



**EVENT CAPTURE V. 2.0**  
**GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE (GUI)**  
**RELEASE NOTES**

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Patch EC\*2.0\*25

Department Of Veterans Affairs  
VistA Systems Design and Development



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# **I. Introduction**

Patient Information Management Systems Special Projects (PIMS SP) team, a division of VistA System Design and Development, in conjunction with the Bedford Technical Services Office (BTSO), is pleased to announce the impending release of Event Capture Graphical User Interface (EC GUI) 1.0.

Event Capture provides the ability to capture workload data. It was designed primarily for capturing inpatient workload, and for use in areas where a suitable method of data capture does not exist. According to the Decision Support Systems (DSS) Program Office, capturing data is important for examining the distribution of workload among care providers, identifying the served population, and determining the excess or lack of capacity for providing services.

The purpose of the project is to replace the current “roll and scroll” data entry and logistical screens in order to increase usability of Event Capture Systems thereby promoting the collection and reporting of accurate workload information to the Decision Support System (DSS). The scope of the enhancements affects both the end-user and the manager-user screens and functionality of the Event Capture system. The development of this GUI requires the design of application screens that will capture all the utilization data that is presently available in Event Capture. The GUI design should be consistent in look and feel with current VistA GUI applications and provide a consistent, event driven, windows-style, user interface.

## Introduction

## II. Description and Benefits

Event Capture GUI contains the following functionality:

- The user will be able to Enter/Edit/Delete patient procedures and services for one patient.
- The user will be able to batch enter data by patient.
- The user will be able to batch enter data by procedure.
- The user will be able to access on-line help for the software.
- The user will be able to upload patient encounter data to Event Capture from a spreadsheet file.
- The user will be able to print the following reports:
  - Patient Summary Report
  - DSS Unit Workload Report
  - Provider Summary Report
  - Ordering Section Summary Report
  - Provider (1 – 3) Summary Report
  - PCE Data Summary Report
  - Inactive Person Class Report
  - Procedure Reason Report
- Management users will be able to create/remove current locations.
- Management users will be able to enter/edit DSS Units.
- Management users will be able to assign/remove user access to DSS Units.
- Management users will be able to enter/edit local categories.
- Management users will be able to enter/edit local procedure.
- Management users will be able to create event code screens.
- Management users will be able to inactivate event code screens.
- Management users will be able to activate/inactivate local procedures.
- Management users will be able to activate/inactivate local categories.
- Management users will be able to create/print the following reports:
  - National/Local Procedures Report
  - Category Report
  - Print Category and Procedure Summary

The functionality for end and management users is the same in the GUI system as it is in the “roll and scroll” system. However, there are several key features that set the GUI apart from its predecessor. These features are as follows:

- All GUI screens will allow the user to navigate with buttons, menu, drop-down boxes, or Alt + Key combinations.
- All GUI screens will have both field and screen help.
- Field Help will use the Data Dictionary definition for the field.
- All GUI screens will display directions/descriptions on the status bar at the bottom of the screen.
- All GUI screens will give the message “filing” on the status line when adding or saving.
- The Event Capture GUI will utilize existing Remote Procedure Calls from other packages when available.

The next set of features detail what is seen when a user logs into the system.

- The Event GUI Main Menu will appear when the user signs on.
- The Event Capture Main Menu options will be Enter Patient and Procedure Data, Enter Data via the Event Capture Spreadsheet, Preview and Print Selected Reports, Perform Event Capture Management Functions and Exit the Event Capture System.
- When the user selects the Management Menu option, a sub-menu screen will appear which will allow the user to select Update Location Information, Add or Update DSS Units, Grant Access to DSS Units by User, Add or Update Categories, Add or Update Local Procedures and Add or Update Event Code Screens.
- After selecting Data Entry from the Event Capture Main Menu, the user will have the option to Enter/Edit Patient Procedures, Batch (Same Procedure, Multiple Patients), and Exit the Data Entry Menu.

Event Capture GUI will benefit users by:

- Improving utilization of Event Capture by reducing data entry time.
- Improving DSS data collections and reporting accuracy by reducing data entry steps, providing more user-friendly access, and ensuring all data is captured through a single point of entry.
- Allowing new users that prefer working in a GUI environment to have this option, as opposed to learning “roll and scroll” first, thus reducing initial training time and time to become proficient in a new system.
- Increasing use of ECS for health care providers, clinical and non-clinical, whose workload is not currently captured by VistA systems.
- Assisting the front-line clinician in capturing and reviewing all utilization data related to a patient.
- Providing interface capability between ECS and clinical applications such as Computerized Patient Record System.

## Description and Benefits

### **III. Requesting Information**

The Bedford Technical Services Office is the requesting party for this functionality. The new functionality will become part of the DSS product. In a recent study, the Office of the Inspector General formally recommended that all DSS systems be fully utilized and that all staff and managers associated with DSS be required to input data into the local DSS systems, of which ECS is one. In order to meet these goals, the DSS Program Office of BTSO has requested the creation of a GUI system for Event Capture to assist the front line clinician in capturing and reviewing all utilization data related to a patient, thus aiding the VHA in their broader aim of maximizing health offerings for U.S. veterans.

This request is also based on a goal to aid the VHA in four major VHA-wide business needs as follows:

- FY2000 Geriatrics Extended Care Home Health Care costs-workload capture.
- The Medicare Subvention Pilot (planned 2/2000) requires complete inpatient resource utilization.
- FY2000 Non-VA Care Costs/Workload Capture Pilot.
- A requirement that all VAMCs use ECS (OIG Report No. 9R4-A19-075 dated 3/31/99 and Dr. Kizer's response dated 3/2/99).

The lead requestor of the ECS GUI product is Elisabeth McSherry M.D., Deputy Director, Data Systems/Development (DSS) for BTSO.

## Requesting Information

## **IV. Installation and Implementation**

Event Capture 2.0 must be installed before using this application. Each workstation will load from InstallShield the appropriate files to establish broker connectivity. Enhancements to the Event Capture Graphical User Interface will not require re-installation.

EC GUI is a Delphi-based application. To run Delphi-based applications, Borland recommends:

- Intel Pentium 90 or higher (P166 recommended).
- Microsoft Windows 95, 98, or NT 4.0 with Service Pack 3 or later.
- Memory: 32MB of RAM (64MB or more recommended).
- 80MB hard disk space (Compact install).
- CD drive.
- VGA or higher resolution monitor.
- Mouse or other pointing device.
- Networks supported: Any Microsoft Windows 95, 98, or Windows NT or higher compatible network.

Event Capture shall run on the standard hardware platforms used by Department of Veterans Affairs Healthcare facilities. These systems consist of Alpha AXP running DSM or Alpha/NT running Open M. Event Capture interfaces with Patient Care Encounter. Data entered into Event Capture is passed to PCE via the Nightly Data Feed to PCE background job. The project will also use the Patient Lookup utility currently under development by System Design and Development.



## **V. Security**

The VistA Event Capture software is available to users who have been assigned the menu options. Users of the EC GUI must be given the broker menu option XXXXX. The ECALLU security key controls access to options and DSS Units. This key allows users access management menu options. There is no additional security required for the EC GUI.



## **VI. Documentation**

The documentation for this package can be found in the VistA Documentation Library. The address for this site is <http://vista.med.va.gov/vdl>

A link to this site can be found on the System Design and Development home page. In the VDL, the user will find the following documents:

- User Manual
- Technical Manual
- Release Notes
- Installation Guide

