



Health Level Seven® International
For Immediate Release

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HL7 Argonaut Project Takes Major Step Forward for FHIR

ANN ARBOR, MI, USA – February 15, 2017 – Health Level Seven® International (HL7®), the global authority for interoperability in healthcare information technology with members in 55 countries, and The Argonaut Project today announced the publication of the Argonaut FHIR Data and Document Query Implementation Guide. This guide represents the first major release of an open-industry general FHIR implementation guide to simplify and standardize the exchange of basic clinical data. The culmination of months of open and collaborative deliberation by vendors and providers, this important work is already sparking faster adoption of the HL7 FHIR standard as a number of organizations are planning to implement the Argonaut FHIR specifications. The Argonaut Project also announced its 2017 plans to expand its focus to other key use cases using the HL7 FHIR and OAuth standards.

The Argonaut Project is a collaboration of vendors and providers to accelerating adoption of FHIR and OAuth standards by creating road-tested implementation guides accessible to developers seeking to build interoperability capabilities according to modern internet architectures. The newly published implementation guides are compliant with HL7 FHIR STU2 and leverage the SMART App Authorization Guide developed collaboratively with the SMART-on-FHIR Project at Boston Children's Hospital to streamline integration of provider and patient apps with clinical source systems. By making interoperable the 21 data elements of the "Common Clinical Data Set" defined by the Office of the National Coordinator, the Argonaut data and document query implementation guides provide an important common foundation for virtually any FHIR-based implementation.

Argonaut founders, including Accenture, athenahealth, Cerner, Epic, Meditech, Surescripts, and The Advisory Board, are basing their FHIR implementations on the Argonaut guides. In addition, two nationwide health information networks are moving ahead with adoption of Argonaut FHIR-based services. Carequality has already implemented a preliminary version of the upcoming Argonaut FHIR Provider Directory Implementation Guide, and the CommonWell Health Alliance has announced that it will build FHIR specifications into their core services using the Argonaut FHIR implementation guides for data and document query, and provider directory.

“The principal aims of the Argonaut Project are to quicken the availability of FHIR to meet growing market demand and to help standardize FHIR adoption early in its growth to head off problems down the road,” said Micky Tripathi, Project Manager of the Argonaut Project. “The early alignment of many vendors and networks with the Argonaut guides is strong evidence that we’re on the right track.”

The Argonaut Project sponsors have agreed on an annual sustainability model to advance maturation of selected FHIR- and OAuth-based use cases of importance to patients, providers, and the industry. For 2017, the Argonaut Project will focus on three projects:

1. Argonaut FHIR (STU3) Provider Directory Implementation Guide, to be published upon final balloting of HL7 FHIR STU3
2. FHIR-enabled Scheduling API, which will enable appointment functionality across EHR systems and apps
3. Enhancing Integration of EHRs and Apps, which will streamline the integration of external apps into an EHR (in collaboration with the CDS Hooks Project)

“The Argonaut Project is an important driver of HL7 FHIR adoption both in the US and globally,” said Dr Charles Jaffe, CEO of HL7. “I am delighted that the sponsors see value in this initiative and will continue supporting it to the benefit of the entire industry.”

The Argonaut Project implementation guides are available at:

<http://www.fhir.org/guides/argonaut/r2/>.

About the Argonaut Project

The Argonaut Project is a private sector initiative to advance industry adoption of modern, open interoperability standards. The purpose of the Argonaut Project is to rapidly develop HL7

FHIR-based API and core data services specifications to enable expanded information sharing for electronic health records and other health information technology based on Internet standards and architectural patterns and styles. The Argonaut Project founders are: Accenture, athenahealth, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Cerner, Epic, Intermountain Healthcare, Mayo Clinic, MEDITECH, McKesson, Partners Healthcare, SMART at Boston Children's Hospital, Surescripts, and The Advisory Board. The Argonaut Project is managed under the auspices of Health Level Seven International. To learn more about the Argonaut Project, visit www.argonautproject.org.

About Health Level Seven International (HL7)

Founded in 1987, [Health Level Seven International](http://www.hl7.org) 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.

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