we added the following Shipment files to this one Warehouse:

First Questionnaire Site 1.QTD (Shipment File, Site 1)

First Questionnaire Site 2.QTD (Shipment File, Site 2)

After we transferred all cases in both Shipment Files to the Local Warehouse, their status changed from Complete to Transferred. All these cases were in the same version.

After we closed our Warehouse File, QDS automatically generated Receipt Files for each of our Shipment Files, named:

First Questionnaire Site 1.QSR (Shipment Receipt File, Site 1)

First Questionnaire Site 2.QSR (Shipment Receipt File, Site 2)

We sent these to the data collection field site where the Shipment Files originated.

At Site 1 and Site 2, they posted both Receipt Files. You can view the following files that show the Data Warehouses after receipts have been posted:

First Questionnaire Site 1-Receipts Posted.QDW
(Data Warehouse at Site 1 with Receipts Posted)

First Questionnaire Site 2-Receipts Posted.QDW
(Data Warehouse at Site 2 with Receipts Posted)

Note that the status of all the cases in the above files has changed from Shipped to Transferred. Again, we have not included samples of the actual Receipt Files (*.QSR), since these cases are deleted following posting, and the files become empty.

EXPORTING DATA

You may export data from your Local Warehouse to other software for data analysis at any time. It is important to keep in mind:

- **Only Standard Version cases will be exported.** It is necessary to complete any Reconciliation/Conversion prior to export. (See *Working With Multiple Versions*.)
- **All Standard Version cases will be exported.** It is not possible to select a subset for export.
- **The exported file will completely replace a previously exported file of the same name.**

To see how many cases you have ready for export, select **View|Versions**; highlight the Standard Version; and click on *Details*.

To export data, go to **File|Export Interviews** (note that this Menu item is enabled only in a Local Warehouse, not in a Source Data File). Next, choose the type of file you would like to export from the Save as type box:

SPSS System File (.SAV)

SAS Format Library Program (.XPT), which includes SAS format syntax statement file (.SAS) (Available as of QDS v2.1)

SAS Transport File (.XPT) for SAS 6.12 or SAS 8

MS Access Relational Database (.MDB)

MS Access Flat Database (.MDB)

Interviewer Comments Log (.TXT)

Type a valid Windows file name into the File Name box and click *Save*. QDS will open a dialog box that reads: *X interview(s) have been exported to C:\<filename>*, where *X* is the number of cases exported. There are additional export options for each file type. To change the default export options, click the *Options* button on the *Save As* box (See *SPSS, SAS*, and *MS Access Options).*

Exporting to SPSS

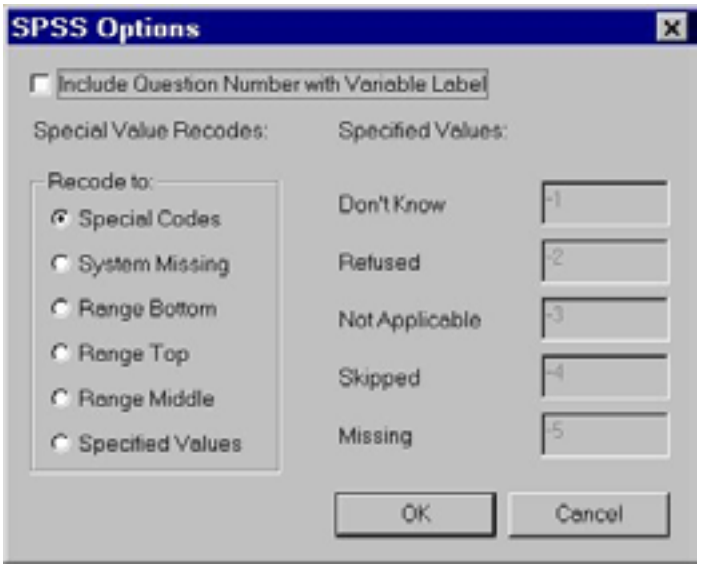
To export your data to SPSS:

1. Select File|Export Interviews.
2. Select SPSS System File (.SAV) from the Save as type drop-down box.
3. Click *Options* and make desired changes. (See *SPSS Save As Options.*)
4. Click *Save*.

A pop-up dialog box will tell you how many interviews were exported to the specified SPSS file.

SPSS Save As Options

After clicking on the *Options* button from the *Save As* box, the *SPSS Options* box will be opened. The following Label, Special Value, and Missing data options may be set on the *SPSS Options* window:



Include Question Number with Variable Label..... Check this box to include the Question Number with the Variable Label. The Question Number will be added at the beginning of the Label. (The default setting is *not checked*.)

Special Value Recodes..... To change how QDS Special Values are exported, select an option from the Special Value Recodes "Recode to" box:

Special Codes..... Select this to have all Special Responses converted to their Special Codes, as defined in the Design Studio. Special Responses include Don't Know (default = 9 … 7), Refused to Answer (default = 9 … 8), Not Applicable (default = 9 … 9), and Skipped (default = 9 … 9). (This is the default setting.)

System Missing..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to SPSS System Missing.

Range Bottom..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the minimum allowable value for the corresponding Variable, as defined in the Design Studio.

Range Top..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the maximum allowable value for the corresponding Variable, as defined in the Design Studio.

Range Middle..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the midpoint of the allowable range for the corresponding Variable, as defined in the Design Studio.

Specified Values..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the values specified in the boxes to the right. The suggested values in the boxes may be modified, with one exception: You cannot modify the specified value for 'Missing'. These data will always be exported to SPSS with a '.' value for missing.

After you have finished updating and reviewing your options, click *OK*.

Click the *Save* button to (re-)create an SPSS System File (*.SAV). Data for all Standard Version interviews will be exported. Variable Names and Labels will be included, as will Value Labels.

The sample files *First Questionnaire.SAV* and *Transport.SAV* contain data from the examples in SPSS format. Default settings were used to create these files.

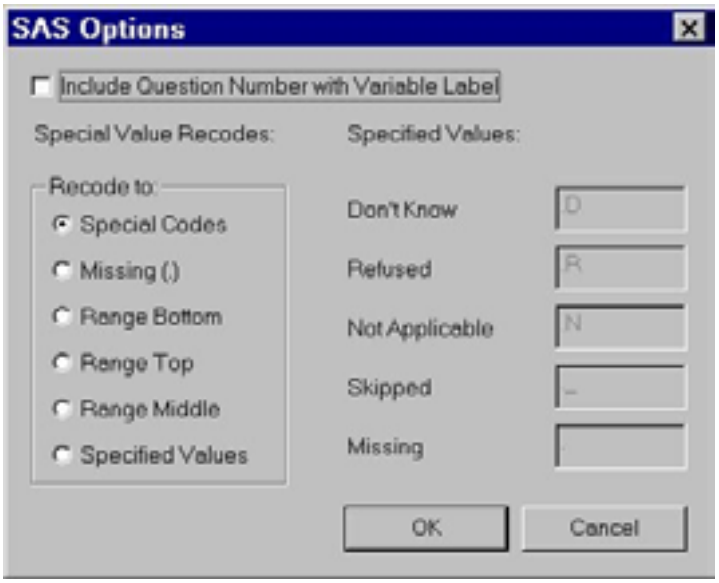
Exporting to a SAS Transport File

To export your data to SAS 6.12 or SAS 8:

1. Select **File|Export Interviews**.
2. Select *SAS Transport File (.XPT)* from the Save as type drop-down box.
3. Click *Options* and make any desired changes. (See *SAS Save As Options.*)
4. Click *Save*.

A dialog box will tell you how many interviews were exported to the specified SAS transport file.

SAS Save As Options



After clicking the *Options* button from the *Save As* box, the *SAS Options* box will open. The following Label, Special Value, and Missing Data options may be set on the *SAS Options* window:

Include Question Number with Variable Label..... Check this box to include the Question Number with the Variable Label. The Question Number will be added at the beginning of the Label. (The default setting is *not checked*.)

Special Value Recodes..... To change how QDS Special Values are exported, select an option from the Special Value Recodes, Recode to box.

Special Codes..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to their Special Codes, as defined in the Design Studio. Special Responses include Don't Know (default = 9 … 7), Refused (default = 9 … 8), Not Applicable (default = 9 … 9), and Skipped (default = 9 … 9). (This is the default setting.)

Missing (.)..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to SAS System Missing.

Range Bottom..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the minimum allowable value for the corresponding Variable, as defined in the Design Studio.

Range Top..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the maximum allowable value for the corresponding Variable, as defined in the Design Studio.

Range Middle..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the midpoint of the allowable range for the corresponding Variable, as defined in the Design Studio.

Specified Values..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the values specified in the boxes to the right. The suggested values in the boxes may be modified, with one exception: You cannot modify the specified value for 'Missing'. These data will always be exported to SAS as a '.' value for missing.

After you have finished updating and reviewing your options, click *OK*.

Click the *Save* button to (re-)create your file for export. Data for all Standard Version interviews will be copied to the file. Variable Names and labels will be included.

Note: In earlier versions of QDS, the SAS Transport File had a file extension of .STX

To load data from the Transport File into SAS, execute the .XPT formats file by double-clicking on the XPT file in Windows Explorer. SAS will start and read in the transport file. Then run the appropriate code to write out the data set to your SAS Library. The following example code uses the SAS Export engine to copy the SAS transport file (*FirstQ.XPT)* from the QDS Data folder to a Version 8 SAS data set *(FirstQ)* in the SAS library named "demolib":

```
/* Convert from Transport File to SAS data file */
libname trans xport 'c:\program files\qds 2.1\data\FirstQ.xpt';
libname demolib v8 'c:\demolib';
proc copy in=trans out=demolib;
run;
```

The sample files *FirstQ.XPT* and *Transport.XPT* contain exported data for the examples in SAS format. Default settings were used to create these files.

If the name specified in the File Name box for the SAS Transport (.XPT) file is longer than 8 characters, the generated data set name is truncated to 8 characters. For example, the SAS Transport file 'Transport.XPT' will create the SAS dataset *'Transpor.sas7bdat*. In general, it is simpler to limit SAS dataset names to 8 characters or fewer.

Exporting to SAS Format Library Program

To export a SAS Format Library Program that can be read by either SAS Version 6.12 or 8:

1. Select **File|Export Interviews**.
2. Select *SAS Format Library Program (.XPT)* from the Save as type drop-down box.
3. Change the name in the File Name dialog box to indicate that this .XPT file is the format library, to prevent writing over an existing .XPT file.
4. Click *Save*.
5. You will immediately see a second Save As dialog box with the selection *SAS Format Index Files (.SAS)* in the Save as type drop-down box.
6. Click *Save*.

A dialog box will tell you how many records were exported to the specified SAS transport file.

The **transport** or **.XPT file** contains each unique combination of Yes/No, Gender, Check-Each, Pick-One, Response Card Set, and Special Code Value Labels that were defined in the QDS Design Studio. The .XPT file can be viewed using the SAS System Viewer. The transport file is organized by streaming header records followed by data records. As such, the format library is a SAS transport data set, just like the *FirstQ.xpt* data set. It must be converted to a SAS Format Catalog from SAS.

Converting SAS Transport File to SAS Format Catalog

To load the Format Library from the Transport File into SAS, execute the .XPT Formats file by double-clicking on the filename in Windows Explorer. SAS will start and read in the Format Library. Run the appropriate code to write out the formats to your SAS Library. The following example code writes out formats from '*FirstQf.XPT,'* located in the QDS Data folder, to a format library using the CNTLIN option in the SAS Format procedure:

```
/* Convert SAS Transport File to a SAS Format Catalog */
libname demolib 'c:\demolib';
proc format library=demolib cntlin=FirstQf;
run;
```

If the name specified in the File Name box for the SAS format .XPT file is longer than 8 characters, the generated format dataset is truncated to 8 characters. For example, if the full SAS format .XPT file name was *"FirstQformats.XPT,"* the truncated name should be referenced in the code: "cntlin=FirstQfo." In general, it is simpler to limit SAS dataset names to 8 characters or fewer.

You can assign these formats to your SAS dataset using the FORMAT statement imbedded in your SAS code or as a separate operation. The .SAS syntax file generated by the Warehouse Manager contains the FORMAT statement for that format library (it was saved into the same location as the .XPT file). Format names sometimes, but not always, correspond to the variable names (see *QDS Format Program Conventions* box below). This example assigns formats to the *FirstQ* SAS dataset. Note that the appropriate library, data, and set statements were added, as well as the SAS Frequency procedure to verify the contents of the *FirstQ* data set.

```
/* Write out formats to SAS dataset*/
       libname demolib 'c:\demolib';
       data temp;
       set demolib.FirstQ;
       FORMAT
       VISIT
       VISIT.
       GENDER
       GENDER.
       RACE
       RACE.
       JOB
       FULLTIME
       JOB.
       EARLY
       EXERC
       DIET
       AGREE.
       FRUITA
       FRUITB
       FRUITC
       FRUITD
       FRUITE
       FRUITF
       FRUIT.
       SERVING
       SERVING.;

       proc freq;
       run;
```

The sample files *FirstQf.XPT* and *FirstQf.SAS* contain the exported SAS Format Library file and program in SAS format. Default settings were used to create these files. The sample file *SAS Format Convert.SAS* contains a full syntax example for importing the sample SAS data set and SAS formats.

The following SAS error message(s) sometimes occur when running the PROC FORMAT statement:

ERROR: Format name ' ' is invalid. Observation ignored

ERROR: Format name '!!!!0000' is invalid. Observation ignored

They do not cause any problems with the resulting format library and can be disregarded.

Special Code Formatting

Special Codes defined in the Design Studio for Elements will have the following formats:

Don't Know ..... "Don't Know"

Refused ..... "Refused"

Not Applicable ..... "Not Applicable"

Skipped ..... No format applied. In cases in which both Not Applicable and Skipped apply and are assigned the same numeric code in the Design Studio, the label "Not Applicable" is displayed.

Missing ..... No format applied

If the SAS *Save As Options* are changed to recode Special Values to something other than "Special Codes" (default setting), these format labels do not apply.

QDS SAS Format Program Conventions

Special Format Processing for QDS Element Types

Yes/No ..... Displays unique *Yes* and *No* labels and special codes

Gender ..... Displays unique *Male* and *Female* labels and special codes

Check Each Component ..... Displays unique check-each labels with special codes. Checked is displayed as *Yes*. Unchecked is displayed as *No*. Check Each values are grouped together. Note: Check Each composite variables do not have formats.

Pick One ..... Displays pick-one Labels and Special Codes. Pick-one values are grouped together. Pick-one Response Cards are handled in the same manner as regular pick-one variables.

Numeric Scale ..... Displays labeled numeric scale values and Special Codes. Numeric scale items are grouped together. Numeric scales not associated with a Response Card have labels for the minimum and maximum values

only; scales associated with Response Cards have labels for all points.

Automatic Variables .....Do not have formats.

Composite Variables .....Composite dates, times, and timespans do not have formats.

Text Variables.....Displays formats for special codes. Text variables with no special codes defined do not have formats.

The .SAS syntax file contains the appropriate FORMAT statement for the exported SAS Format Library.

Format Naming Conventions

In the FORMAT statement, variables with identical format values are grouped together. The format name for a group of variables will be the first one of the group. In the example below, JOB and FULLTIME are both assigned the format named JOB.

```
JOB
FULLTIME
JOB.
```

Text variables are listed last in the FORMAT statement. In keeping with SAS syntax requirements, text format names are preceded with a dollar sign ($).

If you have defined a variable in the QDS Design Studio with a name that ends in a numeric character, it will be replaced with a letter in the SAS format name as follows: 0=A, 1=B, 2=C, 3=D, 4=E, 5=F, 6=G, 7=H, 8=I, 9=J. If the designated rename would result in a duplicate format name, a new format name is created using the format “X#X,” where # is a sequential number.

Format names for Response Card items will correspond to Response Card names, with the following exceptions. If the same Response Card is used for multiple variables with different combinations of allowed Special Codes, each unique occurrence of the Response Card and corresponding Special Codes will have a separate format. The first occurrence will use the Response Card name for the format name; for each subsequent occurrence, the Format name is changed to “Z#Z,” where # is a sequential number.

For example, for the Response Card LENGTH

- The first occurrence of LENGTH is used with don't know set to 7, not applicable set to 8, and refused set to 9.
- The second occurrence of LENGTH is used with don't know and not applicable disallowed and refused set to 99.

In this situation, two Formats will be output:

LENGTH: Don’t Know=7, Not Applicable=8, Refuse to Answer=9

Z0Z: Refuse to Answer=99

If the Response Card name contains one or more dashes, the corresponding format name will include an underscore character in place of each dash in the original Response Card name.

If the first character of the Response Card name is a dash, it will be changed to the character *W* for the format name. If the Response Card name had more than eight characters, it will be truncated to eight characters. If truncating causes a duplicate Response Card format name, the Format name will be changed to "Z#Z," where # is a sequential number.

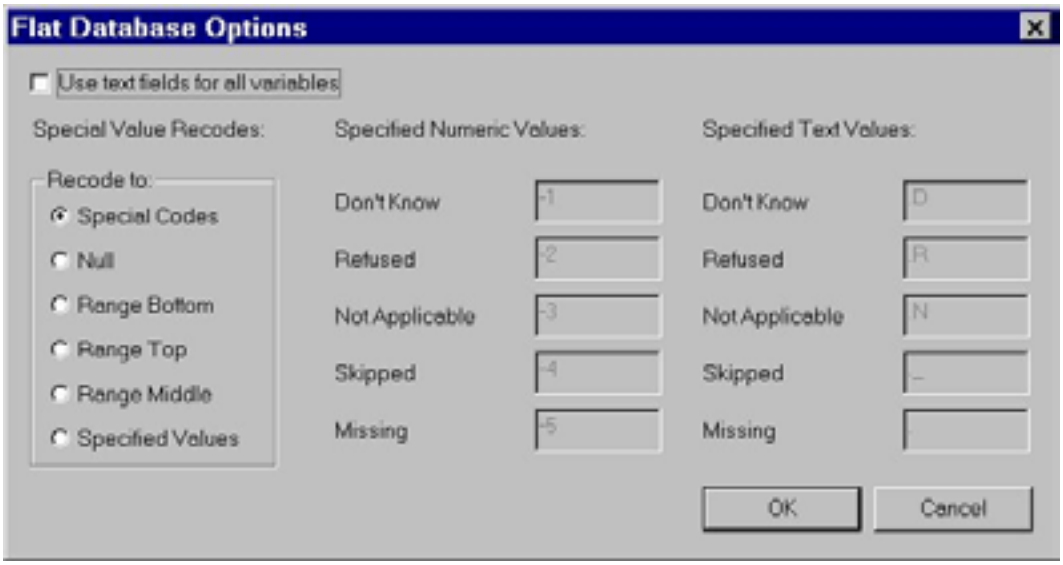
Exporting to MS Access™ Flat Database

To export to a Flat Database:

1. Select File|Export Interviews.
2. Select MS Access Flat Database (.MDB) from the Save as type box.
3. Click *Options* and make desired changes. (See *Save As Options—Flat Database.*)
4. Click *Save*.

