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Welcome!

It is my great pleasure to present to you the first issue of *The Innovator*, the newsletter of Innovative Consulting Group.

In May of 2002, Innovative Consulting Group (ICG) was formed to meet a need in the Health Care information services area. ICG's initial objective was to match proven consultants with top-notch organizations at a fair price. One year later, ICG has met that objective and is looking forward to the future.



We are especially proud of serving a great group of clients at rates below industry averages. At ICG, you can engage an IT professional with 15-20 years experience in healthcare for under \$100/hour. By keeping our overhead low, our fees are considerably less than those of larger consulting firms, yet our clients receive the highest quality service and unmatched personal attention.

With the health care industry looking for ways to save money, ICG is in the right place at the right time. As capital funds are at a premium for IT projects, utilizing ICG resources can help reduce the high cost of implementations.

ICG's management team can empathize with the CIO and understands current salary and wage limitations, as well as the decrease in overall funding. At the same time companies are facing fiscal restraints, the needs of end users have increased and these changes are happening at an alarmingly fast pace. One of our goals is to work with our clients in the upcoming year to share our experiences to further minimize the costs of software implementations.

ICG would like to thank the clients who have partnered with us during our first year, and look forward to continuing this collaboration. We also anticipate cultivating new relationships with many of you!

One of the methods ICG will use to communicate with you is this quarterly newsletter. Future newsletters will feature technical tips and hints, short descriptions of projects we're involved in and sites we're working with, and tidbits of personal news from our staff. I hope you'll find these newsletters to be informative and interesting. ICG welcomes any recommendations you may have to make the articles pertinent to your business.



Wayne Kinney
Partner, ICG

Introducing..

ICG is pleased to announce the addition of Colleen O'Brien as the Director of Business Development.



Colleen joined ICG in May and brings with her over 20 years in the healthcare IT field, with experience in product development, implementations, customer support, and account management. She is responsible for developing new relationships with information systems customers, as well as with application development vendors. Colleen will coordinate sales and marketing efforts, manage existing accounts, and recruit "A-list" players to our team. You may or may not have heard her name from her years with SMS, but you will definitely be hearing from Colleen this year regarding ICG programs. □

On A Personal Note

Julie Kinney, daughter of Wayne Kinney, graduated from North High School in June and will begin her studies in elementary education at the University of Southern Indiana this fall.



Andy Feyen, son of Diane Feyen, graduated in May from Rose Hulman Institute of Technology and is working in Indianapolis as a Chemical Engineer for Argonaut Technologies.



Lisa Grimm's son Derek will be attending Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana in August. She says that while they're excited for him,

it will still be quite an adjustment for everyone in their family. Go Big Red!

Between trips, Ann Titzer has been busy outdoors: landscaping, planning and planting her perennial gardens, and working in her vegetable and herb gardens. (And if that doesn't sound exhausting enough, she's also been refinishing floors and painting around the house...!)

Colleen O'Brien is an animal lover! She is working like a 'dog' for ICG from her Colorado mountain home and 'bearly' has time to look out the window. She did take a few minutes last month, only to see several friendly black bears enjoying easy food finds from her bird feeders!



Beyond IT: Another side of Dave Raffel

Partner, ICG

Dave Raffel is living proof that there is life after DARCA.

Subsequent to the sale of his company, Dave Raffel went into a contractual 5-year "exile" from the world of healthcare. Even before the DARCA sale, he had become very involved in community-based organizations and charitable endeavors.

During this 5-year hiatus he expanded his involvement in the world of nonprofit endeavors, serving on several boards and committees. These included the American Red Cross, the Johnson County Health Partnership Clinic, the

Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City, Planned Parenthood of Greater Kansas City, MAINstream Coalition, and the Sunflower House.

Dave also became very involved as a political activist during this period of time, focusing a lot of his attention on



funding for public schools in Kansas. He helped found and organize a political action committee called Kansas Families United for Public Education. This statewide organization became very involved in lobbying, public education, and

advocacy for a wide range of issues related to the quality of public education in Kansas. Some of these issues include: support for adequate public school funding, support for educating ALL children in Kansas (including children of undocumented immigrants), and support for generally recognized and accepted curriculum standards for science classes.

Dave remains very involved in local, state, and national issues of public concern for public education and is anticipating a very critical election year in 2004. □

They can conquer who believe they can.

