

Ajaxed Help Screen

This case study describes the possibility of using Ajax along with HATS. The client had the requirement of having a default transformation for the help screens that come up when user enters F1 key or clicks the Help button.

But the problem was that the resulting help page was not attractive at all. It was a dialog box that did not have any borders when rendered by default as shown in the figure below:

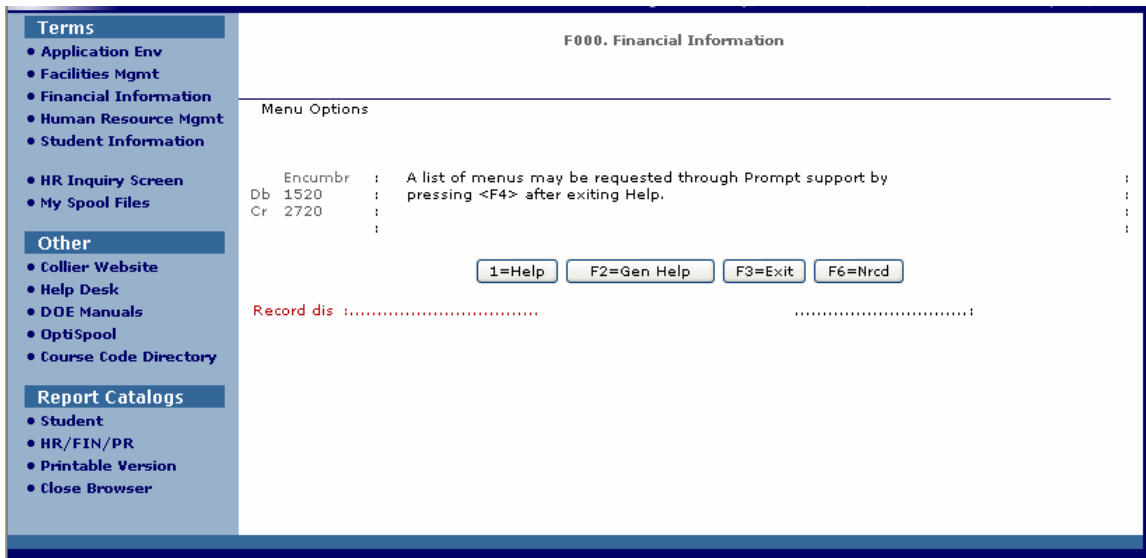


Fig1: Default Help Page

The iSeries application was fetching the help from the database so we had the luxury of creating our customized help page, but we had to use that page inside the page that was already open because HATS uses one-to-one interaction with

the iSeries application and generates pages on the fly. AJAX was the ultimate choice. We created a customized page that will fetch the help and used AJAX to open that page in a small window at the center of screen as shown below. This technique improved the help screen and user navigation at the same time. The effect is shown below in Fig 2:

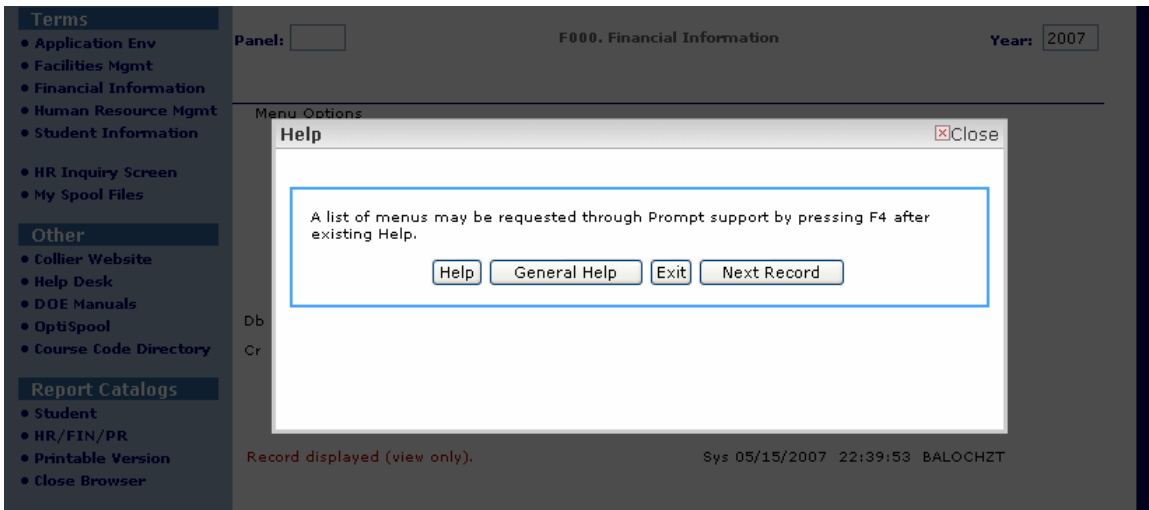


Fig2: Ajaxed Help Page