A pop-up dialog box will tell you how many interviews were exported to the specified MS Access file. The Flat Database file will include a single Table, with one field for each Variable and one record for each interview.

Save As Options: Flat Database



After clicking on the *Options* button from the *Save As* box, the MS Access *Flat Database Options* box will open. You may set the following options regarding Labels and Special Values, including handling missing data.

Use text fields for all variables..... To create an MS Access Table with all text fields, check *Use text fields for all variables*. All coded items will be represented by their code labels rather than numeric values. (The default setting is *not checked*.)

Special Value Recodes..... To change how QDS Special Values are exported, select an option from the Special Value: Recodes, Recode to box.

Special Codes..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to their Special Codes, as defined in the Design Studio. Special Responses include Don't Know (default = 9 … 7), Refuse to Answer (default = 9 … 8), Not Applicable (default = 9 … 9), Skipped (default = 9 … 9), and (for paper interviews only) Missing (default = 9 … 9). (This is the default setting.)

Null..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to a null field.

Range Bottom..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the minimum allowable value for the corresponding Variable, as defined in the Design Studio

Range Top..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the maximum allowable value for the corresponding Variable, as defined in the Design Studio.

Range Middle..... Select to have all Special Responses converted to the midpoint of the allowable range for the corresponding Variable, as defined in the Design Studio.

Specified Values..... Select this to have all Special Responses converted to the values specified in the boxes to the right for numeric and text variables. The suggested values in the boxes may be modified.

After you have finished updating and reviewing your options, click *OK*.

Click the *Save* button to (re-)create your file for export. Data for all Standard Version interviews will be copied to the file. The export file will include a single Table with one field for each Variable and one record for each interview.

The sample file *Transport.MDB* contains the exported data for the example in MS Access format. Default settings were used to create this file.

Exporting to an MS Access™ Relational Database

To export data to a Relational Database:

1. Select File|Export Interviews.
2. Select MS Access Relational Database (.MDB) from the Save as type box.

3. Click *Options* and make desired changes, (See *Save As Options Relational Database*.)
4. Click *Save*.

A pop-up dialog box will indicate how many interviews were exported. The Relational Database export format may include the following six Access Tables:

Question ..... The Number, Text, and Response Type of each question

Variable ..... The Name, Label, and Value Type of each Variable

Interview ..... Identifying characteristics for each collected interview (Start Time, End Time, Subject ID, Language, etc.)

Value ..... The value of each Variable for each interview (optional)

Comments ..... Interviewer comments (optional)

Hits ..... The number of times each question was encountered and the total amount of time, in seconds, spent on each item (optional)

The Tables are linked by identifiers created by the Warehouse Manager (QuestionID, VariableID, and InterviewID). The identifier values are arbitrary and may change with each export. They serve only to link related information within a single export file.

The Value Table uses five fields to express the value of a Variable:

Value Set ..... A code indicating whether a value has been set and the type of value

Value	A single, normal response value was entered.
DK	The special value Don't Know was entered.
Refused	The special value Refuse to Answer was entered.
NA	The special value Not Applicable was entered.
Skipped	This Variable was skipped by a branching instruction.
Empty	This Variable was never reached or was not in the source version.

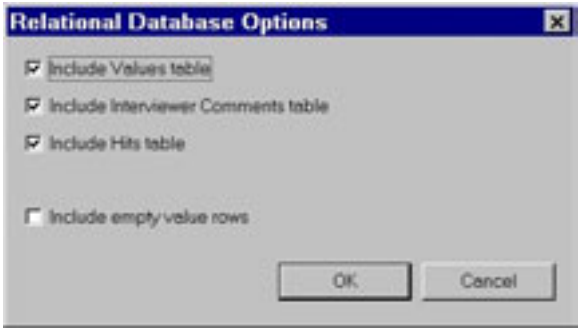
Numeric Code ..... The numeric value or code representing this response

Text Display ..... A text description/display of this response

Range Bottom ..... The lower limit of the QDS range for this value

Range Top ..... The upper limit of the QDS range for this value

Save As Options: Relational Database



After selecting MS Access Relational Database from the *Save As* box, the *Options* box will open. The following options may be set:

Include Values table ..... Check to include a Table of data responses entered for each question of each interview. (The default setting is c*hecked*.)

Include Interviewer Comments ..... Check to include a Table of interviewer comments entered for each interview. (The default setting is *checked*.)

Include Hits table ..... Check to include a Table showing the number of times each question was encountered and the total number of seconds spent on it for each automated interview. A question may be encountered more than once through the use of the Previous Question button or via loop-backs triggered by edit checks. (The default setting is c*hecked*.)

Include empty value rows ..... Check to include a row in each Values, Comments, and Hits Table for questions that were never reached during an interview. If this box is not checked, empty rows will be excluded. (The default setting is *not checked*.)

The sample file *First Questionnaire.MDB* contains the exported data for the example. The default settings were used to create this file.

Exporting the Interviewer Comments Log

If you would like to export your Interview Comments (see Interviewer Comment*s* under *Administering Your Form and Entering Data*).

1. Go to File|Export Interviews.
2. Select Interviewer Comments Log (*.TXT) from the Save as type box.
3. Click *Save*.

A dialog box will indicate how many records contained comments and were exported to the specified text file.

QDS Default Settings

Most QDS users (both beginner and advanced) will find they can keep the QDS default settings. However, QDS does allow you to change default settings both for Elements you have not yet entered and for preexisting Elements.

Changing Data Defaults for New Elements

To change preset data defaults for new Elements (i.e., Elements that have not yet been inserted into your Specifications File):

1. Select **Options|Data Defaults**.
2. Locate the options you would like to change and make desired changes.
3. Click *OK*.

The Data Default settings tell QDS what values/options to use when adding new Elements to your form; changing these default values will *not* change the specifications for any existing Data Elements.

There are eleven tabs under **Options|Data Defaults**:

Data Elements

Styles

Standard Codes

Numbers

Text

Dates

Times

Time Spans

Special Codes

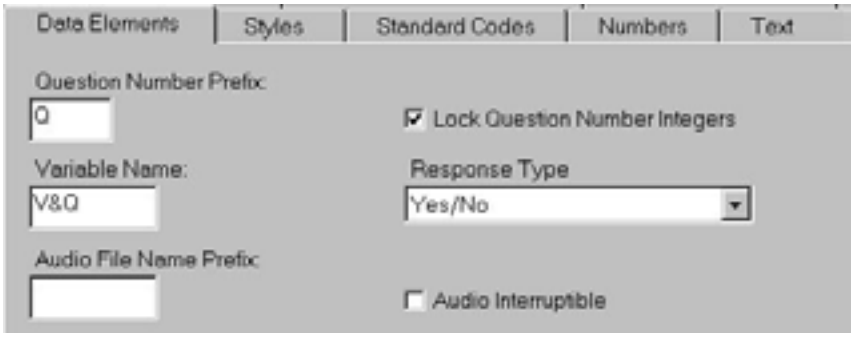
Branching

Calculations

On each tab, change the QDS preset defaults using the drop-down, check, and text boxes. Right-click on an option to bring up the *What's This* Help box for additional information about each default setting.

Tab options are as follows:

Data Elements



Question Number Prefix..... Enter the default Question Number Prefix for all Data Elements. The Prefix is a short string—e.g., Q, to precede the Integer component of each automatically generated Question Number. This prefix may be reset by a Section Header Element.

Variable Name..... Enter a default Variable Name to be used for new Data Elements. A Variable Name must begin with a letter, be no longer than 8 characters, and contain only letters, digits, underscore characters, or Substitution Tokens. The Substitution Tokens allowed in a Variable Name are:

&Q..... Question Number

&P ..... Question Number Prefix

&N..... Question Number Integer

&S ..... Question Number Suffix

&C..... Table Category Suffix

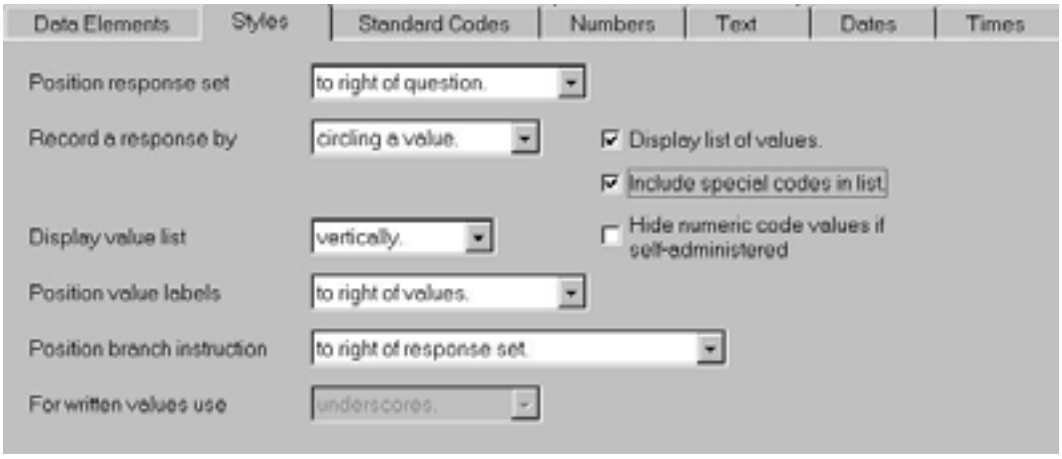
Audio File Name Prefix..... Enter a File Name Prefix to be used by QDS to create filenames for manually recorded audio (WAV) files. The prefix must be a single letter. A unique integer will be appended to this prefix by the Audio Files tool in the Design Studio.

Lock Question Number Integers... Check this box to prevent QDS from automatically changing any Question Number integers. For example, this option allows you to delete a question without changing the Question Numbers for subsequent questions. (Note: This feature will be implemented in a future release.)

Response Type..... Select a Response Type to use as the default for new Data Elements. Press the down arrow (▾) to display the possible choices. Highlight the appropriate selection.

Audio Interruptible..... Check this box to allow the Subject/Respondent to interrupt Audio Files by responding before the file has finished playing.

Styles



Position response set..... Indicate whether response items should be placed below the text of the question or to the right of the question for paper questionnaires.

Record a response by ..... Indicate whether code responses should be recorded by circling one of a list of possible codes or by writing the code value in a space provided for paper questionnaires.

Display value list..... Indicate whether code lists should be presented vertically or horizontally for paper questionnaires.

Position value labels ..... Indicate whether the labels should be displayed to the left, right, or above of the corresponding values. (Applicable only when Display list of values is checked.)

Position branch instruction..... Indicate whether branching instructions should be placed to the left or right of the code or in a footnote below the question. (Applicable only when a response code has a branching instruction associated with it [e.g., branch if Yes].)

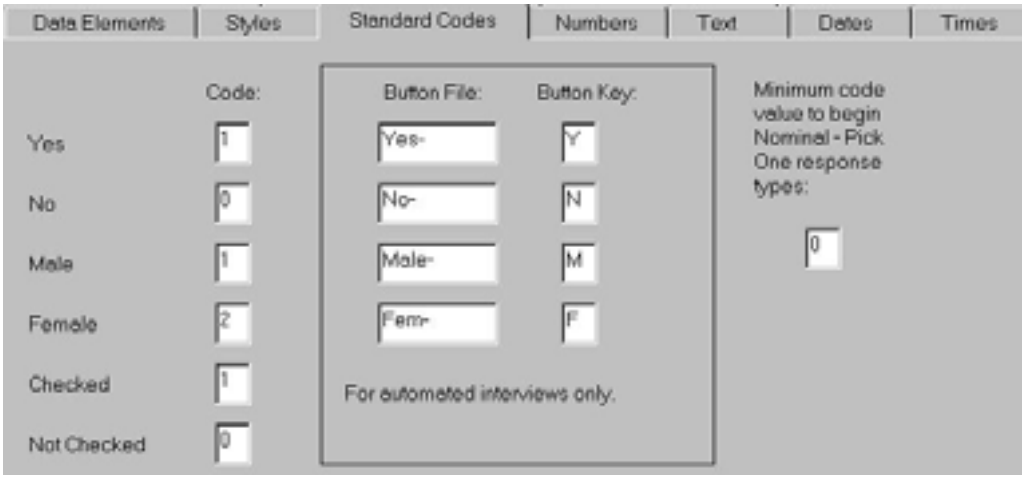
For written values use..... When a response is recorded by writing the value, indicate whether the space for recording digits should be displayed as underscores (__ __ __), three-sided boxes (|__|__|__|), or four-sided boxes(☐☐☐).

Display list of values ..... If responses will be recorded by circling a code, the numeric value associated with each code may be omitted from the paper questionnaire. Check here to include numeric values.

Include special codes in list..... If responses will be recorded by circling a code, the Special Codes (Don't Know, Refused to Answer, Not Applicable) may be omitted from the paper questionnaire. Check here to include Special Codes.

Hide numeric code values ..... For a self-administered interview, you may not want the respondent to see the numeric values assigned to code categories. Click here to hide numeric values.

Standard Codes



Code..... Enter defaults for Yes/No, Gender, and Check-All questions.

Button File..... To use the standard Yes/No, Male/Female bitmaps, leave the default settings as is. To use a nonstandard picture, provide a set of bitmap files and enter the appropriate filename (excluding the final letter) in this field. (See *Creating Bitmap Buttons* for more information.)

Button Key ..... Determines keyboard shortcuts that may be assigned to Yes/No and Male/Female Buttons for automated interviews. For instance, the default setting **Y** for Yes allows the interviewer to type the letter **Y** to select the Yes button.

Minimum Code..... Determines the code assigned to the first category in Nominal Pick-One Response Sets.

Numbers

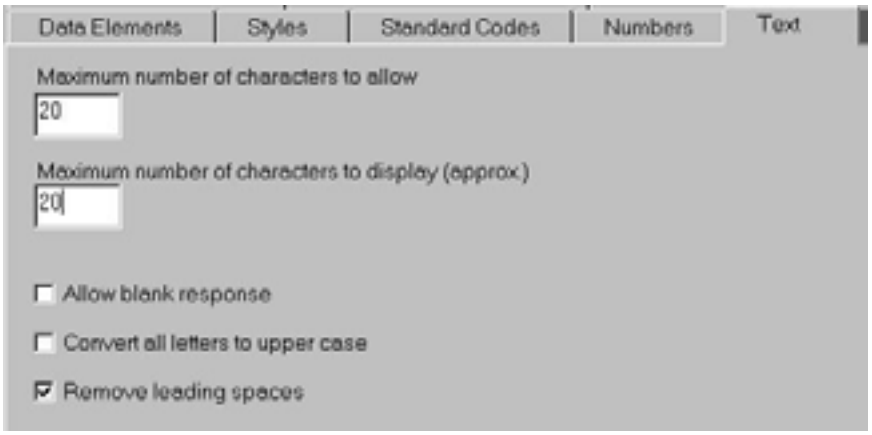
Decimal places ..... Enter the number of decimal places (digits after the decimal point) to be used as the default for each numeric Data Element. If most numeric Data Elements will be integers, enter zero.

Allowable range..... Enter the value to be used as the default minimum value for each numeric Data Element. Special Code values (e.g., the code for Don't Know) should lie outside the allowable range.

Enforce range..... This box is to set the default range-checking of numeric values to disallow any value outside the allowable range. If the range is not enforced, a warning will be issued for out-of-range values, but they will be allowed.

Use keypad for ACASI..... For Audio-CASI interviews, numeric responses may be entered using a Spin Control or keypad. With a Spin Control, the respondent presses buttons to increase or decrease the displayed value until it is correct. With a keypad, the respondent presses digit buttons on a keypad display to enter the value.

Text



# of characters to allow..... Enter the size, in number of characters, of the longest text response to be allowed. Responses longer than this limit will be truncated in the Data File.

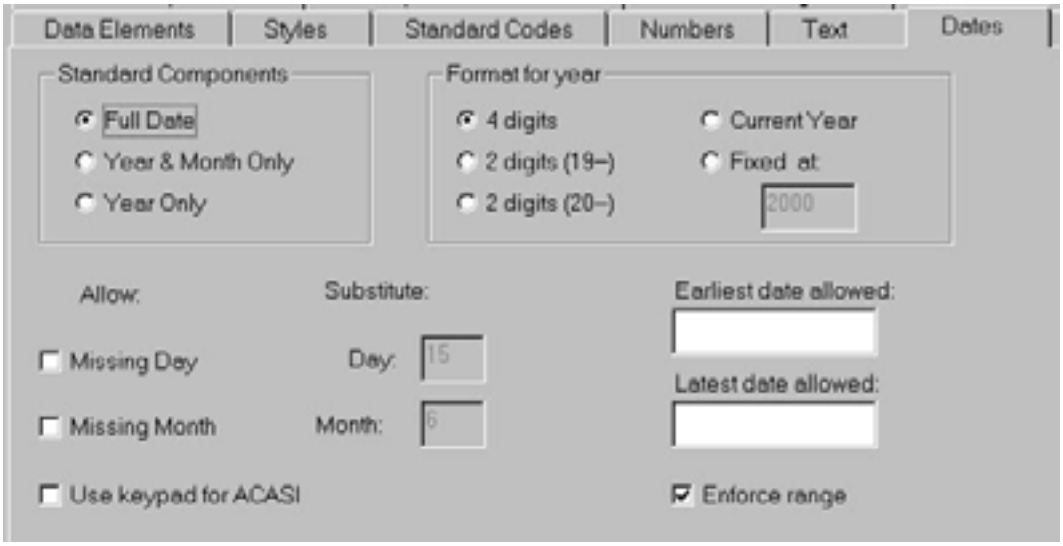
# of characters to display..... Enter the approximate size, in number of characters, of the longest text response to be displayed on the screen. Responses longer than this limit will be scrolled. The size is approximate because the width of an average-sized character will be used to determine size of the display field.

