Health Level Seven Announces Newest Affiliate—HL7 Russia

Implementation of HL7 standards will help Russia integrate medical data and improve the quality of care.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., USA — September 10, 2009 — Health Level Seven® (HL7®), the global authority on standards for interoperability of health information technology with members in 57 countries, today announced the addition of HL7 Russia to its growing number of affiliates. HL7 affiliates are a critical component of the increasing global scope and orientation of the HL7 family of standards.

“The success of Health Level Seven and the extensive global implementation of its standards are due in large part to the significant contributions from our affiliate members around the world,” said HL7 CEO Charles Jaffe, MD, PhD. “The skills of many individuals in Russia bring an invaluable addition to HL7, and we look forward to them leading the way to greater adoption of health informatics standards in Eurasia. We welcome HL7 Russia to the organization and look forward to their participation in the development of HL7 standards.”

HL7 Russia is chaired by Tatyana Zarubina, MD, PhD, head of the medical information science and cybernetics department at Russian State Medical University. Dr. Zarubina has several years experience as both a professor of informatics and as a senior staff scientist leading the development of healthcare information systems. She has also been a member of the International Informatization Academy since 2001.
“Russia needs to implement HL7 standards to integrate medical information systems on both horizontal and vertical levels,” said HL7 Russia Chair Tatyana Zarubina, MD, PhD. “We hope that the advancement and adoption of HL7 standards in the Russian Federation will help to create a single information space in healthcare and medical data. We look forward to collaborating with the global healthcare information community to improve the quality of healthcare for people around the world.”

Like HL7, Inc., HL7 Russia is an open, not-for-profit and consensus-based organization. Each affiliate contributes to the development of core HL7 standards through participation in HL7 work groups and the standards voting process and then localizes the standards to its specific requirements. Affiliates also support and distribute the HL7 standards in their country, produce translations and implementation guides for their users, and participate in HL7 work groups.

HL7 Russia’s immediate activities and goals will be directed at the following areas:

1. Translating, adopting, developing and implementing HL7 standards in different areas of clinical medicine and the healthcare field
2. Teaching the methodology of HL7 architecture to doctors, IT specialists, students and postgraduates, and educating the public about HL7
3. Assisting in the creation of national medical standards using HL7 experiences

About HL7
Founded in 1987, Health Level Seven, Inc. is the leading global authority for healthcare Information interoperability and standards with members in 57 countries. HL7 is a non-profit, ANSI accredited standards development 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 include more than 90 percent of the information systems vendors serving healthcare. HL7 collaborates with other standards developers and provider, payer, philanthropic and government agencies at the highest levels to ensure the development of comprehensive and reliable standards and successful interoperability efforts.
HL7’s endeavors are sponsored, in part, by the support of its benefactors: Accenture; Booz Allen Hamilton; 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; Intel Corporation; InterSystems Corporation; Kaiser Permanente; Lockheed Martin; McKesson Provider Technology; Microsoft Corporation; NHS Connecting for Health; NICTIZ National Healthcare; Novartis; Oracle Corporation; Partners HealthCare System, Inc.; Pfizer, Inc.; Philips Healthcare; QuadraMed Corporation; Quest Diagnostics Inc.; Siemens Healthcare; St. Jude Medical; Sunquest Information Systems; Thomson Reuters; the U.S. Department of Defense, Military Health System; and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

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

For more information, please visit: www.HL7.org.

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