



Dear friends of Survey Solutions,

In version 5.2.0 that we have released on November 1, 2015 you will find the following helpful new features:

- Localization of interface depending on the system language setting;
- Assignments can be returned to the circulation from the “approved by headquarter” state;
- Limit of items in cascading selections has been raised to 15,000;
- A warning is issued if an attempt is being made to reassign an interview that has been already assigned to an interviewer;
- Other changes.

Localization of interface

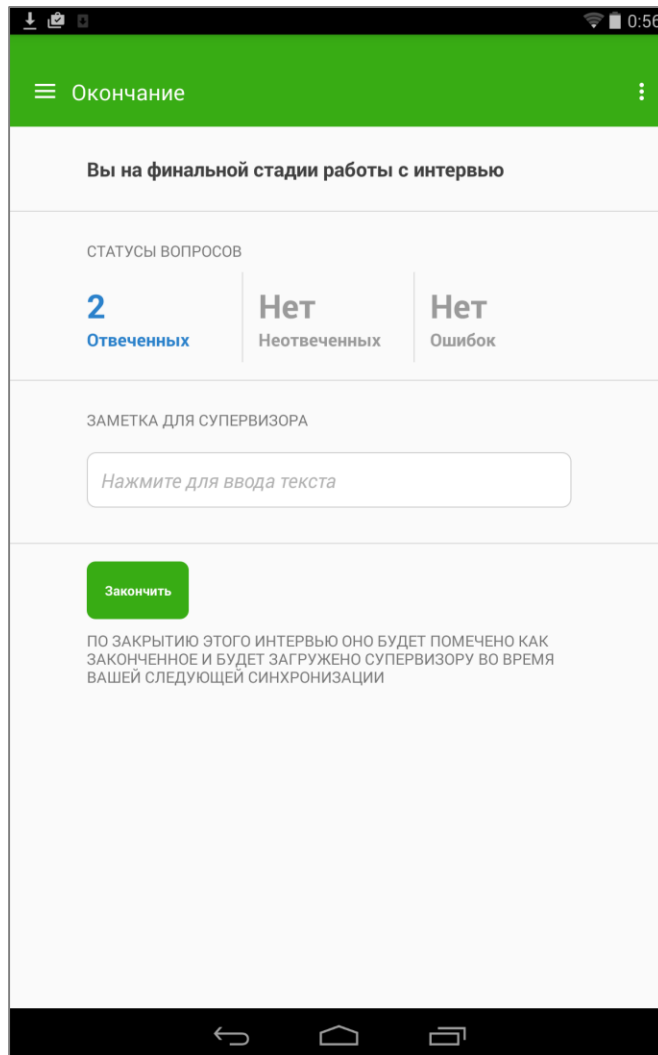
In version 5.2 of Survey Solutions the Tester and Interviewer applications are responding to the device language setting. If these applications are launched in the environment where the language setting is set to

- English,
- French,
- Spanish,
- Portuguese, or
- Russian

their interface will be also presented in the same language.

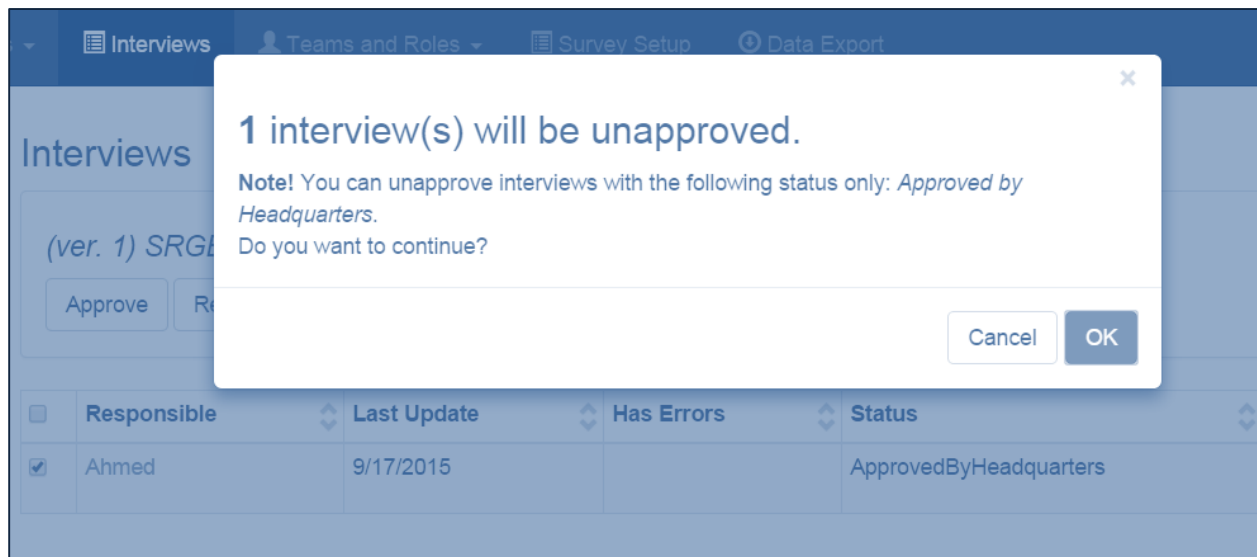
Note that you can still design the questionnaire itself in any language, including the texts of the questions, their options, instructions, and validation messages. Localization affects the interface of the application, such as menus, dialogs and application error messages.

