



# HL7 Affiliates: Local Governance and Strategy

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## Governance





# Landscape of change

- Recent HL7 International IP arrangements
- Affiliates difficulty in maintaining a presence (6 this year)
- Promotion by HL7 for increased sharing of projects
- Universal standards proposal
- Need to develop and foster leadership
- Funding





# Method

Emailed all affiliates, through HL7 International Council email list twice, with three questions:

1. Do you have a strategic plan for your Affiliate? ***Yes/No***
2. If you have a plan: how often is this updated?  
***Monthly/Annually/Two-yearly /Never Updated/Other (please give details) \_\_\_\_\_***
3. If you have a plan: Who do you circulate this plan to?  
***HL7 Affiliate Board Only/Board and Members Only/A general HL7 Info List for the Affiliate/ Other (please give details) \_\_\_\_\_***

Asked to email a strategic plan if available





# Results

- Response was 11/38
- 10 have something !
  - 4 have a plan, 6 have task lists/goals
- 2 have established review cycle
- Circulation to board and members usually.



Affiliate	Strategic plan? Yes/No	Other plans?	Updated	Circulation	Plan sent
HL7 Australia	Yes	Plus an Education Plan	Every three months	Board, members, HL7 Au info list	Yes
HL7 Austria	No	No 'plan' but strategy discussed at two board meetings annually			
HL7 Croatia	No		N/A	N/A	
HL7 Finland	Yes	Strategy included in yearly plans. There is a need for update due to the new national health ICT strategy. The strategic plan has some overlaps with the yearly plans and also with the rules of the association which should also be removed.	Latest version is 2011. No regular update cycle.	Board, members, and general info list of members.	Yes. (In Finnish!)
HL7 Italy	No	Strategies, goals and objectives presented and discussed between the board and members in affiliate annual meeting.	N/A	N/A	
HL7 Netherlands	No	Not a strategic plan, just a strategy. Updated at the initiative of the board.	When needed	Board and Members Only	Yes (In Dutch!)
HL7 New Zealand	Sort of!	Hard to resource. Developed a plan over a workshop but no progress since.			
HL7 Norway	No	Task list and by-laws	N/A	N/A	
HL7 Slovenia	Planned	Plan to update it bi-annually		Members	
HL7 Sweden	No	But looking into this. Have a yearly business plan	N/A	N/A	
HL7 UK	Yes (sort of!)		Annually (usually)	Board & those at AGM	Yes

# The why and how of what HL7 Australia has done



# HL7 Australia: Why we decided it was necessary.....



- Establish continuity in activities and governance-given annual election of full Board and therefore possibility of high turn over and change of direction each year.
- Establish direction more formally. Communicate this to the membership.



# HL7 Australia: Why we decided it was necessary.....



- On-going problem of wanting to do many things but limited by all volunteer board with different objectives.
- Provide more established direction for a passionate and dedicated group of HL7 volunteers, both those on the Board and not (GG & RDH).





# HL7 Australia: Why we decided it was necessary.....



- Provide more benefit to members and increase membership.



# How did we go about addressing these issues?



1. One page plan
2. Member benefits flyer
3. IP statement

# HL7 Australia – Plan 2014-2015

Stakeholders	Mission, Vision and Values	Key Result Areas	Projects
<p><b>Members</b> Software vendors, software developers, consultants, education providers, software customers (eg healthcare providers), industry associations (eg MSIA...), clinical colleges &amp; governments</p> <p><b>Broader HL7 Community</b> HL7.org, HL7 Affiliates, HL7 participating Standards developers</p> <p><b>Government and Agencies</b> COAG, NEHTA, AIHW, National eHealth Program, TGA, Australian DoH, DHS, DFAT, Education; State Departments...</p> <p><b>Standards Developers &amp; Conformance</b> ISO, SA, IHE, IHTSDO, OpenEHR, NPAAC, Clinical Colleges, AHML...</p> <p><b>Registries etc</b> Cancer, immunisation, infectious diseases, public health, surveillance...</p> <p><b>Health Informatics Education &amp; Research Centres</b> UoM, MQ, UWS, ECU, UoW, Tas, UQ, USyd, RMIT, EHE, S&amp;S...</p> <p><b>Health Informatics Associations</b> HISA, ACHI, HIMAA...</p> <p><b>Clinical Colleges &amp; Associations</b> RACN, RCPA, PathAC, RACP, RACGP, RANZCR, AMA...</p>	<p><b>Mission</b> HL7 Australia supports the HL7 user community by providing an organisation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Champion, co-ordinate, and develop standards</li> <li>• Facilitate good practice implementation and use</li> <li>• Develop skills and knowledge amongst members and the wider informatics community</li> <li>• Foster a community of practice</li> </ul> <p><b>Vision</b> HL7 Australia is a viable, respected and influential association. Australia is recognised as a leader in the adoption and development of the HL7 family of standards with appropriate national resources and expertise and this has led to better health and efficiency.</p> <p><b>Values</b> As an association we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Value and support our volunteers</li> <li>• Respect the expertise and work of our membership</li> <li>• Have open, consensus-based processes</li> <li>• Operate efficiently and not for profit</li> <li>• Are effective champions for communication and meaningful use of health information</li> <li>• Believe standardisation is fundamental to quality and safety and can improve efficiency</li> </ul>	<p><b>1 Membership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase HL7 profile</li> <li>• Increase membership (new and continuity) 25-50%</li> <li>• Introduce pro-rata for new members &amp; a high value category</li> </ul> <p><b>2 Professional Education and Evaluation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an education advisory committee</li> <li>• 3 educational events/year</li> </ul> <p><b>3 Leadership/Advocacy/Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish standards development infrastructure and process</li> <li>• Foster Standards Collaborative / coalition for ehealth</li> </ul> <p><b>4 Third party relationships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidate and establish IP agreements within Australia</li> </ul> <p><b>5 Sustainability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage assistance to support objectives (Exec Officers)</li> <li>• 3 Face-to-face meetings per year, fortnightly teleconference</li> <li>• New website</li> <li>• Improve communications (email list) and voting process</li> <li>• Review HL7 Au Constitution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Membership</b></li> <li>• Create value proposition material</li> <li>• Quarterly Newsletter</li> <li>• <b>Education</b></li> <li>• Survey membership when draft program devised.</li> <li>• Extend education/certification [using &gt;1 provider, localised ambassador programs, online courses, webinars, 1-2 days events]</li> <li>• International WGM reports via webinar</li> <li>• <b>Leadership/Advocacy/Policy</b></li> <li>• Pathology standards publications</li> <li>• Set up CTS2 server</li> <li>• Establish Standards stakeholders reference group</li> <li>• <b>Third Party Relationships</b></li> <li>• HL7 Au Fellowship</li> <li>• Establish IP agreement with NeHTA</li> <li>• Withdraw agreement Standards Australia</li> <li>• Strategic partner MOUs (AHML, MSIA, HISA, Clinical colleges)</li> <li>• <b>Sustainability</b></li> <li>• Student project for website</li> <li>• Plan for email list management.</li> <li>• Seek additional funding sources and resources</li> </ul>

