



Health Industry Business Communications Council

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REVISED: HIBC PROVIDER APPLICATIONS STANDARD Draft Revisions Available for Public Comment

PHOENIX, ARIZONA (June 24, 2005) - The Health Industry Bar Code (HIBC) Provider Applications Standard (PAS) has been revised and is currently available for review and public comment. Changes include amendments to the Concatenated Format and the addition of “X” – XML Document – to the “What” Flag Definitions.

The HIBC Standards were developed by HIBCC and representatives from throughout the healthcare industry to provide healthcare-specific data structures and labeling options for medical/surgical products. The HIBC PAS specifies the minimum requirements and optional structures for the machine-readable identification for health industry applications, provides guidance for the formatting and placement of data presented in linear bar code, two-dimensional symbol, or human readable form, and makes recommendations as to label placement, size, material and the inclusion of free text and any appropriate graphics. The PAS includes the HIBC-LIC data format, a variable length alphanumeric format for primary identification of medical goods, as well as secondary information critical to healthcare processes such as lot/batch/serial number, expiration date and a secure link character. It was approved for accreditation by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) in 1996 (ANS/HIBC-1).

Draft Revision 1.0/2004 of the HIBC Provider Applications Standard can be accessed at www.hibcc.org. Comments should be directed to the HIBCC office and copied to the ANSI Secretary of the Board of Standards Review. The public comment period will conclude August 8, 2005. Please contact the HIBCC office at (602) 381-1091 with any questions.

HIBCC is an industry-sponsored, non-profit standards development organization (SDO), established in 1984 by major national healthcare associations to develop and maintain information technology standards for healthcare applications. HIBCC extends its mission globally via IHIBCC, an international network of HIBCC offices. HIBCC and the HIBC Standards are accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the European Committee for Standardization (CEN). HIBCC plays a major advocacy and educational role for the healthcare industry by providing a forum for consensus-based standards development.

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