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Greyhound ridership

Advertising research issue

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Cover

A psychographic segmentation study of its ridership gave Greyhound a clearer picture of its customers. See page 6. Cover photo courtesy of Greyhound Lines, Inc.

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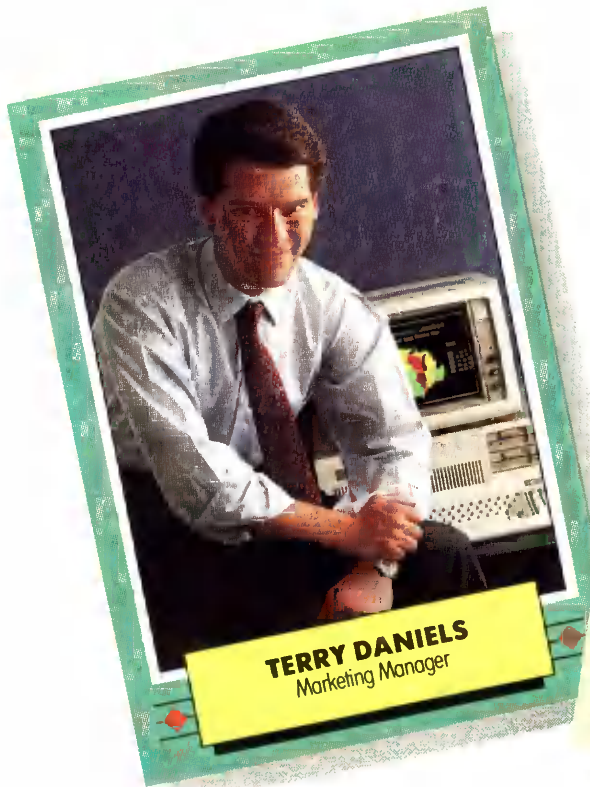
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Segmentation study determines

Though it annually conducts a massive survey of its passengers, Greyhound Lines Inc. decided to learn more about the people who ride its buses. The company's yearly on-board survey, which is distributed for a week in 50 of its biggest markets twice a year, last year netted Greyhound 30,000 responses--providing a clear demographic picture of the Greyhound customer. But, says Gary Graley, the company's direc-

tor of market research, they wanted more insight into the psychology of the people behind the demographics.

"We wanted to get a dimension of our passenger that went beyond demographics," he says. "We were interested in a psychological profile of our customers. What are their lifestyles? What are their values?"

This is the kind of information that the VALS psychographic segmentation program typically provides, but because prior research had shown that 70% of Greyhound passengers had household incomes below \$25,000, Graley says Greyhound felt its passengers wouldn't be accurately described with the VALS system.

"We felt that the VALS types did not fit

what a Greyhound passenger was, based on their income and socioeconomic class. We felt that VALS was skewed towards income levels that were probably higher than the normal Greyhound passenger, so we decided to pursue our own psychographic profile specifically for the Greyhound passenger," Graley says.

With the help of Decisions Center, Inc., New York, Greyhound conducted 500 in-terminal personal interviews in 10 major markets (including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Atlanta) averaging roughly 50 interviews per market. In addition, some 400 other interviews were conducted in seven smaller markets (such as San Antonio, Des Moines, Baltimore, and San Diego) to ensure a reliable sample



Greyhound ridership

by Joseph Rydholm
managing editor

among Greyhound's key passenger segments: blacks, Hispanics, college students, senior citizens, military, small town/rural customers and casino visitors.

Interviewers were stationed next to ticket areas and approached ticket buyers to participate in the approximately 45 minute interview. The survey asked Greyhound passengers to provide standard demographic information and to respond to a series of travel- and lifestyle-related statements in an attitudinal section, using a scale of importance of one to five, one indicating the statement "does not describe me or my feelings at all," and five indicating that it "describes me or my feelings completely." The statements dealt with:

- attitudes towards travel
- attitudes towards public transportation
- attitudes towards Greyhound
- travel behavior
- personality characteristics
- self-image
- values/beliefs
- lifestyle
- social behavior
- media habits

Sample statements in the travel section included "I like to flip through National Geographic and read about other places." "I hate to travel alone." Sample statements from the lifestyle section included "I am bored with my life," "Chess is one of my favorite games," and "I often charge my purchases."

"The travel statements are the statements that were used to produce the actual segments," Graley says. "It was sort of an extension of what VALS would do,

which would only look at lifestyle related items. We went beyond that since we were interested in segmenting travelers. We segmented based on the travel items and then described their lifestyle based on the lifestyle section as well as the demographics and the travel habits."

The research segmented Greyhound ridership into five groups.

"We felt that VALS was skewed towards income levels that were probably higher than the normal Greyhound passenger, so we decided to pursue our own psychographic profile specifically for the Greyhound passenger."

Gary Graley

Roost-to-Roost Travelers

This is the largest segment, accounting for 27% of Greyhound ridership. Its members are very home- and family-oriented. They enjoy traveling with family members to visit relatives. They consult travel magazines and brochures when planning their trips. The Roost-to-Roost segment contains the highest concentration of senior citizens. It also has more women, fewer young people (under age 25), many retirees, and more married people. The segment has average income

and education levels. They have a positive outlook and are more likely than other passengers to be involved with church and civic matters.

Spontaneous/Impetuous Mixers

21% of Greyhound riders fall into this group, which, as the name suggests, travel primarily for the social experience. They enjoy traveling alone and look forward to meeting and talking to new people. This segment has a high percentage of single young white men. They are less likely to have a job, and their income level is low to average. They are more likely on vacation, not traveling to see friends or relatives, and their plans for the trip were made probably less than two weeks in advance. Their impetuous, "live for the moment" lifestyle is based on a belief that the future will be dull.

Independent Explorers

Independent explorers account for 19% of the ridership. They are very travel-oriented people who travel more to see new and unusual places than to visit friends and relatives. Like the Spontaneous Mixers, they enjoy meeting new people and don't mind traveling alone. They read travel brochures and frequently bring a camera along to capture their trip on film. Members of this segment tend to be white, better educated than those in the other segments (a high percentage of Independent Explorers are college students), and as a whole they have the highest family income. They are non-traditional people who are happy with their lives and optimistic about the future. They are careful with their money but

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Minnesota Mutual charts efficient marketing with MAPS

by Nance Olson

Three decades ago, Minnesota Mutual's group product databases existed primarily for administrative purposes. Financial institutions across the country supplied their customer lists for use in direct mail insurance solicitations. Realizing that these names and addresses could be used beyond an administrative function, the scope of the database was expanded. Today, the database has manifested into a comprehensive marketing vehicle.

The group division currently provides \$31.4 billion worth of insurance to more than 1.2 million households nationwide, making it the country's number one provider of mortgage life insurance. Still, the company faces fierce competition and cannot be comfortable with the status quo. In addition, today's discerning customers require increasingly sophisticated marketing methods.

Therefore, having names and addresses isn't enough. It's not who you know, but how much you know about your customer base that counts. Minnesota Mutual has long maintained databases of

The Finer Things

Name:
Clayton (Chip) Chesterfield III

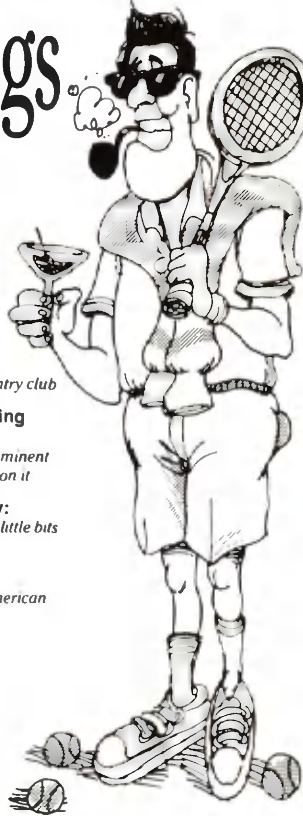
Automobile:
Metallic Blue BMW

Favorite Social Activity:
Mingling at the country club

Preferred Clothing Ensemble:
Anything with a prominent Ralph Lauren label on it

Choice Delicacy:
Liver pâté on smart little bits of french bread

Familiar Quote:
"Charge it to my American Express card."



Two segmentation systems which classify American consumers into homogeneous groups, PRIZM and VALS, were used to complete this analysis.

PRIZM, a geodemographic system designed by Virginia-based Claritas Corp., is built on the sociological principle that people with similar cultural backgrounds, circumstances, and perspectives "cluster" in localities suited to their chosen lifestyles. Using Census data, a two-digit neighborhood lifestyle code is assigned to the smallest geographic areas defined by the Census. A code is subsequently assigned to every level of micro-geography, including block groups, Census tracts, postal carrier routes, and ZIP codes. A unique nickname is assigned to each lifestyle cluster to capture the essence of the group and facilitate recall.

Advantaged Advocates

Name:
Jennifer Tate

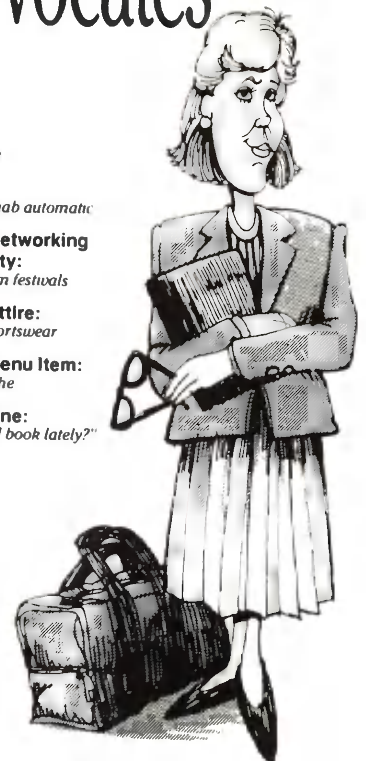
Vehicle:
White 900 Saab automatic

Favorite Networking Opportunity:
Attending film festivals

Favorite Attire:
L.L. Bean Sportswear

Favorite Menu Item:
Spinach quiche

Favorite Line:
"Read a good book lately?"



insureds and applicants, clients and prospective clients, but a database without a marketing direction is not being utilized to its full potential. Minnesota Mutual decided to develop a system to reach that potential.

The company needed to add a marketing bent to the group division's most critical database—potential customers. Nothing less than a radical revolution would allow efficient use of the data. The first step was to find out exactly what the database contained that would help increase direct marketing revenue.

The database provided demographic information, but it did not give a profile of the different buyer types. The "real" customers—their values, attitudes, and perceptions—were elusive.

The company looked to external sources to help round out the customer profile.

White Picket Fences

Name:
Betty Reed

Car:
Brown Plymouth Reliant

Favorite Weekend Outing:
Attending craft fairs

Favorite Outfit:
JC Penney coordinates

Favorite Food:
Ham and scalloped potatoes

Favorite Phrase:
"When I was your age..."



VALS—Values, Attitudes, and Lifestyles—was created by Arnold Mitchell of California-based SRI International. Based quite heavily upon Abraham Maslow's *Hierarchy of Needs Growth*, the VALS typology describes consumers by linking their inner values with their outward lifestyle expression. The prime developmental thrust of the typology goes from classifying people as Need-Drive, Inner-Directed, or Outer-Directed. Each of these classifications contains a number of VALS types—for example, Survivors, Achievers, and Experientials.

It would have been nearly impossible to VALS-type all of the 1.2 million insured households, so data was purchased from National Family Opinion (NFO). NFO provided data on 20,000 members of their national panel who had been both

PRIZM- and VALS-typed. This data was cross-tabulated to find out the national norm for VALS type within PRIZM cluster. Since this data was projectable to the group division's database, a PRIZM analysis of the database (which required only addresses) predicted the VALS population for the purchasers of the product.

