HL7 Names New Board Members, Volunteers of the Year; Adds Two New Advisory Committee Members

Ann Arbor, Mich.—October 12, 2005—Health Level Seven, Inc. announced the results of its recent Board of Directors elections at its 19th annual Plenary and Working Group Meeting, which convened last month in San Diego, California. The 2005 recipients of the organization’s Ninth Annual W. Edward Hammond, Ph.D. Volunteer of the Year Award were also recognized at the event. In addition, HL7 has named two new members to its advisory committee.

**Board Member Elections**

Six members were named to the HL7 Board for the 2006 and 2007 calendar years. Elected/re-elected were:

- **Treasurer**—Bill Braithwaite, MD, PhD, Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer eHealth Initiative, Washington, DC
- **Director-at-Large**—Hans Buitendijk, product manager, Siemens Medical Solutions Health Services
- **Director-at-Large**—Linda Fischetti, RN, MS, management analyst, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- **Director-at-Large**—Dan Russler, MD, vice president clinical technology, McKesson Provider Technologies
- **Director-at-Large**—Klaus Veil, chair, HL7 Australia
- **International Representative**—Kai Heitmann, MD, HL7 Germany; deputy head, Medical Informatics Unit, Institute of Medical Statistics, Informatics and Epidemiology, University of Cologne (Germany)

All six will serve a two-year term beginning January 1, 2006. They join the following current members of the HL7 Board to lead the organization for the 2006 calendar year:

- **Chair**—Charles “Chuck” Meyer
- **Immediate Past Chair**—Mark Shafarman, Shafarman Consulting
- **Secretary**—Freida Hall, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- **Director-at-Large**—Liora Alschuler, principal, Alschuler Associates, LLC
- **Director-at-Large**—Bob Dolin, MD, Kaiser Permanente
- **Director-at-Large**—Randy Levin, MD, associate director for electronic submissions, CDER, FDA
- **Director-at-Large**—Wesley Rishel, vice president, research area director, GartnerGroup
- **Technical Steering Committee Chair**—John Quinn, principal, Accenture
Volunteers of the Year

Six members were recognized as recipients of the Ninth Annual W. Edward Hammond, Ph.D. Volunteer of the Year Award. This award, which was established in 1997 and named after Ed Hammond, one of HL7’s most active volunteers, is given each year to individuals whose contributions over the past years have contributed greatly to HL7’s success. The 2005 recipients are: Tom deJong, HL7 The Netherlands; Bert Kabbes, HL7 The Netherlands; Joann Larson, Kaiser Permanente; Vassil Peytchev, Epic Systems Corporation; and Herold Solbrig, Mayo Clinic.

- **Tom deJong** has been a member of HL7 The Netherlands since 1996. He attended his first HL7 US meeting in 2000 and immediately became an active participant in the International Committee and in the Patient Administration Technical Committee. In the last two years, he has also actively participated in the HL7 Pharmacy SIG. deJong co-chairs the Technical Steering Committee of HL7 The Netherlands and actively participates in several technical committees there. Most recently, he played a key role in ensuring the success of HL7’s May 2005 meeting in Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands.

- **Bert Kabbes** has been involved in HL7 since 1992. He is the founder of HL7 The Netherlands and chaired the Board from its inception through 2003. As one of the first affiliate members, Kabbes helped draft the first HL7 international affiliate agreement. In addition to chairing HL7 The Netherlands affiliate, this volunteer chaired The Netherlands’ Technical Steering Committee for its first eight years. He co-chaired the HL7 International Committee in its formative years and helped other Affiliates such as HL7 Finland and HL7 Lithuania get started. Kabbes is also an active member of the HL7 EHR Technical Committee. Kabbes helps to arrange Dutch study tours in the US, which enable participants from other countries to view HL7 implementations in local US hospitals and tour vendor facilities here in the States.

- **Joann Larson**, an enterprise architect at Kaiser Permanente, has been a member of HL7 since 1997. She has been active on the Control Query Technical Committee for years, and has served as its co-chair for the last three years. She has been an active member of the Version 2 Publishing Committee where she also served as co-chair and has edited several of the standard’s chapters. Larson has also served on the ballot task force, worked extensively with the Architectural Review Board, participated in the Process Improvement and EHR technical committees, as well as the Bylaws and Policy and Procedure Review committee.

- **Vassil Peytchev**, a lead software developer at Epic Systems Corporation, has been a member of HL7 since 1998. He volunteers time and talent through active participation in the Control/Query Technical Committee, the Structured Documents Technical Committee, and the XML Special Interest Group. During the past two years, this volunteer has worked in the EHR Technical Committee, and currently serves as the facilitator of the Information Infrastructure Workgroup. Peytchev was the HL7 technical representative at the Chicago presentation of the EHR Functional Model, the first in a six-city tour to garner support for the EHR Draft Standard for Trial Use. He also volunteered as technical coordinator for the 2005 HL7 demo at HIMSS. He has taken an active role in preparing and creating prototype implementations of the emerging HL7 Version 3 messaging standards and the Clinical Document Architecture standard. Peytchev was also involved in the
initial mapping work between HL7 and NCPDP for e-prescribing.

- **Harold Solbrig**, a technical specialist at the Mayo Clinic, has been actively involved in healthcare standards for the past 15 years and became an official member of HL7 in 2000. He took on the daunting responsibility of maintaining the Version 3 vocabulary, along with the development and maintenance of the associated tooling. Part of this work involved creating a formal model for the V3 vocabulary and developing an XML tool that enabled the import of the V3 vocabulary into the database, a huge leap forward for the publication of Version 3. Solbrig also served as the editor of the HL7 Version 3 Common Terminology Services Specification, which received approval as an ANSI standard on April 21 of this year. A member of the vocabulary committee for five years, Solbrig has also been involved in the Modeling and Methodology and Control Query Technical Committees where he assisted with the development of parts of the HL7 Version 3 Data Types specification.

**New Advisory Committee Members**

The HL7 Board of Directors has also named two new members to serve on its advisory committee—Don Shoen, President of Medinotes Corporation, and Mark Frisse, Director of Regional Informatics Programs at the Vanderbilt Center for Better Health, and Professor in the Vanderbilt Department of Biomedical Informatics.

Shoen and Frisse join the following members of the HL7 Advisory Committee: James Reardon, chief information officer (CIO) for the Military Health System; Janet Marchibroda, chief executive officer, eHealth Initiative, executive director, Foundation for eHealth Initiative; Penelope J. Lie, senior director in healthcare development at Oracle Corporation; Dr. Tim Jones, clinical and technical design owner, National NHS Care Record, National Programme for IT; C. Martin Harris, chief information officer, chairman, Information Technology Division of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Ian R. Ferrier, founder and chairman of Bogart Delafield Ferrier, LLC., Carl D. Dvorak, chief operating officer, Epic Systems Corporation; Gary A. Christopherson, senior advisor to the chief operating officer of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and Dr. Ed Hammond, faculty member at the Duke University Medical Center, and longtime HL7 leader.

**About HL7**

Founded in 1987, Health Level Seven, Inc. ([http://www.HL7.org/](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: Accenture; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI); Eclipsys Corporation; Eli Lilly & Company; the Food and Drug Administration; GE Medical Systems; Guidant Corporation; IBM; IDX Systems Corporation; Intel Corporation, Digital Health; 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; Siemens Medical Solutions Health Services; Solucient, LLC.; 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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