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Progress Report

Since 2006, we have been involved in the reshaping of the entire business register system. In 2008, we have completed more of the new system, including the improvements in application used in the Register Section and the final deployment of new databases to the Oracle platform. These data banks have a greater storage capacity of historical data, and improvements have been made in the structure of the data.

Finally, we have implemented the CNAE version 2 (equivalent to ISIC revision 4 / NACE 2), with the help of a Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) system, established especially for updates and corrections to records via telephone. Thus, it was possible to make the verification of about 70,000 information forms suspected of inconsistencies, when compared to previous years. This year, we are implementing a new concept of businesses and local active units. This concept will be introduced from next year, and aims to provide more fidelity with the real situation of enterprises and local units in the country. Similarly, more research on the implementation of CNAE 2.0 will be done next year, when the first disclosure of official statistics of the register are made with the new coding.

1. System's Recasting of the BR section.

Last year, we conducted a complete migration of the entire database to a new ORACLE platform, with an exclusive gigabyte connection link to an SAS[®] server, responsible for processing, input and output data and statistical results. With this structure, data access and the system have become fast-search allowing instant results in our banks, that have more than tens of millions of records. In addition, the new graphic user interface has revolutionized the use of the Central BR, making it more accessible to all areas involved in surveys and analysis of samples. The new interface allows online update of all information about enterprises and local units, as well as the activation, deactivation, inclusion and exclusion of these enterprises and their units. The procedures for batch updating of information from RAIS (Relationship Annual Social Information) and Caged (General Registration employed and unemployed) both the Ministry of Labor and Employment, have been optimized, as well as operations to batch updates for research and internal work of correction and attribution.

2. Implementation of Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI).

The new system of correction and verification of the register forms began operations on October 1, 2007 and continues to perform operations at the moment. Their deployment has been a success, and since 2007 over 70,000 interviews have already been conducted and divided into three separate projects. In its first project, the SIMCAD's objective was to correct the economic classifications of businesses that had translations of CNAE 1.0 to CNAE 2.0 in cases where it was necessary to further classify them. The second project was carried out on Foundations and Non-profit Institutions - A study conducted in partnership with the Institute for Economic Research Applied Economics (IPEA) and non-governmental institutions, to classify these entities according to their purpose (COPNI ranking UN). In our third project we are doing the verification of records suspected of errors from the Ministry of Labor and Employment, to improve the quality of records that are updated on our Register.

3. Deployment of CNAE 2.0 (ISIC rev. 4/NACE 2) the statistical system.

Since 2007 we have received the administrative records from the Ministry of Labor and Employment, encoded with the new economic classification (CNAE 2.0) established in Brazil in January 2007. This classification expands the sectors of telecommunications, computers and services, among others.

The analysis and dissemination of results based on 2.0 CNAE depend on the classification of domestic work, translation, double coding, and also the CATI system. Since last year, we have been working on records that had changes in their code (a code for N, M to N codes, or N code to 1).

This year, we have the first Register-based statistical ISIC rev. 4, which will be released next year. During 2007 and 2008 we have kept a system of double tagging office to ISIC Rev.3 and rev. 4, which will be replaced only by the new version next year.

4. Condition of activity of enterprises and local units.

This year, the registration status of companies and local units has been completely revised and restructured. The registration status of enterprises and local units has been exchanged for a new concept called condition of activity. The condition of activity aims to provide the actual state of activity of a enterprise or local unit. This concept is based on number of employees, enterprise history, registration status in Federal Revenue Agency, and also a question in RAIS form, which aims to find out whether the local unit investigated worked during the base-year.

With the use of this concept, the register of active companies is reduced by about 25% in number of businesses and local active units.

5. Progress and future plans for next year.

The process of reform initiated last year will continue through the next year. It still lacks the implementation of modules for integration with the surveys, and a new generation of the process of annual Register. This new system will work completely based on CNAE 2.0 (ISIC rev. 4) and the new condition of activity. More improvements are expected to be made in the quality of data, total integration of postal code with addresses, automatic verification of records through match-code updates and more overall intelligence. These items are extremely necessary, because the record has more than 5 million active units, which makes a manual check of all records impractical.