We are working on expanding the languages available for the interface. If you would like to contribute, please write to support@mysurvey.solutions and we will send you a file for translation to your language.



Assignments can be returned from the “Approved by the Headquarter” status

In the earlier versions the “*Approved by the Headquarter*” status has been the terminal status for assignments. Once they were approved by a headquarters user there was no way to return them to circulation in the system. Version 5.2 has added this functionality.



To unapprove any interview in the “*Approved by Headquarters*” status select this interview(s) by checking the checkbox next to it and click the “*Unapprove*” button. The interview will be reverted to the “*Approved by Supervisor*” status, and the headquarters user will have a possibility to reject it back to the supervisor if necessary. You can apply this operation to multiple interviews if necessary.

Limit for number of items in cascading selections has been increased to 15,000 items

Cascading selectors are used for hierarchical selections of items such as administrative units, industries, occupations, or products. We respond to the numerous inquiries from our clients that work with large dictionaries of such items and have increased the size of the dictionaries to 15,000 items. Note that populating the questions with these items is easy with uploading the properly formatted file.

While the new version handles larger items classifications than earlier versions, we advise to exercise caution and use them only when necessary. In many cases coding can be done after data collection completes by a trained coder, instead of the interviewers doing this during the interview. The choice depends on the type of survey, interviewer qualification, questionnaire trajectories and other situational factors.

Warning on reassigning interviews that have been received by an interviewer already

Reassigning the interviews between interviewers is a practical reality of managing complex surveys. Traditionally this process was vulnerable to the following uncertainty: whether the first interviewer has already received or not his assignment (synchronized). There is no problem in reassigning assignments that were not picked up by their respective interviewers, but if they were, then this may lead to an undesirable situation with two interviewers having identical assignments on their dashboards. On the other hand, it is not desirable to forbid reassignments: an interviewer may stop working and another interviewer may need to continue where the first one has stopped, or other similar situations.

Note that the system warns the supervisor when he attempts reassigning interviews.



In version 5.2 in addition the supervisor will know if any of the interviews being reassigned have been already received by the assignees, and will have to confirm reassignment of such interviews:



This helps prevent the situations of unintentional duplication of assignments. Supervisors should reassign interviews already received only in cases where there is reasonable confidence that the interviewer has dropped out of the program and his device is unavailable.

Reassigning the interview does not magically carry over unsynchronized data from 1st interviewer to the second one. Rather it redirects the assignment as seen by the supervisor (empty in most cases until completed). If the first interviewer has opened a number of assignments and needs the second interviewer to finish them, she should mark them as completed (even they are only partially filled out) and let the supervisor know to reject them to the second interviewer. In that case the data already collected to date will flow over to the second interviewer.

Other changes

The new hot key **Ctrl+B** in the designer runs the compilation of the current questionnaire. Questionnaires that contain errors may not be imported to the headquarters, the errors must be fixed first.

The headquarter user has an overview of the teams (list of supervisors) with the new columns: total number of interviewers and number of interviewers that haven't connected their device yet. If the latter are not zeroes after the beginning of the fieldwork, this generally signifies the interviewers are experiencing problems setting up the devices or communicating to the server.