Allow blank response..... Check this box if most text fields are optional.

Upper case..... Check this box to force all entered text to be converted to upper case.

Remove leading spaces..... Check this box to automatically remove blank spaces from the beginning of text responses.

Dates



Standard Components ..... All Date Elements must include at least the year. Optionally, they may also include the month or month and day. Select Full Date if date Elements usually include the year, month and day.

Format for year ..... The year component of the date may be a 2-digit, 4-digit, current year or other fixed year. 2-digit years must all fall within the same century (19xx or 20xx). If the years for most dates are likely to span more than one century, select 4 digits for the format.

Allow Missing Day ..... Check this box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with an incomplete date that is missing the day of the month.

Substitute (Missing Day) ..... Enter the default value to be substituted for the day component of the date when the day is not provided (e.g., 15). This should be an allowable value (1-28) for all months so that the full date will be valid for analysis.

Allow Missing Month ..... Check this box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with an incomplete date that is missing the month.

Substitute (Missing Month) ..... Enter the default value to be substituted for the month component of the date, when the month is not provided (e.g., 6). This should be an allowable value (1-12) so that the full date will be valid for analysis.

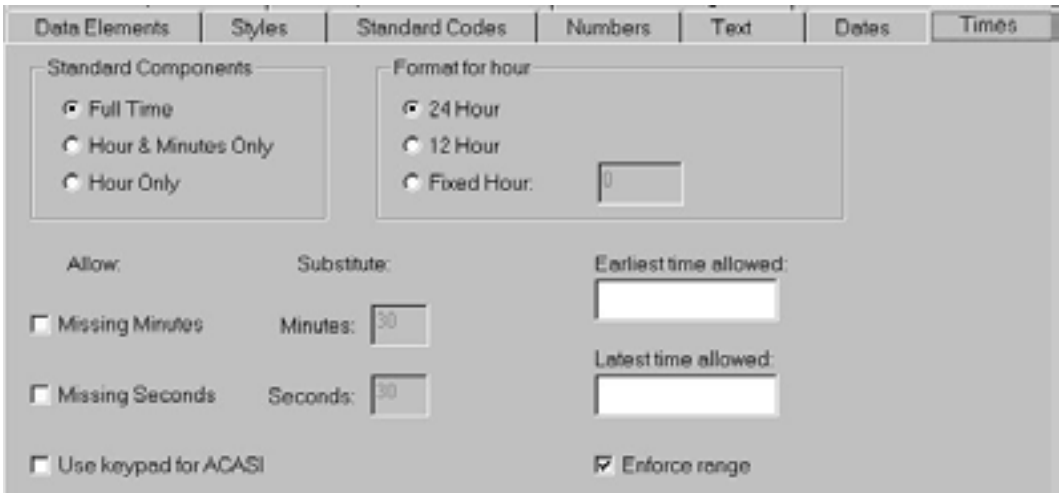
Use keypad for ACASI ..... For ACASI interviews, date components may be presented as Spin Controls, where the respondent presses buttons to increase or decrease each component to the correct value, or with a numeric keypads, where the respondent presses digit buttons on a keypad display to enter the value. Select Use keypad for ACASI to provide keypad rather than Spin Controls as the default for date Elements.

Earliest date allowed ..... Enter the earliest allowable date to be used as the default for date Elements. You may leave this field blank for no minimum date, or enter CURRENT to make the earliest allowable date the date of the interview.

Latest date allowed ..... Enter the latest allowable date to be used as the default for date Elements. You may leave this field blank for no maximum date, or enter CURRENT to make the latest allowable date the date of the interview.

Enforce range ..... Check this box to prevent a date outside the allowable range for a Data Element to be entered. If this box is not checked, a warning will be issued for out-of-range dates, but they will be allowed.

Times



Standard Components ..... All Time Elements must include at least the hour. Optionally, they may also include the minute(s) or minute(s) and second(s). Select Full Time if most Time Elements will include the hour, minute, and second.

Format for hour ..... The hour component of the time may be entered using a 12-hour clock (with an a.m./p.m. indicator) or a 24-hour clock. (With a 24-hour clock, 1:00 p.m. is represented by 13:00.)

Allow Missing Minutes ..... Check this box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with incomplete times that are missing the minute.

Substitute (Missing Minutes) ..... Enter the value to be substituted for the minutes component of the time when the minute is not provided (e.g., 30). This should be an allowable value (0-59) so that the full time will be valid for analysis.

Allow Missing Seconds ..... Check this box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with incomplete times that are missing the second.

Substitute (Missing Seconds) ..... Enter the value to be substituted for the seconds component of the time when the second is not provided (e.g., 30). This should be an allowable value (0-59) so that the full time will be valid for analysis.

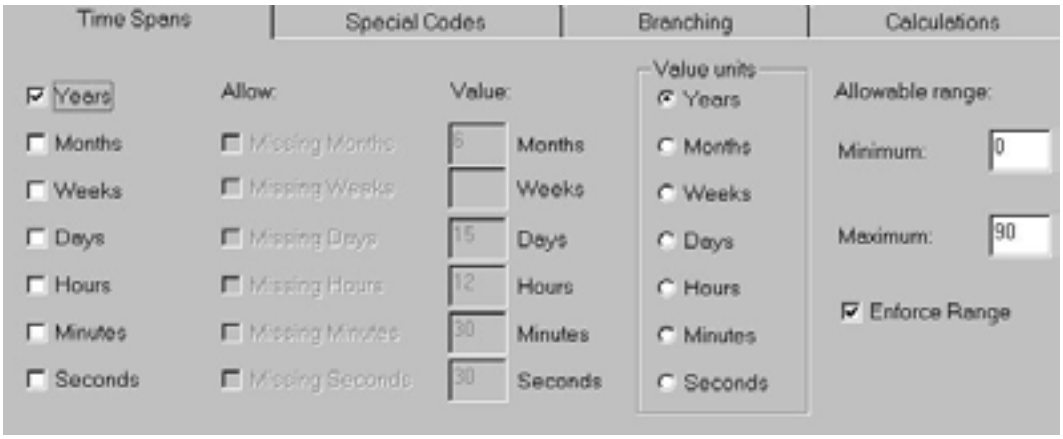
Use keypad for ACASI ..... For ACASI interviews, the time of day components are generally presented as Spin Controls, where the respondent presses buttons to increase or decrease each component to the correct value. An alternate entry method uses a separate keypad field for each component, where the respondent presses digit buttons on a keypad display to enter the value. Select Use keypad for ACASI to provide keypad rather than Spin Controls for Time Elements.

Earliest time allowed ..... Enter the default minimum value for Time Elements. You may leave this field blank for no minimum time or enter CURRENT to make the earliest allowable time the time of day at that point in the interview.

Latest time allowed ..... Enter the default maximum value for Time Elements. You may leave this field blank for no maximum time or enter CURRENT to make the latest allowable time the time of day at that point in the interview.

Enforce range ..... Check this box to prevent a time outside the allowable range (0-59) for a Data Element to be entered. If this box is not checked, a warning will be issued for out-of-range times, but they will be allowed.

Time Spans



Units of Time ..... Check one to three units of time to be used in expressing timespans. The respondent will be asked to express the length of time using one or more of the selected units—e.g., 3 years and 6 months.

Allow Missing <unit> ..... Check this box if the respondent will be allowed to answer with an incomplete timespan that is missing the number of <unit>. This option applies only if <unit> is one of the selected subunits and not the longest selected unit.

Value for Missing <unit> ..... Enter the value to be substituted for the <unit> component of the timespan when not provided.

Value units ..... Select the units to be used to express the combined components of timespan Elements. This must be one of the units of time that are allowed. If the selected Value units are not the shortest of the allowed units of time, there may be a fractional value to be truncated or rounded.

Minimum Allowable Value..... Enter the shortest timespan value (in the chosen Value units) to be the default minimum for a valid response.

Maximum Allowable Value..... Enter the longest timespan value (in the chosen Value units) to be the default maximum for valid response.

Enforce Range ..... Check this box to prevent a span outside the allowable range for a Data Element to be entered. If this box is not checked, a warning will be issued for out-of-range timespans, but they will be allowed.

Special Codes

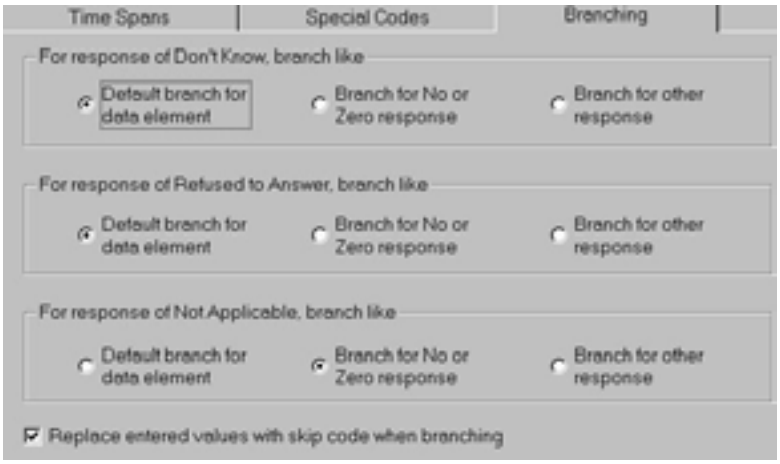
Allow Special Code ..... Check this box if the specified Special Code will be an allowable response for most questions.

Code Pattern ..... Enter the code pattern to be used by QDS to construct special values to indicate responses for each allowable Special Code. Using this pattern, QDS can construct a specific numeric value for a numeric Data Element with any number of digits.

Year Value ..... Enter the special value to be used for a Date Element. This value should be outside the normal allowable range for years to clearly indicate a missing value (e.g., 2097).

Hour Value..... Enter the special value to be used for a Time-of-Day Element. This value should be outside the normal allowable range for hours (0-24) to clearly indicate a missing value (e.g., 97).

Branching



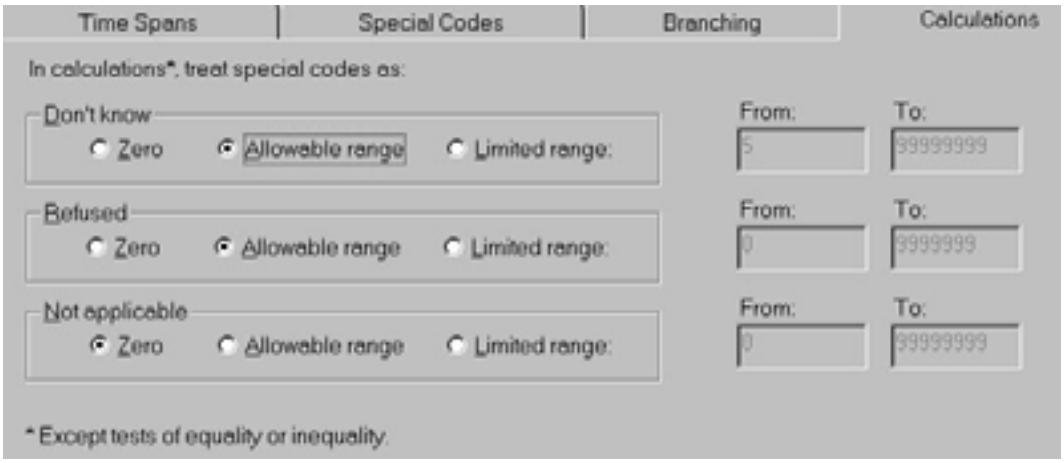
If Don't Know … ..... Select this choice if you generally do not want to branch out of the normal sequence after a response of Don't Know. This choice can be overridden for individual Data Elements.

If Refused … ..... Select this choice if you generally do not want to branch out of the normal sequence after a response of Refused. This choice can be overridden for individual Data Elements.

If Not Applicable … ..... Select this choice if you generally do not want to branch out of the normal sequence after a response of Not Applicable. This choice can be overridden for individual Data Elements.

Replace entered values … ..... When a response is changed by the respondent or data entry operator, it can affect the branching paths that follow. For example, it is possible that questions that were previously applicable (and asked/answered) should now be skipped. Check this box if you would like previously entered values to be replaced by a skip code. Leave this box unchecked to retain prior values. The setting on this tab sets the default for Skip Elements and Build Options.

Calculations



Treat as Zero..... Select this choice if you generally want to substitute a value of zero for a Don't Know response when performing an interim calculation. This choice can be overridden for individual Data Elements.

Treat as Allowable range ..... Select this choice if you generally do not want to substitute any value for a Don't Know response when performing an interim calculation. This choice can be overridden for individual Data Elements.

Treat as Limited range..... Select this choice if you want to substitute a specified value or limited range for a Not Applicable response when performing an interim calculation. The specified range is entered in the box to the right. To specify an exact value, enter that value in both the From and To boxes.

Changing Data Defaults for Preexisting Elements

To change data defaults for existing specifications:

1. Make the change(s) to the Data Defaults as described above.
2. Select **Tools|Global Changes**.
3. Check any categories for which you wish to apply the revised data defaults.

This will change the settings for ***all*** Elements in the Specifications File. Any Elements using settings other than the new default will need to be reset manually.

4. Click *OK*.

Right-click on an option to view *What's This* help for additional information about each default setting.

SUBSTITUTION TOKENS

Sometimes, you may want to display the response to an earlier question or the result of a calculation. QDS allows you to do this through the use of **Substitution Tokens.** Substitution Tokens may be used in Data Element question text, Information Element text, and Edit Element instructions.

Substitution Tokens are required within QDS Tables. (See the next section, *Tables*, for more information.)

Substitution Token Syntax

A Substitution Token always begins with an ampersand (&); this indicates to QDS that a substitution needs to be made. The following are valid Substitution Tokens:

&Q .....Inserts the **Question Number** for the current Data Element

&P.....Inserts the **Question Number Prefix** for the current Data Element

&N.....Inserts the **Question Number Integer** for the current Data Element

&S.....Inserts the **Question Number Suffix** for the current Data Element

&C.....Inserts the **Table Category Suffix** for the current Data Element

&LBL .....Inserts the **Table Category Label** for the current Data Element

&TXT .....Inserts the **Table Category Text** for the current Data Element

&ALT .....Inserts the **Table Category Alternate Text** for the current Data Element

&[*Variable Name*] .....Inserts the **Value** of a Variable, where the Variable Name is entered within square brackets. For example, to substitute the value for Variable VAR, you would enter &[VAR]

Using Substitution Tokens With CAPI/ACASI

You can use Substitution Tokens to customize your questions for automated interviews. For example, you may want to ask some questions about a particular person whom the respondent has already named—e.g., best friend Sarah.

How long have you known this person?

Using Substitution Tokens, you can insert the name. In the Data Element Question Text, include a Substitution Token for the Variable used to collect the friend's name (FRIEND):

How long have you known &[FRIEND]?

When the automated interview is run, the question will appear as:

How long have you known Sarah?

In the sample file *Displaying Values.QDS*, we asked our respondents how long they have been friends with their best friend. First, we added the Data Element for the question: *Who is your best friend?* with a Response Type of *Text* and a Variable Name of FRIEND. The question text for the next Data Element is entered as follows:

How long have you been friends with &[FRIEND]?

The Substitution Token &[FRIEND] inserts the value of the Data Element FRIEND into the question during an automated interview. For example, if the respondent had entered *Joe* as the name of his or her best friend, this question would be displayed as:

How long have you been friends with Joe?

You can build a CAPI or ACASI Control File from the *Displaying Values.QDS* Specifications File to view the results on screen.

Note: In a Paper Questionnaire, this question would be written as:

How long have you been friends with [Response to Q3]?

TABLES

Understanding Table Elements

Table Elements are used for questions that will be repeated for each of a set of categories. For example, if you want to ask a series of questions for each of several categories (clothing, books, furniture, etc.):

Have you bought any *clothing* in the past 6 months?
Were any of those *clothing* purchased over the Internet?
How satisfied have you been with *clothing* purchased over the Internet?
Would you purchase *clothing* over the Internet again?

Have you bought any *books* in the past 6 months?
Were any of those *books* purchased over the Internet?
How satisfied have you been with *books* purchased over the Internet?
Would you purchase *books* over the Internet again?

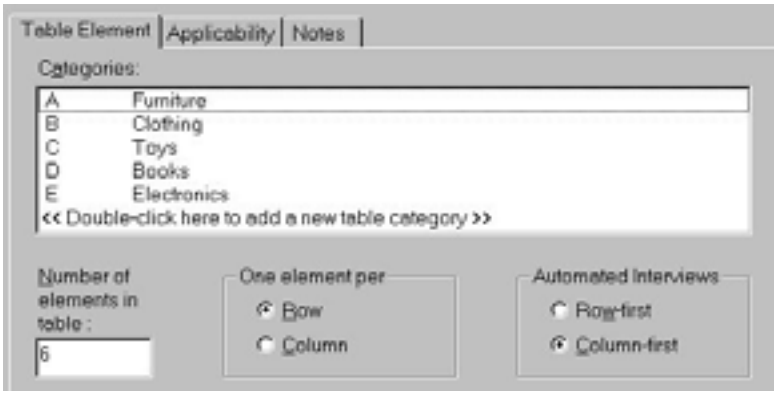
—it would be nice *not* to have to write out each question *x* times (once for each category). This is exactly what a **Table Element** does.

QDS Tables are composed of **Categories** and **Elements**. **Categories** represent the categories for which the questions will be repeated (in the example above, the categories are clothing, books, etc.). **Elements** represent the questions—Data Elements—to be asked for each category.

Note: Table Elements may also include Skip Elements.

In other words, instead of having to create separate Data Elements for "*Have you bought any clothing in the past 6 months?"* and *"Have you bought any books in the past 6 months?"* you can create a single Data Element: *"Have you bought any <category> in the past 6 months?"* QDS automatically generates the appropriate questions and separate Variables for the list of categories. As of version 2.1, QDS Tables are limited to 26 categories and 100 elements (previous versions had a limit of 25 categories and 32 elements).

The first step in defining a QDS Table is to insert a Table Element. By specifying the list of categories and number of Elements, the Table Element defines the Table structure.



In the shopping example, the categories are:

Furniture; Clothing; Toys; Books; Electronics

The second step is to insert the Table Elements. These may include Data Elements, Edit Elements, and Skip Elements.

In the shopping example, the **Elements** are:

Have you bought any _____ in the past 6 months?

If No, go to next category (skip next three questions)

Were any of those _____ purchased over the Internet?

