Health Level Seven, Inc.

For Immediate Release

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Health Level Seven Names New Board Members, Technical Steering Committee Members and Volunteers of the Year

ANN ARBOR, MI, U.S. – October 10, 2007 – Health Level Seven (HL7), a preeminent healthcare IT standards development organization with broad international representation, today announced election results for its Board of Directors and Technical Steering Committee. The 2007 recipients of the W. Edward Hammond, PhD, Volunteer of the Year Awards were also announced.

HL7 Board Member Elections

Four members were elected or re-elected to the HL7 Board of Directors for the 2008-2009 term:

- **Treasurer** – Dan Russler, MD, vice president, clinical informatics, Oracle
- **Director-at-Large** – Hans Buitendijk, product manager, Siemens Medical Solutions USA, Inc.
- **Director-at-Large** – Linda Fischetti, RN, acting chief health informatics officer and director, HealthePeople, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- **Affiliate Director** – Michael van Campen, chair, HL7 Canada, and president, Gordon Point Informatics Ltd.

They join the following members who will lead HL7 for the 2008 calendar year:

- **Incoming Chair** – W. Ed Hammond, PhD, professor emeritus, department of Community and Family Medicine, Duke University
- **Secretary** – Freida Hall, standards architect, chief health informatics office, Veterans Health Administration

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**HL7 Board Members Elected – cont.**

- **Director-at-Large** – Liora Alschuler, principal, Alschuler Associates LLC
- **Director-at-Large** – Robert Dolin, MD, physician, Kaiser Permanente
- **Director-at-Large** – Jill Kaufman, PhD, program director, healthcare and life sciences standards, IBM
- **Director-at-Large** – Wes Rishel, research vice president, Gartner Inc.
- **Affiliate Director** - Kai Heitmann, chair, HL7 Germany

**HL7 Technical Steering Committee Elections**

John Quinn has been named Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of HL7. In this role, he will implement HL7’s product and services strategy in conjunction with the CEO; oversee the timely delivery of standards; report on the progress of key initiatives and specifications to the membership and stakeholders; and continue to lead HL7’s Technical Steering Committee. The following Technical Steering Committee members were named for specific divisions and international affiliates:

**Domain Experts Steering Division** (terms through 2008)
- **Primary** – James T. Case, DVM, PhD, professor of clinical diagnostic informatics at the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory, University of California, Davis
- **Alternate** – Austin Kreisler, HL7 messaging specialist, SAIC - Science Applications International Corp.

**Foundation & Technology Steering Division** (terms through 2009)
- **Primary** – Ioana Singureanu, modeling and methodology co-chair and co-founder of Eversolve, LLC, supporting the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- **Alternate** – Woody Beeler, principal, Beeler Consulting, LLC

**Structure & Semantic Design Steering Division** (terms through 2008)
- **Primary** – Calvin E. Beebe, technical specialist - information services, Mayo Clinic
- **Alternate** – Gregg Seppala, health standards architect, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

**Technical & Support Services Steering Division** (terms through 2009)
- **Primary** – Ken McCaslin, senior healthcare standards architect, Quest Diagnostics, Inc.
- **Alternate** – Helen Stevens-Love, standards director, Canada Health InfoWay

**International Affiliate Representatives**

- Charlie McCay, HL7 United Kingdom (term through 2009)
- Frank Oemig, HL7 Germany (term through 2008)

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HL7 Volunteers of the Year

HL7 honored five members with the 11th annual W. Edward Hammond, PhD Volunteer of the Year Award. Established in 1997, the award is named after Ed Hammond, one of HL7’s most active volunteers and a founding member, who will chair the HL7 board in 2008. The award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to HL7’s success. The 2007 recipients include:

- Hans Buitendijk, product manager, Siemens Medical Solutions USA
- James T. Case, DVM, PhD, professor of clinical diagnostic informatics at the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory at the University of California, Davis
- Thomson Kuhn, senior systems architect, American College of Physicians
- Ken McCaslin, senior healthcare standards architect, Quest Diagnostics
- Amnon Shabo (Shvo), PhD, research staff member, IBM Research Labs Haifa (Israel)

