



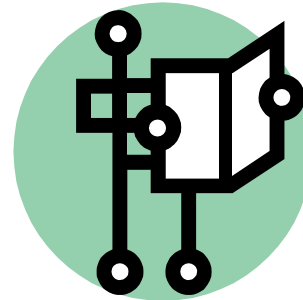
STAT! Users Newsletter

Why I did it! By Jim Moore

I was critiquing the past STAT! User Group meeting over the holidays. I went through a check list of items - how rowdy was the partying, quality of the facility, food, presentations, equipment, training, interaction between customers and Tech Time / N.A. Technologies, customer to customer, quality of the steaks at Kim's house, etc.

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Knowledge is the key to success.

Will this help us? By Gary Bostrom

Jim Moore asked me to write a paragraph for the new newsletter. I love the idea of a newsletter. The reason that the users group was originally set up was because several facilities had Tech Time's STAT! system and got them together for a meeting to discuss their concerns with Tech Time's service. This has worked out so well that we now

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Newsletter Spotlight

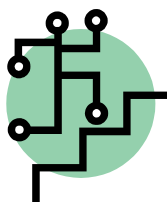
I wonder should we do a newsletter? Jim Moore

I have visions of this newsletter being an extension of our annual meeting. Gary Bostrom

We are all going to be busy

Kim Hanson

President's corner: By Kim Hanson



Saving the world one hospital at a time.

In the world of health information systems, it seems that providers are plagued by one regulatory crisis after another. Seven years ago the looming crisis was "Y2K", and a few years later we all were tortured by HIPPA. The current crisis is the National Provider Identification (NPI) changes to the HCFA 1500 and the implementation of UB04 billing formats. (For those of you that are not aware of this crisis, you need to contact Kirby as soon as possible - rest assured that he has this under control!) Looming around the corner are mandatory electronic medical records as well as mandatory computerized medication administration.

These are only the firestorms that we know about. Considering the transfer of congressional power in the last election and the focus on healthcare issues in the 2008 presidential election, we can be certain that every newly appointed congressional committee chairman will be actively pushing legislative reforms in health care. Each reform is going to translate into new regulations and, subsequently, into a new crisis for health care providers and their health information

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I concluded the meeting was very good with a lot of good ideas and information being shared by everyone. The problem is that information sharing is occurring once or twice a year unless someone sends an email or calls another person.

With the ongoing changes at Tech Time and the Users Group growing, I wondered should we start a newsletter? I asked Kim Hanson and Gary Bostrom. Kim said the idea had come up before but no one had any time to put into the project. Gary also thinks it is a good thing to do, so they will be sharing their thoughts later.

N. A. Technologies has the responsibility of sales and marketing for Tech Time. This includes selling STAT! to new customers, upgrades to the existing customers and to continually survey customers about their wants, needs and what their problems are. N. A. Technologies also spends lots of time with vendors and going to healthcare shows gathering information about the industry. It seems that's N.A. Technologies is the logical choice to be the publisher. And we will accept the responsibility.

I would appreciate your help and expertise in your area. Your advice and options are very much needed. Please call or email me with your ideas, information or topics of interest. If you would like to write an article please let us know about it.

(Continued from page 1) Will this help us

have a meeting each year to review tweaks and enhancements. This annual meeting gives opportunities for training, reviewing new products and for networking. I now feel we get exceptional service and do not have to pay extra because we go over a prearranged number of service hours like some other systems. I have visions of this newsletter being an extension of our annual meeting to share information between users and possibly more than just about Tech Time systems. I would like to see Tech Time keep us up-to-date monthly on completed tweaks and enhancements and staffing changes. Thank you for contributing so much to make this system work!

(Continued from page 1) President's corner

system providers. State legislators are also diving into the fray. For example, Montana's governor is considering pushing for an independent central medical database (master patient index) that all state reimbursed providers must reference.

Overlaid on the frenzy of regulatory mandates is a layer of changes in technology, both hardware and software, that will be impacting all of us. Microsoft is aggressively pushing its Vista operating system, and the corresponding .NET 3.0 foundation upon which it is based, as the new de-facto standard for all windows based applications.

We are all going to have a very busy next three years – and these issues are going to be the focus of this column. In each column, I will discuss an upcoming regulatory or technology change. I will focus on what it means to you, the healthcare provider, and what Tech-Time is planning to address the issue.

In the next column I will be starting with the first of a three part series on electronic medical records. (EMR) Exactly what is the definition of an electronic medical record? What are the current regulatory mandates for an EMR and what is the government's definition? Stay tuned....Kim