Combining the PRIZM, VALS, and NFO data with the purchasing information already available allowed Minnesota Mutual to create a marketing segmentation system called MAPS—Mortgage Audience Profiling System. MAPS grouped insured and potential insureds into five distinct segments:

The Finer Things

Consisting primarily of families, aged 35 to 44 with upper middle socioeco-

Rural Route 1

Name:
Gus Miller

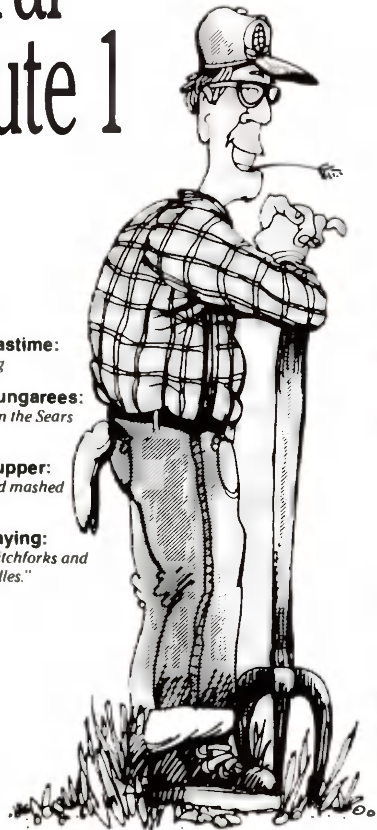
Truck:
Ford pickup

Favorite Pastime:
Woodworking

Favorite Dungarees:
Coveralls from the Sears catalog

Favorite Supper:
Roast beef and mashed potatoes

Favorite Saying:
"It's raining pitchforks and hammer handles."



Bare Essentials

Name:
Tom Johnson

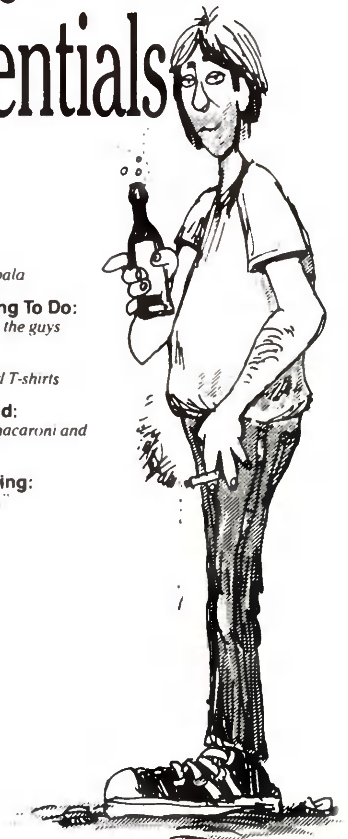
Wheels:
1974 Chevy Impala

Favorite Thing To Do:
Shoot pool with the guys

Clothes:
Faded jeans and T-shirts

Favorite Food:
Hot dogs with macaroni and cheese

Favorite Saying:
"Well, that's life."



conomic status, they own nice homes, have a lot of discretionary income, and are usually college-educated and career-minded. They tend to be fairly financially sophisticated and skeptical of purchasing insurance through the mail.

Advantaged Advocates

Made up of mostly single professionals with household incomes upwards of \$40,000, they believe personal growth comes before getting married and raising a family. They like the convenience of purchasing through the mail, but scrutinize costs and benefits—especially of financial services—carefully.

White Picket Fences

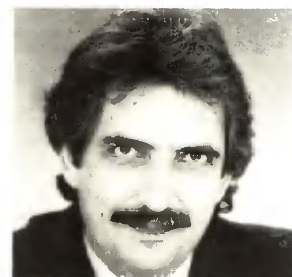
This group enjoys family and home

continued on p. 48



A look at item non-response

by Gary M. Mullet



Gary M. Mullet is a visiting professor in the Management College at Georgia Institute of Technology. His previous marketing research experience includes several years with Sophisticated Data Research and Burke Marketing Research. He has also taught at the University of Michigan and the University of Cincinnati. A reformed theoretical statistician, he is the author of several articles on statistics as applied to marketing research and is an active presenter at meetings of various professional societies.

In the June/July 1988 *Data Use* column, Mike Baumgardner and Ron Tatham discussed how to handle the data from respondents who had no preference in simple paired comparison tests of preference. They wisely stated that they felt “uncomfortable giving a consumer a response that we (made) up.” However, not all of their peers in marketing research and data processing agree—a point I’ll return to later.

How, then, is one to handle a data set in which a number of questionnaires have item non-response? The problem is somewhat different than that faced above; there, the respondents were explicitly allowed to state that they didn’t really prefer one product to another. Here I’m talking about the instances where particular questions are left totally blank or the appropriate “no answer” code is marked. Now what?

Is it a problem? Most assuredly. Anyone who has worked in marketing research for more than five minutes realizes that not all respondents answer all questions. There are several reasons for this. Some of the information is potentially threatening to the respondent, such as income, alcohol usage, age, and the like. Sometimes they have never heard of a particular brand and, thus, can’t really rate it on several attributes, even though we ask them nicely to do so. Sometimes they may not know the meaning of one or two of your laundry list of attributes, but will gladly do the ratings for the rest. Motivation aside, it’s a small proportion of respondents who answer every question on any given study.

So how are you, the analyst, to do a reasonable data tabulation and statistical analysis of your study, given this missing data (an oxymoron if ever there was one) problem? Unfortunately, there is no universal answer. To say “it depends” sounds

like a cop-out, but it truly does depend on your computer hardware, your computer software, how you’ve coded the “no answer” from the questionnaire and, as always, the objectives of the study. Some of these will be discussed below. However, until some mysterious force compels every respondent to answer every question (honestly, we should add), there seems to be no panacea.

Tabulation and summary statistics


Here’s where evidence of the problem may first be seen. Things don’t always add up. You know that you have 500 total respondents, but when you add back those who use Brand A most often to those who use Brand B most often, to those who use any other brand most often, you only come up with 493. The rest, of course, didn’t answer the question. Run the same data tabulation on someone else’s data processing system, however, and the missing respondents may, in fact, magically reappear. What’s going on?

Not all computer programs handle missing values the same way. You need to explicitly tell some of them what’s going on, others have some built-in assumptions. For instance, one practice is to leave a blank in the card column where there was a “no answer.” However, some hardware/software combinations treat that blank as a numeric zero and also count the respondent. Thus, if you are using this type of system, all of your missing values are automatically assumed to be the number zero and you’ll have no missing responses at all. But think for a minute what effect this will have on your sample mean ounces consumed per week, or sample median household income category, or even, the proportion of respondents who prefer Brand A, since the new base is total respondents, not just those who made a choice.

Other programs automatically drop a blank from further consideration and, at the same time, make certain that the respondent base size is handled accordingly. Thus, unless you know which you are using, or is being used for you, it’s easy to see how two analysts looking at the same data set can come up with completely different sets of crosstabulations and summary statistics.

The other thing you need to be aware of is that in some studies a “no answer” is coded as a “99” or “999,” or some other value

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that is far out of range of the usual answer (how'd you like to try to put 99 kids through college?). Whenever you see a sample mean that is far out of line from what you expected, you should suspect that this type of coding might possibly be the cause. Again, unless you explicitly tell the software package that such a code is to be disregarded as missing, it will be counted and added and averaged right along with the rest. Computers, alas, do exactly what we tell them and not what we necessarily want them to do. Clearly, communication with the data tabulation system is a must.

Other statistical problems

Here, too, you need to know your system. Depending on the hardware, there is at least one major heavy duty statistical software system that treats blanks as if they were all numeric zeroes—you lose no responses and, of course, no respondents, if you merely leave a missing value as blank during the data entry stage. At least one other software package treats a blank as a missing value for that particular case only. Another package will discard ALL information from a respondent if they show a blank for only ONE question for some procedures, and won't for others. Does it make a difference? You bet.

A simple example

Assume that you've left all of the "no answers" blank (you know what will happen if you have a 99 or other numeric code punched in, so if you did this, most packages will allow this to be "blanked" by you, explicitly stating missing values as 99). Let's look at the case where respondents are comparing two products on several rating scales and you want to find out for which of these scales the products differ significantly. The first package, above, will put in zeroes wherever it sees a blank and make the comparisons as if every respondent had answered all questions for both products. It's easy to see how this would both deflate the sample means and invalidate the statistical comparisons which you are doing.

The other two packages would both reduce the data base to only those respondents who rated both products on a given scale. Thus, for the first rating scale you might see the 501 respondents who evaluated both products, for the second, the 505 who evaluated both, and so on. For each scale it may be a substantially different set of respondents that are used to make the statistical comparison—this may or may not be worrisome to you. One thing is for sure: you'll end up with fewer pairs of evaluations for each scale than you have total respondents in the study. It shouldn't take much of a stretch of the imagination to see what would happen if the comparisons involved three or four or more products or brands. (For only two such comparisons, we could open the Pandora's box of overlapping samples; but since it seems to be on none of the standard computer software packages, let's not.)

It gets even worse for some of the more complex multivariate procedures. Again, there are packages that will read in the blanks as zeroes and you lose no one at all. Of course, the results are not worth the paper they're printed on. (No problem, either, if you use something like a 99 for no answers and forget to tell the computer. Your results are worth exactly as much as the previous.)

For procedures such as regression analysis and discriminant analysis, the theoretical assumption is that each respondent

answered every question currently being analyzed. Many packages drop ALL responses from any respondent who fails to answer even a single question; the respondent becomes a non-entity. It's very disconcerting, but not uncommon, to request a regression analysis using 60 or 70 variables and have the computer print a message that you don't have any respondents. What it means is that none of your respondents have answered all of the questions in the analysis. So, if the blanks are treated as zeroes, you get worthless results; if they cause the respondent to be dropped, you get no results at all.

Discarding all respondent information as in the cases above is called either casewise or listwise deletion. So if you take the same data set and run it through two programs, or if two analysts run the data through any program that causes blanks to trigger listwise deletion, you'll get comparable answers for any of these multivariate procedures, right? Wrong!

Or right, to an extent. They'll give you the same for regression and discriminant analysis. However, let's assume that two analysts are going to do a factor analysis and one of them uses pairwise deletion of missing data and the other uses casewise.

Pairwise means that if a respondent answers, say, 9 out of 10 questions that you're going to factor analyze, her answers can be used to impact 35 out of the 45 correlation coefficients that go into the factoring procedure. The listwise deletion means that all of her answers are discarded and she's essentially treated as if she didn't participate in the survey at all. Now we will probably get factor results which are not at all comparable. Again, you have a need to know how your data are handled.

What can be done? First, you need to know how your analyses will be affected by blanks, 99, or whatever codes you use for missing data. Ask questions and assume nothing. It may mean that you'll have to delve into a computer manual to find the answer or even have to talk to those guys in the basement who dress funny but sure do a great job of keeping the computers going. If you're using an outside source for data processing, be sure to tell them explicitly how you have coded the no answers and how you want them handled.

Second, although I agree with Baumgardner and Tatham about putting words into respondents' mouths, you should recognize that there are a few procedures around for imputation of a numerical value for any missing data. Some software packages recommend that you do so. In fact, one manual goes so far as to state that, "If you have missing values, you will do better taking the time to impute (replace) them in the raw data by examining similar cases or variables with non-missing values." My own thinking on this issue is that if the respondent had wanted to or could have given you an answer, she would have. Imputation is not without risk.

Third, use the amount of item non-response as a positive indicator. If there is a particular statement or set of statements that are causing 90% of the item non-response, then perhaps deleting only those few can straighten out your regression analysis. Of course, always report the number of "no answers" for each question tabulated.

Finally, recognize that for some statistical procedures, "no answer" is an answer. One is correspondence analysis, in which the "no answer" categories can be used in both perceptual mapping and cluster analysis.

As with so much in this life, the key is effective communication between all of the concerned parties—the respondent, the analyst, the project director, the computer, and you.

MRR

7

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Investigating respondents' interpretations of survey questions

Editor's note: The following is an excerpt from a chapter in the U.S. Dept. of Commerce report "Approaches to Developing Questionnaires." Principal contributor: Anitra Rustemeyer Streett.