If No, go to next category (skip next two questions)

How satisfied have you been with _____ purchased over the Internet?

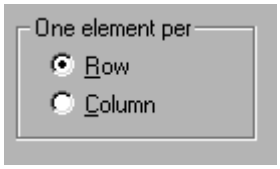
0=Not at all satisfied; 1=Somewhat satisfied; 2=Completely satisfied

Would you purchase _____ over the Internet again?

Inserting a Table Element

To add a Table Element:

1. Select **Edit|Insert**.
2. Select the Element Type *Table*.
3. Click *OK*.
4. Enter the Number of elements in Table in that box. The shopping example includes 6 Elements (4 questions plus 2 skip instructions). Remember to include *all* Elements (i.e., not just Data Elements) in your count. You can change this number at any time.
5. Designate whether each Element represents a row or column of the Table. This setting determines how the Table will be printed for paper forms. The sample questionnaire has one Element per row.



6. Choose the appropriate button from the Automated Interviews box. This setting determines whether Elements will be processed by: (a) completing the top row first; or (b) completing the left column first. The sample questionnaire uses the Column-first setting.

The settings for the One element per and Automated Interviews options will determine whether all Elements for each Category will be processed before moving to the next Category, or if a single Element will be processed for all categories before moving to the next Element.

If you plan to use a Skip Element in your Table, you ***must*** use one of the following setups on the *Table Element* tab:

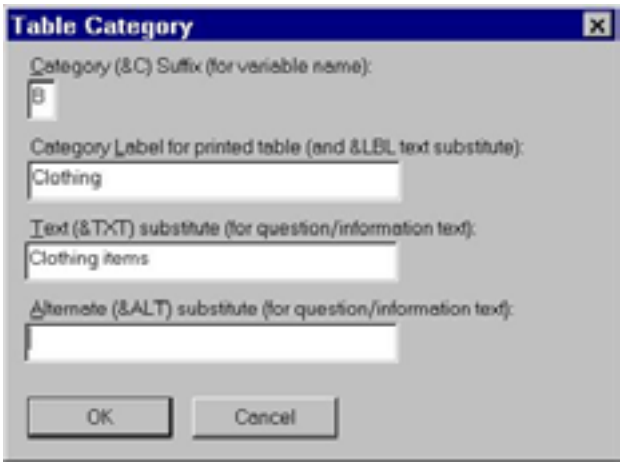
One element per Row, Automated Interviews: Column-First *(default)*

One element per Column, Automated Interviews: Row-First

7. Enter Table Categories (see *Defining Categories*).
8. Click *OK* on the *Table Element* tab.

Defining Categories

All of the information used for the required Substitution Tokens listed above is entered as part of the Table definition. Each Category definition includes a Category Suffix and Label and two text substitutions (descriptions). Each time a new Category is added, the *Table Category* window appears, allowing Category definition information to be entered.



Category(&C) Suffix..... The Category Suffix is a single letter that will be appended to the Variable Name for each Element in a Table. This will associate the Variable with the current Category. For instance, in the example above, any Variable ending in *B* would correspond to the Clothing Category. By default, the first Category will start with *A*; the second *B*; etc. You may accept the default suffix or type in a different letter. For example, a Variable Name entered as EVER&C would be written out as EVERA for the first Category, EVERB for the second, etc.

Category Label (&LBL)..... Enter a description of the Category. This information will be used for the Table on paper questionnaires. This text may also be inserted into the wording of questions or information

presented for this Category in an automated interview or into Variable Labels for this Category. To insert this text, use the &LBL Substitution Token. For example, a label entered as *&LBL purchased on the Internet* would be written out as *Clothing purchase on the Internet, Toys purchased on the Internet,* etc.

Text (&TXT) Substitute ..... Enter a description of the Category. This text may also be inserted into the wording of questions or information presented for this Category in an automated interview or into Variable Labels for this Category. To insert this text, use the &TXT Substitution Token. For example, a Question entered as *Have you purchased any &TXT in the last 6 months?* would be written out as *Have you purchased any clothing in the last 6 months?; Have you purchased any toys in the last 6 months?;* etc.

Alternate (&ALT) substitute ..... Enter an alternate description of the Category (optional). This text may also be inserted into the wording of questions or information presented for this Category in an automated interview or into Variable Labels for this Category. To insert this text, use the &ALT Substitution Token. The &ALT token is used in the same manner as the &TXT token. It is useful when you want to refer to a single Category in multiple ways—e.g., *Marijuana* and *Pot*.

If the Category description is too long to fit in the &TXT box, you can split the Category text between the &TXT and &ALT fields.

Enter the first portion of the Category description into the &TXT field and the remainder in the &ALT field. Include appropriate spaces within and/or between fields so that the two fields form a continuous string.

In the question text, enter &TXT&ALT (with no spaces in between) as the Category substitution. ***Omitting the space between &TXT and &ALT avoids having an extra space for categories that do not include &ALT text.***

Inserting Data Elements Within a Table

Substitution Tokens in Tables

As mentioned in the section on Substitution Tokens, several Substitution Tokens are reserved for use within Tables:

&C	**Table Category Suffix (&C)**
&LBL	**Table Category Label (&LBL)**

&TXT **Table Category Text (&TXT)**

&ALT **Table Category Alternate Text (&ALT)**

These Substitution Tokens are reserved for use within Tables and are in some cases required. Every Data Element within a Table is subject to the following requirements:

Question Text must include a Category description (&TXT, &ALT, or &LBL).

Variable Name must include the Category Suffix (&C).

Question Suffix must include the Category Suffix (&C).

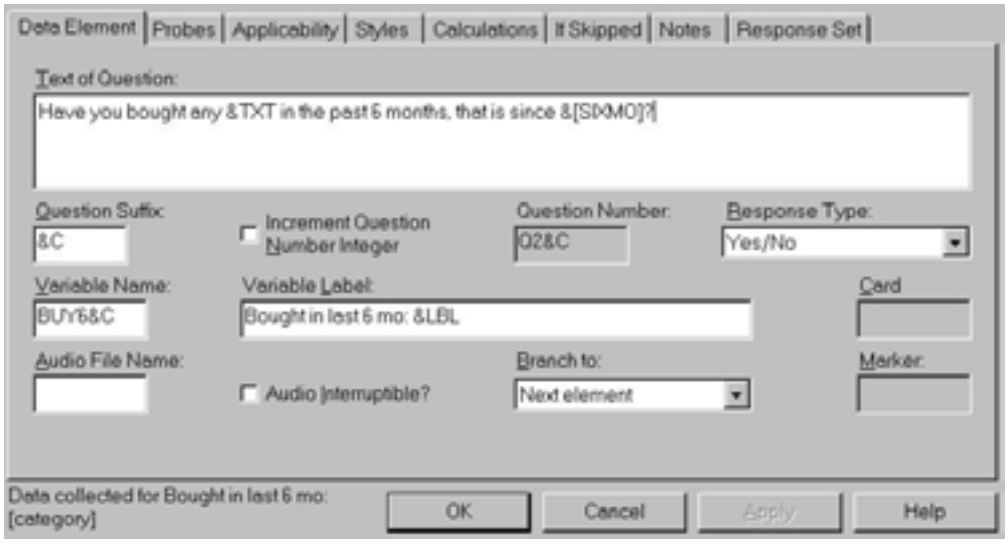
Failure to meet these requirements will result in a validation error. It is recommended, but not required, that a Category description (&TXT, &ALT, or &LBL) be included in the Variable Label.

Adding a Data Element

Data Elements within a Table are inserted and defined in the same manner as Data Elements outside a Table. The only additional requirement is that Data Elements within a Table include the required Substitution Tokens discussed above.

To insert a Data Element within a Table:

1. Select **Edit|Insert** and choose *Data Element*.
2. Enter the **Data Element** information, including the required Substitution Tokens. The screen shot below shows one of the Data Elements from the sample Table. *Note: &[SIXMO] is a Substitution Token for a Variable outside the Table.* ***You may not use Variables from the current Table as part of a Substitution Token in a Table Element.***



Sample Table1.QDS contains the shopping example.

Excluding Categories From Tables

By default, QDS will ask all questions for each Category. If you would like to skip certain questions for one or more categories, this can be specified on the Data Element *Applicability* tab. You may specify that a given question be applicable for all questions *except* the one(s) listed, or that it be applicable *only* for the question(s) listed.

All Table Categories ..... The Element is applicable for all Table categories (default).

Exclude from categories ..... The Element is not included for all categories of the Table, and you prefer to list the categories for which this Element is *excluded*. In the box below this item, list the categories to which this Element does *not* apply.

Include only in categories..... The Element is not included for all categories and you prefer to list the categories for which this Element is *included*. In the box below this item, list the categories to which this Element applies.

Variable Names in Tables

Separate Variables are created and output for each Data Element for each Category. The Category Suffix (&C) is appended to the Data Element Variable Name to produce a unique Variable Name for each Category.

In the example Table, the question *Have you bought any &TXT in the past 6 months, that is since &[SIXMO]?* is assigned the Variable Name BUY6&C. The resulting Variables and names for this Data Element are:

Variable Name (Data Element Tab)	Category Label	Category Suffix	Name in Data set
BUY6&C	Furniture	A	BUY6A
BUY6&C	Clothing	B	BUY6B
BUY6&C	Toys	C	BUY6C
BUY6&C	Books	D	BUY6D
BUY6&C	Electronics	E	BUY6E

Question Numbering in Tables

Similar to Variable Names, the Category Suffix (&C) is appended to the Question number to produce a number for each Category.

In the Table example, the question: (Q2) *Have you bought any &TXT in the past 6 months, that is since &[SIXMO]?* has the resulting question numbers.

Data Element Question Number	Category Label	Category Suffix	Final Question Number
Q2	Furniture	A	Q2A
Q2	Clothing	B	Q2B
Q2	Toys	C	Q2C
Q2	Books	D	Q2D
Q2	Electronics	E	Q2E

Skips Within Tables

As with Data Elements, Skip Elements within a Table work in the same manner as Skip Elements elsewhere in your Specifications File. However, Table Variables referenced in a Table Skip Element must include the &C Category Suffix. For example:

If* ..... NET&C=0

Branch to ..... Skip 2 Elements

This causes the test to be evaluated based on the value of NET&C for the *current* category. For example, during the first pass through the Table (i.e., for category A), the test will be evaluated using the Variable NETA. For the second pass (i.e., for category B), the condition will be evaluated based on the value of the Variable NETB.

Tables that include skips to destinations within the Table must use a row/column or column/row setup.

Skip Elements within Tables may only skip to a Marker *outside* the Table if the Marker is the *first* Element outside the Table (i.e., the Element immediately following the last Table Element in the Design Studio list view).

NEXTCAT

QDS contains one special system-defined Marker called NEXTCAT. This Marker is reserved for use within Tables and is used to generate an instruction to skip all remaining Elements for the current category and go directly to the next category. This is useful when your Table includes a lead-in question (e.g., Have you ever *x*?) and follow-up questions to which the follow-up questions are relevant only if the respondent answered **Yes** to the lead-in. In this type of situation, you will want to skip all the follow-up questions if the response to the lead-in is **No.**

Because it is a system-defined Element**, *you do not need to add a Marker Element named NEXTCAT.*** NEXTCAT can be used only with Skip Elements; it cannot be used as a part of branching instructions on the *Response Set* tab of a Data Element.

To add a Skip Instruction using the NEXTCAT Marker:

1. Select **Edit|Insert** and choose *Skip Instruction*.
2. Enter the appropriate skip condition (remember that the Variable Names for Table Elements must include the &C Substitution Token).
3. Select Marker in the Branch to box.
4. Enter NEXTCAT in the Marker box.

The sample file *NEXTCAT Example.QDS* illustrates the use of the NEXTCAT Marker. This Table includes a series of questions about different types of exercises (running or jogging; cycling; aerobics; weightlifting; any other exercise). If respondents indicate that they do not partake in a specific type of exercise, the remaining questions for that category will be skipped.

AUTOMATIC VARIABLES

Automatic Variable Elements are used to calculate a value to be stored in your Data File. For example, an Automatic Variable can use the system date/time to store the current date and time in your Data File automatically—i.e., without manual entry. This saves time and ensures accuracy (as long as the system date is correct).

There are several types of calculated values:

Today's Date.....**Date record was recorded (i.e., interview date for CAPI/ACASI; data entry date for DE)**

Current Time.....**Time record was recorded (i.e., interview time for CAPI/ACASI; time of data entry for DE)**

Elapsed Time.....**Number of seconds since beginning of interview**
NOTE*: If you have multiple Elapsed Time Elements, each Variable will record the number of seconds since the beginning of the interview (not the number of seconds since the last Elapsed Time Element).*

Interview Language.....**Control File Language**

Mode of Administration.....**Control File type (i.e., CAPI, ACASI, DE)**

Data File Name.....**Default Data File Name**

Character String.....**Fixed string entered in Character String box**

Numeric Calculation.....**Numeric value: result of expression entered in Numeric Calculation/String Expression box**

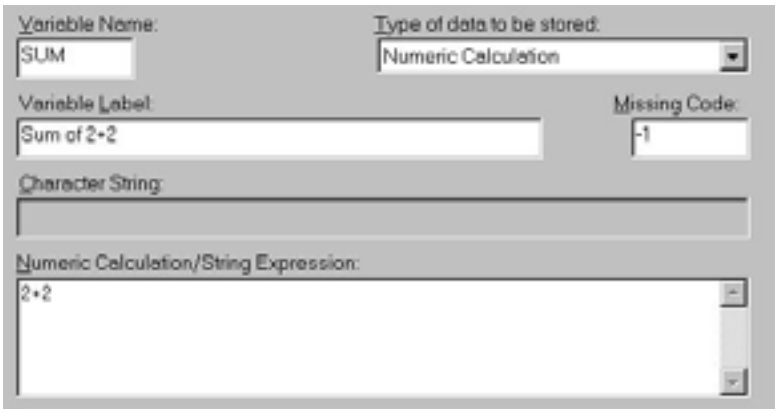
String Expression.....**Character string: result of expression entered in Numeric Calculation/String Expression box**

To add an Automatic Variable Element:

1. Select **Edit|Insert**.
2. Select the Element Type *Automatic Variable*.
3. Click *OK*.
4. Enter a Variable Name in the Variable Nam*e* box. (Because Automatic Variables become part of the data set, they are subject to the same restrictions as regular Data Element Variable Names.)
5. Enter a label in the Variable Label box.
6. Select the Type of data to be stored (e.g., Today's Date).

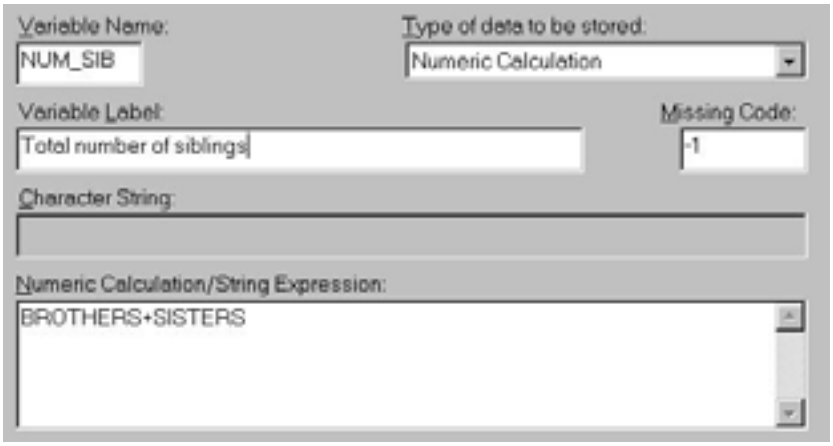
For the first six choices (i.e., Today's Date through Data File Name), you will only need to select the Type of data to be stored and enter the Variable Name and Label.

For the remaining three—Character Strings, Numeric Calculations, and String Expressions—you must also enter an expression in the appropriate (enabled) box. The result of the expression will be stored as the value for the Automatic Variable. For example:



This example creates a numeric Variable called SUM that would have the value 4 written out to the data set. Automatic Variables are most often used to calculate values based on responses to previous questions.

For instance, the following example shows how to calculate the total number of siblings based on responses to questions regarding the number of brothers (BROTHER) and sisters (SISTER).



You can also use any of the built-in QDS functions and expressions detailed in Appendix A to define Automatic Variables.

Character String

To create a Character String Automatic Variable:

1. Select **Edit|Insert**.
2. Select Automatic Variable Element and click *OK*.
3. Enter a Variable Name in the Variable Name box.
4. Enter a Variable Label in the Variable Label box.
5. Select *Character String* from the Type of data to be stored drop-down box.
6. Enter the string expression in the Character String box.
7. Click *OK*.

Numeric Calculation

To create a Numeric Calculation Automatic Variable:

1. Select Edit|Insert.
2. Select Automatic Variable Element and click *OK.*
3. Enter a Variable Name in the Variable Name box.
4. Enter a Variable label in the Variable Label box.
5. Select Numeric Calculation from the Type of data to be stored drop-down box.
6. Enter a numeric value in the Missing Code box. QDS will use this value if the numeric calculation cannot be evaluated to a single value. (The default value is -1.)
7. Enter a calculation in the Numeric Calculation/String Expression box.
8. Click *OK.*

One common numeric expression is to calculate age based on the Date of Birth (a previously collected Data Element named DOB) and today's date (a previous Automatic Variable of type Today’s Date named TODAY), which is written as the QDS function AGE(DOB,TODAY) in the Numeric Calculation box. In the sample file *Age.QDS,* you can view this example.

See Appendix A: *QDS Functions and Expressions* for a full listing of QDS functions and their syntax.

String Expression

To create a Character String Variable:

1. Select **Edit|Insert**.
2. Select *Automatic Variable* and click *OK*.
3. Enter a Variable Name in the *Variable Name* box.
4. Enter a Variable label in the *Variable Label* box.
5. Select *String Expression* from the *Type of Data to be Stored* drop-down box.
6. Enter a calculation in the *Numeric Calculation/String Expression* box.
7. Click *OK*.

A common application is to use an Automatic Variable to calculate dates prior to or after a given date. For example, you might want to ask, *In the last 60 days—that is, since &[PAST60D]—how many times have you ...?*, where PAST60D is the date 60 days prior to today.

