



TECHNICAL RELEASE NOTES

April 2012

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1 INTRODUCTION

This document describes the new features in Dapresy Pro 7.1. If you'd like to learn more about new or related features please contact Dapresy Global Support at: support@dapresy.com and they will be able to assist you.

Best Regards,

Dapresy Team 2012

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2 TRIPLE-S DATA SUPPORT

Dapresy Pro now supports the data import format Triple-S. Triple-S is a market research standard for transferring data and meta-data between different types of software and applications.

The same features and logic are applied to the imported Triple-S data as are currently applied to SPSS (.sav) imports. This means that both the Meta-data Transformation Module and the automated/scheduled data imports also support the Triple-S format.

This is the first version of the Triple-S import we are releasing. As you start using the Triple-S import for your projects new requirements might arise. Please let us know your experiences with the tool and any new functionality needed. We will try to include those updates in version 8 of Dapresy Pro.

2.1 REQUIREMENT AND EXCEPTIONS

1. Support for latest Triple-S version, 2.0 (published 2004)
2. The Triple-S import requires two files, a XML file with meta data and a ACS file with case data, the files need to be compressed to one zip file (.rar is not supported).
3. The data file must be of "Fixed width", Triple-s files in CSV format is not supported
4. Multiple choice questions can either be binary or categorical in the imported file, Dapresy Pro can handle both formats
5. If the imported Triple-S file contains multiple languages the first language in the file will be used in Dapresy Pro
6. In the Triple-S standard a third file showing hierarchical structure between groups exist, this file is **not** supported, instead the hierarchical structure is defined within Dapresy Pro itself
7. In the Triple-S standard the values (answer alternative codes) can be alphanumeric, Dapresy Pro only supports numeric values
8. All case data in categorical variables that have no corresponding value labels in the meta data will automatically be deleted during import and not considered in any calculations
9. Value labels must be unique within each variable. In the Triple-S standard duplicates are allowed but it is **not** supported by Dapresy Pro
 - a. If the imported file contains duplicates the text can be corrected by using the existing Meta-data Transformation Tool
10. All variable texts, value label texts and variable type (Single choice, Multiple choice, Numeric and String) are picked from the imported XML file
 - a. Text can be updated within Dapresy Pro
 - b. Question type cannot be updated within Dapresy Pro
11. All values/value labels in the XML files will be imported to Dapresy Pro, even the standard codes like 99999998 and 99999999 which are used as Missing values in Triple-S standard.
 - a. On the import screen the user can select to exclude those variables in the import to get correct base sizes in the calculations if those values should not be considered.

In addition to the above requirements the imported file must contain three standards variables Respondent ID, Response date and Weight.

1. A unique respondent ID (a Numeric variable with the Name "RespondentID")
2. A response date (a Date/Time variable with the Name "Respondedate")
3. A respondent weight (a Numeric variable with the Name "Weight")

If the file does not contain one or several of the three variables above the Meta-data Transformation Tool can be used for creating those variables. If the date/time variable is a string variable in the imported XML files a new feature in the Meta-data Transformation Tool can convert string to date.

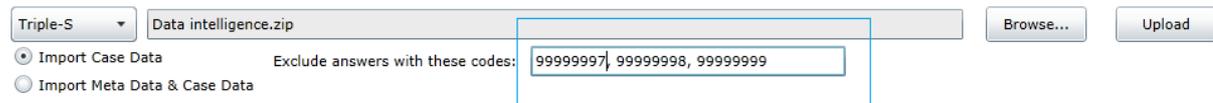
2.2 IMPORT SCREEN

On the import screen you can select between SPSS or Triple-S import in the dropdown list to the most left, default value is SPSS .SAV. The rest of the import works the same as when using .sav imports (browse, upload, import, confirm)

Import data from file

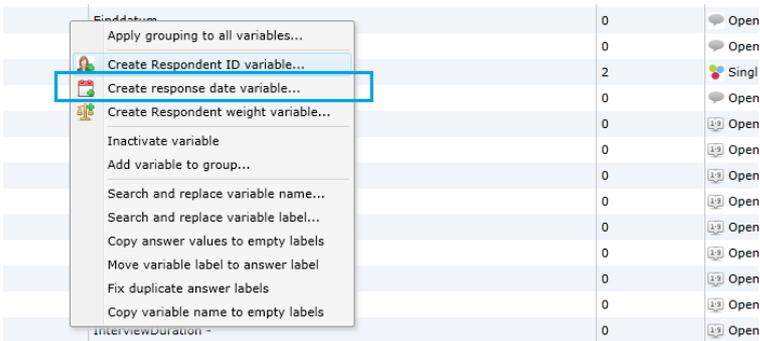


To exclude Missing values etc enter the codes to ignore in the text field highlighted in the image below. (Both case- and meta-data will be ignored).