One way to evaluate questionnaires is to investigate respondents' understanding of the intent of specific questions and the meaning of their replies to those questions. This technique is called frame-of-reference probing, and is done by asking the respondent some additional questions. It is designed to address concerns about whether the questions, definitions, and instructions proposed for a questionnaire

convey the frame of reference desired. Probing to determine respondent frame of reference can be especially useful when words (like "crime") that are key elements in a survey are thought to carry emotional impact.

The probing questions can take different forms: either ad hoc questioning by the interviewer or administration of a set of questions written in advance (called "structured"). Ad hoc questioning usually takes place after the survey questionnaire has been administered. When structured follow-up questions are asked, the probing might be done immediately after the question containing the words or concept of interest is asked; alternatively, it might be done after the survey ques-

tionnaire has been completed.

Frame-of-reference probing can be incorporated at various stages of the questionnaire development process. It might be planned as a part of a pilot study or field test or it might be done during the actual survey.

Personnel and skill requirements

This technique is implemented by interviewers, and to some extent, the skill requirements involved depend on whether the probing takes the form of structured follow-up questions or unstructured questioning. In the former case, regular interviewing skills are required; in the latter, more extensive interviewing skills such as detailed probing, the ability to think quickly, and others are also necessary.

When this technique is used during informal testing, it may be preferable for researchers/questionnaire designers to conduct the interviews to give more insight into respondents' interpretations of the word or phrase of interest.

Selection of respondents

The way respondents are selected for frame-of-reference probing depends on which stage in the questionnaire design process the method is used. During the questionnaire development process, respondents are selected using the same purposive selection strategies as those used in informal tests or unstructured interviews. If respondents' interpretations of questions in formal tests or actual surveys are subjected to investigation using this technique, however, respondents have already been selected through scientific

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Reports provide data on effectiveness of print advertising

McGraw-Hill Research, through its Laboratory of Advertising Performance (LAP), has developed considerable information on the effectiveness of print advertising. The company designed the LAP to assist business publication advertisers and their agencies in making their advertising more effective, covering a variety of subjects to help solve advertising, selling, and marketing problems. The data for the LAP are culled from a wide variety of

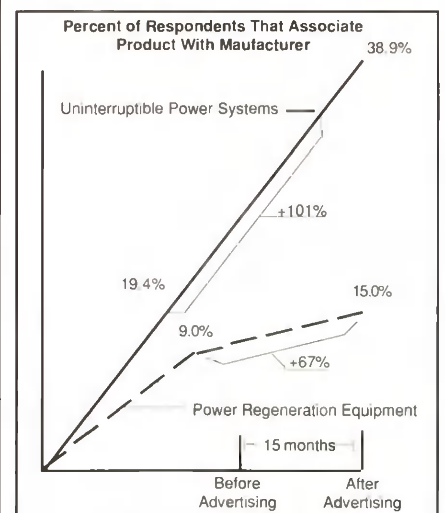


sources, a few of which are: advertising readership reports from interviews with thousands of readers of McGraw-Hill magazines; independent studies of industrial marketers and advertisers who coop-

erate with LAP; and special LAP surveys from confidential data released to McGraw-Hill by manufacturers.

Advertising in business publications enhances product association with the manufacturer

A concentrated advertising campaign of 24 pages over 15 months in *Electrical*



Construction and Maintenance magazine increased product awareness for uninterruptible power systems equipment and power regeneration equipment 101% and

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Nancy Levine
President

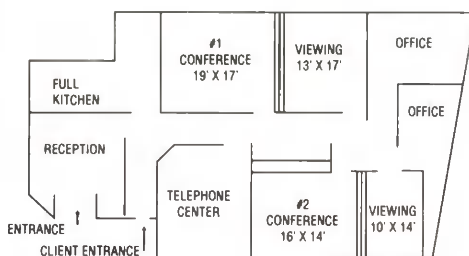
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TUESDAY, JUNE 13

Tutorials on Computer Interviewing, Perceptual Mapping, Conjoint Analysis, and Cluster Analysis
Presented by the Burke Institute and Sawtooth Software

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

The Disk-by-Mail Survey as a Competitive Tool

Disk-by-Mail Surveys: Three Years' Experience
Brant Wilson, *Compaq Computer Corporation*

Customer Satisfaction Research Using Disks by Mail
Lucy Frost & Peter Zandan, *IntelliQuest, Inc.*

Practical Issues in Computer Interviewing

Maintaining Quality in Large Projects
Nancy L. Messinger, *Burke Marketing*

Staying Sane While Doing 20,000 Computer Interviews a Year
Diane Pyle, *Hallmark Cards, Inc.*

Conjoint Analysis as a Tool for Competitive Pricing

Optimal Pricing Strategies Through Conjoint Analysis
Jonathan Weiner, *MACRO*
Mary Jane Tyner, *Levi Strauss & Co.*

Comparing Simulated Purchase Testing with Trade-Off Analysis
N. Carroll Mohn, *The Coca-Cola Company*

Using Ci2 and ACA to Obtain Complex Pricing Information
Greg S. Gum, *US WEST*

New Hardware for Computer Interviewing
Speakers to be Announced

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

Computer Interviewing Applications in the Navy
Emanuel Somer, *Navy Personnel Research & Development Center*

Large-Scale Conjoint Data Collection at the Chicago Auto Show
Linda Middleton, *Chicago Tribune Company*

Computer Interviewing in Europe: What the U.S. Researcher Needs to Know
Martin Steffle, *PA, London, England*

Using Perceptual Mapping for New Market Entry Decisions
Richard H. Siemer, *Dow Chemical Company*

Repositioning A Service
David Masterson, *First Tennessee National Bank*

Evaluating Distribution Channels with Perceptual Mapping
Bob Block, *John Morton Company*

The Manager vs. the Customer: A Comparison of Values
Richard B. Ross, *Elrick & Lavidge*

New Findings from Old Data Using Cluster Analysis
Tara Thomas, *Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa*

Large-Scale Research with Small Computers
Charles Obusek, *The Dr Pepper/Seven-Up Companies*
Melody Douglas-Tate, *Leo Burnett Company, Inc.*

Real-World Applications of Conjoint Analysis with Strategio Implications
Rudyard Istvan, *The Boston Consulting Group*

Value Analysis Across the Business System
Neil K. Allison & John E. Forsyth, *McKinsey & Company*

FRIDAY, JUNE 16 – MAIN SESSION

A Comparison of Clustering Methods
William D. Neal, *SDR, Inc.*

Reliability, Discrimination and Common Sense in Cluster Analysis
Natalie M. Guerlain, *POPULUS, Inc.*

A Correspondence Analysis Approach to Perceptual Maps and Ideal Points
Vincent Shahim, *Markinor House*
Michael Greenacre, *University of South Africa*

Discriminant vs. Factor-Based Perceptual Maps: Practical Considerations
Thomas Pilon, *IntelliQuest, Inc.*

Combining Mapping and Conjoint to Provide Broader Perspective in a Complex Market
Harla L. Hutchinson, *John Morton Company*

Bias in the First Choice Rule for Predicting Share
Terry Elrod & S. Krishna Kumar, *Vanderbilt University*

Assessing Validity in Conjoint Analysis
Richard M. Johnson, *Sawtooth Software*

FRIDAY, JUNE 16 – CONCURRENT SESSION

Starting a CATI Facility

Choosing the Hardware
Del Talley, *The Wirthlin Group*
Charles Bolton, *Freeman & Sullivan*

Choosing the Software
Andrew Norton, *ORI, Inc.*
Edwin Carpenter, *University of Arizona*

Designing the Facility
Richard Miller, *Consumer Pulse, Inc.*

Changes in Organizational Management
Karla Haugan, *Lawrence & Shiller*
Jane Thompson, *The Research Spectrum*

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67% respectively. Prior to the ad campaign, there was no advertising for over a year. The charts show advertising's significant impact on two products of a power conditioning equipment manufacturer.

Advertising communicates the exact product and benefit information, delivering a consistent message time after time. Further, as competitive products enter the marketplace, advertising helps to maintain and strengthen a specific product's visibility by informing, persuading, and reminding prospects about the product's benefits.

Larger advertisements attract greater reader attention

Larger ads draw greater attention to a four-color or black and white ad, accord-

Impact of Size of Space on Drawing Reader Attention to Four-Color Advertisements

| Color/ Space Size | # of Ads | ("Noted Score Index") |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Four-Color/ Spread | 209 | 245 |
| Four-Color/ 1 Page | 367 | 175 |
| Four-Color/ 2/3-Page | 20 | 100 |

Impact of Size of Space on Drawing Reader Attention to Black & White Advertisements

| Color/ Space Size | # of Ads | ("Noted Score Index") |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| B & W/ Spread | 56 | 219 |
| B & W/ 1 Page | 206 | 150 |
| B & W/ 2/3-Page | 26 | 100 |

ing to a 1988 McGraw-Hill Research analysis of 884 ads appearing in the Industrial Technology Edition of *Business Week*. Findings show a consistent rise in Starch "Noted Scores" as size increases. ("Noted" represents the percentage of people interviewed who remembered seeing the advertisement in the issue being

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Quirk's Marketing Research Review

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MARKETING RESEARCH
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studied.) Specifically, four-color spreads attract more than twice as much attention as four-color, two-thirds page ads.

The two-thirds page noted scores are indexed at 100, one index for black-and-white and the other for four-color. Then, indices are calculated for one page and spread ads for both four-color and black and white.

13 repeat ads continue to draw inquiries with each insertion

The Mineral Panels Division of Manville Corporation ran the same full-page, four-color ad 13 times in *Architectural Record* between July 1986 and October 1987. Five times throughout the campaign, repeated insertions generated more inquiries than the initial insertion in July.

Further, throughout the advertising campaign, the same ad continued to draw inquiries for each repeated insertion. Production costs involved in creating a

new ad were saved.

McGraw-Hill Research kept records of inquiries received for each insertion. The number of inquiries generated from the initial insertion was indexed at 100, and indices were calculated for the number of inquiries pulled from each subsequent insertion. (See Fig. 1).

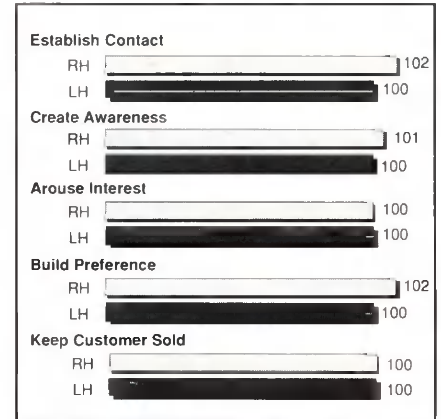
Business-to-business advertisers increase usage of four-color advertising

For three decades, the use of four-color advertising has continued to rise among business-to-business advertisers.

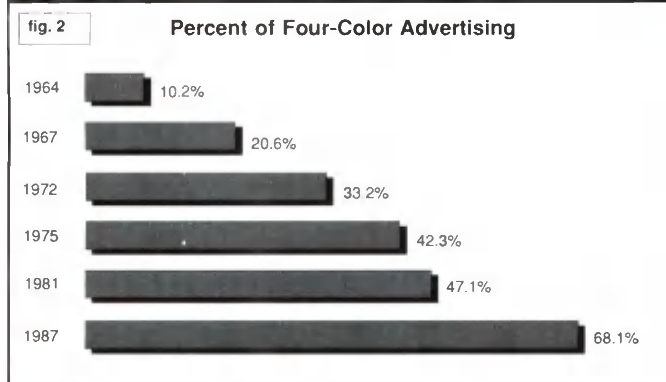
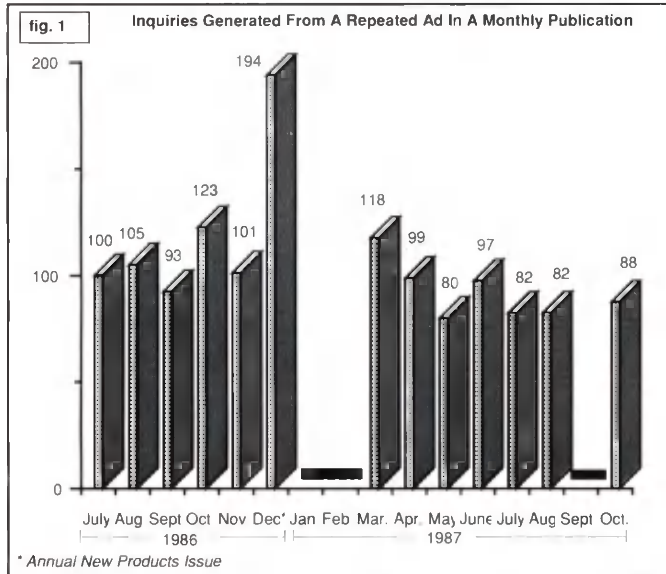
In 1987, the percent of four-color advertising pages in McGraw-Hill publications rose to nearly seven times what it was in 1964. Further, on the average, two-thirds of total ad pages appear in four-color, a substantial increase from 1981. (See Fig. 2).

