

Data Collection

A Requirement for Fisheries **Management Success** The Canadian Experience in the Bluefin Tuna Fishery





The Global Context

- Obligated as members of regional fisheries mechanisms (RFMOs) to collect and provide data
- Access to complete and accurate data fundamental to improve credibility of RFMOs
- Important links not only with RFMOs, but in various multilateral fora including FAO/UNGA





Fisheries Data Collection

- Effective fisheries management requires the collection of timely and accurate data to ensure conservation and the economic viability of the fishing industry
- Data should include at a minimum: catch, effort, size, and area of capture
- Data collected forms the basis for scientific advice, upon which fisheries managers make decisions
- Finding an effective process of data collection, assessment and compilation can be challenging





Modernizing the Process

- In the late 1980's Canada took steps to improve the data collection process and use technology to increase efficiencies
- Over a period of many years a comprehensive management system involving the integration of scientific advice, enforcement monitoring, catcheffort data and controls on quota was developed
- This process has greatly improved confidence in the decisions taken with respect to harvest of the resource





The Canadian Bluefin Tuna Fishery

- 750 individual licenses 450 active vessels
- Average yearly catch of 500t
- Some incidental catches of other tuna species
- Large percentage of catch is taken by angling or tended line (individual fish)
- Approximately 2500 trips (fishing events) on an annual basis
- Most trips occur close to shore but can extend to outside EEZ (bycatch fisheries)





Management Elements of the Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fishery

- Licences and conditions to control access and ensure understanding of the fishery rules
- Quota allocations to control removals and ensure sustainable harvest
- Hail out and hail in to provide notification of legal activity on the water, and facilitate identification of illegal activity
- Logbooks to capture mortality and effort data
- Tags to discourage discards/high-grading/over-fishing
- Dockside monitoring/Observers to facilitate timely receipt of data and independent observation/verification of catch
- Catch documents entered in a timely fashion
- Data entry received in electronic format by DFO



