Health Level Seven Renews Associate Charter Agreement with MedBiquitous Consortium

Ann Arbor, Mich.—January 11, 2005 — Health Level Seven (HL7), Inc. this past fall has renewed its Associate Charter Agreement with MedBiquitous Consortium. The agreement, which is for two years and renewable upon expiration, enables MedBiquitous to work with HL7 on joint projects and to harmonize the MedBiquitous information model with the HL7 Reference Information Model.

“HL7 is pleased to collaborate with MedBiquitous,” said HL7 Board Chair Mark Shafarman. “There are many potential opportunities for using HL7 standards for representing clinical information in the MedBiquitous approach.” Shafarman says that where clinical information can be represented by standard models with bindings to standard terminologies (using HL7’s Version 3 methodology), a standards-based approach can be created to facilitate point-of-care collaborative healthcare, as well as to make available the most relevant educational materials.

“We look forward to working with our colleagues at HL7 to create standards that bridge educational and clinical systems and bring learning to the point of care,” said MedBiquitous Executive Director Peter S. Greene, M.D.

The MedBiquitous Consortium’s mission is to develop Internet technologies for global physician communities that facilitate professional collaboration, enhance physician expertise, and raise the level of patient care. MedBiquitous is creating an XML framework for professional medical societies and their supporting organizations. This framework focuses specifically on professional medical education and physician collaboration which is outside HL7’s scope of clinical patient care and the management, delivery, and evaluation of healthcare services.

“MedBiquitous seeks to work with standards organizations like HL7 whose standards are complementary to the work of MedBiquitous,” said Greene.

Greene says MedBiquitous members are creating a technology blueprint for professional healthcare education based on XML and Web services standards. Ultimately, he says this blueprint will seamlessly support the learner in ways that will improve patient care and simplify the administrative work associated with education and competence assessment.

About MedBiquitous
Founded by Johns Hopkins Medicine and leading professional medical societies, MedBiquitous is an international group of professional medical and healthcare associations, universities, commercial, and governmental organizations dedicated to advancing healthcare education through technology standards that promote professional competence, collaboration, and better patient care. MedBiquitous is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) to develop information technology standards for healthcare education and competence assessment. Its society members represent over 400,000 physicians worldwide, and its government and industry members are leaders in healthcare.

About HL7
Founded in 1987, Health Level Seven, Inc. (http://www.HL7.org/) is a not-for-profit, ANSI-accredited standards developing organization dedicated to providing a comprehensive framework and related standards for the exchange, integration, sharing, and retrieval of electronic health information that supports clinical practice and the management, delivery and evaluation of health services. HL7’s more than 2,000 members represent approximately 500 corporate members, including 90 percent of the largest information systems vendors serving healthcare.


International affiliates have also been established in 27 countries throughout the globe including Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey and the United Kingdom.