No significant difference in advertising effectiveness between right- and left-hand page ads

Right- and left-hand page ads perform almost equally in achieving specific communications objectives, such as attracting attention, making the prospect



aware of something not known before, causing action by suggesting solutions to



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problems, building preference by intensifying a positive feeling for the company and keeping customers sold.

A computer analysis of 1,394 ads from McGraw-Hill Research's *Electrical Construction and Maintenance* magazine readership database shows only a slight difference in effectiveness between right- and left-hand page advertising.

The charts compare scores for 921 right-hand page ads and 473 left-hand page ads. The left-hand page ads are indexed at 100, and scores for the five advertising objectives are calculated for right-hand pages ads.

"Associated" and "Read Most" scores also increase with larger ads

The advantage of size is shown below utilizing indices of Starch "Noted," "Associated," and "Read Most" scores. ("Noted" represents the percentage of people interviewed who remembered seeing the advertisement in the issue being studied. "Associated" represents the percentage of people interviewed who not only "Noted" the advertisement, but also saw or read part of it which clearly indi-

| FOUR COLOR | | | | |
|------------|----------|-------|------------|-----------|
| SIZE | # OF ADS | NOTED | ASSOCIATED | READ MOST |
| Spread | 209 | 245 | 269** | 220 |
| 1 Page | 367 | 175 | 188 | 160 |
| 2/3 Page | 20 | 100 | 100 | 110 |

| BLACK & WHITE | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-------|------------|-----------|
| SIZE | # OF ADS | NOTED | ASSOCIATED | READ MOST |
| Spread | 56 | 219 | 207 | 175 |
| 1 Page | 206 | 150 | 143 | 150 |
| 2/3 Page | 26 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

** How to read: Four-Color spreads averaged an "Associated" score of 169% greater than four-color, two-thirds page ads.

cated the brand or advertisement. "Read Most" represents the percentage of people interviewed who read half or more of the written material in the ad.)

Overall, spreads doubled the scores of two-thirds page ads in each category for both four-color and black and white. Thus, larger ads enhance the amount of exposure and readership of an advertisement.

The two-thirds page scores for "Noted," "Associated," and "Read Most" categories are indexed at 100 for both four-color and black and white ads. Then, indices are calculated for one page and spread ads.

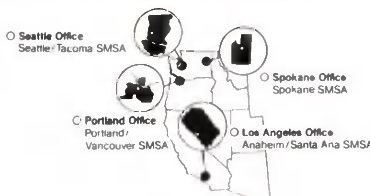
1987 Starch Adnorms were calculated for the *Business Week* Industrial Technology Edition over a two-year study period. The studies were conducted among a representative sample of 150 readers of each issue by personal interviews. Data for each issue were collected the same week as the issue date. Readers were shown an issue page by page and asked whether they had seen or read any part of the advertisement. MRR

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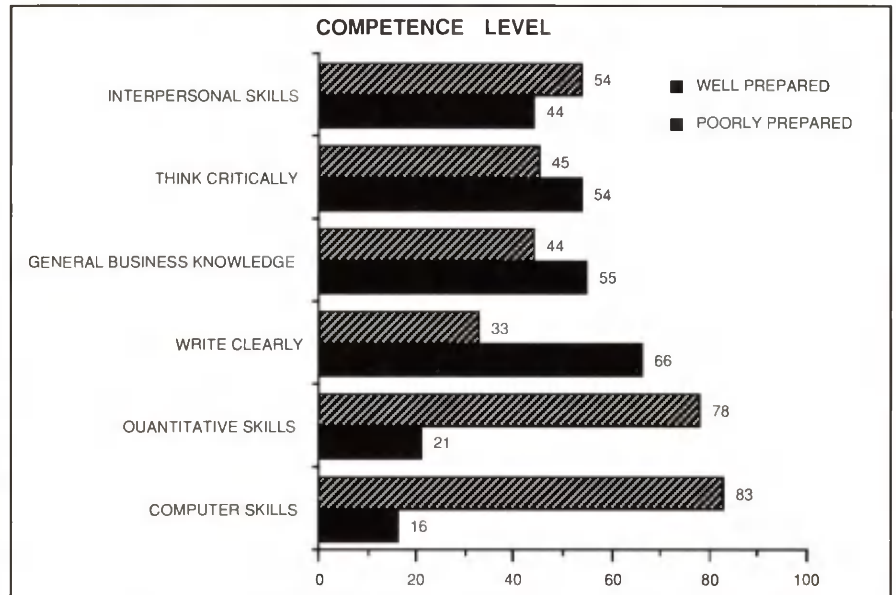
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Worries, American-style

Few Americans are bothered by getting older, but many are concerned with some of the problems of age, according to a research study by R.H. Bruskin Associates. Nearly half of the people in the United States, 44%, worry about their health. Men and women from every region and from all age, income and education groups fret about health problems. A sixth of the people, 17%, worry about physical impairment. 25% are afraid they don't have enough savings--that their money won't be enough to take them through the course of life. The people most worried about savings are those aged 25 to 34.



Executives rate newly hired managers

A recent survey conducted by Opinion Research Corp. finds that many of America's top executives find serious deficiencies in the abilities displayed by young managers and professionals in carrying out their jobs.

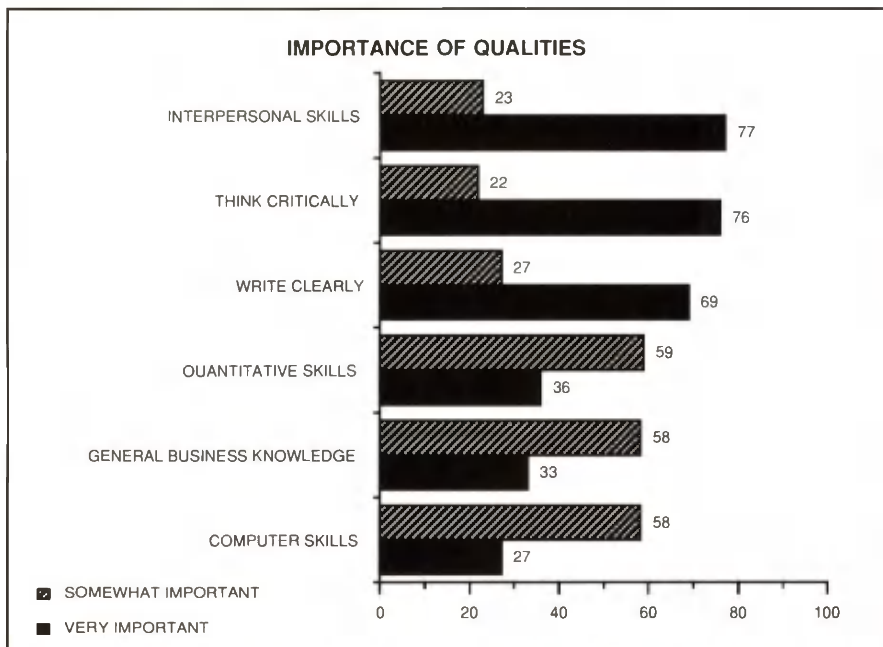
Important skills that executives find lacking among new employees include writing competence and critical reasoning. Executives believe that their younger colleagues are more adept with computers and quantitative data, but these skills are viewed as being less important than others.

Three quarters of executives say that interpersonal skills (77%), and the ability to think critically (76%) are very important to the performance of new managers.

In addition, more than two-thirds of executives (69%) stress the importance of writing ability for new managers.

In contrast, only about half as many executives see quantitative ability (36%), general business knowledge (33%), or computer skills (27%) as being of vital importance.

Many of America's business leaders believe that entry-level managers and professionals are ill prepared in certain crucial areas to meet their organization's needs. Forty-four percent believe these new hires are poorly prepared to deal with interpersonal relationships; a bare majority (54%) of executives see newly hired professionals as having adequate interpersonal skills. Executives are even less complimentary about the ability of recent graduates in regard to other quali-



Trade News

continued

tative talents. 54% say that young managers do not have the ability to think critically. 55% grade new managers as poorly prepared in terms of their general business knowledge. Two-thirds (66%) of executives see junior colleagues as being inadequate writers. This is seen as the most deficient of graduates' skills, with 15% of executives rating them as very poorly prepared.

Although executives see their younger

colleagues as being competent in regard to number crunching skills, they are distinctly unenthusiastic in this regard. No more than one executive in five (19%) believe that recent graduates are "very well prepared" in these areas. However, majority proportions find that recent college graduates are at least reasonably well prepared quantitatively; 83% believe this of graduates' ability to use computers, and 78% believe that college graduates are well prepared to work with quantitative data.

A clean car is a happy car

A recent national survey by Maritz AmeriPoll showed that on average 22% of respondents wash their cars weekly. Eighteen percent wash them every two weeks, while another 23% wash their cars once a month. According to the poll, only 5% never wash their cars.

When respondents were asked what car washing method they use most often, nearly half (48%) said they hand wash at home. Interestingly, women were as likely to hand wash at home as men (48% compared to 49% of men). Over one third of the respondents (35%) said they use an automatic car wash, while 14% use a manual car wash facility.

The doctor will see you...soon

About four of every ten adults (41%) in America visited a doctor's office during the month of November, 1988 according to a national study conducted by R.H. Bruskin Associates. Those that did so made an average of over two visits each. The time spent in the waiting room was just about 25 minutes per visit. Plenty of time to catch up on your reading, isn't it?

Who buys new products first?

In a recent OmniTel study, conducted by R.H. Bruskin Associates, some 23% of all adults indicated that when a new product comes on the market, they like to buy it right away. On the other hand, 63% like to wait until others have tried it, with the balance of 14% undecided or not sure about what they would do. However, 28% of all women say they like to buy that new product right away, compared with only 18% of all the men. Another highlight of the findings: adults over 35 years of age and those with incomes of \$40,000 or more are more likely to be first in buying new products.

THE PLUSES KEEP COMING



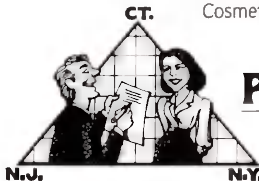
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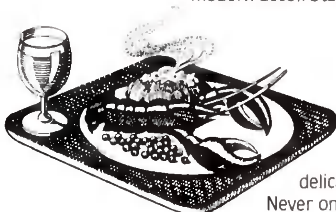
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The Hispanic market comes of age

by Arline M. Lowenthal and Daniel M. Press

As many of you already know, the Hispanic population can no longer be taken for granted in terms of marketing considerations. With a population increase of 34% since 1980 (four times that of the general population in that period), the Hispanic segment is primed to make a tremendous impact on the marketing world. Hence, this powerful market demands thorough research—using proper segmentation and taking into consideration varying degrees of subgroup acculturation/assimilation, as well as particular national orientation.

By the year 2010, Hispanics are expected to be America's largest minority. They are literally screaming for attention and cannot be ignored. Approaching the Hispanic community is relatively inexpensive, efficient, and effective. Consider that a 30-second spot on the top-rated Hispanic TV show "Sabado Gigante" costs \$11,500, while an equal spot on "The Cosby Show" costs \$360,000. Furthermore, when based upon proper research, almost 100% of the targeted audience can be reached for every dollar spent.

