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February 28, 2008

Other Headlines

U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration Names ECRI Institute As New OSHA Training Center
 ECRI Institute-led consortium to offer employee health and safety education in PA, MD and DC.

HIMSS and TicSalut Foundation Collaborate on Education and Training
 Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society teams with Catalanian group.

New Threat to DME Providers?
 Half-million dollar surety bond requirement may put many small durable medical equipment providers out of business according to the American Association for Homecare.

How to Make Your Website More User-Friendly

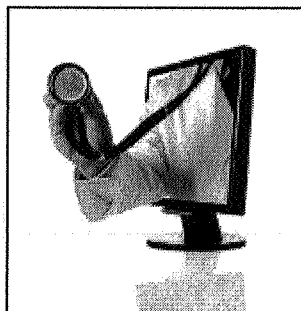
New Grant Opportunities - SIIM
 Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine (SIIM) announces grants.

Have News for Us?
 Submit your news on the industry, people, or companies.

Associations Team to Advance Clinical Engineering/IT Integration

by Barbara Kram, Editor

ORLANDO - Three national associations have joined forces to develop guidance documents, share best practices, and promote an understanding of the issues surrounding the ongoing integration of information technology (IT) and clinical engineering.



Leading Health IT groups join forces on guidance

Leaders of the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI), the American College of Clinical Engineering (ACCE), and the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) have signed an agreement to develop a joint Clinical Engineering/IT (CEIT) community, thus pooling their expertise and knowledge and avoiding the duplication of efforts under way.

The agreement is intended to help improve patient care and safety and to boost the quality and cost-effectiveness of customer service. The agreement also seeks to:

- Foster further development of a united voice for IT and clinical engineering concerns, and provide a forum for its expression.
- Provide a mechanism for developing resources, guidelines and best practices for the CEIT community, and provide education, research, certification, public policy, terminology, mentoring, advocacy, networking and career services.
- Explore appropriate collaboration of clinical engineering/IT functions.
- Develop a framework for representing the interests of clinical engineering and IT departments to the broader healthcare community.

"For the first time, we have a written agreement that addresses collaboration on many of the issues clinical engineers and IT professionals have been attempting to iron out," says Bob Stiefel, the chair of AAMI's Board of Directors and clinical engineering director at the University of Maryland Medical System.

Stiefel is also a member of AAMI's Technology Management Council (TMC), which represents technology managers from hospitals, biomedical societies, and industry. The TMC recently launched a new project designed to assess the current status of technology management within healthcare facilities and explore the field's future challenges and opportunities.

Says Stephen Grimes, president of ACCE, "our members and

Forward to a Friend

More Industry

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Congressional Democra Overturn Supreme Cour Devices Lawmakers mou objection; read all the deta

Carestream Health Laun Per-Procedure Payment imaging centers, physicia

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leadership recognize that CE-IT convergence and collaboration is of critical importance to the industry and its ability to deliver quality patient care. They believe this agreement provides a solid foundation on which we can work together to build a framework of programs and resources to address the challenges of convergence."

According to Joyce Sensmeier, vice president of informatics with HIMSS, "as patient care devices take advantage of 'smart' technology and become more interoperable, IT experts and clinicians must work together to ensure that workflow issues are addressed. Together, we can define a vision of the future in healthcare delivery."

Healthcare System in NJ :
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