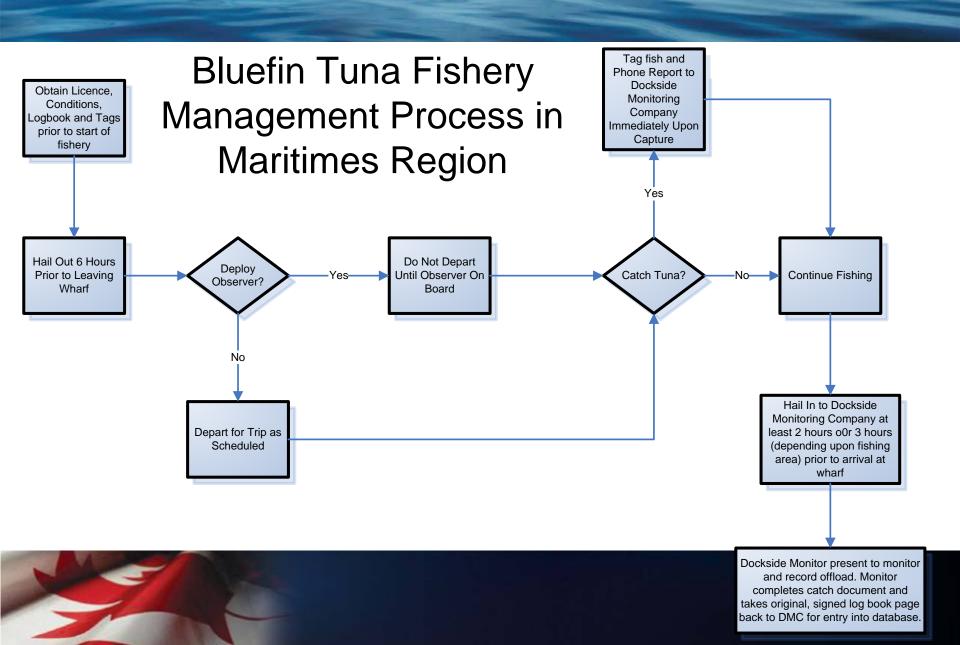


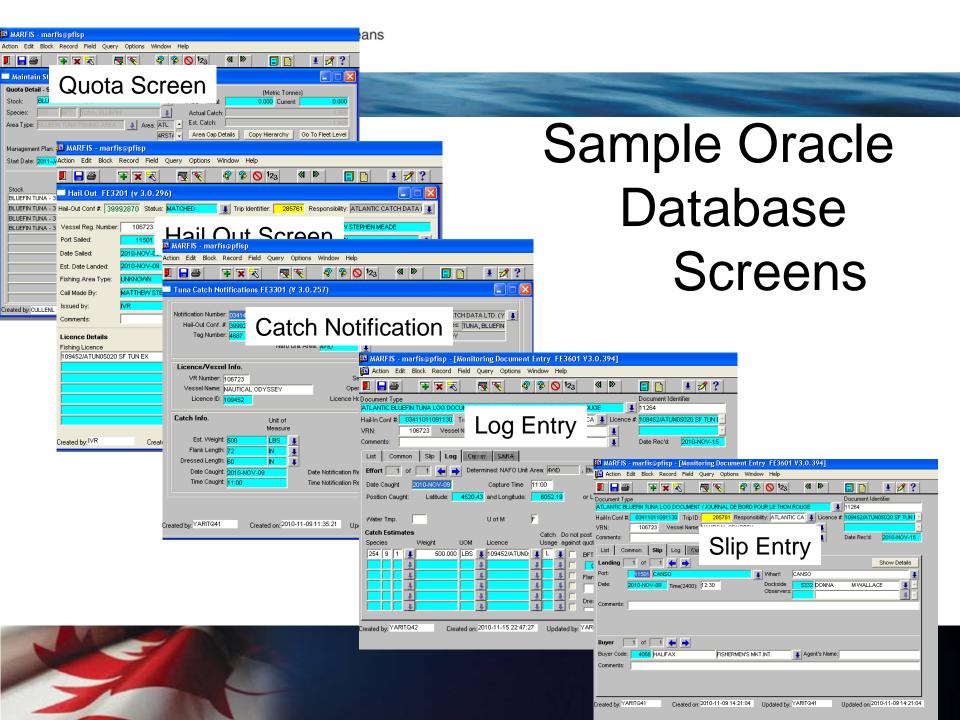
Management Tools Utilized

- Fisheries Information System (Oracle Relational Database)
- Dockside Monitoring Company (3rd Party, independent, industry paid, DFO-certified service providers)
- At-sea observers (DFO-contracted, industry paid contractors)
- Voice-Enabled, Interactive Voice Response (IVR) technology