HL7 Australia Membership Benefits	Individual	Organisation	Sponsor
Free HL7 Standards Access immediately at publication (non-members have to wait 3 months)	√	All Staff	All Staff
Free attendance at HL7 webinars - including reports from international meetings	√	3 free attendances + discount rate for other registrants	6 free attendances + discount rate for all other employees
Voting and commenting on HL7 Australia standards ballots (subject to ANSI Balance of Interest requirements)	√	3 nominated people	6 nominated people
Discounted HL7 Conference, Workshops and Seminar rates	√	3 staff	6 staff
Regular updates from the HL7 Australia email list	√	√*	√*
Access Member Only Web pages	√	√*	√*
Tooling support			
Free Object Identifier (OID) for your organisation in the HL7 Australia root OID		√	√
Access to the HL7 OID register	√	√	√
Access to online resources for managing localised HL7 terminologies and implementation resources	√	√*	√*
Voting rights in the selection of the HL7 Australia Board and decisions made at general meetings of HL7 Australia	√	3 nominated people	6 nominated people
Acknowledgement at all HL7 Australia events and presentations (including at HL7 International) and on the HL7 Australia website			√
Use the HL7 Australia Members logo on your web site and other materials.	√	√	√
Members' directory on new HL7 Australia website with opt-out for public view. (New HL7 Australia website will be available in late 2015).	√ (name only)	√ (name, description, logo, and link to website)	√ (name, description, logo, and link to website)
Quarterly invitation to meet with HL7 Australia Board			√
Invitation to participate in external advisory groups			√
Invitation to participate in special Q&A post international HL7 Working Group meetings			√
HL7 International benefits			
Login and access	√	3 nominated people	6 nominated people
HL7 Australia voting member i.e. vote in HL7 International standards ballots	√ <sup>#</sup>	1 <sup>#</sup>	Up to 3 <sup>#</sup>
Discounted rates at HL7 International Working Group Meetings	√	All staff	All staff

# Other benefits of HL7 Australia membership



- Access the HL7 body of knowledge through networking with HL7 experts and business colleagues
- Increase business and personal profile in the standards development community through participation in standards development and on the HL7 Australia website
- Attend education events, increase your knowledge and gain certification in HL7 standards
- Stay in touch with HL7 developments nationally and internationally
- Contribute your expertise and make a difference to health data interoperability in Australia and in the global community
- Participate in localisation of HL7 Standards for Australian use.



# IP statement (extract)

## **HL7 Australia Member Rights and Obligations With Respect to HL7 Copyright Material and Intellectual Property**

Extract only

HL7 Standards provide the basis for the interoperable exchange of health information. In order to promote the use of HL7 Standards and facilitate interoperability internationally, HL7 has a federated structure with country Affiliates. Through an Affiliate Agreement with HL7 International, rights and obligations are granted to HL7 Australia in relation to HL7 Intellectual Property (IP). In particular HL7 Australia is granted the sole right to publish HL7 Standards Localisations and educational material within Australia.

HL7 International published Standards are free to use. HL7 Australia, through its Affiliate agreement is authorised to republish and modify HL7 IP and HL7 educational materials. In addition, HL7 Organisational and Benefactor Members have the right to publish Implementation Guides which contain HL7 IP. Such publication is only permitted for use by their Customers.

Implementation Guides must comply with the requirements laid out by HL7 International to:

- Acknowledge HL7 Copyright and registered trademarks in the required form
- Where an HL7 Implementation Guide includes variances from published HL7 standards, the variances must be clearly and prominently marked with commentary provided on any likely impact, especially with regard to interoperability.
- .....



# Way forward

Does your affiliate  
know where it is going?

Do the members know  
what is going on?

Do you articulate the  
value of membership.

Could you be more  
cohesive as a Board?





It is not as difficult as.....

