Health Level Seven Announces Working Group Meeting (WGM) Schedule for 2005;
Features First Ever WGM Outside North America

ANN ARBOR, Mich.— January 12, 2005 — Health Level Seven (HL7) Inc., one of the world’s most prolific healthcare standards developers, today announced its working group meeting (WGM) schedule for 2005, which includes its first ever WGM outside North America in May.

The HL7 WGM 2005 Schedule

January Working Group Meeting
January 23 – 28, 2005
The Hilton in the Walt Disney Resort
Orlando, FL

May Working Group Meeting
May 1 – 6, 2005
NH Leeuwenhorst Hotel
Noordwijkerhout – The Netherlands

19th Annual Plenary & Working Group Meeting
September 11 - 17, 2005
Town & Country Resort
San Diego, CA

What is a Working Group Meeting?
HL7 holds three working group meetings per year at varying locations. These meetings serve two important purposes: 1) They give HL7’s more than 40 technical committees and special interest groups a chance to meet face-to-face to work on the standards; and 2) They provide an invaluable educational resource for the healthcare IT community, offering HL7 members and non-members more than 20 different tutorials on HL7-related subjects, as well as offering HL7 certification testing.

(more)
Meeting in The Netherlands
For the first time ever, HL7 will convene a working group meeting outside North America. HL7’s May WGM will be held in Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands, which is approximately 30 minutes southwest of Amsterdam.

Although HL7 originated in the US, it now has affiliate organizations in 27 countries around the world. “Our international affiliates are truly making HL7 a global standard,” said HL7 Board Chair Mark Shafarman. “Holding the May Working Group Meeting in The Netherlands reflects HL7’s desire to recognize the importance of its affiliates and their contributions.”

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.

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