

HL7 Executive Solution Brief

CAN YOUR HEALTHCARE APPLICATIONS SHARE DATA WITH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL SYSTEMS – WITHOUT INTEGRATION HASSLES?

- Do your patient, provider and partner systems struggle to communicate with each other?
- Is it difficult to resolve data hand-offs between your various healthcare systems?
- Are you struggling to share information while adhering to complex healthcare standards?
- Are you struggling with standards and their versions, and how do you plan to support all of them to achieve full interoperability?

Healthcare organizations generate and consume lots of data, and their systems need to interact with all kinds of other platforms – including partner, provider and regulatory systems.

A hospital, for example, manages inbound and outbound data for:

- admissions
- labs/testing
- nursing stations
- physicians
- billing
- supplies
- procedures
- medications

This information needs to be shared and accessed across multiple departments and partners.

So how do you effectively deal with complex data exchanges across platforms that utilize different messaging technologies?

Messaging standards allow all “countries” to speak the same “language”

Messaging standards, which define how information is packaged and communicated from one party to another, are the key. They set the language, structure and data types required for seamless integration from one system to another. Think of them as highly accurate translators at the U.N.

Health Level Seven (HL7) is one such translator designed specifically by and for the healthcare industry.



The HL7 Solution – Robust Functionality

Messaging Support:

- *webMethods Trading Networks provides native support for HL7 V3 messages*
- *HL7 eStandard Module adds support for HL7 2.X versions 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.3.1, 2.4, 2.5., 2.5.1, 2.6 and 2.7*
- *Validates HL7 messages for structural and semantic consistency; supports HL7 code tables*
- *Graphical Mapping tool to transform V2 messages into V3 and vice versa*

Integration:

- *Additionally, webMethods Trading Networks provides B2B capabilities to exchange messages with partners using secure protocols*
- *Supports MLLP (Minimum Level Support Protocol) and other commonly used protocols such as FTP(S), HTTP(S), EDIINT, ebXML etc.*
- *Provides message persistence, error handling and auto acknowledgement*
- *Enables easy auditing by providing unified logging with server for the error and audit logs*

HL7 – The standard for sharing electronic health information

The Health Level Seven (HL7) standard addresses complex health care information sharing processes. It defines specific data sets that can be shared between health care systems, but it doesn't offer a method for integrating disparate systems. More simply put, it tells you "what" information can be shared but not "how" to share it.

So what's the best way to connect all the various systems so that information can be shared seamlessly, efficiently and securely?

HL7 the easy way

Software AG's webMethods Trading Networks offers an elegant solution for HL7 and enables the exchange of healthcare data between different healthcare systems. The solution integrates with applications, retrieves the needed information, formats it to the HL7 standard and delivers it to other parts of your organization (and outsiders). In short, it creates, parses, validates and distributes HL7 messages.

With the Software AG HL7 Solution, any existing IT investment can be part of a HIPAA transaction. This includes systems like Epic, Cerner, GE, McKesson, Siemens and even legacy systems such as MUMPS.

Integrate any and all information within the enterprise, including:

- Patient Administration
- Patient Billing
- Information query
- Master file management
- Schedules/appointments, resources and services management
- Personnel Management
- Application Management
- Integrate across enterprises:
- Clinical Data Exchange/Electronic Medical Records (EMRs)
- Claims and Reimbursements (TPAs, Providers & Payers)
- Supply chain & Order management (Vendors)

Comprehensive capability with easy integration and scalability

With the Software AG HL7 Solution, you don't have to worry about scalability, functionality and maintenance issues common to point solutions and large suite software.

Niche and pure-play vendors, for example, only provide point-to-point integration and can't scale in multi-site environments. Large suite vendors, on the other hand, lack depth of capability and seamless integration between suite components.

In addition, conventional point-to-point integration approaches or standalone integration solutions are difficult to maintain and require coding to implement. The last thing you want to do is introduce more complexity when connecting healthcare systems.

The Software AG HL7 Solution, however, is built on the webMethods Application Integration and B2B Integration Solutions. The foundation is a proven winner for both internal and external integration. And, the HL7 eStandard Module uses a standards-based Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) to integrate payer and provider data, and business processes across disparate systems. As a result, partners easily automate any data exchange between systems.

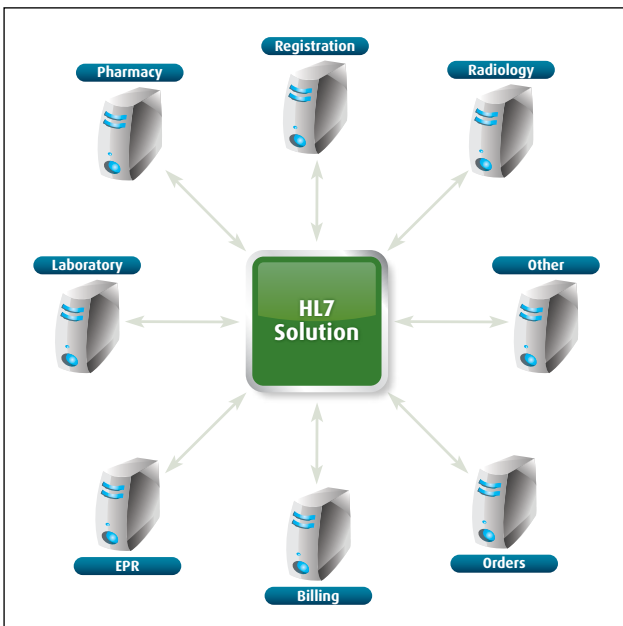
GET THERE FASTER WITH SOFTWARE AG

Software AG's fully-integrated, highly-scalable solution suite offers healthcare providers a holistic view of partner transactions, standards compliance, operational processes, patient data, reports and business intelligence.

To learn more about Software AG integration solutions for healthcare, visit:

www.SoftwareAG.com/us/solutions/healthcare

Or register for a Software AG ValuePath Workshop at: www.SoftwareAG.com/valuepath



Streamline your HL7 traffic using webMethods Trading Networks

Take the next step to get there – faster.

ABOUT SOFTWARE AG

Software AG is the global leader in Business Process Excellence. Our 40 years of innovation include the invention of the first high-performance transactional database, Adabas; the first business process analysis platform, ARIS; and the first B2B server and SOA-based integration platform, webMethods.

We offer our customers end-to-end Business Process Management (BPM) solutions delivering low Total-Cost-of-Ownership and high ease of use. Our industry-leading brands, ARIS, webMethods, Adabas, Natural, CentraSite and IDS Scheer Consulting, represent a unique portfolio encompassing: process strategy, design, integration and control; SOA-based integration and data management; process-driven SAP implementation; and strategic process consulting and services.

Software AG – Get There Faster

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