

## **Health Level Seven® International Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct - 2010**

Many U.S. standards and professional organizations, including those in healthcare, have codes of ethics. After receiving suggestions from several HL7 members, the Executive Committee decided to create an HL7 Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct. We reviewed, and in some cases incorporated, parts of the codes of ethics of ASC X-12, HIMA, ACM, ECHO, and IEEE. The following is the HL7 Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct adopted by the Executive Committee in December 1994. We also expect you, as an HL7 member, to endorse and uphold them for the benefit of all HL7 participants.

Commitment to ethical professional conduct is expected of every HL7 member. More specifically:

- Only HL7 business will be conducted at HL7 meetings. No marketing materials will be distributed or marketing-oriented presentations made. Private, non-public meetings or functions, as well as recruiting activities, should not be conducted during HL7 meetings and event times.
- All HL7 members will comply with the applicable laws and regulations applying to non-profit organizations, the HL7 Bylaws and Governance and Operations Manual (GOM) adopted by the executive committee and the membership, as well as applicable trademark and copyright laws.
- HL7 members will promote, acknowledge and support proper and authorized use of the HL7 standard. By the same token, HL7 members will not support or condone improper or unauthorized use of the standard.
- HL7 members will not misrepresent use of the HL7 standard in their products, services or organization or in others'.
- HL7 members will contribute knowledge capital to further the development of the standard. At the same time, members will respect confidentiality agreements when applicable.
- HL7 members will not participate in non-HL7 marketing activities when representing HL7 at industry conferences or other standards meetings.
- HL7 will not endorse any member's products or services.
- HL7 members will not participate in activities which give the appearance of conflict of interest between HL7 and the member's organization.