Virgil (70 BC - 19 BC)

HL7 Basics

by Mike Wood



*tips, tools, &
news you can use
from the ICG staff*

The following is an example of a record in the GRv3 COMQ from hospital XOYZ, a fictional Invision hospital in Pennsylvania. The record is really much longer, but I'm only showing the basic segments plus a couple of interesting ones.

```
MSH|^~\|^PMS|XYZ|||200304140101||ADT^A04|CHPFETAE||2.3
ZSH|ADT
EVN|A04|200304131951|||userid
PID|||876543~5~M10~XYZ~PN~123456~XYZ~MR~919191919~US
GOVT~SS~55555~XYZ~PI|||19260101|F||1|address|phone||M|CAT|876543~5~M10|919191919
PV1||E||X|||012345~DOCTOR, BOB||EMR|||EO|||012345~DOCTOR, BOB
|T|00008765435|S~20030413|||AHR|||OUTPATIENT|||200304131951
PV2|||||N|||1||EA
ZPV|EA|||N|||1|||S|EMR|||~2FAMDOC~999995DR SMITH
```

HL7 conventions describe data in a hierarchy. For example, in the MSH segment above (the first line of the example), near the end of the line you see “ADT^A04.” This field is made up of two *components*, ADT and A04. Similarly, a component could be made up of two or more subcomponents, and data elements can repeat like the first field shown in the segment that starts with the letters PID. After the letters PN, you see a tilde (~), which denotes a repeating field.

We refer to the first “pipe” (|) in the MSH segment as *field 1*. The other delimiters (~\^@) are referred to as *field 2*. These four characters are put there by the sending system (Invision) to inform the receiving system (in this case, an integration engine like OPENLink) which delimiters will be found in the transaction. The four characters represent, in order, the *component delimiter*, the *repeat delimiter*, the *escape character*, and the *subcomponent delimiter*. GRv3 doesn't support the escape character. Invision uses the EBCDIC character set, so some characters like the NOT sign (^) get translated when they go to an ASCII machine like OPENLink.

Using this counting convention, the ADT in this example is “field 9”. In all other segments, the first pipe is not counted as a field.

HL7 numbers the fields in a format similar to the Dewey Decimal system; for example PV1.7.2 would be the doctor's name. I

(continued on page 4)

ICG QuickTip

How to Suspend a Pathway in OAS

by Ann Titzer

Have you ever been in an OAS pathway on Siemens Invision, or looking at interface records in the comqfile, and you need to look up a value in a profile, screen, or tcl but you don't want to lose your place in the pathway? There is a suspend key that will suspend the pathway you are in, allow you to move down another pathway, and then restore right back to where you

suspended. Use the following steps to accomplish this:

1. While logged into an OAS pathway, press **PF21** (Shift F9). Your screen will briefly flash the following message: *'Current transaction is being suspended'*
2. You will then be returned to the 'GEN-
3. Once you are done, press **PF21** (Shift F9) again. *'Suspended Transaction is Being Restored'* will briefly flash and you are then restored back to where you began. □

ERAL MASTER MENU', where you can maneuver to whatever pathway you need to get to.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SIEMENS INNOVATIONS '03 Philadelphia, PA August 10-13, 2003
Meet ICG at the Hard Rock Cafe in Philly on Tuesday, Aug. 12 (see below)

HIMSS Conference 2004 Orlando, FL February 22-26, 2004

HL7 (continued from page 3)

usually change that to PV10702 because that's how it looks in the standard OPENLink transaction descriptions.

You see there's an E in the second field of the PV1 segment. That can only be E, I or O-all that HL7 allows. But I'm lost without the second character, which in this example is A, so I look at the field at the end of the PV2 segment, or the first field of the ZPV segment.

HL7 allows the user to define extra segments. The "user" can be the ancillary receiving system, or in this case it's Siemens, the sending system. I've included the ZPV because the last field illustrates how the interface analyst can add extra data elements by naming them in profile PRGUD. The ancillaries won't recognize them this way, but we use OPENLink to move this data to other fields. □

Coming to INNOVATIONS '03?

ICG requests the pleasure of your company at the



1113-31 Market Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Tuesday, August 12, 2003
6:30PM-9:30PM

Innovative Consulting Group (ICG) invites you to a celebration of our first year and an opportunity to meet our consultants and management team. Please join us for an informal evening of appetizers, beverages, and conversation!

*RSVP to Colleen O'Brien, Director of Business Development,
at 303-816-1708 (toll free 866-888-8253 x704),
or email COBrien@Innovativecg.com*