Health Level Seven® International
For Immediate Release

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HL7 Offers Free Ambassador Webinar: Service-Oriented Architecture Standards and Their Role in Enterprise Interoperability

Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA – August 17, 2011 – Health Level Seven® International (HL7®), the global authority for interoperability and standards in healthcare information technology with members in 55 countries, will present a complimentary Ambassador webinar titled "HL7 Service-Oriented Architecture Standards and Their Role in Enterprise Interoperability" on Monday, August 22 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm EDT.

Service-oriented architecture (SOA) provides a solution approach that promotes data consistency, quality, facilitates interoperability among disparate technology components for organizations working to integrate off-the-shelf and legacy systems, those collaborating with business partners and those who are participating within a Health Information Exchange (HIE). Done effectively, SOA is a business-driven initiative that can deliver business value, foster transformation, process improvement and service delivery.

SOA differs from traditional interoperability approaches in that it focuses on the expected *behavior* more than the data, bringing together all of the component parts needed to fulfill a particular function. By analogy, it could be said that a hospital itself is "service oriented," as core ancillary capabilities such as pharmacy and laboratory provide "services" within the organization. The services provided are well understood, as is the protocol for requesting them.

SOA provides a means to specify information, functions, and behavior into consistent, reusable components, and standards are needed to allow these components to collaborate within and across organizational boundaries. HL7 has been producing healthcare-specific SOA standards to address intra- and inter-Enterprise interoperability. This webinar will explore the importance of this architectural style, and provide a tour of HL7 SOA specifications.

Ken Rubin, chief architect of the Federal Healthcare Portfolio for HP Enterprise Services in the U.S., HL7 ambassador and co-chair of the HL7 Service Oriented Architecture Work Group, will be presenting this webinar. Mr. Rubin also serves as a co-chair of the OMG Healthcare Domain Task

Force and the Healthcare Service Specification Project (HSSP), and serves as the enterprise architect for Open Health Tools, an open-source software community.

To register for this free webinar, please visit http://www.hl7.org/events/ambassador20110822/.

HL7 Ambassadors present standardized presentations about HL7 as speaker volunteers. They are available to present at local, regional or national conferences. Please contact HL7 at +1 (734) 677-7777 if you would like to schedule an HL7 Ambassador for an upcoming event.

About Health Level Seven International (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; Allscripts; Booz Allen Hamilton; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Duke Translational Medicine Institute; Epic; European Medicines Agency; the Food and Drug Administration; GE Healthcare Information Technologies; GlaxoSmithKline; Hospital Corporation American (HCA); IBM; Intel Corporation; InterSystems Corporation; Kaiser Permanente; Lockheed Martin; McKesson Provider Technology; Microsoft Corporation; NICTIZ National Healthcare; Novartis; Oracle Corporation; Partners HealthCare System, Inc.; Pfizer, Inc.; Philips Healthcare; Quest Diagnostics Inc.; Siemens Healthcare; 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, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Puerto Rico, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, United Kingdom, and Uruguay.

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

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