About the Volunteers:

Hans Buitendijk has been a member of HL7 since December 1992, and he has served as co-chair of the Orders and Observations Technical Committee for more than 10 years. Buitendijk has mentored many co-chairs who now serve on committees across the organization that help HL7 achieve success beyond the normal Orders and Observations Technical Committee workload. As a co-chair of the Organizational Review Committee, Buitendijk has helped re-organize HL7. He works tirelessly to improve the organization and continues in this role as an at-large member of the HL7 Board of Directors.

James Case is a founding co-chair of HL7’s Public Health Emergency Response Special Interest Group and a member of the Transitional Technical Task Force, which is helping HL7 visualize and implement strategies to meet tomorrow’s requirements. He joined HL7 in 1997 to make HL7 useful in veterinary medicine and he continues to ensure that HL7 specifications and documents support industries within and outside of human healthcare. His consistent approach to key issues has helped accelerate many important HL7 initiatives. Case has also trained many HL7 members on the LOINC database (Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes) and he is considered one of the organization’s authorities in this area.

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Thomson Kuhn’s work with HL7 has resulted in a successful model of engagement with the healthcare industry. Kuhn has demonstrated how to present the complex and detailed work of the standards development process to the medical community and integrate the concerns and values of the medical community into the standards development process. His strong and consistent participation in the detailed development of the Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) implementation guides and his success in communicating the substance of that work to the American College of Physicians has led to the ideal model of teamwork. Kuhn has been a member of HL7 since March of 2001.

Ken McCaslin joined HL7 in January of 1994 and has held several senior advisory roles within the organization. These roles include helping the Process Improvement Committee develop product lifecycle and project guidelines and participating in the Strategic Initiative Task Force to guide the development of HL7’s vision and strategic plan. McCaslin also led the EHR-Laboratory Interoperability and Connectivity Specification (ELINCS) team that developed the proposals made to HL7 for the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) that eventually became HL7 version 2.5.1. In his current position as co-chair of the Laboratory Special Interest Group, McCaslin is responsible for leading the ongoing development of messages to enable electronic ordering of laboratory tests. He also serves as co-chair of the Electronic Services Committee.

Amnon Shabo (Shvo) is a founding member of the Clinical Genomics Special Interest Group as well as an editor of the Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) Release 2 and the Continuity of Care Document (CCD). A member of HL7 since 2001, Shabo has worked across committees to ensure harmonization of genomic data wherever applied. He is involved in international joint efforts on EHR information models, and his vision of patient-centric, interoperable health records informs his work. Shabo has made a substantial contribution to the quality and relevance of HL7 specifications. He has accomplished all of this while working from Israel, and he remains an active participant across oceans and time zones.

About HL7

Founded in 1987, Health Level Seven, Inc. (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 2,300 members represent approximately 500 corporate members, which includes more than 90 percent of the 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; Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI); Eclipsys Corporation; Eli Lilly & Company; Epic Systems Corporation; European Medicines Agency; the Food and Drug Administration; GE Healthcare Information Technologies; GlaxoSmithKline; IBM; Intel Corporation; InterSystems Corporation; Kaiser Permanente; McKesson Provider Technologies; Microsoft Corporation; Misys Healthcare Systems; NICTIZ National Healthcare; Novartis; Oracle Corporation; Partners HealthCare System, Inc.; Pfizer, Inc.; Philips Medical Systems; Progress Software Corporation-DataDirect Technologies Division; QuadraMed Corporation; Quest Diagnostics Inc.; Science Applications International Corporation; Siemens Medical Solutions Health Services; St. Jude Medical; Thomson Healthcare; the U.S. Department of Defense, Military Health System; the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.

Numerous HL7 Affiliates have been established around the globe including Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, United Kingdom, and Uruguay.

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