2.2.1 CONVERT STRING TO DATE USING THE META-DATA TRANSFORMATION MODULE

The Meta Data Transformation Tool can now convert a String variable to a Date variable. To transform a String variable right click in the variable list and select "Create response date variable, see image below.

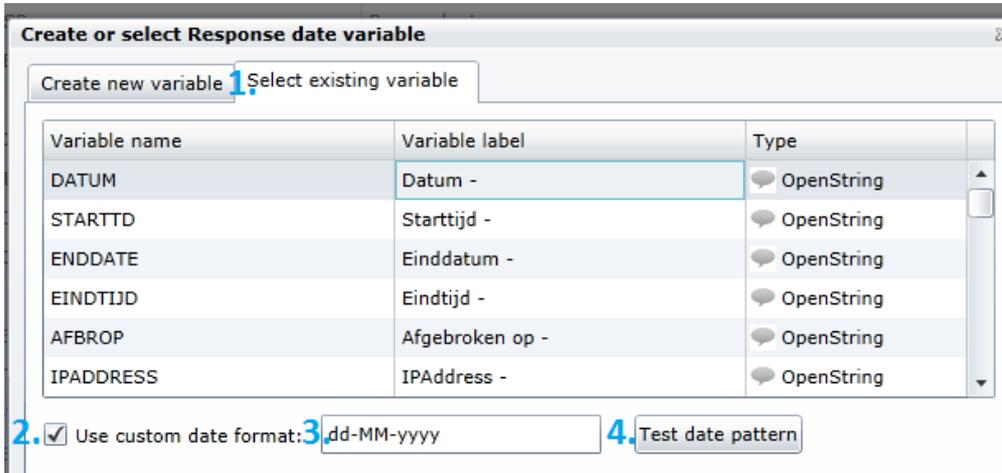


| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------|
| Einladung... | 0 | Open |
| Apply grouping to all variables... | 0 | Open |
| Create Respondent ID variable... | 2 | Singl |
| Create response date variable... | 0 | Open |
| Create Respondent weight variable... | 0 | Open |
| Inactivate variable | 0 | Open |
| Add variable to group... | 0 | Open |
| Search and replace variable name... | 0 | Open |
| Search and replace variable label... | 0 | Open |
| Copy answer values to empty labels | 0 | Open |
| Move variable label to answer label | 0 | Open |
| Fix duplicate answer labels | 0 | Open |
| Copy variable name to empty labels | 0 | Open |
| Interviewduration - | 0 | Open |

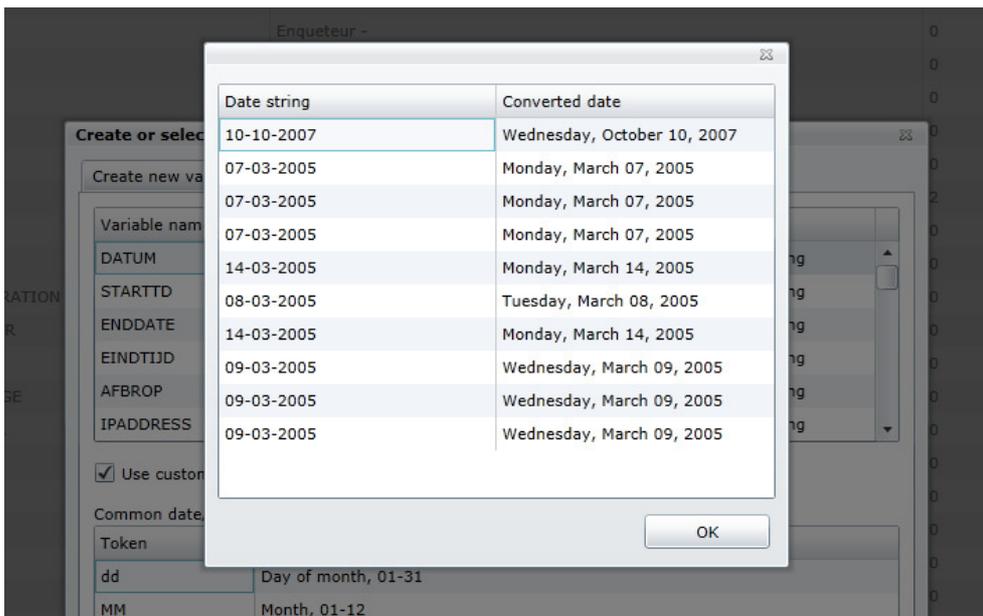
In the pop-up window perform the following steps:

1. Select "Select existing variable" tab and select a variable
2. Click "Use custom date format"
3. Define the used pattern in the imported file.
 - a. Note 1: Month is using capital "M" and Minute a lower "m".
 - b. Note 2: If the variable contains both Date and Time the full format must be defined

- Test the pattern (see second image below) and make sure the correct dates have been extracted from the imported file.



