



Health Level Seven® International

For Immediate Release

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Health Level Seven Announces Upcoming Release of the greenCDA™ Implementation Guide

A Small Footprint for Meaningful Use, a Big Step for Interoperability

Orlando, FL., USA – February 21, 2011 – Health Level Seven® (HL7®) International, the global authority on standards for interoperability of health information technology with members in 55 countries, today announced that the highly anticipated **greenCDA™** Implementation Guide is scheduled to be released in March.

The HL7 Clinical Document Architecture (CDA™) is at the core of the requirement for Meaningful Use of Electronic Health Records. It supports continuity of care and re-use of clinical data for public health reporting, quality monitoring, patient safety and clinical trials. **greenCDA** maintains the full utility of CDA while making it easier to implement. It is a simplified XML for CDA templates.

“Any developer with basic XML knowledge and a tool that can process simple XML schemas can create green instances. We flattened the hierarchy, focused on variable data verses fixed structural markup, and removed complexities like xsi:type. The result is simple and intuitive,” said Rick Geimer, Lantana Group CTO and co-editor of the **greenCDA** Implementation Guide.

The enthusiastic response to the development of **greenCDA** is driving rapid experimentation and has raised the question of how **greenCDA** fits into the larger ecosystem of clinical information systems. This trial use and experimentation will help us understand how going green affects ease of use for data capture, management and analysis, when it might be an appropriate wire format for CDA, if there are significant limits on expressivity and where the cost and benefits may lie.

The CDC is planning a pilot project with vendors interested in using **greenCDA** to enable use of their systems for submitting Central Line Insertion Practices (CLIP) data to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

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“Use of **greenCDA** and supporting transformation tools show great promise as an approach for reducing the effort required to implement fully normative CDA,” said Daniel A. Pollock, MD, Surveillance Branch, Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

HL7 invites the world to “go green” and looks forward to a robust and informative discussion with all stakeholders leading to acceleration of the development and adoption of interoperable clinical information systems.

For more information on the **greenCDA**, visit the **greenCDA** wiki at http://wiki.hl7.org/index.php?title=GreenCDA_Project.

About HL7

Founded in 1987, Health Level Seven International is the global authority for healthcare Information interoperability and standards with affiliates established in more than 30 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: Abbott; Accenture; Booz Allen Hamilton; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Duke Translational Medicine Institute (DTMI); Eclipsys Corporation; Epic Systems Corporation; European Medicines Agency; the Food and Drug Administration; GE Healthcare Information Technologies; GlaxoSmithKline; IBM; Intel Corporation; InterSystems Corporation; Kaiser Permanente; Lockheed Martin; McKesson Provider Technology; Microsoft Corporation; NHS Connecting for Health; NICTIZ National Healthcare; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; Oracle Corporation; Partners HealthCare System, Inc.; Pfizer, Inc.; Philips Healthcare; Quest Diagnostics Inc.; Siemens Healthcare; St. Jude Medical; 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, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, United Kingdom, and Uruguay.

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