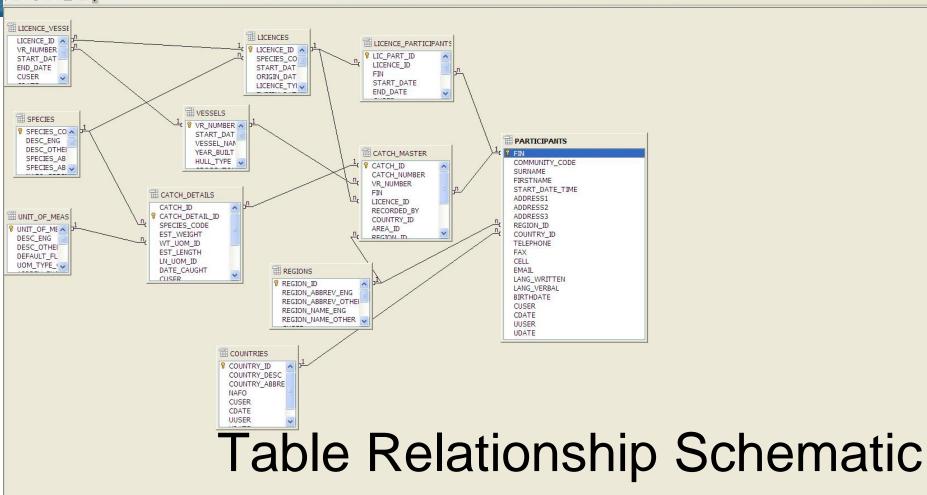


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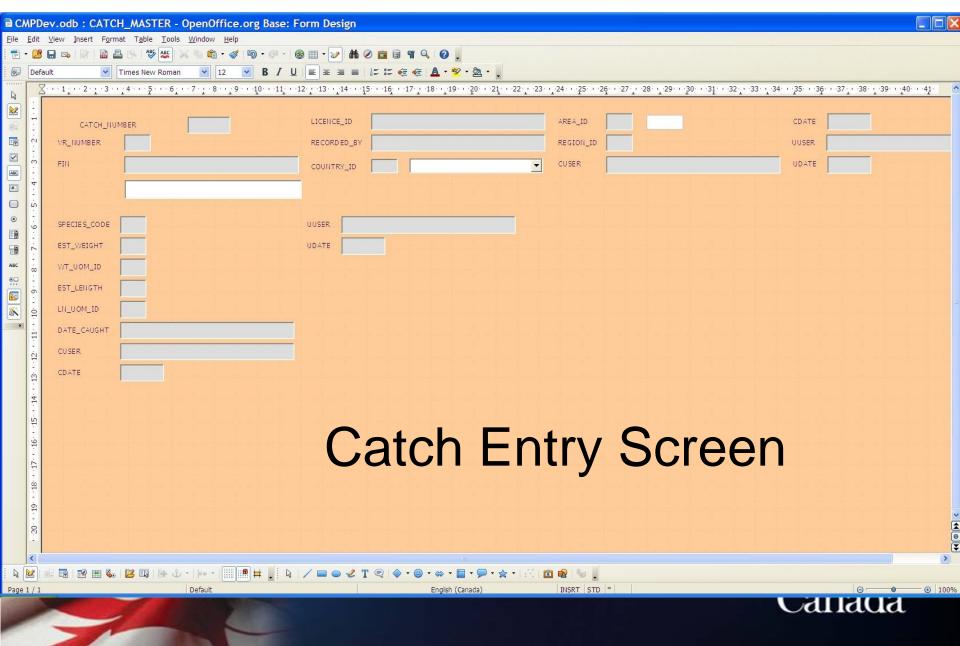


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Why This Can Work for You

- Ease in monitoring catch
- Provides timely information for management decision
- Information is in a consistent format
- Can better meet reporting requirements





What We Can Offer

Phase 1

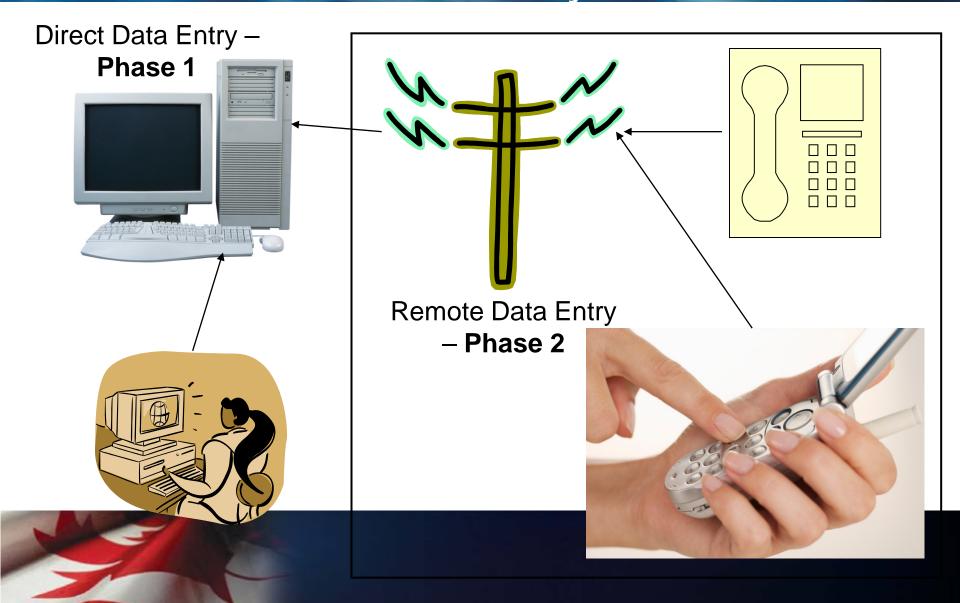
Canada

- Simple Catch Reporting Database (Microsoft Access) or similar software) Visual Basic application compiled on self-installing compact Disc
- Phase 2
 - Technical advice on the addition of a simple Interactive Voice Response (IVR) application capable of automatically receiving Catch Reporting data via the telephone network (pre-loaded and configured on a PC containing a telephony card).





Phase 1 and 2 System





Capacity Building

- need exists for enhanced capacity for data reporting
- RFMO/Member States must work together
- Canada committed to addressing this issue