First, create an Automatic Variable named TODAY of the type *Today's Date*. Next, create an Automatic Variable named PAST60D and Select *String Expression* from the Type of Variable box. In the Numeric Calculation/String Expression box, enter:

LONGDATE(TODAY-60)

When this Variable (PAST60D) is used as a Substitution Token in the question: *In the last 60 days—that is since &[PAST60D]—how many times have you ...?*, QDS will display: *In the last 60 days—that is, since Saturday, December 22, 2001—how many times have you ...?*

Alternately, you could enter:

SHORTDATE(TODAY-60)

This would display: *In the last 60 days—that is, since 12/22/2001—how many times have you ...?*

You can view this example in the sample file *String Calculation Dates Example.QDS*. Additional examples are available in *AutomaticVariables.QDS*.

See Appendix A: *QDS Functions and Expressions* for a full listing of QDS functions and their syntax.

Creating an Automated Subject Variable

To avoid the necessity of tracking and entering unique identifiers, you can create a Calculated Subject ID. To do this, create an Automatic Variable named SUBJECT that is calculated through the concatenation (linking together) of Today's Date and Today's Time:

1. Create an Automatic Variable called TODAY, of type Today's Date.
2. Create an Automatic Variable called TIME, of type Current Time.
3. Create an Automatic Variable called SUBJECT, of type String Expression.
4. Enter the following into the Numeric Calculation/String Expression box:

   CONCAT(TODAY,TIME).

To see these specifications, you can view the sample file, *Automated Subject ID.QDS.*

This technique can also be used to concatenate other Variables (e.g., month of birth, last 4 digits of SSN, gender)..

RESPONSE CARDS

What Is a Response Card?

Often, a single scale or Response Set is used for many questions in an instrument. For example, you might use the rating scale: Very Likely, Likely, Not Likely, Very Unlikely for each question in an entire section. It would be tedious to have to enter your Response Set—Very Likely, Likely, Not Likely, Very Unlikely—for each question that will use this set of responses.

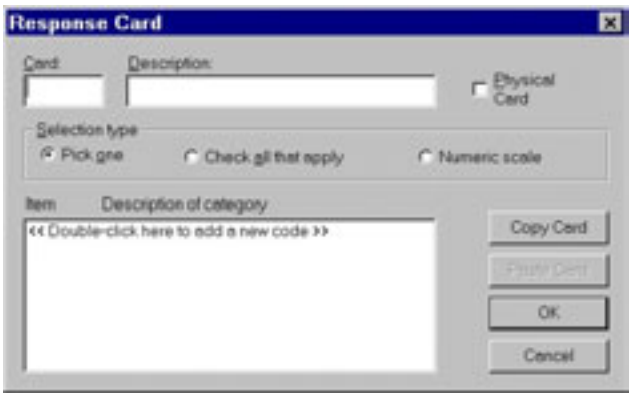
You can use **Response Cards** to create your own Response Types. For the example listed above, you might create a Response Card called LIKELY. Then, for any questions that will use Very Likely/Likely/Not Likely/Very Unlikely as their Response Set, the Response Type can be set to Response Card: LIKELY. This will automatically enter the responses associated with this Response Card on the *Response Set* tab for the current Element without having to reenter the categories. You can also copy Response Card(s) from one QDS Specification File to another.

Note: ***In order to select the Response Card type, you must already have defined your Response Card. Once you have created a Response Card, you can select it as many times as you like as a Response Type for a Data Element.***

Adding Response Cards

To add a Response Card:

1. Select **Tools|Response Card**.
2. Click *Add*.



3. Enter a unique name for the card in the Card box (follow QDS Variable naming conventions).
4. Enter a description of the Card in the Description box (optional).
5. Check the Physical Card box to include a message to the interviewer/respondent to refer to a Physical Card—i.e., if the contents of the Card will be printed and handed to a respondent during the interview.
6. Choose the appropriate Response Type from the Selection type box: Pick one; Check all that apply; or Numeric scale.
7. Double-click where indicated in the Description of category to add new items. The process for adding Pick one and Check all that apply Cards is the same as for standard Nominal Pick-One and Nominal Check-Each Data Elements. For Numeric Scales, you may specify a description and Scale Text for each code point.
8. Click *OK* and *Close* from the *Response Cards* box.

Editing Response Cards

To edit a previously entered Response Card, go to **Tools|Response Card**. Select the card you would like to modify/view and then click *Edit*. Double-click the item you would like to edit, make your changes, and click *OK* and *Close* in the *Response Cards* box.

Removing Response Cards

To remove a previously entered Response Card, go to **Tools|Response Card**. Select the card you would like to remove, and click on *Remove* and *Close* in the *Response Cards* box.

Copying Response Cards

Response Cards can be copied from one QDS Specifications File to another. This is very useful when you are using similar questions for different forms.

To copy a Response Card across Specifications Files:

1. Open the Specifications File containing the Response Card(s) to be copied.
2. Select **Tools|Response Cards**.
3. Select the Response Card you wish to copy, and click *Copy* and *Close*.
4. Open the destination file (i.e., the Specifications File to which you want to copy the Response Card).
5. Select **Tools|Response Cards**.
6. Click *Add*.
7. When the *Response Card* dialog box opens, click *Paste Card* to copy the existing card to the current Specifications File.
8. Click *OK* and *Close* in the Response Cards box.
9. Repeat this process for any other Cards you want to copy.

Note: You can copy only one Card at a time.

As of version 2.1, when you copy and paste Elements containing Response Cards from one Specifications File to another, the Response Cards are automatically copied. In previous versions, it was necessary to manually copy the Response Cards to the new Specifications File.

Response Card Response Tab Settings

Once you define a Data Element as a Response Card Data Element, the Response Card categories and corresponding numeric values are listed on the *Response Set* tab. These values can be edited only by editing the Response Card itself. However, you may adjust the Special Code, Branching, and Display options.

Don't Know..... Uncheck to disallow a response of Don't Know.

Refused ..... Uncheck to disallow a response of Refused.

Not Applicable ..... Uncheck to disallow a response of Not Applicable.

Display in Reverse Order..... Check to display categories in reverse numerical order.

Branching..... Specify a Branching option.

Working With Multiple Languages

There may be instances in which you will want to conduct interviews in more than one language. Although it cannot translate for you, QDS provides you with an easy-to-use interface for entering translations. Each questionnaire you create with QDS has only one Specification File, regardless of the number of languages into which it is translated.

The advantage is that any changes (e.g., range restrictions, skip patterns) need be made only once. Because they are built from the same specifications, you do not need to worry about whether the English version of your questionnaire is using the same rules as the Spanish; as long as your translations are accurate, they will always match.

The default language displayed by QDS—e.g., English (United States)—is determined by your Windows system settings. If your system language is set to something other than English (United States), that is the language that will appear.

The process is simple: Create your Specifications File as you would for any single-language instrument. Once the specifications have been reviewed and tested, add languages and translations as necessary. Separate Control Files/questionnaires will be built for each language.

At the time of printing, QDS is not UNICODE compatible and will therefore not handle non-Roman alphabets that require UNICODE.

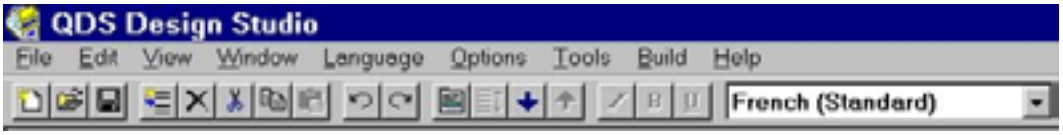
Entering Translations

Translating Elements

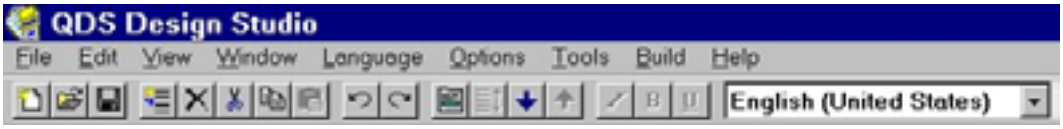
After your testing and editing has been completed, you are ready to add new languages and begin the translation process. To add a new language to your questionnaire:

1. Select **Language|Add**.
2. Select the language you would like to add from the New Interview Language box.
3. Click *OK*.

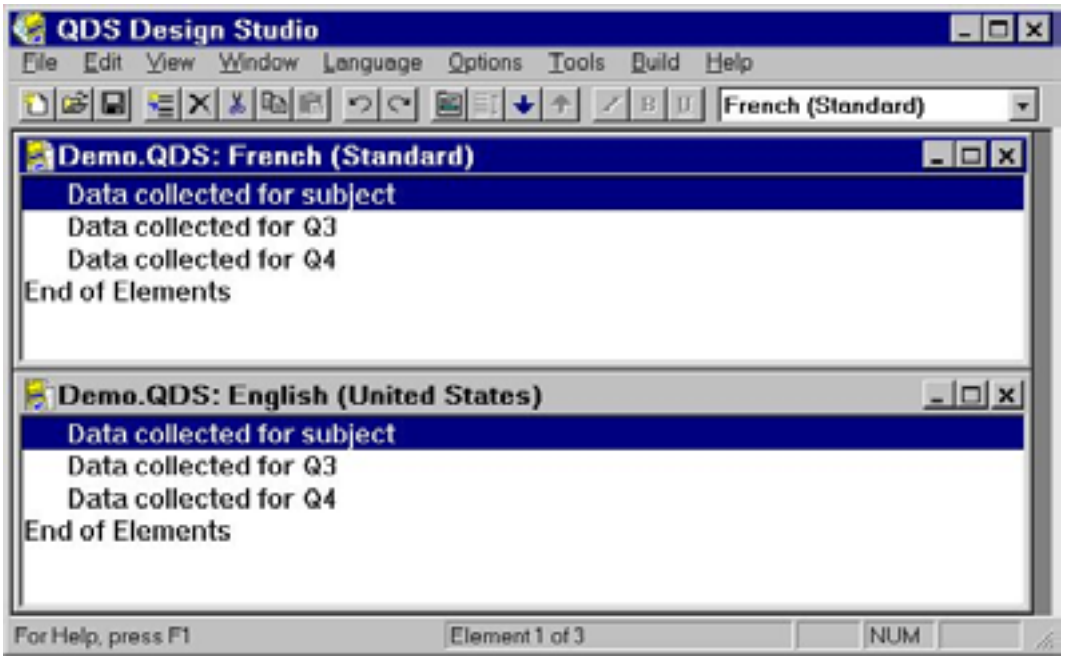
4. The Title Bar in your Specifications File now includes the new language, (e.g., French).



5. Select **Window|New Window**.
6. Another Specifications Window will open with your original language listed in the title bar (e.g., English).



7. Select **Window|Tile Horizontal** to display both specifications windows horizontally.



8. Verify that each window displays a different language (the language will appear in the window Title Bar).
9. If necessary, you can change the displayed language for a window through the **Language|Select** Menu option, or by pressing the button (▼) to the right of the Language Box and selecting the appropriate language from the drop-down list.
10. Double-click on the first Data Element in both windows.
11. You will see that the Text of Question box is empty in the window for the new language.

12. Enter appropriate translations in the Text of Question box, and—if applicable—on the *Response Set* and *Probes* tabs.

Similarly, you will need to enter translations for other Design Studio Elements: message text for Edit Elements, information text for Information Elements, etc.

13. As you navigate through the Element list (using the View Menu or the Toolbar arrows ), you will see that both windows advance simultaneously—i.e., you do not need to navigate forward one item in each window; moving forward in one moves you forward in the other.
14. Continue entering translations until you reach **End of Elements**.

Translating Response Cards

If you have used any Response Cards in your survey, you will also need to provide translations for the Response Card categories.

1. Verify that the current window is associated with the language that needs to be translated.
2. Select **Tools|Response Cards**.
3. Select the first Response Card and click *Edit*.
4. Enter the appropriate translation.
5. Repeat steps 17 and 18 for each Response Card in your survey.

Because the *Response Card Edit* window will not let you view multiple languages simultaneously, you will need to reference a printout of the original Response Card text for translation.

Translating System Keywords

Once you have completed translating Elements and Response Cards, you have one more step before building your questionnaire: translating system keywords. These are terms that QDS uses in both paper and automated interviews: **Yes**, **No**, **Refused**, **Hour**, **Minute**, etc.

To update System Keywords:

1. Select **Language|Translations**.
2. Select the language for which you need to add translations.
3. Click *Edit*.
4. You will see a series of items to be translated. These include response categories such as Yes, No, Don't Know, Not Applicable, Refused, Male, Female, etc.
5. Enter appropriate keyword translations for all items in your questionnaire.

6. Click *OK* when complete.
7. Select **Tools|Validate** to confirm all necessary translations were made. Error messages will be displayed for any missing translations.

The complete list of system keywords follows:

Responses

Yes, No, Male, Female, Zero, Don't Know, Refuse to Answer, Not Applicable, Missing, Skipped

Dates

Date Components: Year, Month, Day

Date Span Components: Years, Months, Weeks, Days

Times

Time of Day Components: Hour, Minutes, Seconds

Time Span Components: Hours, Minutes, Seconds

Automated interviews

Clear, Back, Alt, A response is required, Number is too big, Number is too small, Previous Question, Next Question, Repeat the Question, Try Again, Use Anyway

Paper Interviews

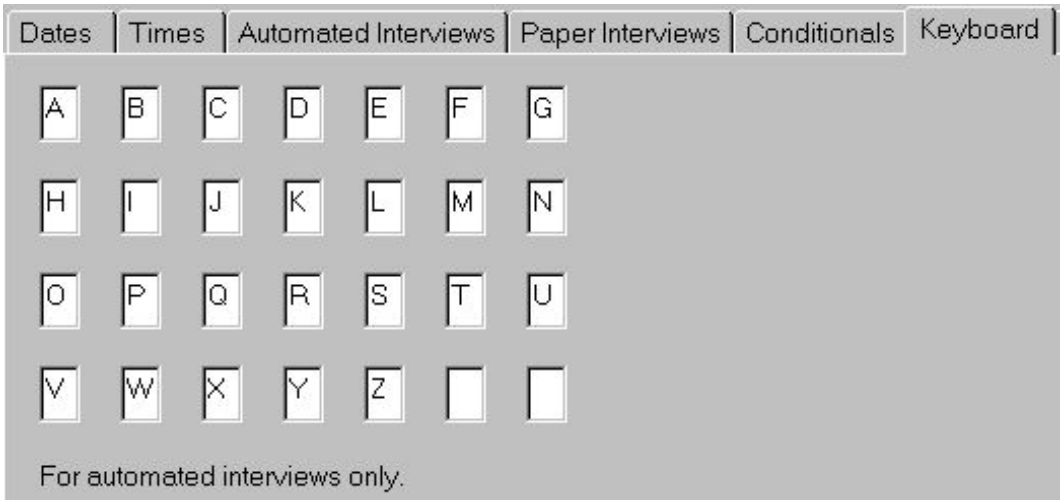
Read, Hand Card, Response to, Ask of Men only, Ask of Women only, Skip to, Instruction before, end of questionnaire, Choose one, Check all that apply

Conditionals

If, is equal to, is greater than, is less than, then, is not equal to, is not greater than, is not less than, and, or, not

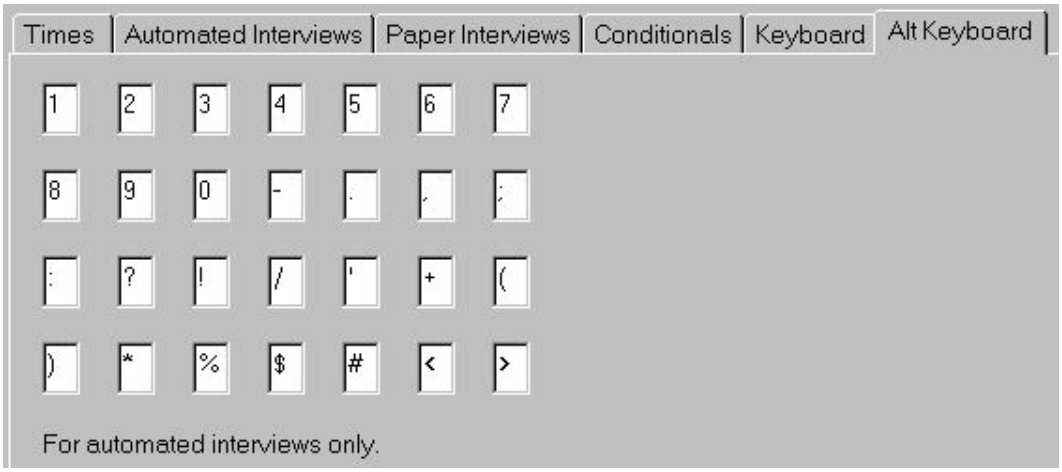
Keyboard

Specify the characters that should appear on the standard keypad. Default is:



Alt Keyboard

Specify the characters that should appear on the alternate keypad. Default is:



Once errors are corrected, you have completed the translation process.

A language does not represent a *separate file*, only a different portion of the same file. In your file listing, you will see only one copy of your Specifications File.

Deleting a Language

To remove a language from your Specifications File:

1. Select **Language|Select**.
2. Select the language you would like to delete; this language should now appear in the Interview Language box on the toolbar.
3. Select **Language|Delete**.

Once the language has been deleted, it will not longer be displayed under **Language|Select**.

Deleting a language does ***not*** delete existing translations for that language. If the language is later restored, those translations will be restored as well.

Why would I want to delete a language?

Your specifications will not validate if any languages are missing translations. However, you can "cheat" by temporarily deleting a language. Deleting a language will not permanently purge this language or any translations entered to date, but it ***will*** let you validate the other interview language(s) in the file. You can then restore the deleted language to complete translations.

Building Control Files for Multiple Languages

The **Tools|Validate** command will assist you in locating any places in which you may have missed entering translations for your specifications.

Now that you have corrected any errors, you are ready to build your Data Collection Control Files. As explained above, you will have only *one* Specifications File regardless of the number of languages associated with your specifications.

However, you will need to create ***separate*** Control Files for each language. Essentially, each language's Control File will be built following the same process as any other Build. However, there are a few additional items to consider before initiating the Build process.

1. Verify that the correct language is displayed in the Interview Language box on the Design Studio Menu Bar.

   If not,

   - Select **Language|Select** and choose the language in which you need to build your questionnaire.

2. Select the appropriate product from the Build Menu (e.g., **Build|CAPI Application)**.
3. Notice that QDS has added a two-letter code to the default filename, indicating the language associated with that Control File (e.g., *Demo Fr CAPI.QPI*, instead of simply *Demo CAPI.QPI*). If you wish, you may change the output filename. However, it is strongly advised that you include some indication of the language in the filename.
4. Click *Save*.