A prime reason for the value of the Hispanic market concerns their purchasing tendencies. The Hispanic culture is centered around the family. Thus, as can

be expected, Hispanic families spend more on food and packaged and household goods than their general public counterparts. Though the median Hispanic family income is lower than that of the general public (\$22,900 vs. \$32,000), a greater percentage of their disposable income is spent on household goods. Also, Hispanics generally choose to pay for their purchases with cash.

With proper research, the particular cultural nuances of Hispanics can be utilized as a marketing strategy advantage. Being a "feeling" culture, Hispanics tend to be attracted to campaigns stressing family, community involvement, and personal attention. Special community events are particularly appealing to Hispanics, as was effectively demonstrated during the Cinco de Mayo party at Seaport Village, San Diego, to promote Coors Light Beer. As a result of considering the cultural needs of the Hispanic community, 25,000 people attended the party (*Marketrac San Diego*, March 1989, Vol. 2, No. 3, pp. 17-23).

Findings by Analysis/Research Limited (CHiPS Continuing Hispanic Profile Study, 1982-1988) have revealed that two-thirds of the Hispanic consumers are more likely to buy a product if there is Spanish advertising. However, it

must be understood that intention is not enough. Past campaigns have ignored the Hispanic sensitivity concerning proper word usage—such as the infamous Nova (which translates to Spanish as "doesn't go") automobile campaign (*Marketrac San Diego*, op. cit.). The Hispanic market has become too valuable to permit such carelessness.

Other findings from the CHiPS study have identified general attitudes regarding Hispanic consumer behavior. Of greatest concern, the primary store and product selection criteria among Hispanics are price and quality. The Hispanic consumer is influenced by overall store image—being attracted to stores with colorful, inviting decor where they feel comfortable, unthreatened, and respected. After years of feeling like second-class citizens, Hispanics are justly demanding knowledgeable, bilingual, courteous salespeople. Although advertising and promotions have a huge influence on the Hispanic community, they tend to remain brand-loyal consumers.

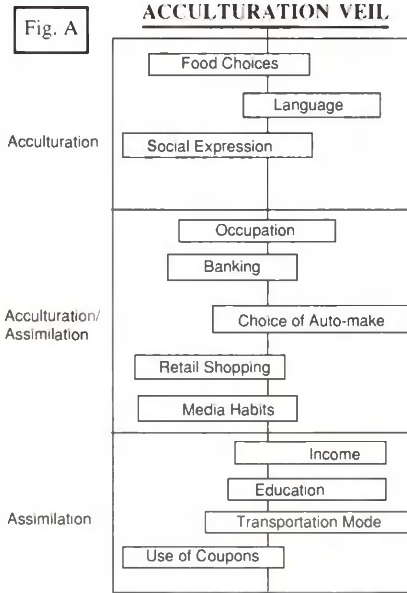
Effective marketing requires the recognition of various subgroups within the Hispanic community through the proper segmentation in the marketing research. Each subgroup varies with respect to word usage and meaning, cul-

tural traditions, experiences and food. Geographically, each individual sub-group tends to live together, forming several Hispanic microcosms.

Mexicans, the predominant sub-group, comprise 63% of the Hispanic population. Puerto Ricans make up 13%. Cubans, the most economically successful group, constitute 5% and the rest are from Central and South America and the Caribbean.

In the Hispanic community, acculturation is occurring at varying levels and degrees. Various indicators of acculturation (food, language, etc.) seem to gradually float back and forth between primary cultural influence with a gentle but steady motion toward the permanent shifting to Americanization. One factor which tends to decelerate the acculturation process among the Mexican population is the proximity to Mexico.

If legal, entry and return is convenient, allowing them to hold on to their family and heritage. Main-



taining their language is a firmer commitment by Hispanics than any other ethnic group. More than

70% of Hispanics speak Spanish at home. And 96% want their children to be able to accurately read and write Spanish.

Figure A provides an illustration of the acculturation process. Picture, if you will, a large veil, a permeable membrane. It represents the divider between country of origin and Americanization. The aspects that combine to form the demographics and psychographics of the Hispanics take the form of arrows piercing the veil or membrane at different rates of speed. These represent various characteristics of the population and can be divided into those affecting acculturation, assimilation, and a combination of the two.

Some of the aspects that affect assimilation are: income, education, transportation mode, and use of coupons.

Some of those that tend to affect acculturation are: food choices, language, social expression.

Some that affect both are: occupation, banking, choice of auto/

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make, retail shopping, media habits.

Levels of acculturation do not necessarily correlate with income and education levels. For instance, the Cubans are a very successful subgroup with little need for acculturation. Many have come over already educated and wealthy, and maintain their success here while living an easier lifestyle. However, for other less educated and less wealthy immigrants, acculturation greatly increases their acceptance into our society—thus opening opportunities for advancement.

The depth of acculturation does have marketing implications. If slow to acculturate, the Hispanics heavily rely on Hispanic-type products to enjoy their celebrations and traditions to their fullest. Even as acculturation does occur, there is still a desire for products that fulfill traditional needs, as well as products that tie into their embracing of U.S. customs, celebrations and traditions. Thus, a dual marketing potential exists.

For the majority of Hispanics, assimilation occurs much quicker than acculturation. More than just the ability to speak English, the level of acculturation is affected by how comfortable an individual feels interacting with the main-

stream. Upon arriving in America, Hispanics tend to adopt the "When in Rome, do as the Romans" credo. Simply, it is easy and enjoyable to adopt certain American advancements over many of the archaic ways of their past. For example, they are glad to "trade in" their walking for driving. The increased income available in the United States is easy to adapt to, and, largely due to curiosity and convenience, American foods find their way into the Hispanic diet. However, there are elements of American culture which Hispanics are hesitant to adopt, including dress, language, celebration of holidays and entertainment.

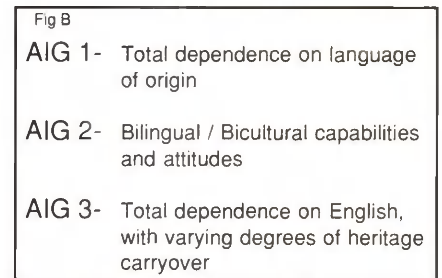
Although younger generations are beginning to adopt many American habits, older generations remain a large influence. This facet of Hispanic culture tends to inhibit acculturation. An example of the effectiveness of thorough research into Hispanic culture deals with this theme.

In a recent United States Army recruiting campaign, it was discovered that while younger Hispanics watch American television, their parents remain loyal to Spanish TV. With the objective of recruiting Hispanics aged 18-24, the Army advertised on American TV—with poor results. Further research revealed that 61.9% of Hispanic youth seek advice from

their parents on such matters (*Fortune*, Nov. 21, 1988, pp. 181-188). By switching their advertising to Spanish TV, the Army increased enlistment considerably. Peace Corps enlistment has increased by 50% among Hispanics due to Spanish commercials.

Now is the time for concerted, carefully segmented marketing research of the Hispanic community. Until now, little Hispanic segmentation has been performed. It is also time to explore psychographic, socioeconomic and demographic factors in terms of varying subculture acculturation levels.

Although Group 1 and Group 3 of the Acculturation Index Group



(Figure B) are generally understood, Group 2 needs to be investigated in greater depth, for it is unclear whether members of this bilingual group are more affected by English or Spanish campaigns—or whether it even matters depending on the subject matter.

With the development of special questions by Analysis/Research Limited to determine accurate segmentation of Group 2, as well as increased sensitivity regarding Hispanic subgroup acculturation/assimilation, the Hispanic market is ready to stake its claim in the marketing world.

Arline M. Lowenthal is president of Analysis/Research Limited. Daniel M. Press is an analyst with Analysis/Research Limited.



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So when several ISA clients realized that Hispanics are the fastest-growing ethnic group in America, and that Asian-Americans have the fastest growing per capita income, they gave ISA a call. They wanted to research the TV viewing habits and fast-food preferences and healthcare experiences of these non-English speaking people. Could ISA help?

"Sure we could," said Michael Halberstam, director of ISA. "Early on, we recognized the need for research in these markets."

To meet this need, ISA's fully-trained, bilingual interviewers and supervisors conduct phone interviews in Spanish and 11 Asian languages: Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese, Korean, Cambodian, Vietnamese, Thai, Laotian, Indonesian, Malay, and Tagalog. The company also recruits and moderates bilingual focus groups, provides full cultural, conceptual, and idiomatic translations of all questionnaires, and designs samples by nationality. ISA's senior staff is experienced with Hispanic and Asian sampling methodologies, and familiar with the cultural distinctions between specific Hispanic and Asian markets across the U.S.

"This is a specialized field," said Halberstam, "and we've learned all of its 'ins and outs'. We've had to, to provide the first-rate work our clients expect."

Lost...but now found!

by Lawrence F. Berry

Current research methodologies all leave out segments of the U.S. Hispanic population, adding up to millions of consumers. Why? How can they be reached?

There are three basic methodologies used to collect quantitative data—telephone, personal interview (primarily mall intercept and door-to-door) and mail. Methodology is selected based on study objectives, incidence levels, target audience, study materials and budgets. Each methodology has known

strengths and weaknesses. These are often magnified in the Hispanic market.

Telephone research among Hispanics misses a large segment of the universe—those without telephones, those with unlisted telephone numbers, and those without Hispanic surnames. Depending on who or what you want to believe, a telephone study among Hispanics begins without the ability to reach 30% to 60% of the population. Even if you're an optimist, 30% of the universe is a large segment to automatically write off.

Personal interview, especially door-to-door, is a superior technique for reaching Hispanics. Its primary weakness is that it misses the segment of the population that does not live in Hispanic areas. Also, many clients find it relatively expensive.

Mail panel research is a superior way to screen large samples and find the "hard to reach." It also offers the benefit of being non-intrusive. The big knock on mail research is the time it takes to gather the information. Also, certain studies just don't lend themselves to mail. In the Hispanic market, the traditional mail panels present even greater problems.

Traditional mail panels identify Hispanic households by identifying Hispanic surnames captured in

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• Traditional mail panels miss these important consumers.
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The Hispanic Mail Panel
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a mass mailing recruiting net. The mailing list is generated primarily from telephone listings, thus missing the 30-60% mentioned previously. In addition to this weakness, the recruiting questionnaire is in English only. There are several studies showing that approximately 50% of U.S. Hispanics are dependent on Spanish to communicate. Therefore, an English questionnaire also misses this other segment of the universe.

Are these important consumers unreachable forever? No! Now a research tool is available that allows the marketing community to reach these segments of Hispanic consumers that are passed over by telephone, door-to-door and traditional mail panels. Venture Marketing Associates has designed and developed HisPañelsm—The Hispanic Mail Panel.

HisPañelsm is a cost-effective tool for gathering consumer data among a true sample of the U.S. Hispanic population. Panel members were recruited with a bilingual questionnaire and are contacted only in Spanish if that is the language they responded in. HisPañelsm is balanced for the total U.S. Hispanic population and is available for studies nationally, or by country of origin, or within the major Hispanic geographic areas.

The "lost" can now be found!

Lawrence F. Berry is president of Venture Marketing Associates, Inc., a full service market research company. His more than 20 years of experience includes time as director of market research for a major packaged goods company and time with a mail panel company.

Bilingual Unlimited Research has developed unique research methods

Bilingual Unlimited Research (BUR) is a Hispanic-owned and operated marketing research firm that has developed unique methods to research this rapidly growing segment of the U.S. market. BUR provides services to business and industry, government agencies, educational institutions, community, health care organizations, and advertising agencies throughout the United States and Latin America.

Founded in 1983, BUR offers specialized marketing services and assists decision makers involved in bringing products or services to the attention of various audiences.

In choosing Bilingual Unlimited Research, you have selected a team of highly qualified Hispanic professionals with individual, first-class talents. Our bilingual staff is fluent and skillful in moving from one language to another. We have a clear understanding of the cultural differences between the various Latino market segments and are completely familiar with the several dialects and expressions that exist. Aware of these differences, Bilingual Unlimited Research creates outstanding Hispanic marketing research.

