

HL7 Australia

Standards - Education - Support – Certification



7 December 2015

Dear Members

As you will be aware, on the 18 November 2015, the HL7 Australia Board released a document to members - *“HL7 Australia Member Rights and Obligations With Respect to HL7 Copyright Material and Intellectual Property”*. In the days after the release of that document, the Board received a range of feedback from member.

At the Annual General Meeting of HL7 Australia held on 19 November 2015, the membership elected a new Board to represent its member interests. The new Board met on 4 December 2015 for the first time, with a number of key topics under discussion, including the IP Policy.

While a final, considered decision on the use of HL7 copyright material and intellectual property in Australia is yet to be made by the Board, it is recognised that the current position as stated by the *“HL7 Australia Member Rights and Obligations With Respect to HL7 Copyright Material and Intellectual Property”* document may adversely affect some members of HL7 Australia. It is not the intention of the new Board to unnecessarily encumber the on-going work and discussions around standards development and localisations of HL7 material within Australia, but rather work towards a future state that is more engaged and collaborative with the greater membership and e-health industry. We appreciate the need the for quick action and resolution with this matter.

With this in mind, the new HL7 Australia Board has made the decision to formally withdraw the published statement around the use of HL7 copyright material and intellectual property. In early 2016, the Board will begin engagement with key parties around not only its IP Policy, but also the governance of standards development within Australia. The Board continues to be proactive in this space and open to developing a strong working relationship with stakeholders ensure a common strategy that supports an agile standards environment.

Should you have any questions or feedback regarding this decision to withdraw the published statement, please don't hesitate to contact myself directly at chair@hl7.org.au

Kind regards

Nat Wong
Chair, HL7 Australia