Health Level Seven, Inc.

For Immediate Release

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HL7’s EHR Technical Committee Opens Public Comment on Enhanced EHR Functional Model

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—August 26, 2005—The Health Level Seven (HL7) Electronic Health Record (EHR) Technical Committee (TC) today announced the opening of a public comment period on the enhanced draft EHR System (EHR-S) Functional Model. The comment period is open from August 26 to September 9 and is intended to elicit feedback from a broad range of industry stakeholders. All interested parties—both members and non-members of HL7—can submit comments via the EHR area of the HL7 website (www.HL7.org/ehr) by downloading the relevant documents posted, completing a comment spreadsheet, and emailing it to: EHRCOMMENTS@HL7.org.

In addition to minor revisions to the existing content, conformance criteria have been added to the EHR draft document and will be used by clinicians, vendors, and other industry representatives to objectively measure the presence and effectiveness of a function within an EHR system. The EHR TC is especially interested in feedback on the format, the use, and the content of the new conformance criteria. The EHR TC will review all comments at HL7’s September Working Group Meeting in San Diego, California, which convenes September 11-16, 2005.

This represents the first time in almost a year that the draft standard is available for public review, and brings the document one step closer to becoming a fully-approved American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard. Earlier this year, the EHR TC developed a roadmap for the functional model that anticipates submission to ANSI for approval in 2006. During this final year of development, the committee continues to seek additional stakeholder feedback, which will become part of the final standard.

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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.

HL7’s endeavors are sponsored, in part, by the support of its benefactors: Capgemini; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); Documentum; Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI), Eclipsys Corporation; Eli Lilly & Company; the Food and Drug Administration; GE Medical Systems; Guidant Corporation; IBM; IDX Systems Corporation; InterSystems Corporation; Kaiser Permanente; McKesson Provider Technologies; Microsoft Corporation; Misys Healthcare Systems; NHS Connecting for Health; NICTIZ National ICT Institute for Healthcare in The Netherlands; Oracle Corporation; Partners HealthCare System, Inc.; Pfizer, Inc.; Philips Medical Systems; Quest Diagnostics Inc.; Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC); Siemens Medical Solutions Health Services; the U.S. Department of Defense, Military Health System; the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.

International affiliates have also been established in 25 countries throughout the globe including Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey and the United Kingdom. Recently, the HL7 Board approved the establishment of two new affiliates in Malaysia and Uruguay.

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