Analysis/Research Limited: broad yet specific

It doesn't happen often. But it does happen. It begins with ideals and a solid commitment, supported by the utilization of the most modern technologies and state-of-the-art equipment available, sprinkled with the right quantity of personalization and held together with an unyielding desire to perform every study more thoroughly than has ever been done.

Quality training and experience evolve into expertise. Customer satisfaction becomes a theme. Clear reports provide accurate information of equal benefit to the small-business "layman" and marketing expert alike. Gently you undergo the transformation into the role of mentor and consultant, due to the constant pursuit of excellence.

Then it hits.

Each client becomes convinced that their subject is your specialty. Through word of mouth, you develop a reputation for having certain specialties—when in fact, what you do is acquire specific knowledge through extensive research on each industry, utilizing special technologies and addressing unique populations.

Through a gradual process, spanning over three decades, one multi-faceted marketing research professional becomes known for having certain specialties in much the same manner. In 1958, Arline M. Lowenthal co-founded Survey Service of Western New York Inc. In 1975, she founded Analysis/Research Limited in San Diego. She is a pioneer in researching the Hispanic market, having done so since 1969.

Analysis/Research Limited is unique in its recognition of excellence and professionalism, in its Hispanic Division as well as all other aspects of the company. This disperses into all areas, from industry specialties to technological specialties to population specialization.

In the area of industry specialties, "Shopping Centers and the Retail Industry" is one of long standing, as is "Travel and Tourism," serving hotels (lodging), cruise lines, airlines, tour providers, and auto rental companies. The legal profession is served by another specialization, including research covering jury selection, mock trial, trademark infringement, as well as other needs of the legal profession including the marketing of its own capabilities. Automotive, entertainment, insurance providers are a few more industries in which Analysis/Research Limited has gained extensive knowledge.

Analysis/Research Limited has honed many technologies and disciplines to deliver more meaningful and easily executed recommendations. An unbeatable melding of the quantitative and qualitative process is acquired through Analysis/Research Limited's Q.Q.P.S. technique. The use of proprietary techniques in ad testing, tracking, and Attitude Awareness Usage studies increase the return on investment into this research.

The enhancement of our Data Collection Division by the opening of a regional mall location, together with the development of the mini focus group process and use of the telephone focus group methodology effectively assists Analysis/Research Limited clients, thus achieving Analysis/Research Limited's goals and ful-

filling their mission statement. The extensive background of Analysis/Research Limited in the qualitative discipline, which includes focus groups and one-on-ones, led to the development of their San Diego-based focus group facility as well as the strong national demand for Arline Lowenthal's moderating and consulting capabilities for both her and the Analysis/Research Limited staff of trained moderators.

As for population specialization, thorough knowledge of the general population has give way to comprehensive awareness of both the cultures and languages (dialects) of the Hispanic (over 20 years) and the Asian (over 8 years) communities. Analysis/Research Limited serves all populations, the general population consumer, business-to-business and asso-

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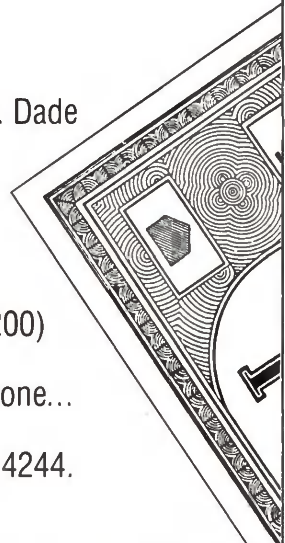
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NAMES OF NOTE

Lydia T. Kihm, formerly account executive at Centrac, Inc.'s headquarters in Bergenfield, NJ, will be in charge of the company's new office in the Washington, D.C. metro area as regional marketing manager.

Stuart Lahn has been promoted to executive vice president of Oxtoby-Smith, Inc., New York, NY.

Jacqueline H. Beckley has joined Chicago-based Peryam & Kroll as vice president. Previously she was group manager

for sensory research and evaluation with Quaker Oats Co., Chicago.

Barry Maners has been named director of client services for Walker: Customer Satisfaction Measurements, a division of Indianapolis-based Walker Research. Previously he was with PT Components as director of market planning and development, marketing services division.

Carol Jubert has been promoted to project director at St. Paul, MN-based

Rockwood Research.

Bashir A. Datto has been promoted to senior vice president, director of quantitative research, for Total Research Corp., Princeton, NJ.



Gulovsen

Robert J. Gulovsen has joined Pragmatic Research, Inc. as vice president. Previously he was vice president of marketing for Hollywood Brands, an operating unit of the Sara Lee Corp.

Cheryl L. Bann has been promoted to associate vice president, marketing, at Dain Bosworth, Inc., Minneapolis.

Joe Welchel has joined the Atlanta office of Elrick & Lavidge as an account manager. Previously he was manager of marketing research and strategic planning for the Red Lobster chain of General Mills Restaurants, Inc. **Joan Gibson** has also joined Elrick & Lavidge as an account manager at the company's San Francisco office. Previously she was associate director of strategic planning for J. Walter Thompson.

Andrew Kulley has been promoted to senior vice president of Response Analysis Corp., Princeton, NJ.

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The one-day User Exchanges are designed to update users on SPSS developments, advancements in data analysis

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For more information, contact Maryl Wesolowski at 312-329-3506.

Analysis package update

Creative Research Systems is now shipping Version 4.0 of its questionnaire analysis package The Survey System. The new version features an enhanced

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New syndicated study tracks physician awareness

DTW Marketing Research Group introduces T.O.M.C.A.T. (Top of Mind Category Awareness Tracking), a twice yearly syndicated tracking study that measures top of mind awareness of products by diagnosis and product category among key physician specialties. For more information contact Gary Troast or Richard Wetzel at 201-325-2888.

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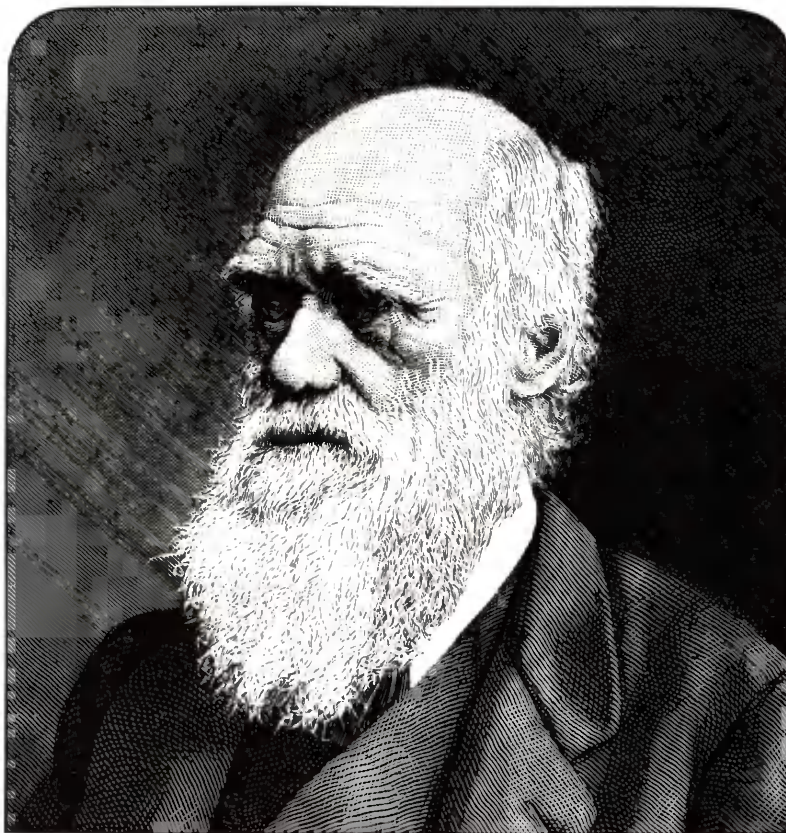
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Nielsen expands Scantrack

Nielsen Marketing Research announces the SCANTRACK Convenience Store Service, which will report all convenience chain sales activity for a given market. The company recently signed an agreement with The Southland Corporation (7-Eleven Stores), as well as National Convenience Stores (Stop and Go), E-Z Mart, and a number of other convenience cooperators to launch the service. The first market for the service is Dallas, Texas. SCANTRACK will retrieve tactical, weekly sales, price and causal data, allowing manufacturers to measure sales rates per price point, the effect of feature ads, promotional activities, and other marketing programs.

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continued from p. 7

still enjoy spending it.

Apprehensive Passengers

This segment makes up 17% of Greyhound ridership. The very idea of travel makes them uneasy--they feel like nothing will go right; their bus will be late or their luggage will be lost. Once on the road, they don't enjoy sightseeing or talking to new people. This segment contains an equal percentage of blacks and whites and a slightly higher number of singles. Apprehensive Passengers are generally less educated and their incomes are slightly lower. They don't plan in advance. Their negative outlook on travel extends to their view of the world at large. They are pessimistic about the future and unhappy with their current lot.

Nervous Travelers

Like the Apprehensive Passengers, Nervous Travelers (who form 16% of total ridership) are anxious about travel. They don't enjoy it for any purpose. They are obsessive about keeping to a schedule, and plan their trip well in advance. Nervous Travelers avoid talking to strangers and feel most comfortable traveling with someone they know. They travel primarily to visit friends and relatives. This segment contains the highest proportion of women, fewer singles and an equal number of married and divorced people. As a whole, the segment is of average age, occupation, education and household income level. They are stable people who view life seriously and prefer staying at home to traveling.

Many uses

So far, the research findings have been put to many uses. A TV spot portraying some of the segments was shown last year on a limited basis, but such direct use of the segments for ad content is the exception rather than the rule. Instead, Graley says, the research will be used to inform Greyhound advertising, much of which is produced for network radio.

"We're not going to directly design something around it, but at the same time, the information that was generated in that



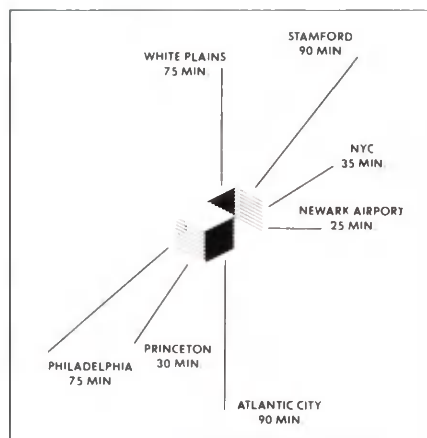
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research project—as well as all of our other research—certainly is being utilized both in designing the spot and where we air it,” he says.

Training program

The segments will be also be used as part of a training program for employees who have or will have a great deal of contact with the customers.

For example, the psychographic profiles will give the approximately 800 employees of Greyhound’s two regional

Telephone Information Centers (which disperse fare and schedule information for all of Greyhound’s major U.S. markets) a better idea of the personalities and lifestyles of the people on the other end of the telephone line. A similar concept will be also be used in new driver training programs.

Economically viable

Last year Graley delivered a paper based on the segmentation study before the U.S. Travel Data Center’s Travel Outlook Forum, in an effort to inform the conference about a less affluent, but economically viable group of traveling consumers.

The paper communicated to the forum attendees that there is a large group of travelers in the United States that are in many ways different from travelers using other modes of transportation. They are less likely to be on vacation and far less likely to be traveling on business. They are more likely visiting friends or relatives and view their trip as a necessity. For many of them, other modes of travel may not be affordable. 50% of all Greyhound passengers report that they do not have access to a reliable car, so even

automobile travel may not be a viable transportation alternative.

Target market

Graley also sees the segmentation study being used in tandem with Greyhound’s geodemographic research.

“In approximately 50 markets we have developed geodemographic profiles of our customers by capturing their home ZIP codes. Utilizing National Decision System’s Infomark package, detailed demographic information is developed for our customers on a ZIP code level. We have used this information primarily for terminal relocation and site selection, however it also has applications in target marketing.

“Since a demographic profile of each of the five psychographic segments is available, it is also possible to determine the psychographic profile of a specific geographic area utilizing results from geodemographic analysis.”

