

Health Informatics Standards Consultative Committee (HISC)



HISC Annual Report January 2011

Scope

To contribute to the development of European or International standards for patient and hospital information systems, specifically through participation in the work of CEN TC 251, ISO TC 215, and HL7; and to advise NSAI in regard to the need for National standards in this area.

More specifically the role of HISC is to:

1. Increase awareness of the role and purpose of Health Informatics Standards in the overall delivery of healthcare in Ireland.
2. To provide a mechanism by which Ireland is represented at appropriate Standards organisations and activities.
3. To act as a conduit to bring back information and assess the impact of future requirements and regulations on the Irish situation.

Health Informatics Standards Consultative Committee, HISC

1. HISC Membership

In 2010, HISC sought to broaden their membership to include greater participation of relevant Irish industry. This effort will continue in 2011.

Name	Representing
Bill Grimson	Chairman
Damon Berry	DIT
John Brazil	NDSC
Justin Carty	IMSTA
Declan Fitzgerald	DMF
Pamela Henry	H.I.S.I. Nursing
Kieran Hickey	ProREC (Ireland)
Gerry Hurl	HSE and H.I.S.I.
Vincent Jordan	HSE
Tony Kenny	Independent Expert
Brendan Kernan	GS1
Brian McAulliffe	Dell Computers
Fergal McCaffery	DKIT, Software Validation
Chris Nolan	H.I.S.I. and ProREC
Kevin O'Carroll	HIQA
Brian O'Mahony	GPIT
Jenny Breen	Helix Health
Patrick Pentony	Blancherstown Hosp.
Declan Rossiter	Helix Health
Mary Sharp	T.C.D.
Wil van der Putten	UCHG
Chrissie Keane	Technical Secretary

2. HISC Highlights of the year

In November 2010, the annual HISI conference took place and HISC once again played a very active role in speaking and chairing various sessions, and keeping the focus of standards prominent at all times. Contributing Committee members included Ms. Mary Sharp, Mr. Tony Kenny, Mr. Damon Berry, Ms. Pamela Henry, Dr. Fergal McCaffery, Prof. Wil van der Putten, Mr. Bill Grimson, Mr. Justin Carty and Ms. Chrissie Keane.

NSAI's HISC hosted a very lively and informative workshop on regulating software and the changed MDD. This workshop included participation from the IMB, Swedish users, Software validation experts, Software manufacturers and clinical users. Following the success of this event, Mr. Justin Carty and Ms. Chrissie Keane were invited to present on this subject to the Annual Forum.

HISC also hosted a stand at the Conference to explain the workings of HISC and distribute lists of published and developing standards.

The involvement of HISC would not be possible were it not for the willingness and enthusiasm of Mr. Gerry Hurl.

HISC are currently working very closely with the Health Information and Quality Authority HIQA. HISC is represented on HIQA's standards steering committee. In 2010, NSAI/HISC has supported the HIQA work in proposing a new dataset for the Unique Health Identifier in Ireland.

3. HISC New Publications

Because of the international nature of health informatics products, and the need for global acceptance and communication in this field, it is not apparent, now or in the future that there is a need for an Irish publication in this field.

4. HISC Committee Meetings

HISC met four times in 2010, January, April, July and September. The average attendance was twelve members. In 2010 work focussed on the following main areas:

- 4.1. Establishment of a new working group dealing with Software and Medical Devices, (SAMD. This group draws its membership from both HISC and ETCI TC 10 and mirrors work happening jointly between CEN TC 251 and CENELEC TC 62. There is much focus on this topic since the revised MDD and also because of increasing sophistication of health. Joint work at international level has also commenced between ISO TC 215 and IEC TC 62. At this time, NSAI's SAMD Group is considering where gaps exist in international standards and where a need exists to provide the same for users here in Ireland.
- 4.2. Pamela Henry continues her work in the ISO Consys task force. She has made presentations to nurses on this subject
- 4.3. There are plans in 2011 to develop and bring a presentation on HISC and the standards development process to interested professional groups.

The final meeting in September was a combination of web and face-to-face attendance.

5. HISC Participation

HISC currently participate in the work of CEN TC 251 and ISO TC 215. Much of this participation is through the commenting process, but Damon Berry, Tony Kenny, Chrissie Keane, Pamela Henry and Wil van der Putten have attended meetings in 2010.

Damon Berry is active in work on the electronic patient record, while both Wil van der Putten and Chrissie Keane are active in the field of Software and Medical Devices.

Because of reduced budgets in the HSE and public sector, it has become increasingly difficult for users and stakeholders to participate in this work. To this end, the technical secretary made two proposals at the CEN TC 251 plenary meeting in June 2010:

1. That all meetings of CEN 251 be web accessible from January 2011 onwards.
2. That the next joint WG meeting be held in Dublin in January 2011, to allow and encourage Irish participation.

Both resolutions were passed.