



**Workshop**  
**Interoperability in Pathology Communications**

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Interoperability in Pathology Communications 1

**Our Program today**

Introduction - History - Issues - Updates  
 Workshop 1: User Requirements and Issues  
*11:15 Morning tea*  
 Experience Report - IHE (*Charles Parisot*)  
*12:30 Lunch*  
 Workshop 2: Implementing Gateways ...  
 Progress Review (*Charles Parisot*)  
 Next Steps ...  
*4:00pm Refreshments*



Interoperability in Pathology Communications 2

**Overview**


- History of Pathology Communications
- Pathology Communications Standards
- Updates



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**Pathology Messaging History (1)**


- 1991/92: Pathology Information Group formed
- End 1992: A print-file-like format is developed by 2 labs (QML & S&N).
- 1993: PIT-based electronic pathology result exchange commences
  - one diskette per day, by courier, encrypted, virus-checked...
- 1995: HIC'95 "Lunch Meeting"
  - Concerns that Australia is locked into EDIFACT standard...
- January 31, 1996: Expressions of Interest



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**Pathology Messaging History (2)**


- March 11, 1996: 1<sup>st</sup> IT14-06-05 Meeting
  - "Determine whether ... EDIFACT .. Laboratory Messaging is applicable across the Australian Health System."
  - "Ensure that ... pathology messaging is consistent with the HL7 ... data element mapping."
- PIT ↔ EDIFACT ↔ HL7
  - Strict scoring methodology was applied
  - HL7 obtained the highest score
  - Industry committed use HL7



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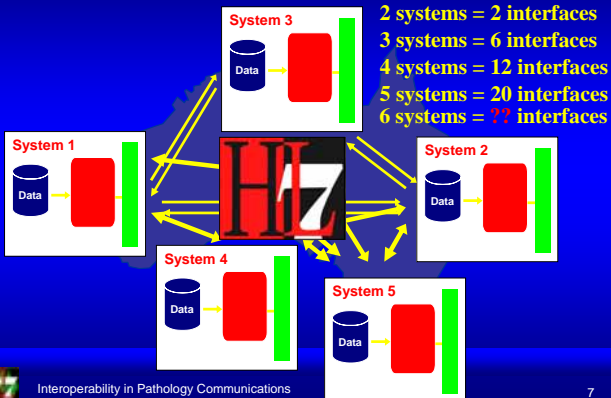
**Pathology Messaging History (3)**

- 1997: Standards Australia → HL7 Affiliate
- 1998: First Australian Standards published
  - AS4700.1 Patient Administration
  - AS4700.2 Pathology Orders and Reporting
- 2000: 1<sup>st</sup> supplemental standard
  - AS4700.4 - Results for notification and registries
- 2002: 1<sup>st</sup> Implementation Handbook
  - HB262 – Pathology Electronic Messaging

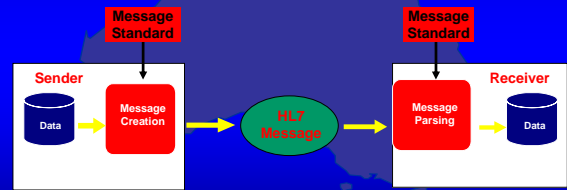


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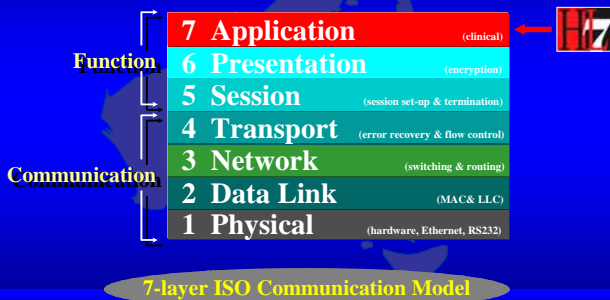
## Why Communication Standards?



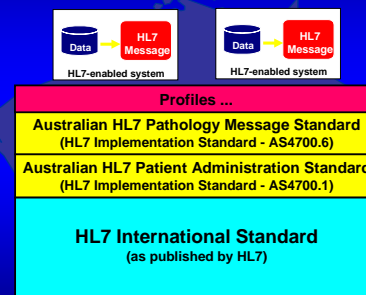
## How does Messaging work?



## The Components of Communications



## Structure of HL7 Standards in Australia



## SAI HL7 Technical Committees

- Patient Administration Messaging (IT-014-06-03)**  
 "AS4700.1" HL7 Patient Administration Messages
- Drug Prescription Messaging (IT-014-06-04)**  
 "AS4700.3" HL7 Prescription Messages  
 "AS4700.5" HL7 Immunisation Messages
- Pathology Messaging (IT-014-06-05)**  
 "AS4700.2" HL7 Pathology Order & Reports Messages  
 "HB262" Pathology HL7 Messages Handbook  
 "AS4700.4" HL7 Registry Messages
- Collaborative Care Messaging (IT-014-06-06)**  
 "AS4700.6" HL7 Discharge & Referral Messages
- Telehealth Messaging (IT-014-06-07)**

## Recent progress

- 2003-04 GPCG Messaging Systems Evaluation" project
  - Main communication products & services are mature
  - Interconnection is an issue
- HL7 Australia Conference, Brisbane, July 2004
  - General recognition that interconnection is a challenge
  - Commitment to address the issue ...
- Workshop today ...

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