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dress is 9158 Rothbury Drive, Suite 105, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. Telephone 301-948-4531.

Oxtoby-Smith Inc. has moved to new, larger quarters at 215 Park Ave. South, New York, NY, 10003. Telephone 212-614-0040.

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◆
Savitz Research Center, Inc. has opened new corporate headquarters at Monfort Park, 13747 Montfort Dr., Suite 111, Dallas, TX, 75240. Telephone 214-386-4050.

◆
As of April 15th, the Columbus office of **T.I.M.E. Market Research** will change its name to **Focus and Phones of Columbus**.

◆
Merrill Moss and Larry Noedel announce the formation of **Rainier Research**, a marketing research firm located at 5129 Eagle Harbor Drive, Seattle, WA 98110. Telephone 206-842-4797.



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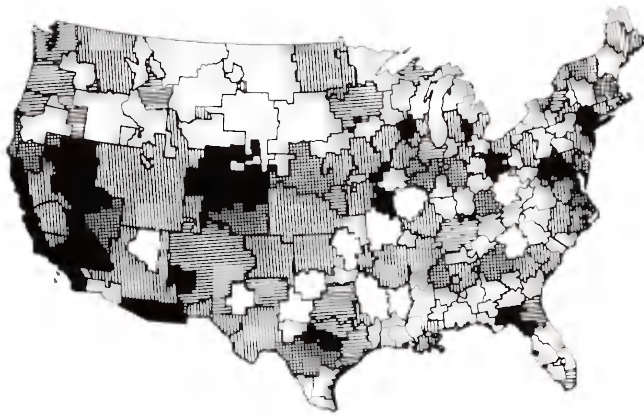
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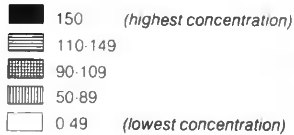
continued from p. 9

more than just about everything. Predominantly aged 55 to 64 with blue-collar occupations, this segment likes to eliminate the risk of financial loss, and is a good direct response prospect for reputable, established companies.

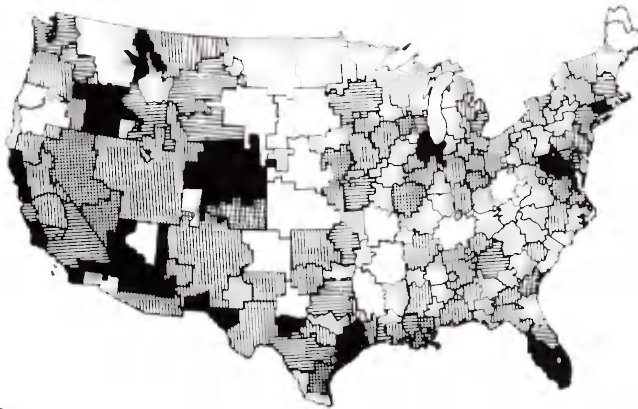
Rural Route 1

The pace here is slow and easygoing. This is a conservative group, keeping traditional values. They tend to be aged 55 and older, living in small towns and rural areas. Since "the big city" may be miles away, direct mail provides a way to obtain products easily. Financially comfortable, but not wealthy, this group is a good direct mail insurance prospect, as they tend to make their own purchasing decisions, and may not seek out advice from financial advisors.

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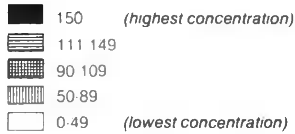
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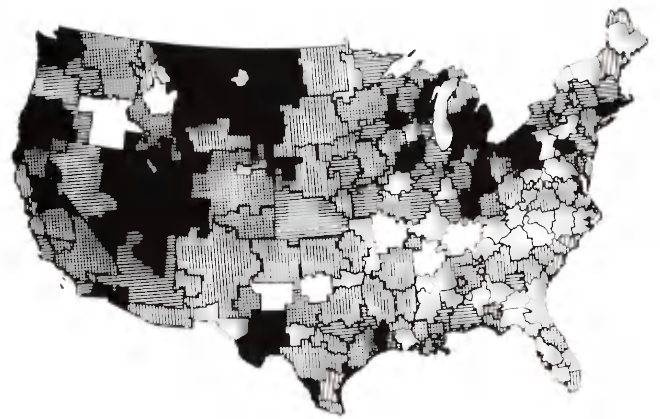
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Taking one day at a time, this group lives from paycheck to paycheck on about \$15,000. Most are struggling young parents or couples aged 18 to 24. One parent may work the day shift, the other the night. Like the Rural Route 1 group, financial planning assistance is not sought



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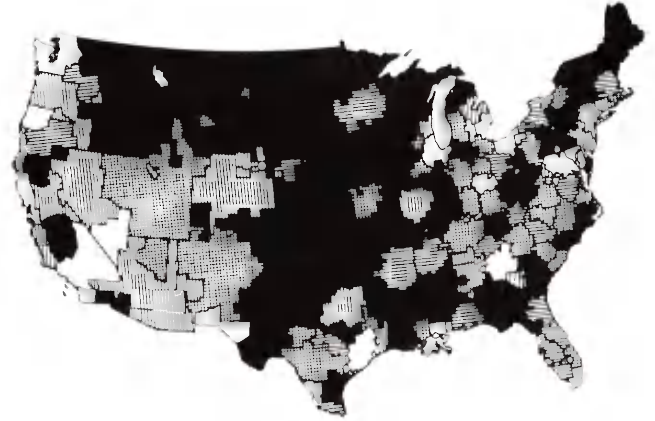


out. So if a product is something they feel they need, they'll purchase through direct mail.

(SRI International recently introduced VALS 2 and Minnesota Mutual will re-evaluate the customer segments with this new information, following the same procedure as before.)



Rural Route 1



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The development of MAPS gave the group division a clearer picture of the actual person buying the product, rather than marketing to an anonymous mass.

The MAPS information is used in a variety of ways:

- Product segmentation—deciding which product to offer to which households and the best way to market that product. For example, if the Finer Things segment appears unlikely to buy one product, there may be another product that could have more appeal for them.

The right product mix is the ultimate goal.

- Non-buyer segmentation—some households just aren't worth the sales effort. These households can be deleted from the start, which means eliminating administration costs associated with preparing a mailing, as well as postage costs.

- Market analysis—keeping up with how our markets and our buyers are changing.

- New product development—the database work has provided greater insight into the gaps that exist in the product

offerings and where new product efforts should be concentrated.

Efficient database management has revolutionized the marketing of group products, but has it increased revenue? A variety of techniques is used to find out.

Both point-of-sale and direct response activity are continually tracked. Extensive tests also pit products against one another. In general, new strategies are tested against what would have been done without the added MAPS information and are judged on the basis of premium generation. What is being tested and judged is not just the data or the system, it's all of the parts that went into the execution of the particular program—that includes the type of consumer, the product, the timing issues (seasonality)—anything that could have an effect on whether or not a consumer will buy.

The customer profiles developed through our analysis also add value to the service package delivered to the financial institution clients. Many clients have asked that their portfolios be analyzed and marketing recommendations made.

Minnesota Mutual's database marketing expertise in group-related products is the base formula for realizing even greater corporate-wide potential. The analytical methods used for the group data could be applied to other product lines: a larger agency force sells individual insurance, and the company has pension and asset management divisions and a fire and casualty affiliate. The need now is for a corporate-wide Customer Information File (CIF).

Currently, data for all the various product lines is stored in separate databases. First, a CIF would merge data from all the databases and allow standardization of data collection, storage and analysis so that effectiveness of marketing programs can be measured globally. Second, with all product lines' data merged into one database, cross-sell opportunities can be explored, allowing Minnesota Mutual increased market share. And finally, increased information can be made available at point-of-sale. By having various database and segmentation information available via computer, the sales attempt can be that much more effective.

The "revolution" of Minnesota Mutual's databases has now turned into a

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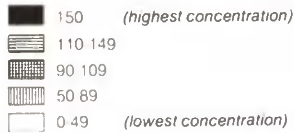
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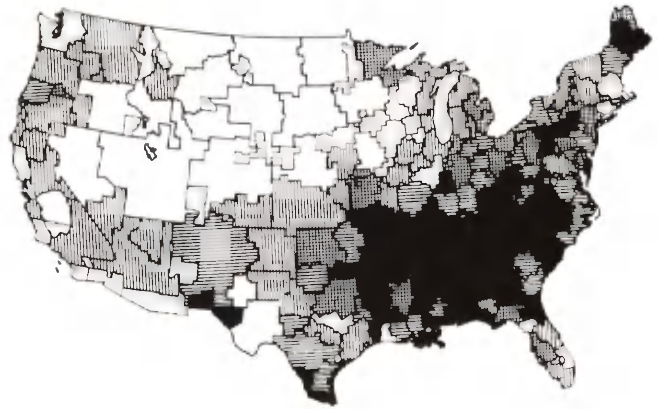
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process of "evolution." The databases must adapt to accommodate an ever-changing marketplace—they cannot



Bare Essentials



remain static. The company must meet the marketing challenge that the 90s present and continue to provide customers with products that will truly meet their needs. Proper database management will help meet that challenge. MRR

Nance Olson is a senior market data analyst with St. Paul-based Minnesota Mutual. She is responsible for the tracking of data and analysis of databases to look for marketing opportunities. She received a bachelor of arts degree from Augsburg College in Minnesota and was previously employed at Rockwood Research Corporation.



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Respondent interpretations

continued from p.14

procedures. Depending on time and resource constraints, everyone in the sample can be included in the frame-of-reference probing, or respondents can be subsampled and the additional probing questions asked of only a percentage.

Preparation

In advance of data collection, the following basic decisions need to be made:

1. *Decide when during the question-*

naire design process to probe respondents' interpretations.

During the questionnaire development, probing to determine respondent frame of reference for key concepts can facilitate improvements in question wording and thereby avoid collecting data that cannot be properly analyzed statistically. This type of question investigation can warn the survey designer of ambiguities that will cause respondent confusion and irritation. If ambiguities concerning the meaning of questions are present, it is

likely that the interviewers will be asked to explain what is meant or what type of answer is wanted. When interviewers are asked to explain questions, the chance of interviewer bias increases dramatically.

If probing to determine respondent frame of reference is included in the final questionnaire used for the survey, it can help to illuminate the answers provided in the survey. The answers to the probing questions may help the survey analyst to understand what appear to be inconsistent answers. And in a repetitive survey, problem questions can be deleted or changed for subsequent interviews.

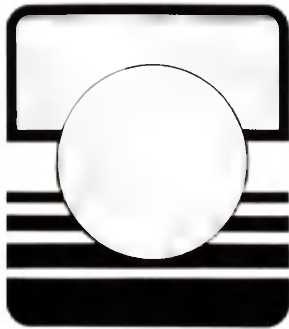
2. *Decide which words or phrases to probe.*

Words or phrases that are central to collecting uniform information and thought to be susceptible to misinterpretation should be subjected to investigation. For example, in a study designed to evaluate the seriousness of various crimes, the respondent might be asked to rate the seriousness of an event described as "An offender injures a victim and the victim dies." To know whether the respondent answered in general terms or attributes specific circumstances to the event before rating its seriousness, additional probing should be done to determine how each respondent interpreted the question.

3. *Decide where in the interview to probe.*

If the questions added for the frame-of-reference probing do not disrupt the interview (by changing the subject, for example) and are not expected to bias the remaining survey questions, then it is probably best to ask them immediately after the question where the word or phrase of interest appears. By placing the probing questions immediately after the survey questions of interest, there should be no doubt as to what word or phrase is being referenced. If the probing questions might disrupt or bias the interview (such as detailed questions about sources of income, traffic accidents, or the nature of mental illnesses in the family), those questions could be placed near the end of the interview and preceded with a transition statement such as "Earlier I asked you about...; now I have just a few more questions about that."

