

Welcome to HL7, my name is Ken McCaslin and I will be the instructor for your class today. I work for Quest Diagnostics, a clinical diagnostic testing laboratory based in the US, however, with facilities in various countries around the world. I have been at HL7 for over 15 years.

Please let me know if you did not receive a welcome packet.



I work best when you ask questions, so please do not keep your questions until the end. I would prefer that you ask your questions as we go along so that I know I'm covering the information you want, my slides are a guide for me and I'm willing to cover in more depth anything that you need. I will start by going through your welcome packet.

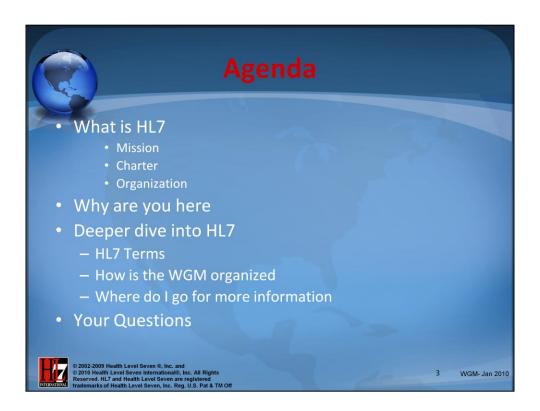
Glossary

Work Group Agenda

Survey Sheet

On-site guide

HL7 Work Groups and Committees



My agenda for today is to have a brief review of HL7, it's mission, the charter and a very high level view of the organization.

If we have time, I want to know why you are here which I will ask about at the end of this session.

We will look at HL7, what it does, how it is organized, what happens at the meeting, and how to think about planning your week here at this meeting and other meetings.



This is a Work Group Meeting and it happens three times a year, typically January, May and September. When walking around when you see people with some of the these ribbons, like c0-chair, TSC, Board, Mentor, Speaker, or staff; these are people who have been around a while. These are people who likely know the most. Do not hesitate to ask any of these people questions. They may not know the answer to your question, but they likely know who might and can get you connected with the right people. HL7 is made up of several Work Groups. The work groups are specialized focus groups who have a specific task. Example; Publishing Work Group deals with all the issues necessary to publish the work of HL7, while Cardiology Work Group develops messages for cardiology work. We also have administrative groups that manage HL7, such as the Board of Directors, the Affiliates and the Technical Steering Committee. The Board of Directors establish the strategy for HL7 and the Technical Steering Committee, some times called the TSC develops the tactical solutions to meet the strategy. The affiliates are a gathering of all the realm co-chairs. Realm is a concept we use to define issues that are specific to a country. The affiliates deal with issues that impact their country and try to find a way to harmonize with others.



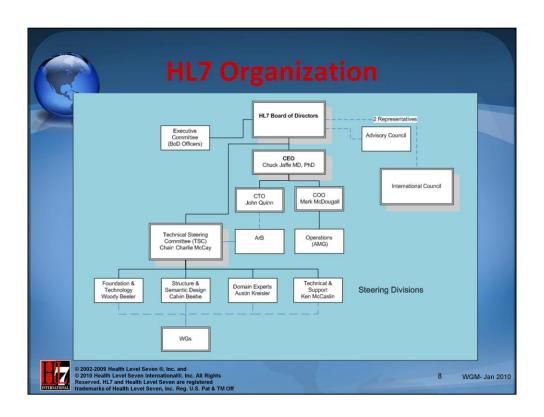
There are little secrets to making your time here a bit easier. It is easy to leave your meal tickets in your room or your tutorial ticket. Or your could put them in your bag and then have to figure where they are. You have to wear your badge every where, so the solution must of us have come up with is to tuck all the tickets in the back of your name tag in the order you will use them. Stay tuned, we have some more hints like this.



Lets talk about the structure of the meeting. The basic meeting is laid out into 4 quarters, 2 quarters in the morning and 2 in the afternoon. Q1 begins after the general session in the morning at 9am and goes to the break. Q2 then begins after the break and goes to lunch, so you get the picture, Q4 is the last quarter of the day. We have the concept of additional meeting times in the evening we often refer to those meetings as Q5 meetings. The General Session which begins at 8am are important to first time attendees. This is when you will hear about things going on at HL7, changes in rooms for events and other important information. Breakfast begins just before this so grab it and then listen to what is going on while you eat. The other thing to remember is HL7 is an open process, so you are free to attend any meeting, including the TSC, board or any Work Group session.

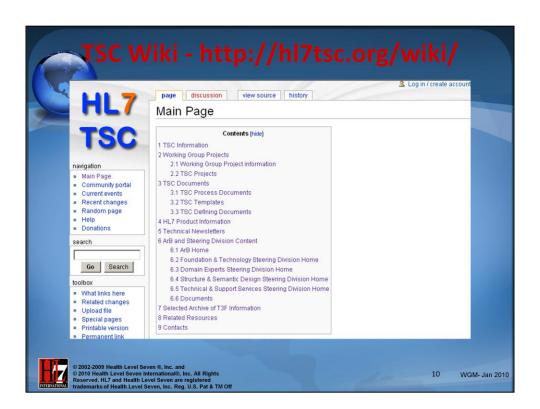
Day	Date		Time	Icon	Event	Roon
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Wednesday		AM	Q1			
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			Q3			
		PM	Q4			
			Q5			

Now that you understand the quarter system, here is how you work it out. Remember the document I shared with you a bit ago which listed the agendas for each work group, the yellow one? What I do is create a grid and then I make sure I plot where I'm going to be for the whole week. By doing this I can find my way around. Also, I like to take the site guide, another document I shared, and put the meeting rooms on this grid as well. Let me pass out the grid for your use. Do not be afraid to attend any Work Group. Do not be afraid to ask questions, all of us here were just like you, new and not sure of what is going on.





