Connect with FHIR at HL7 September Pre-Working Group Meeting Event

Vendors, implementers invited to demonstrate FHIR connectivity in Baltimore

Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA – June 26, 2012 – Health Level Seven® International (HL7®), the global authority for interoperability and standards in healthcare information technology with members in 55 countries, today announced a connectathon supporting its Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Initiative. The FHIR Connectathon will be held Saturday, September 8, 2012, in Baltimore, Maryland.

FHIR (pronounced “Fire”) is a new HL7 draft standard for data exchange in healthcare that is based on current industry principles, including the cloud, web 2.0 and RESTful principles. It defines a set of “resources” representing granular clinical concepts. The resources can be managed in isolation, or aggregated into complex documents. This flexibility offers coherent solutions for a range of interoperability problems. HL7’s FHIR wiki page, http://wiki.hl7.org/index.php?title=FHIR, contains a more detailed introduction to FHIR as well as links to FHIR development and implementation resources.

All vendors and implementers that are interested in demonstrating FHIR capabilities are invited to participate in the connectathon. Due to space limitations onsite, only the first 20 applicants will be able to participate in the event. The FHIR Connectathon will be held the day before the 26th Annual HL7 Plenary & Working Group Meeting (WGM) at the Baltimore Hyatt Regency Hotel, which is also the WGM venue. The aim of this initial connectathon is to test the infrastructural components of FHIR – mainly, its Representational State Transfer (REST) interface and profiles – using a few relatively stable resources.

Participating applications should be able to play the role of at least one of the Person actors described on the connectathon Wiki page at
During the connectathon, three types of workflows will be tested: the creation and exchange of Profiles, of Persons, and of Lab Reports.

A vendor/implementer teleconference will be held on July 10, 2012 at 4:00 pm EDT for one hour. The teleconference will give a high-level overview of FHIR, outline the connectathon scenarios, and provide contact points for participants as well as a timeline for the work items leading up to and through the event.

Interested participants can enroll for the teleconference or obtain additional information by contacting FHIR Connectathon project manager Mike Henderson at mike_henderson_2000@yahoo.com, or by visiting the FHIR Connectathon link at http://wiki.hl7.org/index.php?title=FHIR_Connectathon.

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; 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.

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