Integrating EWD with VISTA

By: Sam Habiel

Sam.habiel@gmail.com

A biased history of User Interfaces to VISTA

 Traditional Roll and Scroll (CHUI) to execute routines.

 Any good Roll and Scroll will need a menu system.

Menus

```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
Select Core Applications Option: ??
   PSM
         Pharmacy Data Management ... [PSS MGR]
         PCE Coordinator Menu ... [PX PCE COORDINATOR MENU]
   PCE
  HS
         Health Summary Coordinator's Menu ... [GMTS COORDINATOR]
         VOE Fileman ... [DIZ FILEMAN]
  VFM
  CAC
         CPRS Configuration (Clin Coord) ... [OR PARAM COORDINATOR MENU]
         Reminder Managers Menu ... [PXRM MANAGERS MENU]
  CRM
         CPRS Configuration (IRM) ... [OR PARAM IRM MENU]
  IRM
             **> Locked with XUPROG
   LAB
         Laboratory DHCP Menu ... [LRMENU]
             **> Locked with LRLAB
   OP.
         Outpatient Pharmacy Manager ... [PSO MANAGER]
        TIU Maintenance Menu ... [TIU IRM MAINTENANCE MENU]
  TIUI
  TIUM
         Text Integration Utilities (MIS Manager) ... [TIU MAIN MENU MGR]
          EHR Registration Menu ... [DGZ REGISTRATION MENU]
          Medication Administration Menu Pharmacy ... [PSB PHARMACY]
You can also select a secondary option:
         CPRS Reminder Configuration ... [PXRM CPRS CONFIGURATION]
              Press 'RETURN' to continue, '^' to stop:
```

And then...

| ☑ VistA CPR5 in use by: Clerk,One №0.10.10.101) | |
|---|--|
| Eile Edit Yiew Tools Help | |
| ZZ PATIENT,TEST TWO Visit Not Selected Dec 25,1957 (53) Current Provider Not Selected | Primary Care Team Ugned Flag VistaWeb Remote Data Postings |
| Active Problems Family History Of Diabetes Mellitus (ICD-Diabetes Mellitus (ICD-Diabetes Mellitus Without Mention Of Control Left Ventricular Hypertrophy | Reactions Postings Allergies |
| Active Medications | Clinical Reminders Due Date |
| No Active Medications Found Retrieving in background | |
| Recent Lab Results Vitals | Appointments/Visits/Admissions |
| T 99 F P 32 R 23 BP 220 HT 72 ii | Jul 19,20 Jul 19,20 /89 Jul 19,20 n Jul 19,20 |
| Cover Sheet Problems Meds Orders Notes Consults D/C Summ Labs Reports | |
| | |

Why the menu system?

- The menu system provides the foundation of VISTA security
- The menu system is very extensible.
- Power users can develop new applications using Fileman RAD (from... the menu system)
- A new application can be easily developed and dropped into the menu system.

Why again?

- The crux of the Problem
 - Power Users versus Programmers versus Sys Admins
 - Accountability
- EWD has the potential to bring back DHCP

What's needed?

- We need the following in order for this to happen
 - Has to look pretty.
 - Foundational Elements of VISTA
 - Sign-on
 - Division Selection/Change
 - Menu System

What's needed?

- Fileman Building Blocks
 - DIR
 - DIC
 - DIQ
 - DIE
- Automatic conversion of existing applications
 - Screenman
 - List Manage
- A good IDE for end users to build their own applications.
 - Text editor won't cut it

The devil is in the details

- Developing infrastructure tools for VISTA is hard
 - They need extensive testing
 - They need to be used a lot by end users to be called tested
 - A good example of a failure in development
 - Support for mixed case verify codes

Specific Issues

Session Maintenance

- Inject code like this in every page
 - r(sessid); Restore Symbol Table
 - d mergeArrayFromSession^%zewdAPI(.DUZ,"DUZ",sessid)
 - d mergeArrayFromSession^%zewdAPI(.IO,"IO",sessid)
 - s U=\$\$getSessionValue^%zewdAPI("U",sessid)
 - quit
 - ;
 - s(sessid); Save to Symbol Table
 - d mergeArrayToSession^%zewdAPI(.DUZ,"DUZ",sessid)
 - d mergeArrayToSession^%zewdAPI(.IO,"IO",sessid)
 - d setSessionValue^%zewdAPI("U","^",sessid)
 - quit

Session Maintenace

- Can wrap the above in a custom tag
- Or can use ewdTemplate.ewd
- Need to design mechanism on incrementing decrementing variables saved in the session.
- Very commonly VISTA keeps incrementing variables to use
 - Can do S X="%" F S X=\$O(@X) Q:X="" to save all the variables in ST to session.
 - But is the session the new ST? The session does not scope variables.

Session Maintenance

- In order to prevent variables from accumulating
 - Use tmp.sessionname but if the form doesn't submit, you lose your session values
 - Namespace the variables and delete them en masse

Configuring IO for EWD

- NULL; Open Null Device
- s %ZIS="0H",IOP="NULL" d ^%ZIS
- i POP s \$ec=",U1,"; this crashes everything... intended...
- q

Tracking EWD Errors

- Right now, EWD Errors (even VISTA related) are in ^%zewdError
- It would be better to use the far more robust VISTA Error Handler (robust, but it still can't handle transactions—FYI: Transactions were introduced in the '95 standard)

Menu System Support for EWD Applications

- The idea is that each separate "menu item" is going to be a separate EWD application.
- To switch between applications use:
 - d setRedirect^%zewdAPI
 - BUT: ewdLogout.ewd doesn't return you to the starting application.

RPC Wrapper

 A lot of existing and new functionality work over the RPC system

EWD Custom Tags to work with Fileman

- <fm:edit dd="200" fields="200.05;200.09;31.2;31.3" iens="#DUZ" />
 - EDIT(nodeOID,attrValues,docOID,technology); Fileman Field Edit tag
 - ; Get Attributes supplied to us: dd, fields, iens
 - ;
 - N attrs
 - D getAttributeValues^%zewdCustomTags(nodeOID,.attrs)
 - N DD S DD=\$g(attrs("dd")); Data Dictionary
 - N FIELDS S FIELDS=\$g(attrs("fields")); Fields to Edit
 - N IENS S IENS=\$g(attrs("iens")); IENs to Edit
 - :
 - ; Does our Form Tag Exist?
 - N fOID S fOID=\$\$getElementById^%zewdDOM("fmEdit",docOID)

Various other issues

- EWD SAC compliance
 - Is it important? EWD meets the spirit of SAC compliance, but not the letter
 - EWD Routines on Cache are closed source may as well be Intersystems routines—Do we dictate what Intersystems can or cannot do?
 - EWD Source are our own routines + ewd/css/js
- Transmission of EWD applications via KIDS
 - Should be easy
 - EWD applications are mostly files on the fs with our own routines

Farewell to Monolithic Applications