SIEMENS

Siemens
51 Valley Stream Parkway
Malvern, PA 19355

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RE: Customer Advisory Notice

Dear Director of Clinical Information Systems:

This pertains to users of the Adaptability Tool who build forms in all versions of
Soarian® Clinicals.

We are informing you that, under certain conditions, it is possible to build a form
that would cause values that are not visible to the clinical user to be valued and
saved to the database. It is important to keep in mind that anything saved to the
database will print on reports and documents and will be stored in your EDM system,
even though it may not be visible when viewing the form. The following examples
refer to defining Assessment Forms.

- In one scenario default values could be defined for fields that only become visible
  when a check box is checked. In this case the form should be set up using a
  trigger to default in the values and remove them from the form definition. Make
  sure that the 'fire on change flag" is unchecked when available. One trigger
  would be needed to make the field visible when the check box is checked,
  another trigger would be needed to set the value, and a third trigger would be
  defined to clear the value when the check box is unchecked/not valued. For
  example, a check box has a label on a Discharge Instruction Form "Smoking
  Cessation Instructions Given?". The clinician checks the box which makes another
  field visible that displays the facility's standard instructions for smoking
  cessation. Before saving the assessment the clinician realizes that the box was
  mistakenly checked so they uncheck it. If a trigger was not defined to clear the
  instructions it would simply become invisible but the instructions would still be
  saved.

- Another scenario where invisible fields could be saved without the end user's
  knowledge is when 'carry forward' is defined and there are also triggers making
  this field visible or invisible based on a specific value. In this case the first value
  (element 1) is entered when the assessment is initially charted; the second
  element then becomes visible and is valued and saved. When this same
  assessment is charted a second time both element 1 and element 2 values are
  carried forward and displayed. But during this second assessment the value of
  element 1 is changed causing the second element to be made invisible. If there
  is no trigger defined to clear the value of the invisible element then it will be
  saved and printed on reports and print forms. Therefore another trigger to clear
  the value from element 2 if element 1 is unvalued is strongly recommended. For
  example, a question on an Admission Assessment is "Is patient currently a
  smoker?". An answer of 'yes' causes additional fields to become visible where
  the clinician enters the "Type" and "How much" and saves the assessment. The
  patient is readmitted several months later and these questions/answers are
  'carried forward'. But the patient has stopped and the clinician answers 'no' to
  the question "Is patient currently a smoker?" If a trigger is not defined to clear

the values previously entered for "Type" and "How much" those values will be saved even though the clinician no longer sees them.

▪ A third example is when element 1 is valued and element 2 is made visible. In the course of completing element 2, you decide you should not have valued element 1 and go back and remove the value. If there is no trigger defined to clear the value of element 2 and it becomes invisible then the data entered will be saved and printed on reports and print forms. Therefore another trigger to clear the value from element 2 if element 1 is unvalued is needed.

The general rule that Siemens recommends is that for all situations where an element may become invisible, the element is cleared using a trigger with a 'clear value' action, so data is not stored in the database without the end user's knowledge. Elements that are not cleared will appear on reports and documents and will be sent to your EDM system.

You should also consider the use of a clear action if you have defined triggers that enable an element based on another element's value; for example, if element 1 is valued then enable element 2. If you value element 2 and then return to element 1 and delete that value, consider the need to have the value for element 2 be cleared if you want it to be disabled.

Forms containing trigger logic should be thoroughly tested through the entire workflow including report and document generation. Please make sure fields are valued as expected and that data that is invisible on the form but appears on the report or document, is valued correctly.

Please distribute this notice to the appropriate personnel in your department responsible for building any forms using the Adaptability Tool.

Additional Information:

The Soarian Clinicals 2.0C5 and 2.0C6 Form Adaptability Tool User's Manual is being updated with this information and will be available on HS Customer World by May 14, 2009.

The education material for the Soarian Clinicals Assessment Building Workshop v0100 has already been updated.

The education material for the Soarian Clinicals Adaptability Tool v0304 will be updated prior to the May 25th class.

Sincerely,

Heidi Rosenau-Sinel
Soarian Clinicals Support