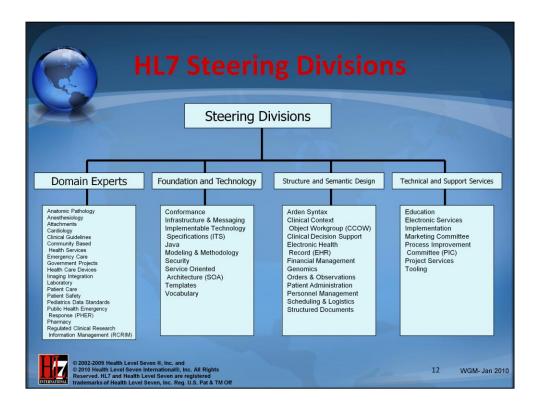
From the HL7 main page, you are able to get to all other locations where HL7 has connections to all other locations you might need to go, including the TSC Wiki, the HL7 wiki, and to the place we keep all our work documents gForge.



This is the TSC Wiki, this is where you will find out what is going on with the TSC and the Steering Divisions. There are four steering divisions and each work group belongs to a steering division. I will talk about the Steering divisions a bit more later.



gForge, is the place work groups track issues and maintain their documents.



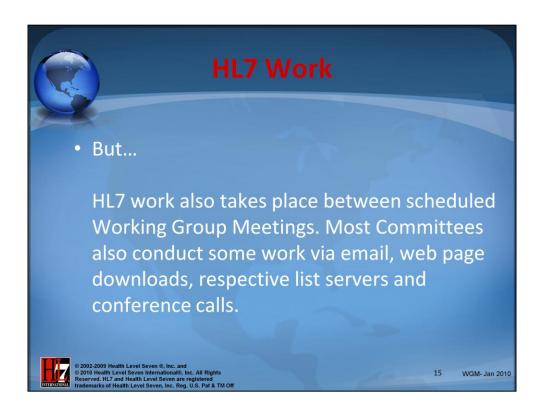
If you remember the organizational structure, I pointed out that there are four steering divisions. Each has a number or Work Groups that make up the division. Technical and Support Services for instance has Work Groups who focus on tools and products that make HL7 successful at doing their work, for instances, publishing makes sure there are tools and processes for publishing the work. The work groups in this division do not develop HL7 products, they provide the tools so that others can do so. And then to take a look at Foundation and Technology for instances, they are building the basic pieces that others, like Doman Experts & Structure and Semantic Design work Groups use to actually construct the messages



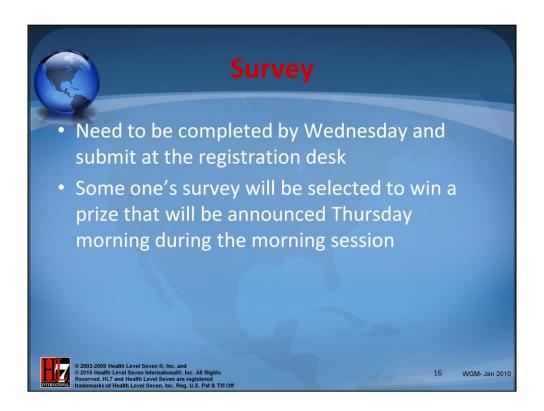
Now you have seen the basic structure of HL7, here is the mission.



And these are the high level strategies that HL7 is trying to achieve.



While a great deal of work is accomplished during the Work Group Meeting, we are not able to accomplish it all, so much of the work is done via conference calls and emails. To know what is going on, you will want to subscribe to the list sever for the Work Group or Groups that you have interest. You can do that by going to the hl7.org web page and on the right side go to List Services. Follow the instructions and once you have signed up, you will begin to receive emails about the activities of that Work Group. This is the only way you can share your ideas, once you have signed up now you can send messages to the list sever as well using the email address you signed up with. In this same area, you can look at the conference call calendar and see when conference calls are scheduled, the time and the phone number to dial in with. All conference calls are scheduled based on US Eastern Time zone.



Don't forget to complete the survey. There will be a drawing and during the general session on Thursday, the drawn name will be announced and that person will win a prize.



Now, you can ask me anything you were afraid to ask earlier, but as a reminder, this is not the last opportunity to ask questions, remember the co-chair, TSC, board, facilitator, mentor, staff and speaker ribbons, if you see someone with one of these, do not hesitate to ask them for help. I'm confident they will help you or know where to send you for help and if not, bring them to the lunch table when I will see you again. On Monday and Tuesday, there are First Time Attendee tables and there will be Board Members and Mentors like myself there to help you find your way. Any questions?



Used only when there is enough time