If you have paper interviews in multiple languages, you can produce separate data entry applications for each language, or you can enter data for all languages using the same application. It will work either way and is a personal choice.

Special Considerations for Building ACASI Control Files

Text-to-Speech Engines

If you plan to use *DECtalk*® Text-to-Speech (see *Using Audio*) you will need to have the appropriate version of the ACASI module installed.

There are five versions of the ACASI module, each with a language-specific text-to-speech engine: US English, UK English, Latin American Spanish, Castilian Spanish, and German. (A French engine will be included in the next DECtalk release.) Although all five versions are included with every licensed purchase of the QDS ACASI module, the default installation installs only the US English ACASI program (QSI.exe).

To install the ACASI module for languages other than US English:

1. Insert the QDS installation CD.
2. Select Custom Installation.
3. Select ACASI Multiple Version.
4. Select *Change*.
5. Select the language(s) you would like to install. ***You may deselect US English since it should already be installed.*** (This will not uninstall the US English ACASI program, it merely prevent its being reinstalled.)

6. Select *OK*.
7. Continue with installation.

> Because each language-specific text-to-speech engine is associated with its own copy of the ACASI module, it is important to ensure that the correct program is utilized when starting an interview.

Audio Files

If you plan to record human voices, you will need a separate set of Audio Files for each language. QDS requires that you use the same Audio Filenames for each language but store each set in a separate folder. By default, QDS assumes that you will name each language folder with the same two-letter language indicator used by Windows (EN for English, FR for French, etc.), but you can use other names if you like.

For example:

C:\Program Files\QDSv2\Studio\Audios\En\

C:\Program Files\QDSv2\Studio\Audios\Sp\

Another option to consider is to make a separate directory for each questionnaire with subdirectories for each language. For example:

C:\Program Files\QDSV2\Studio\My First Questionnaire\Audios\En

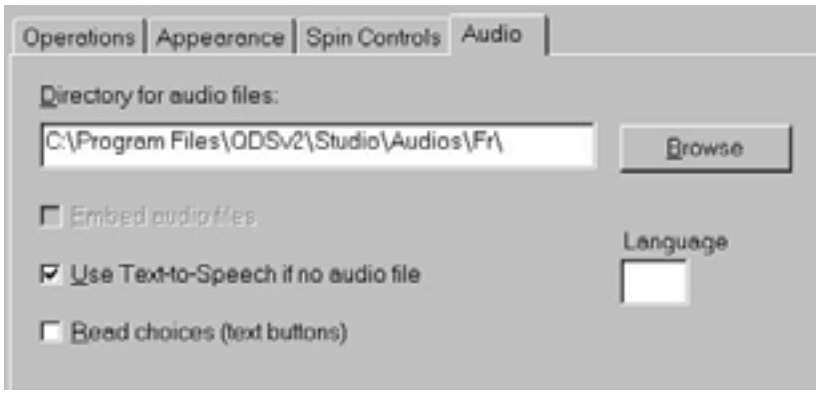
C:\Program Files\QDSV2\Studio\My First Questionnaire\Audios\Fr

C:\Program Files\QDSV2\Studio\My First Questionnaire\Audios\Sp

The three file paths above would represent English (En), French (Fr), and Spanish (Sp) language folders.

You are free to change this organization—or the folder names—as you like. To verify that the correct path is associated with the Audio Files for a specific language, check the Build Options:

1. Verify that the correct language is displayed in the Language box on the Toolbar.
2. Select **Build|ACASI Application**.
3. Click *Options*.
4. Select the *Audio* tab.



5. Verify that the correct path is entered.

APPENDIX A: QDS FUNCTIONS AND EXPRESSIONS

Logical Operations

Logical operations may be applied to the results of relational tests. The outcomes are the same as for relational operations—i.e., YES, NO and MAYBE. There are three logical operators: AND (&), OR (|), and NOT (^). They work as follows:

AND (&).....

YES & YES evaluates to YES
YES & NO evaluates to NO
YES & MAYBE evaluates to MAYBE

NO & YES evaluates to NO
NO & NO evaluates to NO
NO & MAYBE evaluates to NO

MAYBE & YES evaluates to MAYBE
MAYBE & NO evaluates to NO
MAYBE & MAYBE evaluates to MAYBE

OR (|).....

YES | YES evaluates to YES
YES | NO evaluates to YES
YES | MAYBE evaluates to YES

NO | YES evaluates to YES
NO | NO evaluates to NO
NO | MAYBE evaluates to MAYBE

MAYBE | YES evaluates to YES
MAYBE | NO evaluates to MAYBE
MAYBE | MAYBE evaluates to MAYBE

NOT (^) .....

^ YES evaluates to NO
^ NO evaluates to YES
^ MAYBE evaluates to MAYBE

Mathematical and Relational Operators

In conditional expressions or calculations, you can use any combination of values and the following mathematical and relational operators.

Operator	Description
+	Addition
–	Subtraction
*	Multiplication
/	Division
=	Equal to
<	Less than
< =	Less than or equal to
>	Greater than
> =	Greater than or equal to
< >	Not equal to

QDS Functions

IF(Expr, Num1, Num2, Num3)

Numeric Expression or String Expression (determined by type of field to be returned)

Evaluates a logical expression and returns one value if the expression is TRUE (**Num1**), another if the expression is FALSE (**Num2**), and, optionally, a third value if the expression evaluates to MAYBE.

If the third value is omitted, a result of MAYBE is treated like a result of FALSE.

Example:

IF(3<5,"x","y") returns "x"

IF(VAR>20,"High", IF(VAR>10,"Moderate","Low"))

You can specify multiple conditions by nesting an IF field inside an IF field.

Example:

In this example, special rates are offered only to residents of California and Washington. If the State field specifies any other state, no additional text is printed because no alternative text has been specified in the second IF field.

IF(STATE = "CA", "10% Discount Available", IF(STATE="WA", "15% Discount Available", ""))

TRUNCATE(Numeric)

Numeric Expression

Returns the integer portion of a numeric value.

Example: TRUNCATE(34.56) returns 34

Date/Time Functions

AGE(Date1, Date2)

Numeric Expression

Calculates and returns a numeric age based on a birthdate (Date1) and a reference date (Date2).

Arguments must be either QDS full date Variables; Automatic Variables computed using DATEYMD(), or Automatic Variables of type Today's Date. Arguments may not be string expressions—dates entered directly into function (e.g., AGE(10/17/1991,TODAY), Automatic Variable string expressions (e.g., LONGDATE(TODAY)).

Example: AGE(DOB, TODAY)

NOTE: Age is not correctly calculated if reference date is birthdate (i.e., match on month and day). Age is not incremented until day after birthday. For example, a client whose birthday is June 5, 1971 will have a calculated age of 30 when the reference date is June 5, 2002, but will have an age of 31 when the reference date is June 6, 2002.

DATEYMD(Year, Month, Day)

Numeric Expression

Creates a date value from numeric arguments for year, month, and day. QDS Date values are numeric values equal to the number of days since December 31, 1899 (dates before December 31, 1899 have negative values).

Example: DATEYMD(1965,8,10) returns: 23964

Notes: You must use a four-digit year. There is a typo in the QDS Online Help that lists this function as DATEMYD.

LONGDATE(Date)

String Expression

Converts a numeric date value to a long-string form that can be used to display in question text, edit Elements, or information Elements.

Example: LONGDATE(TODAY) returns "Monday, June 10, 2002"

Example: LONGDATE(DATEYMD(1965,8,10)) returns "Tuesday, August 10, 1965"

SHORTDATE(Date)

String Expression

Converts the numeric date value to a short-string form that can be used to display in question text, edit Elements, or information Elements. Valid arguments include a QDS date Variable, numeric value, or QDS function that returns a date value (e.g., DATEYMD).

Example: SHORTDATE(DATEYMD(1965,8,10)) returns "08/10/1965"

TIMEHMS(Hour, Minute, Second)

Numeric Expression

Returns the number of seconds after midnight. (Note: Uses 24-hour clock.)

Example: TIMEHMS(12,10,2) returns 43802

Range Functions

BOTTOM(Numeric)

Numeric Expression

Returns the lower bound of a numeric value.

Example: BOTTOM(CIG_DAY)=0, where CIG_DAY is equal to the range [0,95]

TOP(Numeric)

Numeric Expression

Returns the upper bound of a numeric value.

Example: TOP(CIG_DAY)=95, where CIG_DAY is equal to the range [0,95]

MIDDLE(Numeric)

Numeric Expression

Returns the midpoint of a numeric value, rounding down (same as MIDLOW).

Example: MIDDLE(CIG_DAY)=47, where CIG_DAY is equal to the range [0,95]

MIDLOW(Numeric)

Numeric Expression

Returns the midpoint of a numeric value, rounding down (same as MIDDLE).

Example: MIDLOW(CIG_DAY)=47, where CIG_DAY is equal to the range [0,95]

MIDHIGH(Numeric)

Numeric Expression

Returns the midpoint of a numeric value, rounding up.

Example: MIDHIGH(CIG_DAY)=48, where CIG_DAY is equal to the range [0, 95]

String Functions

SUBSTRING(Str, Skip, Len)

String Expression

Returns the substring of the string Str created by skipping the number of characters specified by the second argument, Skip, and returning the number of characters specified by the third argument, Len.

Example: SUBSTRING(“Dallas”,0,1) → D

Note: Typo in QDS Help file: Example lists function as SUBSTR.

CONCAT(Str1, Str2)

String Expression

Returns the concatenation of Strings Str1 and Str2.

Example: CONCAT(“Dallas”,CONCAT(“, ”,”TX”)) returns “Dallas, TX”

LENGTH(String)

Numeric Expression

Returns the length (number of characters) in a string expression.

Example: LENGTH(“Dallas”) returns 6

Database Lookup Functions

DBVALUE(Str1, Str2, Str3, Str4)

Numeric Expression or String Expression (determined by type of field to be returned)

Looks up values from a preexisting database and returns the value of a specified field. The returned value is stored in a QDS Automatic Variable and becomes part of QDS Data File.

Str1: Full name of database file

Str2: Name of Table

Str3: Selection criteria (specifies name of matching identifiers)

Str4: Name of field whose value is wanted

Example: DBVALUE("c:\lookup.mdb", "TblLocations", CONCAT("ID=", SUBJECT), "StreetAddress")

“c:\lookup.mdb”	Name and full path (location) of Access file
“TblLocations“	Name of the Access Table to be used for lookup
“ID=”	Name of MS Access match field; must include equal sign
SUBJECT	Name of QDS match field (Note: only argument not in quotes)
“StreetAddress”	Name of the ACCESS field to return and store

This function looks in the TblLocations Table of the MS Access database lookup.mdb for a record where ID matches the value of the QDS Variable SUBJECT. If a match is found, the value of the MS Access field StreetAddress will be returned to QDS. If no match is found an empty string is returned.

DBSTATUS(Str1, Str2, Str3, Str4)

String Expression

Performs a database lookup and returns an error message if an error is found (e.g., Access file does not exist; Table does not exist; No match found).

Str1 = Full name of database file

Str2 = Name of Table

Str3 = Selection of record criteria (specifying names of matching identifiers)

Str4 = Name of field whose value is wanted

Example: DBSTATUS("C:\lookup.mdb", "TblLocations", CONCAT("ID=", SUBJECT), "Autos")

DBCOUNT(Str1, Str2, Str3)

Numeric Expression

Performs a database lookup and returns the number of records that match specified criteria.

Str1 = Fully qualified name of database file

Str2 = Name of Table

Str3 = Selection criteria (specifying names of matching identifiers)

Example: DBSTATUS("C:\lookup.mdb", "TblLocations", CONCAT("ID=", SUBJECT))

Appendix B: QDS Error Messages

Audio Files Needed	The interview Control File has been created as requested. A corresponding Script File was also created in the directory where the recorded Audio Files will be placed. The Script File notes which recordings need to be created or updated.
Backward Branch	QDS does not permit branching to an earlier Element in the questionnaire. This rule was added to preclude the possibility of an infinite loop and because no clear need for backward branching was anticipated. If you believe you have such a case, please notify the QDS vendor and let the design team know. Select *About QDS* under the Help Menu for instructions on how to contact the vendor.
Cannot Build Products	There are two possible causes for this error. The specifications for the Element noted in the message may have been updated by a newer version of the Design Studio, which would have been noted in an error message immediately prior to this one. If no such message appeared, the Element specifications have been corrupted and must be restored.
Cannot Create Data Entry Control File	QDS is unable to write to the Data Entry Control File you selected. There may be a network or application sharing violation; the drive may have gone off line; or there may be a hardware error. If you cannot determine the cause of the problem, try creating the file on a different drive.
Cannot Create DE Control File	QDS is unable to create a NOVA-DE Control File because the specifications are too complex for NOVA-DE. You may try simplifying the specifications or request the QDE product instead. See NOVA-DE Limitations for a discussion of features that NOVA-DE cannot support.
Cannot Create File	QDS is unable to build the requested product because the file cannot be accessed. Most likely, the file is in use by another application. There may be a network or application sharing violation; the drive may have gone off line; or there may be a hardware error.
Cannot Create Interview Control File	QDS is unable to write to the Interview Control File you selected. There may be a network or application sharing violation; the drive may have gone off line; or there may be a hardware error. If you cannot determine the cause of the problem, try creating the file on a different drive.
Cannot Create Script File	QDS is unable to create an audio Script File in the directory you selected for Audio Files. Most likely, the file is in use by another application. There may be a network or application sharing violation; the drive may have gone off line; or there may be a hardware error. If you cannot determine the cause of the problem, try changing to a different audio directory by pressing the Options button in the File Save dialog that appears when you request a Build.
Cannot Read Installation Options	Your local installation options file (UserOpts.QDO) is unreadable. There may be a network or application sharing violation; the drive may have gone off line; or there may be a hardware error. In any event, the options have not been reset.

Cannot Validate	There are two possible causes for this error. The specifications for the Element noted in the message may have been updated by a newer version of the Design Studio, which would have been noted in an error message immediately prior to this one. If no such message appeared, the Element specifications have been corrupted and must be restored.
Cannot Write Options	Your local installation options file (UserOpts.QDO) is unavailable. There may be a network or application sharing violation; the drive may have gone off line; or there may be a hardware error. In any event, the file has not been updated.
Choose a Card	Use the mouse or arrow keys to highlight the Response Card.
Choose a Language	Use the mouse or arrow keys to highlight the appropriate interviewing language.
Clipboard Copy Error	While trying to copy the selected Elements to the clipboard, QDS encountered a damaged portion of the Specifications File. No Elements have been copied. Try validating the specifications to learn the extent of the damage. To repair the damage, you might try exiting QDS and running a disk-checking utility. Or you may want to return to your most recent backup of this file.
Clipboard Error	The most likely cause of this error is insufficient memory. Try exiting and restarting QDS, then repeat this operation. If the problem persists, contact the QDS vendor. Select *About QDS* under the Help Menu for instructions on how to contact the vendor.
Clipboard Paste Error	While trying to copy the selected Elements from the clipboard, QDS encountered an unusable Element. The most likely cause of this error is a cut/copy/paste operation between two different versions of the QDS software. Cut/copy/paste operations should be performed within a single execution of the Design Studio. If this is not the case, try repeating the cut (use Undo) or copy operation then repeating the paste operation. If the problem persists, contact the QDS vendor. Select *About QDS* under the Help Menu for instructions on how to contact the vendor.
Code Conflict	Standard responses—e.g., Yes and No—must have mutually exclusive codes. If Yes has a code value of 1, No cannot also have a code value of 1. This applies to Male/Female and Checked/Not Checked as well. Special codes (Don't Know, Refused, Not Applicable) do not need to be mutually exclusive.
Condition ends prematurely	The expression is incomplete. For example, (A + B) * C + would produce this message. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Confirming Always Discard	You are changing the Undo Information option for this Specifications File. This message is asking you to confirm that you no longer want to retain Undo Information on the file. If you select OK, QDS will discard all Undo Information every time you save this file. Since that information is used to generate the Change History document, you will no longer be able to request that document. If you select Cancel, QDS will cancel your *Save a Copy As* request and will not change the discard option.
Constant needs ending quote	The expression includes a string enclosed in quotation marks, but a matching pair was not found. It may be that you used different types of quotation marks at the beginning and end of the string. For example, X = " NONE ' would produce this message. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.

Corrupted Element	The specifications cannot be validated because this Element cannot be read from the Specifications File. To fix the problem, you can: (1) Open the Element (Element View) and restore its specifications, (2) Copy the Element from an earlier version of the file, or (3) Delete the Element.
Corrupted Installation Options	Your local installation options file (UserOpts.QDO) has been corrupted, or was written by a newer version of the Design Studio than the one you are running now. The options have been restored to the system defaults provided as *Factory Settings* distributed with the QDS software.
Corrupted Options	The Options settings for your questionnaire have been corrupted. There may be physical damage to a portion of the Specifications File. Try validating the file to learn the extent of the damage. Running a disk-checking utility may help. You may want to return to your most recent backup of this file. The options have been restored to the system defaults provided as *Factory Settings* distributed with the QDS software.
Corrupted Specifications File	The file that you selected to open appears to be a QDS Specifications File that has been damaged. Damage can occur if QDS shuts down abnormally, perhaps due to a power failure. In most cases, QDS is able to recover the entire file up to the point of the last change made prior to shutdown. Press OK to allow QDS to begin the recovery process. Press Cancel to exit QDS without attempting to recover the file.
Corrupted Translations	The standard translations for your questionnaire have been corrupted. There may be physical damage to a portion of the Specifications File. Try validating the file to learn the extent of the damage. Running a disk-checking utility may help. You may want to return to your most recent backup of this file. In any case, all translations are being restored to their default values
Corrupted Variable Dictionary	QDS maintains a Variable Dictionary with information about each data Variable for your questionnaire. This dictionary is reconstructed whenever the specifications are validated. Try revalidating your specifications.
Current Time	This message displays the format that should be used to enter Time of Day information. This format should also be used when specifying the allowable range for a time of day Element.
Data Format Error	The data record for this Element is not formatted correctly. There may be physical damage to a portion of the file. Try validating the file to learn the extent of the damage. Running a disk-checking utility may help. You may want to return to your most recent backup of this file. In any case, this Element is being restored to the default values for all items.

