

**HIN User Group Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2004
Phoenix, AZ**

Introduction

The HIN User Group, chaired by Doug Clark, met on December 10, 2004 at 9:00 am. After introductions, Erin Summa of HIBCC gave a brief summary of production activity. In the last period since August 4, 2004, HIBCC staff processed a total of 50,500 HIN requests. Approximately one-half of these were from the AHI EDI Special Project. A summary of HIN request processing activity is shown below.

Source	HIN Requests	Assignments	Cross-references	Cancels
Human Health	39,047	13,709	19,077	6,259
AHI Project	20,547	13,465	3,567	3,515
Total	59,594	27,174	22,644	9,774

At the time of the meeting, there was a total backlog of about 313 HIN requests from subscribers in the queue, of which 5 were from the AHI project.

HIN Distribution Update

The most recent HIN distribution occurred in mid-October, with the following counts for active HINs in the database.

Subset	Facilities	Locations
Human Health Facilities	479,020	20,372
Animal Health Facilities	92,689	715
PHS Covered Entities		11,446
Veterinarians		80,465
Medical Doctors		389,038
Dentists		30,367

iHIN Update

Summa reported that HIBCC has updated the iHIN web application and its internal systems to more efficiently process HIN requests submitted over the web. Subscribers can update fixed-width text files through the HIN Request web page. The system will automatically load the file into the HIN job stream for immediate processing by operators and send a confirmation email to both the submitter and HIBCC DBA when the job is loaded. In the event that the file cannot be loaded, a rejection email will be sent.

Currently, completed work orders are returned to subscribers as email attachments. However, an enhancement to automate this process is planned for the first quarter of 2005 that will allow subscribers to download HIN responses directly from iHIN.

Please Note: only fixed-width text files may be uploaded through iHIN. Delimited files, spreadsheet (.xls) files and database files will be rejected. Refer to [HIN 101: A Quick Guide](#) for the correct file specification. This document is available for download from www.hibcc.org.

EDI Update

HIBCC is currently in the process of implementing a new EDI system for the transmission of HIN requests. The upgrade will allow HIBCC to consolidate EDI transactions to one platform, as well as enable additional mapping and reporting capabilities. Final rollout to subscribers is anticipated for Q2 of 2005. More information about the transition will be mailed to all EDI-based HIN subscribers in February.

Formation of PHS Sub-Group – Call for Participation

With the notable increase in the submission and processing of PHS associated HIN records, the User Group has decided to form a sub-group to address issues related to the enumeration of PHS entities. The group will be led by representatives from Amgen and CR Bard. If you are interested in participating, please contact the HIBCC office.

iHIN Hierarchy

Scott Kersey, lead developer from Kinetik-IT, gave a demonstration on the iHIN Hierarchy application, including enhancements made since the initial beta testing. The Hierarchy tool expands the iHIN Application by adding a relationship component to load, maintain and display hierarchical relationships, while providing a system for HIN users to view and comment on posted hierarchies in public and private spaces.

The Hierarchy application is accessible by logging-on directly to www.hibcchin.org/hierarchy or by following the hyperlink from the main iHIN web site. HIN Subscribers are encouraged to test the new application and provide feedback to the HIBCC office. For more information, please contact the HIN department via phone (602.553.8552) or e-mail (dba@hibcc.org).

A User Guide is also available upon request.

Implementation Guide

Doug Clark and Chris Casey from Merck reviewed the work that has been done on the Implementation Guide. They both asked for participants to take part in the review and proofing of the guide. Comments will be reviewed at the next HIN User Group session.

Next Meeting

The next HIN User Group meeting will be held May 12, 2005 in Arlington, VA. Meeting information will be distributed to all User Group members and posted to the HIBCC web site 6 weeks prior to the event.

Following final remarks, the meeting concluded at 12:00 pm.