Health Level Seven® International
For Immediate Release

HL7 Contact: Andrea Ribick
+1 (734) 677-7777
andrea@HL7.org

Sparx Systems Contact: Estelle Bell
+61 3 5345 1140
marketing@sparxsystems.com

HL7 and Sparx Systems Announce 2014 Tooling Challenge

Challenge: Produce a design specification

for an off-the-shelf Unified Modeling Language (UML) Tool for maintaining

HL7 Version 3 artifacts.

San Antonio, Texas, USA – January 21, 2014 – Health Level Seven® International (HL7®), the global authority for interoperability in healthcare information technology with members in 55 countries, and Sparx Systems, a leading vendor of modeling tools based on open standards, today announced the second annual tooling challenge. Developers are invited to produce a design specification for a tool that can be used to create Reference Information Model (RIM)-derived information models. This challenge will require defining an updated HL7-UML profile for HL7's Model Interchange Format (MIF) static models using Sparx Systems Enterprise Architect for a chance to win $4,000 USD.

The 2014 tooling challenge, the second in a series of annual challenges sponsored by Sparx Systems, was kicked off at the HL7 January Working Group Meeting in San Antonio, TX. The contest is open to the public; both HL7 members and non-members are encouraged to participate. Interested parties should declare their intent to participate by May 2, 2014 and submissions must be submitted by July 1, 2014. Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges and the winner will be announced at the 28th Annual Plenary and Working Group Meeting on September 16, 2014 in Chicago, IL.

"The tooling challenge reinforces our commitment to providing solutions that will advance the implementation of HL7 standards," said HL7 CEO Dr. Charles Jaffe. "This year's challenge

focuses on the creation of a new HL7 tool, based on a generic UML modeler, that will be easier to use and simpler to maintain. Our vision is to create a tool that is platform-agnostic and facilitates real-world implementation."

To qualify for the prize, submitters must include within the design specification, the following capabilities. The specified solution:

- Must enable the resulting tool: to accept a model expressed in MIF; allow modifications thereto; and to express the result in MIF. Notes:
  - If required, the design may propose changes or extensions to the HL7 Model Interchange Format (MIF) on which this effort is based
  - The Profile might be generated by transforming the HL7 RIM, expressed in MIF
- Must accommodate replacement of the HL7 RMIM designer in Visio (see documentation on HL7 Wiki.)
- Must include a functional decomposition of the capabilities as part of the design specification
- Must describe development of an attribute selection and constraint dialog like that used in the HL7 RMIM Designer and in the SMD tool
- Must show how fixed property values from the RIM (like "isDocumentCharacteristic") would be encoded in the updated profile
- Must include an updated UML profile that can be applied to Enterprise Architect (EA) such that EA can produce class models that represent the semantics described in the UML profile

"This form of collaboration with HL7 is very satisfying," said Ken Harkin, Business Development Manager for Sparx Systems. "It delivers value to many stakeholders across the global health industry while identifying and rewarding the talent and skill of challenge participants."

For more information on the challenge, go to the HL7 Tooling Challenge webpage on the HL7.org site at http://www.HL7.org/events/toolingchallenge.cfm.

For information about Sparx Systems Academic Licensing Program visit: www.sparxsystems.com/solutions/academic.html

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 2,000 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.

About Sparx Systems

Sparx Systems specializes in high performance and scalable visual modeling tools for the planning, design and construction of software intensive systems.

With customers in industries ranging from aerospace and automotive engineering to finance, defense, government, entertainment and telecommunications, Sparx Systems has won four consecutive SD Times awards and is the leading vendor of innovative solutions based on the Unified Modeling Language (UML) and its related specifications. A Contributing Member of the Object Management Group (OMG), Sparx Systems is committed to realizing the potential of model-driven development based on open standards.

The company's flagship product, Enterprise Architect, has received numerous accolades since its commercial release in August, 2000, including two Jolt and Visual Studio Magazine Reader's Choice Merit awards. Now at version 10, Enterprise Architect is the design tool of choice for over 300,000 registered users world-wide.

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