Deleted Response Card	This Data Element is associated with a Response Card that is not (no longer?) part of this Questionnaire. There are four possible explanations: (1) The Response Card was renamed. (2) The Response Card was deleted. (3) The Specifications File was damaged and the Response Card was lost. (4) This Element was copied from another Questionnaire, but the corresponding Response Card was not copied. If explanation (1) applies, select the new name for the card. If explanation (4) applies, and the Specifications File that provided this Element is available, copy the needed Response Card. If either of the other explanations applies, and you have a backup copy of the Specifications File available, you may be able to copy the needed Response Card(s) from the backup.
Discard Error	While trying to copy the Specifications File, discarding all Undo Information, QDS encountered a damaged portion of the old file. A reliable copy cannot be made, and QDS is abandoning the attempt. You should first try validating the specifications to learn the extent of the damage. To exit QDS without losing the changes you have made during this session, save a copy of the file without discarding the Undo Information. (Select File: SaveAs; remove checkmarks from both options at the bottom of the dialog.) To repair the damage, try running a disk-checking utility. Or you may want to return to your most recent backup of this file.
Discontinuous Time Span Components	QDS Time Span Elements can have up to three contiguous components. For example, a combination of Years, Months, and Days is permitted, as is a combination of Days, Hours, and Minutes. A discontinuous combination, such as Years, Months, and Hours, is not allowed.
Disk Full	The file cannot be completely saved because there is not sufficient room on the disk. The file is now corrupted, but it can be recovered when reloaded.
Duplicate Card Names	Each Response Card must have a unique name. You are attempting to add or rename a card with the same name as another card already defined for this questionnaire. If you are attempting to swap the names of two cards, use a temporary name while swapping. For example to rename Card A to B and Card B to A, do the following: (1) Rename Card A to X (2) Rename Card B to A (3) Rename Card X to B
Duplicate Code	Each code in the list must have a unique Code Value (for Pick-One-Code Elements) or Variable Name Suffix (for Check-Box Elements). You are adding an item to the list that duplicates an item already in the list. If you want to change or delete the item already in the list, assign a temporary, unique value for this item, correct the other item, and return to this item.

Duplicate Marker	Two Marker Elements in the Questionnaire define the same Marker Name. This is never permitted in QDS. You must change the Marker Name for one these Elements.
Duplicate Question Number Prefix	This Section Element resets the Question Number Prefix to one that is also set in a different Section. Since this could lead to considerable duplication of question numbers and Variable Names, it is prohibited. Change the Question Number Prefix in one of these sections to be unique.
Duplicate Suffix	Each code in the list must have a unique Variable Name Suffix. You are adding an item to the list that duplicates an item already in the list. If you want to change or delete the item already in the list, assign a temporary, unique value for this item, correct the other item, and return to this item.
Duplicate Table Category	Each category in a Table must have a distinct suffix. The Variables in each category will be assigned unique Variable Names by appending the Category Suffix. For further information about how QDS works with Tables, see *Tables*.
Duplicate Variable Name	Two Data Elements in the Questionnaire collect data for the same Variable Name. Rename one of the Variables.
Element Not Allowed in Table	The only Element types allowed within a Table are: ▸ Data Elements (except Check Boxes) ▸ Skip Elements ▸ Edit Elements ▸ Automatic Variable Elements Check Box Data Elements are prohibited because they are too difficult to arrange in matrix form for a paper questionnaire. If you need to include check boxes in the Table, use a series of yes/no questions instead. Information Elements are excluded for a similar reason.
Expected , or }	Lists (one or more items enclosed in {} braces) are used to test for membership (=) or non-membership (^=) in the list. The list ended without a closing } brace. The problem may be a mixture of braces and parentheses. For example: X = { 1, 3, 5) would produce this message. See Functions and Expressions for more information.
Expected a comma	A function reference has an invalid argument list. The problem may be a missing operator or a missing comma. For example, DAYS(DATE 2) would produce this message. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Expected a right parenthesis	If the expression includes a reference to a function, e.g. DAYS(10), then the problem may be that the right parenthesis at the end of the arguments is missing. For example, MDY(10,15,98 < DATE would produce this message. Otherwise, the problem is most likely a missing operator. For example, (X > 3 Y) would cause this error. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Expected a Variable	The item noted in the message is neither a Variable Name nor a valid constant, and was found at a position where only a Variable or constant is permitted. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.

Expected an operator	The most likely cause of this error is a missing operator, but other types of improper expressions can also produce this message. For example, A + B would produce this message if a logical expression is required. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Forward Reference - Calculation	The expression specified for this Element includes a reference to a Variable that is collected by a later Element in the Questionnaire. Thus, it will have no value at the time this expression is evaluated. You must: (1) Change the expression to reference a different Variable; or (2) Move the Element to a position earlier in the questionnaire.
Forward Reference - Substitution	You are attempting to substitute the value of a Variable that is collected by a later Element in the Questionnaire. Thus, it will have no value at the time this substitution is needed. You must: (1) Change the substitution to reference a different Variable; or (2) Move the Element to a position earlier in the questionnaire.
Gender Not Yet Determined	Examine the Applicability tab for this Element. There are checkboxes for Men and Women to restrict the Element to either male or female respondents. The gender of a respondent is determined by the first Data Element with a Response Type of Gender. All Elements appearing earlier in the questionnaire than the first Gender Element apply to all respondents and must therefore have both the Men and Women boxes checked. To correct this error: (1) Check both the Men and Women boxes for this Element; or (2) Move this Element after the first Gender Element
Hardware Error	A hardware error occurred while trying to write to the disk. Your file may now be corrupt, but it can be recovered when it is reloaded.
Improper use of special constant	Special constants may be used to test if a Variable has been assigned a Special Code: .DK for Don't Know, .REF for Refused or .NA for Not Applicable. They may only be used to test a single Variable for equality or inequality. These special constants may not be used in any other context. For example, the following two expressions are valid: VAR = .DK VAR ^= .NA The following three expressions are invalid: VAR1 + VAR2 = .DK VAR >= .DK VAR = .DK + 1
Inappropriate Subject ID	This Variable specified as the Subject ID on the Study Configuration tab of the Interview Options has a Response Type other than Number or Text. These are the only types allowed for a Subject ID Variable. Change the Response Type to Number or Text. If this Data Element is not the Subject ID, either change the Variable Name for this Data Element or the named Subject ID Variable on the Study Configuration tab.

Inappropriate Time Span Units	You have: 1) The set of timespan components conflict with the specfied range a. The shortest Unit of Time that you selected cannot be represented within the range, using the chosen Value Units. Either deselect the shortest Unit of Time, change the Value Units selection, or change the minimum allowable value to zero. b. You have selected a set of timespan components that conflict with the range you specified. The longest Unit of Time component, even with a value of one, would exceed the range, using the chosen Value Units. Either deselect the longest Unit of Time, change the Value Units selection, or expand the range. 2) You have selected one or more timespan components that cannot be represented with the Value Units you have selected. The Value Units must be one of the selected units of time.
Invalid Audio File Name Prefix	QDS can provide suggested filenames for all Audio Files needed for an ACASI or ACATI interview. File names provided by QDS always begin with a single letter (the Prefix) followed by a unique number for the file.
Invalid Category List	Enter a list of Category Suffixes to be included/excluded . The suffixes may be separated by commas, but need not be. A Category Suffix is a single letter or digit identifying the Table category.
Invalid Category Suffix	To specify the Table categories for which an Element is applicable, enter the list a Category Suffixes separated by commas. A Category Suffix must be a single letter or digit.
Invalid Code List	This message is merely a warning that you have not yet described any items for this list. You may temporarily leave the list empty, but you must complete the list before building any QDS products for this questionnaire. To add an item, press the Ins key on your keyboard or double click your mouse on the message displayed in the list.
Invalid Code Pattern	This is not a valid form for a Code Pattern. You may not leave a Code Pattern blank, even if you do not intend to include this type of Special Code in the Questionnaire.
Invalid Currency	QDS expects all monetary values to be entered in a form appropriate to your locale. The form for your locale is determined by the Regional Settings in the Windows Control Panel.
Invalid Date	QDS expects dates to be entered in a form appropriate to your locale. The form for your locale is determined by the Regional Settings in the Windows Control Panel. To see what today's date looks like in the required form, press the Today's Date button.
Invalid Date Format	The Format for year selection conflicts with the range of dates you have specified. You need to change the Format for year, the Earliest date allowed, or the Latest date allowed so that all three are compatible.
Invalid Date Range	You have specified an impossible range of dates. Make sure that the Latest date allowed is a later date than the Earliest date allowed.

Invalid Date/Time	QDS expects dates and times to be entered in a form appropriate to your locale. The form for your locale is determined by the Regional Settings in the Windows Control Panel. To see what the current date/time looks like in the required form, press the Current Date/Time button.
Invalid File Name	QDS uses only short, old-style filenames limited to a maximum of 8 characters and containing no blank spaces. The characters \ / : * ? " < > and | are also prohibited.
Invalid form of constant	The numeric constant is not valid for QDS. Note that scientific notation is not permitted. For example, X = 1.2E5 is invalid. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Invalid Marker ID	Markers names must be 8 characters or less.
Invalid Question Number Prefix	Question Number Prefixes are limited to three characters and may not end with a digit.
Invalid Question Number Suffix	Question Number Suffixes may not end with a digit.
Invalid Specifications	QDS has found one or more errors in the specifications for this questionnaire that preclude building any interview products. A list of errors is displayed in a window directly below the list of Elements. Double click on an error message to open the Element for correction. Right-click on the error message for a more detailed explanation of the error.
Invalid Specifications File	The file selected does not appear to be a QDS Specifications File. It may be a different file type with the QDS file extension improperly added to the filename, or it may be corrupted. The file is unusable by QDS and cannot be recovered.
Invalid Substitution Form	The & character is reserved to indicate special tokens for which text substitutions will be made. The valid substitution forms are: &TXT Table Category Text &ALT Table Category Alternate Text &LBL Table Category Label &Q Question Number &P Question Number Prefix &N Question Number Integer &S Question Number Suffix &C Table Category Suffix &[var] Value of Variable Named var To include an & character itself in the text, use &&.
Invalid Table	All Tables must have at least one category.
Invalid Time	QDS expects times to be entered in a form appropriate to your locale. The form for your locale is determined by the Regional Settings in the Windows Control Panel. Press the Current Time button to see the required form for your locale.
Invalid Time Range	You have specified an impossible range of times. Make sure that the Latest time allowed is a later time than the Earliest time allowed.

Invalid Variable Name	A Variable Name must begin with a letter, must be no longer than 7 characters, and may contain only letters or digits. You may elect to allow QDS to determine some or all of those characters for you by using Substitution Tokens. A Substitution Token will be replaced by the indicated character(s). The Substitution Tokens allowed in a Variable Name are: &Q Question Number &P Question Number Prefix &N Question Number Integer &S Question Number Suffix &C Table Category Suffix
Lists may only be used for testing = or ^=	Lists (one or more items enclosed in {} braces) may only be used to test for membership (=) or non-membership (^=). For example, X = { 1, 3, 5 } is TRUE if the value of X is 1, 3 or 5; and FALSE otherwise. Your expression tests a greater or less than condition which has no meaning for lists. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Lists may only have Variable Names or constants	Lists (one or more items enclosed in {} braces) are used to test for membership (=) or non-membership (^=) in the list. The items in the list may only be single Variables or constants - no expressions allowed. For example, X = { 1, 3*Y, 5 } is invalid. See Functions and Expressions for more information.
Lists not allowed on left side of comparison	List expressions may not be included on the left side of an expression. The expression { 1, 3, 5 } = X is invalid. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Minimal Recovery	QDS has attempted to recover a corrupted Specifications File and was only partially successful. More than 25% of the file has been permanently lost. This was either a new Specifications File to which no Element had yet been added, or the file was badly corrupted. The file is unusable by QDS. Carefully examine the state of the recovered file to determine whether you might be better off returning to a recent backup.
Missing Date/Time Variable	The Variables specified for Start Date/Time or End Date/Time on the **Options|Interviews** Study Configuration tab were not found in the Specifications File. You must: delete the Date/Time Variables the Study Configuration tab or change the Variable Name on the Study Configuration tab or the Data Element tab so they match.
Missing Interviewer ID	The Variable specified for Interviewer ID on the **Options|Interviews** Study Configuration tab was not found in the Specifications File. You must: delete the Inteviewer ID Variable from the Study Configuration tab or change the Variable Name on the Study Configuration tab or the Data Element tab so they match.
Missing Site ID	The Variable specified for Site ID on the **Options|Interviews** Study Configuration tab was not found in the Specifications File. You must: delete the Site ID Variable from the Study Configuration tab or change the Variable Name on the Study Configuration tab or the Data Element tab so they match.
Missing Subject ID	The Variable specified for Subject ID on the **Options|Interviews** Study Configuration tab was not found in the Specifications File. You must: delete the Subject ID Variable from the Study Configuration tab or change the Variable Name on the Study Configuration tab or the Data Element tab so they match.

Multiple Empty Conditions	QDS allow multiple rules for handling skipped Data Elements when performing calculations, but they must be mutually exclusive. When a condition (the If: box) is left blank, the corresponding rule is the default to be applied when no other condition is satisfied. There cannot be more than one default rule. Thus, no more than one condition may be left blank.
Must Check a Category	QDS must have at least one rule for handling skipped Data Elements when performing calculations. The default rule is to treat the Data Element as if it were Not Applicable. If this Element could never be skipped, a rule is still needed even though it will never be applied.
No Response Card	The Response Card you selected is no longer part of this Questionnaire. There are two possible explanations: (1) The Response Card was deleted. (2) The Specifications File was damaged and the Response Card was lost. In either case, if you have a backup copy of the Specifications File available, you may be able to copy the needed Response Card from the backup.
No Translations Available	You have asked to copy standard translations for a language that does not yet have any defined. To provide these translations, select Translations from the Language Menu. There are six required categories: Code Responses: Yes, No, Male, Female, Don't Know, Refuse to Answer, Not Applicable Date Components: Year, Month, Day (singular and plural) Time Components: Hour, Minutes, Seconds (time of day and timespan) Automated Interviews: OK, Clear, Previous Question, Next Question, Repeat the Question, error messages Paper Interviews: If, then, skip to, etc. Conditionals: Equal, less than, greater than, etc.
Not enough arguments	The function being used does not contain the required number of arguments. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Numeric Variable Required	You have specified an expression that references a (possibly) non-numeric Variable where only numeric Variables are permitted. Numeric Variables are required in numeric operations (e.g. addition, multiplication) or function arguments. If you are referencing the correct Variable, you must change the Response Type for its Data Element to a numeric type. All Response Types are considered numeric except Text and Pattern.
Options Restored to System Defaults	The options settings for this questionnaire have been set to the standard QDS defaults provided as "Factory Settings" distributed with the QDS software. Specifications for current Elements of this questionnaire are not affected. To apply the new options settings to the current specifications, use the Global Changes command in the Tools Menu.
Options Restored to User Defaults	The options settings for this questionnaire have been set to the standard defaults contained in the local installation options file UserOpts.QDO. Specifications for current Elements of this questionnaire are not affected. To apply the new options settings to the current specifications, use the Global Changes command in the Tools Menu.

Product Has Been Built	QDS has finished building the requested Rich Text Format (RTF) file. No problems were encountered. The file can be opened with your word processing software. Select Yes to open the file now—switching to your word processor—and return to the Design Studio later. Select No to continue working in the Design Studio. For information on how to use interviewing products, see How to Create Interviewing Materials.
Question Number Reset Error	Section Header Elements can be used to reestablish the next Question Number Prefix or Question Number Integer to be assigned. This feature may not be used to duplicate a Question Number already assigned to a prior Data Element. To correct the problem, change the Section Header Element to either: (a) Not reset the Question Number (b) Reset the Question Number Prefix to a unique value (c) Reset the Question Number to a larger integer
Question Number Sequence Error	Normally, QDS determines the integer portion of all Question Numbers when the specifications are validated. The integers are presently locked, however, by the Data Default options. When the integers are locked, QDS is unable to resolve any duplicate or out-of-sequence numbers that may result from changes to the specifications. There are two ways to correct the problem: (1) Unlock the Question Numbers by resetting the check box on the Data defaults Options tab. (2) Add a Question Number Suffix to each Data Element that causes a problem
Read Error	The data record for this Element is not formatted correctly. There may be physical damage to a portion of the file. Try validating the file to learn the extent of the damage. Running a disk-checking utility may help. You may want to return to your most recent backup of this file. The settings for this Element will be restored to the default values.
Required Field	You have left a required field blank. When you press the OK button in the message box, QDS will highlight the field in question. You must enter a value in this field before moving on to a different Element or a tab.
Resetting to Check Boxes/ Pick-A-Code/Scale	This Data Element is associated with a Response Card that is not in the current Specifications File. There are four possible explanations: (1) The Response Card was renamed. (2) The Response Card was deleted. (3) The Specifications File was damaged and the Response Card was lost. (4) This Element was copied from another Questionnaire and the corresponding Response Card was not also copied. If explanation (1) applies, you can select the new name of the card. If explanation (4) applies, and the Specifications File that provided this Element is still available, you can still copy the Response Card you need. If one of the other explanations apply, copy the Response Card(s) from the most recent backup. To resolve the problem, at least temporarily, the Design Studio is changing the Response Type for this Data Element. You can change it back to Response Card later, after you restore the corresponding card.