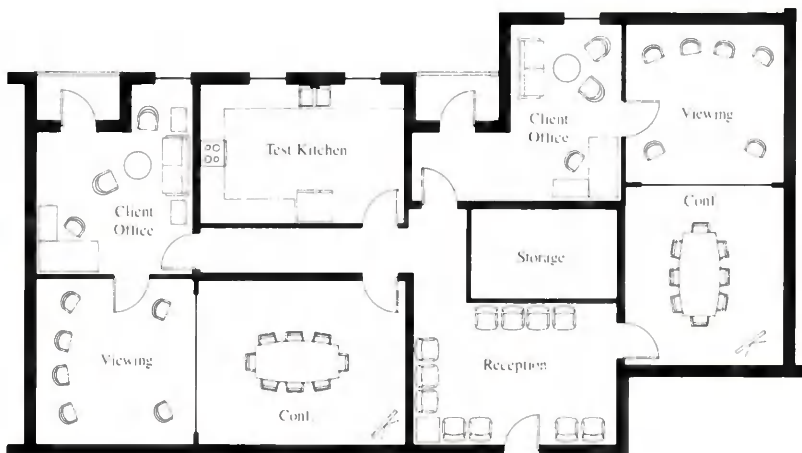
4. *Arrange probing so that only a few questions (two to four) are probed with a*



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respondent.

The number of survey questions to be investigated by frame-of-reference probing is decided by the researcher. However, if more than about two to four words or phrases are to be investigated, it might be better to limit the number subjected to probing with any one respondent and interview a larger number of persons to collect enough data. Important considerations in setting the number of questions to be investigated are the total length of the interview and the respondent's tolerance for being questioned in detail on subjects for which he or she may have little interest and/or knowledge. Unless the respondents selected for this type of interviewing are known to be especially knowledgeable or interested in the topics to be probed, it may be best to assume a low level of knowledge and interest and arrange the probing questions accordingly.

5. Determine how many and what kind of probes to use to investigate each word or phrase under study.

The optimal number of questions used to determine the meaning attached to a

word or phrase is probably about three to five. If too few probes are used, there is the risk of superficial or inadequate treatment of the subject; if too many are used, there is the risk of being tedious, appearing to challenge or question a respondent's views, beliefs, or attitudes, or of appearing to be administering a test in which these are "right" and "wrong" answers.

Clearly, adding questions to an interview results in a more time-consuming interview. In addition, there may be some respondents who will dislike being asked to report information such as what they were thinking about when they answered a question, or other questions requesting them to think about how they think about things. If the probing questions are carefully worded, it should be possible to avoid putting respondents "on the spot." An illustration of a question that was carefully constructed to avoid putting a person "on the spot" is: "Speaking of crime, everyone agrees some acts are crimes, but there are different ideas about others. Do you believe it is a crime for someone to...?"

6. Arrange a method of probing and presentation of additional questions.

The method of probing depends on the stage of the questionnaire design process at which the technique is used. When it is used for questionnaire development, it might be more useful to the researcher if interviewers are given guidance on what information is desired and then allowed to develop their own follow-up questions. To some extent, the choice between structured and unstructured methods during developmental work depends on the level of experience of the interviewers; less experienced interviewers and those not familiar with research methods may require more structured assignments.

If used during the survey itself and if all respondents are to be asked all frame-of-reference probing questions, the follow-up questions should be printed on the questionnaire so that they will be asked in the same way, and at the same time during the interview, of all respondents.

7. Establish a system to record results of the probe.

Two common ways of recording re-

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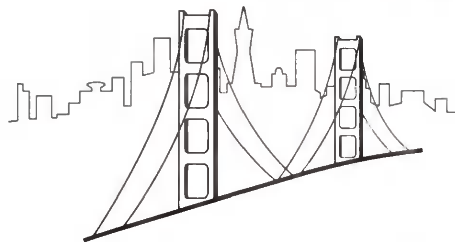
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sults of unstructured interviewing are tape recording and having a second person accompany the interviewer to take notes. If structured questions are used (with printed questions to be read), then precoded answers may be developed to aid the interviewer in recording the answers quickly.

8. *Develop a technique for reconciling survey question response with probing response if the two answers are expected to be the same.*

Sometimes the frame-of-reference probing questions ask for the same type of information as the survey question, but in a different manner. When the same type of information is asked, the respondent may seem to give quite different or contradictory responses to the frame-of-reference probing than he or she did to the survey question. Reconciliation of responses is important for these cases. If this happens, the interviewer might say, "In light of what you've just been saying, I'd like to go back and ask again one of my earlier questions;...(repeat question)."

Operation

Since frame-of-reference probing is generally done in conjunction with one of the stages of testing or with the survey it-

self, the selection of a site and other operational details are taken care of in planning for the main event. Some additional details may be necessary to accommodate the use of this technique, however. For example, if experienced interviewers rather than researchers are involved, they may require extra training on how to ask the additional questions. If unstructured probing is required, the training may be longer, more complicated, and different in content than if structured questions are added to the questionnaire.

If a decision is made to use frame-of-reference probing questions for a subset of respondents rather than for all of them, additional interviewer instructions may be necessary.

Data analysis is the final step in the operation of frame-of-reference probing. Analysis focuses on responses to the probing questions and may also include their relationship to some of the other subjects of interest in the survey. Take, for instance, the example cited earlier in which respondents are asked to consider the seriousness of the following statement: "An offender injures a victim and the victim dies." Do people who imagine the injury to be inflicted during a barroom brawl rate the seriousness of the crime the same as or different from people who imagine it to have been the result of a traffic accident? Differences in the responses of male versus female respondents or consistencies in the pattern of a single respondent's replies to a variety of such vignettes may also be of interest. If there is no differentiation among the ranking of crimes which are considered quite different by the questionnaire designer, there may be either a problem with the language in question (suggesting that the wording should be changed), a problem with the researcher's notions about the seriousness of the crimes (suggesting that different examples be included), or perhaps a problem with the respondent's ability to make the desired distinctions (suggesting that the questions should be deleted). Such an analysis conducted in the conjunction with the final survey may provide explanations for some of the results from the analysis of the survey data.

Time considerations

For the most part, the time required for

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planning and executing frame-of-reference probing overlaps preparation for the survey or test to which it is being appended. The selection of the testing vehicle, the data collection, and the data analysis all occur simultaneously with operations for the test or survey. Thus, the additional time necessary to use this technique is minimal. Drafting the probing questions (or deciding what information is required from unstructured probing) cannot take place until after the questions containing the words or phrases of interest are written, and it must be done before the interviewers who will administer the questions are trained.

Analysis of the information collected from unstructured frame-of-reference probing may take longer than from structured probing, since an additional coding phase may be required.

Cost considerations

In general, the cost factors involved in frame-of-reference probing, over and above those of the test or survey itself, are slight. Additional expenses may be incurred for reproduction of questionnaires

or interviewing materials, interviewer salaries for longer interviews, and salaries for the researchers/questionnaire designers. If members of the research staff conduct the interviews, cost of travel and related expenses, and extra salary expenses will also be incurred.

Mode of data collection

Frame-of-reference probing is suited for use in designing interviewer-administered surveys, either face-to-face or tele-

phone. It could also be used in a face-to-face test of a mail questionnaire, but mail questionnaires themselves are not well-suited to the technique. Structured follow-up questions could be incorporated into a mail questionnaire, but since the respondent is free to answer questions in any order and over a long period of time, the responses to the probing questions may not be good indicators of what respondents had in mind when answering certain questions. MRR

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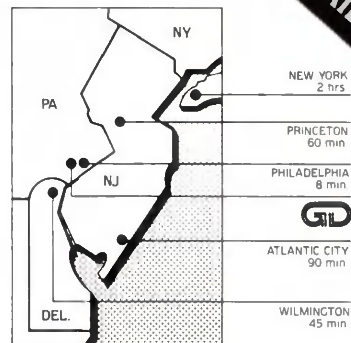
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Trade Talk

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including a Morris centerfold, a guide to giving your cat a bath, a history of cats in the arts, and a hilarious piece, written from a cat's perspective, called "How to Run a Household." For anyone who's ever owned—or, rather, been owned by—a cat, this piece is uncanny proof that cats do the same crazy stuff all over the world. (Here's one of the best: "When you have ordered that an outdoor door be opened for you, stand half in and half out and think about various things. This is particularly important during very cold and very hot weather, and during mosquito season.")

In addition, there are several departments, including an advice column written by a veterinarian, and a host of cat tales of all kinds sent in by readers—short stories, odes, you name it.

Judging by the enthusiastic tone of the reader-submitted material, *The Morris Report* seems to have found its niche. Brown concurs.

"Among the people that are receiving it, it has been a tremendous success. We get a large amount of favorable mail, roughly 40% of the editorial is actually written by subscribers."

But the company would like to see the magazine have a broader reach.

"We are considering a more comprehensive direct marketing effort, and we see *The Morris Report* as being an element within that overall direct marketing effort. We have to devote more time to it, to go out and market it more aggressively. The first time around, we were just trying to get it off the ground. Well, we've gotten it off the ground, now it's time to take it to the next level." MRR

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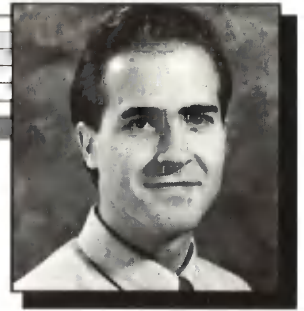
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By Joseph Rydholm
managing editor



Magazine purrs along nicely

A company that has a well-known character associated with its product(s) has a valuable asset. Consumer brand recognition can be instantaneous, providing crucial inroads for promotional messages. One of the best known of these "characters" is Morris the Cat, spokesperson for Star Kist's 9 Lives line of cat food.

The company has long run offers on 9 Lives products for Morris paraphernalia (posters, calendars, etc.), and Morris even made a bid for the White House last year. As an integral part in cementing Morris' place in the hearts of cat owners everywhere, Star Kist has taken the Morris phenomenon to its next logical step: a magazine devoted to the Finicky One.

Titled, modestly enough, *The Morris Report*, the magazine is published four times a year and is available by subscription for \$7.95. The magazine was introduced nationally in 1987 with a

free standing insert in Sunday newspapers, and free copies were mailed to thousands of cat owners, whose names were obtained from 9 Lives' mailing list. In addition, the magazine was sent to over 15,000 veterinarians for placement in waiting rooms.

The idea for the magazine was brought to 9 Lives by special interest publisher Alan Weston Communications, who believed that with a strong character such as Morris, they could create a magazine around him that would fulfill two objectives for 9 Lives, says 9 Lives product manager Eric Brown.

First, it would allow them "to have an ongoing dialog and develop a one-on-one relationship with the cat owning public—which is about 30% of all households. Second, it provided an efficient vehicle to begin building

our own in-house database," Brown says.

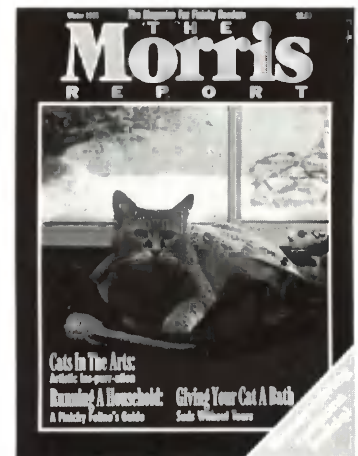
Having such a data base, Brown says, allows the company to deliver its promotions and communications more efficiently. To that end, each issue contains money saving coupons for 9 Lives products and a section called The Morris Mart which offers merchandise such as a Morris jigsaw puzzle to readers for cash plus proofs of purchase.

This section has gotten good response from readers, Brown says, and with the cash plus proofs concept, it's an excellent way to ensure continuity of purchase of 9 Lives products.

To make sure that readers would also respond well to the other sections, focus groups were held during the magazine's creation to find out what prospective readers would (and wouldn't) like to see in such a publication.

"They were very valuable also in helping us to find what our specific editorial content and direction ought to be," Brown says of the focus groups. "We put together a mock publication with a table of contents and we went through some of our ideas for what might be in the magazine in an on-going basis and what some of the features might be. We also got a feel for what the mix might be between entertaining versus informational articles."

The most recent issue boasts 52 cat lovin' pages of material,



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