The image below shows the "Test date pattern window". Make sure the converted date is correct.



3 IMPROVEMENTS IN DATA IMPORT SCHEDULER

This chapter describes the new features in the Dapresy Pro Import Scheduler which is used for automatic data loads to projects in Dapresy Pro (from FTP servers).

Five enhancements have been made to the Import Scheduler, which make the Scheduler even more complete. Each function is described in detail further down in this document.

1. Import Scheduler is now supports Hierarchical-filter projects
2. Support for making automated imports every hour (in the previous version only daily, weekly and monthly intervals were supported)
3. Support for selecting which data batches to activate
4. “Sniffing” feature; if the import fails due to errors in the file the system will look for new a file every hour during next 48 hours or until the next successful import.
5. Support for allowing new meta-data (or not). If new meta-data is added all new questions and answers will be imported automatically.

3.1 SUPPORT IN HIERARCHICAL FILTER PROJECTS

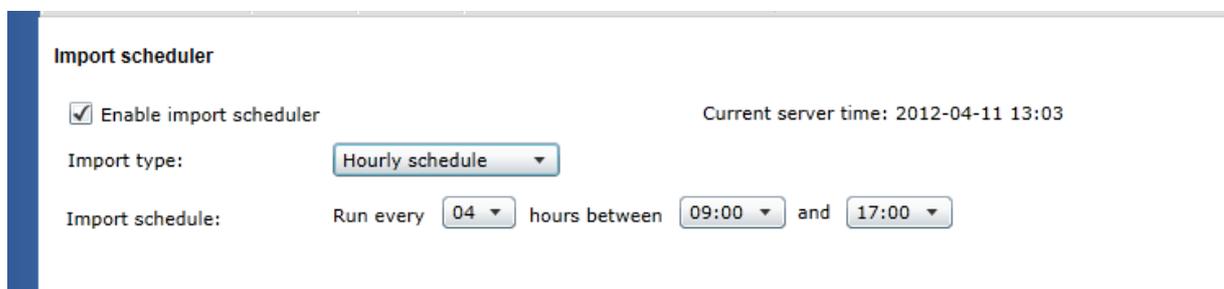
The Import Scheduler now supports automated uploads in projects using Hierarchical Filters. When uploading data manually to projects using Hierarchical Filters, you have to point out which variable has the filter information as each respondent is connected to an organization unit. When making automated uploads thru the Import Scheduler the latest used variable will be applied to the import.

3.2 HOURLY SCHEDULES

Schedules can now be performed down to every one hour. In previous versions only daily, weekly and monthly imports were supported.

A time-frame can be defined during which the imports will run. You can for example choose to run the imports between 0800 and 1700 o'clock and not outside this window.

The image below shows the Import Scheduler screen, the Hourly option is shown in the Import type list.



Note: When running imports more frequently than every 4 hours, it is not possible to use the option for generating the static reports (including Storyteller reports). So if 1, 2 or 3 hours is selected the “Generate” and “Distribute” options are disabled.

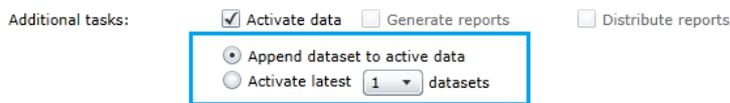
3.3 ACTIVATION IMPROVEMENTS

In the previous versions of the Import Scheduler, the newly uploaded data-batch and all previous activated data-sets were being activated. Now you can select which data sets to activate, for instance only the newly uploaded data set can be activated.

In the screen two options are present:

- **Append dataset to activate data:** the new data-batch and all previous selected data-sets are being activated
- **Activate latest X datasets:** the X latest imported data-sets will be activated, by selecting latest “1” data-set only the newly uploaded data-batch will be activated.

The image below shows the controls in the Import Scheduler screen.



3.4 SNIFFING FEATURE

If the auto import fails due to errors in the imported data file the auto import will look for the file again every one hour the next 48 hours or until the next successful import.

When an import fails an email (including error messages) is sent out to the relevant persons, they correct the file and upload it to the FTP again and then it will be imported automatically in the next full hour.

3.5 META-DATA CHANGES

A new option for allowing Meta-data changes is now present. When the option is activated all new question- and answer- options will be imported to the project during the data import.

Note: The feature should be used with care as unwanted Answer Blocks etc. might be created if the imported data file contains errors.