Response Card Needed	You have not yet defined any Response Cards for this Questionnaire. You must create a Response Card before you can select it as a Data Element Response Type.
Script Has Been Built	You have requested an automated interview that uses Audio Files. QDS has prepared a script you can use to record those Audio Files. The script is in a Rich Text Format (RTF) file that can be opened with your word processing software. You will note in the script that one or more Audio Files need to be created or updated, as labeled by the following status indicators: No Name .... You have not yet assigned a filename in the specifications No File ..... The named file was not found New Name . The filename has changed since the last script New Text .... The text to be recorded has changed since the last script Select Yes to open the Script File now—switching to your word processor—and return to the Design Studio later. Select No to continue working in the Design Studio.
Skip Too Far	A branching instruction in this Element skips over more Elements than follow this in the questionnaire. If you intend to skip to the end of the questionnaire, consider using a Marker.
Substituting Standard Bitmap	There was a problem with the requested bitmap file, and QDS is substituting the standard picture button. Either the requested bitmap file could not be found, or it is invalid. If the named bitmap file could not be found, it may be that the wrong folder was specified. To change folders, press the Options button on the dialog for saving your product file. To change the name of the bitmap file, update the specifications for all Data Elements that reference this button, or use the Global Changes command. If the named bitmap file is invalid, it was not written in standard BMP format. Try opening the file with a graphics program such as MSPaint and resaving it as *.BMP.
Substituting Text Button	There was a problem with the requested bitmap file, and QDS is substituting a text button in its place. Either the requested bitmap file could not be found, or it is invalid. If the named bitmap file could not be found, it may be that the wrong folder was specified. To change folders, press the Options button on the dialog for saving your product file. To change the name of the bitmap file, update the specifications for all Data Elements that reference this button, or use the Global Changes command. If the named bitmap file is invalid, it was not written in standard BMP format. Try opening the file with a graphics program such as MSPaint and resaving it as *.BMP.
System Error - Resources	This message indicates that a major system failure has occurred. It may be due to a shortage of memory or a hardware error. Exit the Design Studio, restart the computer, then try again. If the problem persists, contact the QDS vendor. Select About QDS under the Help Menu for instructions on how to contact the vendor.

Table Applicability Outside a Table	Table applicability settings have been entered for a Data Element that is not part of a Table. To correct this problem: (1) Adjust the scope of the Table to include this Element, (2) Reset the applicability for this Element to All Table Categories.
Table Category Question Not In a Table	The Question Number Suffix for this Data Element includes a Table Category Substitution Token (&C), implying that this Element is part of a Table. Yet it is not within the scope of any Table. The scope of a Table is specified by the Elements per category value associated with the Table Element. You must either (1) Adjust the scope of the Table to include this Element; (2) Move this Element to a position inside the Table; or (3) Remove the category Substitution Token from the Question Number Suffix of this Element.
Table Category Variable Not In a Table	The Variable Name for this Data Element includes a Table Category Substitution Token (&C) implying that this Element is part of a Table. Yet it is not within the scope of any Table. The scope of a Table is specified by the Elements per category value associated with the Table Element. You must either (1) Adjust the scope of the Table to include this Element, (2) Move this Element to a position inside the Table, or (3) Remove the category Substitution Token from the Variable Name of this Element.
Table has no Data Elements	All Tables must contain at least one Data Element. You must either increase the number of Elements in the Table or insert a Data Element.
Table Question Needs Text Substitution	You must include the &TXT, &ALT, or &LBL tokens in the Question text for all interview languages for each Data Element inside a Table. If this Element is not intended to be inside a Table, change the Table settings or move the Data Element.
Table Substitution Outside a Table	The Text of Question for this Data Element includes a category Substitution Token (&TXT, &ALT, &LBL), implying that this Element is part of a Table. Yet it is not within the scope of any Table. The scope of a Table is specified by the Elements per category value associated with the Table Element. You must either (1) Adjust the scope of the Table to include this Element, (2) Move this Element to a position inside the Table, or (3) Remove the category Substitution Token from the text of this Element.
Table Variable Needs &C	The Data Element is within a Table and does not include the &C category token in the Variable Name. If this Data Element is intended to be inside the Table, you must add the &C token to the Variable Name. If this Data Element is not part of the Table, modify the Table settings or move the Data Element.
Time Span Component Required	You must specify at least one time unit for a Time Span Element. You may include up to three contiguous components.
Too many arguments	The function being used does not contain the required number of arguments. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Too Many Components	You may specify a maximum of three time units for a Time Span Element.

Translation Needed: Code Text	You have not yet provided a translation, in the noted language, for all codes used by this Element. If you are not currently using this language, you can temporarily remove it by selecting the Language Delete command.
Translation Needed: Edit Message	You have not yet provided a translation for this Element's message text in the noted language. If you are not currently using this language, you can temporarily remove it by selecting the Language Delete command.
Translation Needed: Information	You have not yet provided a translation for this Element's information text in the noted language. If you are not currently using this language, you can temporarily remove it by selecting the Language Delete command.
Translation Needed: Question Text	You have not yet provided a translation for this Element's question text in the noted language. If you are not currently using this language, you can temporarily remove it by selecting the Language Delete command.
Translation Needed: Response Card	You have not yet provided a translation for all codes used by this Element's Response Card. If you are not currently using this language, you can temporarily remove it by selecting the Language Delete command.
Undefined function	An unknown function is being referenced. See *Functions and Expressions* for a complete list of QDS Functions.
Undefined Marker	This Element branches to a Marker Element that is not in the questionnaire. To correct this error: (1) Correct the marker ID in the branch instruction; (2) Change the branch instruction to Next or Skip; or (3) Add a Marker Element with this ID
Undefined Variable – Calculation	The expression specified for this Element includes a reference to a Variable that is not in the Questionnaire. To correct this error: (1) Change the expression to reference a different Variable; (2) Add a new Data Element to create the Variable; or (3) Change the Variable Name of the Data Element that creates the Variable you want.
Undefined Variable - Substitution	The Substitution Token references a Variable that is not in the Questionnaire. To correct this error: (1) Change the substitution form to reference a different Variable; (2) Add a new Data Element to create the Variable; or (3) Change the Variable Name of the Data Element that creates the Variable you want.
Unexpected character	The character noted in the message is not allowed in QDS expressions. See *Functions and Expressions* for more information.
Unmatched parentheses	A right parenthesis ")" was found with no matching left parenthesis "(". The problem may be a mixing of {} braces and parentheses.
Unrecoverable Specifications File	QDS has attempted to recover a corrupted Specifications File but has not found a single valid Element. This was either a new Specifications File to which no Element had yet been added, or the file is badly corrupted. The file is unusable by QDS.
User Options Have Been Updated	The local installation options file (UserOpts.QDO) has been updated to match the current options settings for this questionnaire.

Variable Name Too Long	A Variable Name must begin with a letter, must be no longer than 7 characters, and may contain only letters or digits. You may elect to allow QDS to determine some, or all, of those characters for you by using Substitution Tokens . Remember that a Substitution Token may represent multiple characters.
Write Error	An error occurred while trying to write to the disk. Your Specifications File may now be corrupt, but it can be recovered when it is reloaded.
Wrong Software Version	You are using an older version of QDS than the program that last updated this Element. Your version does not know how to process this Element and will restore the default values for all items. To avoid losing information, you should cancel all changes for this Element, exit QDS, and install the latest version Select **Help|About QDS** for instructions on how to contact the vendor to obtain the latest version.

Appendix C: QDS File Extensions

QDS Files

Extension	Produced by	Description
QAD	CAPI (QPI.EXE), ACASI (QSI.EXE)	Automated Interview Data File: contains data for all computer-administered interviews
QDE	Design Studio (QDS.EXE)	Data Entry Application Control File: translates design specifications into commands the Data Entry module uses to run the data entry collection module
QDO	Design Studio (QDS.EXE)	QDS User Options File: contains user-defined data defaults (e.g., preferences for default values and styles).
QDS	Design Studio (QDS.EXE)	Questionnaire Specifications File: contains all of the specifications for your data collection instrument (i.e., questions, Response Types, consistency checks, skips)
QPD	Data Entry (QDE.EXE)	Data Entry Data File: contains data entered from paper questionnaires
QPI	Design Studio (QDS.EXE)	CAPI Application Control File: translates design specifications into commands that the CAPI module uses to administer and collect data during a Computer-Assisted Personal Interview
QSI	Design Studio (QDS.EXE)	ACASI Application Control File: translates design specifications into commands that the ACASI module uses to administer and collect data during an Audio Computer-Administered Self-Interview
QSR	Warehouse Manager (QWM.EXE)	Data Receipt File: used to confirm receipt of data; e.g., confirmation that a central coordinating location has received data from a field site.
QTD	Warehouse Manager (QWM.EXE)	Data Shipment File: used to transport data from one Warehouse to another; e.g., a field site submitting its data to a central coordinating location
QVR	Warehouse Manager (QWM.EXE)	Reconciliation File: used to export reconciliation rules from one Warehouse to another; e.g., a central coordinating location sends standardized rules to all study sites
QWM	Warehouse Manager (QWM.EXE)	Data Warehouse: contains Warehoused data and reconciliation rules

Other Files Produced/Used by QDS

Extension	Produced by	Description
DIC	WinDic.EXE	DECTalk Dictionary
MDB	Warehouse Manager (QWM.EXE)	Access Database
RTF	Design Studio (QDS.EXE)	Rich Text Format; paper questionnaires, codebooks, and change history
SAV	Warehouse Manager (QWM.EXE)	SPSS System File
XPT	Warehouse Manager (QWM.EXE)	SAS Transport File
TXT	QDA.EXE (Data to ASCII utility)	ASCII File

Appendix D: Creating Bitmap Files

QDS provides a picture button, used in automated interviews, for responses of Yes, No, Male, and Female. These pictures are taken from standard bitmap files (*.BMP) that can be produced or updated using basic graphics software such as ClarisDraw, Adobe Photoshop, Paint Shop Pro or Microsoft Paint. If you want to create your own versions of these picture buttons, there are a few basic rules you need to follow.

Each button requires a set of four bitmap files. One file shows how the button looks in its normal (Up) state. A second shows how it looks when depressed. A third shows how it looks when it has the focus. The fourth shows the button when it is disabled and not selectable. (By convention, the focus state usually looks the same as the normal Up state but with a dotted rectangle drawn inside the border.) For QDS, the set of four bitmap files must all share the same filename except for the final letter, which indicates the state: U for Up, D for Down, F for Focused, and X for Disabled. The Yes button supplied with QDS uses files YES-U.BMP, YES-D.BMP, YES-F.BMP and YES-X.BMP.

Up	Down	Focused	Disabled
			
YES-U.BMP	YES-D.BMP	YES-F.BMP	YES-X.BMP

You may want to alter the appearance of these buttons depending on interview language, mode of administration, or operating platform. The bitmap files supplied with QDS store these variations in separate folders, keeping the same file names in each folder. When you create an automated interview Control File, you can specify the folder to use for that product. You can, if you like, change the appearance of the standard buttons using your favorite graphics package, or you can create new buttons to use with Nominal Pick-One Data Elements.

If you plan to make changes to the original button files that came with QDS, you may want to make a backup copy of the originals that you could later restore without reinstalling QDS.

How to Create Your Own Bitmap Files

You can use any graphics software you like to create new bitmap files. We used a combination of Adobe Photoshop™ and Microsoft Paint™ to construct the standard files installed with QDS. The only absolute requirement is that you provide four files (Up, Down, Focused, Disabled) for each button and that you follow the proper naming conventions. The four bitmap files for a single button must have the same filenames except for the final letter, which must be U, D, F or X.

Here are some tips for creating standard bitmap files:

- For 32-bit use, a 150 x 150 pixel size works well. For 16-bit use, 75 x 75 is better.
- Sixteen colors are sufficient and produce reasonably sized bitmap files.
- The addition of white and dark gray at the border around the buttons helps to create a three-dimensional look. This gives a similar look and feel to your QDS data collection application as other Windows-based software packages. For the *Up* and *Focused* buttons, the white should be on the top and left edges, while dark gray should be on the bottom and right edges. For the depressed (*Down*) button, the border should be all dark gray.
- If you decide to use colored buttons, make sure that the colors you choose are noticeably different from each other so they can easily be distinguished by the user.
- Keep in mind that most people have preconceived color associations. Try to avoid a conflict with those associations. For example, don't use green for a *Quit, Stop,* or *No* button.
- All bitmaps cover a rectangular area. To create a button with a different shape, you need to clip the parts you don't want by painting them in a transparent color.
- You can decrease a bitmap file size by reducing the number of colors used or reducing the size in pixels. Consult your graphics program's manual on how to change the attributes of a bitmap.
- Custom button packages containing hundreds of premade buttons can be purchased from a computer software store or catalog. These button collections are often found under the heading "Web Tools" in software catalogs. They come in a variety of file formats, but you can use your graphics program to convert them to the bitmap (*.BMP) file format.
- There are free button collections on the World Wide Web. You can find them by searching with the term *buttons*. If you find one you like, save it to your hard disk using your browser software. These files are usually in the *.GIF or *.JPG file format that the Web uses and must be converted to *.BMP by your graphics software.

Picture Button Variations

If you are using multiple interviewing languages, you may want to create different pictures for each language. To make it easier for you to maintain and reference these language variations, QDS assumes that you keep the bitmap files for each language in a separate folder but use the same filenames, independent of language. For example, the **Yes** bitmap files for both English and French would have the same filenames but be stored in separate folders.

You may also want to vary the pictures slightly for interviewer-administered vs. self-administered automated interviews. An interviewer will generally work from a keyboard and will want to be able to press a key (e.g., **Y** for Yes) to enter a response, as well as being able to use the mouse. For a self-administered interview, you may want to remove the keyboard and allow only mouse-click responses. By convention, buttons generally have a letter underlined to indicate the corresponding key response. Since you may want picture buttons with or without an underlined letter, QDS provides you with both for the standard pictures. As with different interview languages, buttons with and without underlines are given the same filenames but kept in separate folders.

If you construct your own bitmap files, you don't need to make a different set for each of these variations. You can use the same bitmaps for 16-bit and 32-bit platforms. You can use buttons with or without underlines for any mode of administration. If you don't include text on your buttons, you can use the same bitmaps for any interview language.

Picture Button Folders

The bitmap files delivered with QDS are stored by default under *C:\Program Files\QDSv2\Studio\Bitmap32\En* and are constructed for use on a 32-bit (Win95/98/2000, WinNT, or Windows ME) platform. Within this folder, you can create separate folders for multiple interview languages.

The language folders are named using the same two-letter language indicators (e.g., EN for English, FR for French) shown in the task bar at the bottom of your screen if you have more than one input locale installed. Within each language folder, there is folder (Keyed) for buttons with an underlined letter for keyboard use and a folder (Plain) with no underlines for use without a keyboard.

Thus, the complete hierarchy of bitmap folders, as originally constructed when QDS is installed, is as follows.

Studio/	**Bitmap32/EN/Keyed**
Studio/	**Bitmap32/EN/Plain**

If you decide to change this organization or the folder names, you will need to tell QDS where to locate the new button files. When you create an automated

interview (CAPI or ACASI) from **Build|CAPI Application** or **ACASI Application**, click the O*ptions* button on the *Automated Interview Control File* dialog box. On the *Appearance* tab, you can specify the appropriate folder under Directory for button bitmap files. (See CAPI Build Options and ACASI Build Options.)

If the bitmap files were not installed in the default directory, *C:\Program Files\QDSv2\Studio\Bitmap32\En,* you will need to change the Directory for button bitmap files on the *Appearance* tab after selecting **Build|CAPI Application** or **ACASI Application** and clicking the O*ptions* button on the *Automated Interview Control File* dialog box. This is the case even if only the drive letter is different—e.g., D: instead of C:.

APPENDIX E:
QUESTIONNAIRE DATA TO ASCII UTILITY

If your QDS system does not include the Warehouse Manager, you can export your collected data to a text file with the free Questionnaire Data to ASCII utility (QDA.EXE).

Launch the Questionnaire Data Application by double-clicking on the QDA.EXE icon in the Data folder located in your QDS directory (typically, *C:\Program Files\QDSv2\Data*). Select to what type of file (.QAD or .QPD) you would like to convert and the filename, and click *Open*. A dialog box will tell you how many interviews were copied to the ASCII file, which will be given a .TXT extension.

Appendix F: Testing Checklist

The following lists include items that should be checked/reviewed during a thorough and systematic testing process.

Review Codebook

- **Variable Names**
- **Variable Labels**
- **Valid Ranges**
- **Length (esp. for text items)**

Review Questionnaire

- **Run spell check in word processing package**
- **Make corrections in Specifications File**

Test Control File

- **Does all question text fit?**
- **Does all response text fit?**
- **Does all Edit Element message text fit?**
- **Does all Information text fit?**
- **Do all Skips work as intended?**
- **Do all Edit Elements work as intended?**

Review Data

- **Warehouse and Export Data**
- **Are correct Variables being used for ID?**
- **Do all automatic variables work as intended?**
- **Are appropriate Special Code values being used?**

Appendix G: Sample Files

Design Studio Files

Age.QDS
Automated Subject ID.QDS
Automatic Variable Calculations.QDS
DB Value.QDS
Displaying Values en Qx.RTF
Displaying Values.QDS
Exercise Example.QDS
First Questionnaire Example en Script.RTF
First Questionnaire Example History.RTF
First Questionnaire Example.QDS
Lookup sample.MDB
Marker.QDS
NEXTCAT Example.QDS
Sample Table1 Codebook.RTF
Sample Table1 EN Qx.RTF
Sample Table1 with NEXTCAT Marker.QDS
Sample Table1.QDS
Skip example.QDS
String Calculation Dates Example.QDS

Application Files

First Questionnaire Example Codebook.RTF
First Questionnaire Example DE A01.LOG
First Questionnaire Example DE A01.QPD
First Questionnaire Example DE A02.QPD
First Questionnaire Example DE B01.QPD
First Questionnaire Example DE.QDE
First Questionnaire Example En ACASI.QAD
First Questionnaire Example En ACASI.QSI
First Questionnaire Example En CAPI.LOG
First Questionnaire Example En CAPI.QAD
First Questionnaire Example En CAPI.QPI
First Questionnaire Example En Qx.RTF
First Questionnaire Example En Script.RTF
First Questionnaire Example En Self.RTF

Warehouse Manager Files

Example Transportation En CAPI.QAD
Example Transportation v1.QDS
Example Transportation v2.QDS
Example Transportation–Reconciled.QDW
Example Transportation–Unreconciled.QDW
First Questionnaire Central.QDW
First Questionnaire Site 1, 1.QAD
First Questionnaire Site 1, 2.QAD
First Questionnaire Site 1, 3.QAD
First Questionnaire Site 1.QDW
First Questionnaire Site 1.QTD
First Questionnaire Site 1-Receipts Posted.QDW
First Questionnaire Site 2, 1.QAD
First Questionnaire Site 2, 2.QAD
First Questionnaire Site 2.QDW
First Questionnaire Site 2.QTD
First Questionnaire Site 2-Receipts Posted.QDW
First Questionnaire v2 DE 101.QPD
First Questionnaire v2.QDS
First Questionnaire.LOG
First Questionnaire.MDB
First Questionnaire.QDW
First Questionnaire.SAV
FirstQ.XPT
FirstQf.XPT
FirstQf.SAS
Transport.MDB
Transport.SAV
Transport.XPT
SAS Format Convert.SAS