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HEALTHCARE™**

**News Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **HEALTH LANGUAGE NAMED EXCLUSIVE GLOBAL PROVIDER OF TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR IHTSDO'S SNOMED MAPPING TOOLS**

*Agreement will enhance safe health data exchange, standardization of  
clinical terms and interoperability of electronic health record systems  
worldwide*

**Denver– Jan. 29, 2009** – [Health Language, Inc.](#)® (HLI), the world's leading supplier of [language engine](#) technology for [medical vocabulary](#) mapping and interoperability, announced today that it signed an agreement with the [International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation](#) (IHTSDO) to provide training and support for IHTSDO's Workbench tools. An ever-expanding roster of countries, including IHTSDO's 11 member nations such as Australia, Canada, United Kingdom and United States, will use the tools to map local medical terminologies to SNOMED CT (Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine -- Clinical Terms), facilitating the exchange of accurate health data, standardization of medical terminologies and interoperability of clinical information systems.

IHTSDO, a Copenhagen, Denmark-based international not-for-profit association that develops and promotes the use of SNOMED CT's standardized medical terminology, will provide the IHTSDO Workbench, a comprehensive set of terminology editing, mapping and modeling applications, to member and non-member countries at no charge.

"HLI was selected by an international team of evaluators because its services were a good fit to meet the needs of IHTSDO and its members," said Jennifer Zelmer, Ph.D., IHTSDO's chief executive officer. "The IHTSDO Workbench combined with training and support offered by HLI and its partners will help countries to improve health services for their citizens and accelerate health research by enabling the

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use and development of consistent terminology that meets international clinical standards and facilitates collaboration.”

According to George Schwend, HLI’s president and CEO, “We are looking forward to providing the global training and support that will advance IHTSDO’s mission of promoting higher quality care through broader use of accurate, reliable and standardized clinical data. HLI is pleased to partner with IHTSDO to move health systems worldwide a step closer to a common interoperability platform.”

**About Health Language, Inc.**

Denver-based Health Language, Inc.® (HLI) is the worldwide leader in developing and delivering state-of-the-art software solutions that automatically incorporate medical vocabulary and coding standards into healthcare information technology (HCIT) applications. HLI’s Language Engine [Language Engine](#) (LE®) allows centralized access to medical terminology standards and generates mappings to create a common pool of standardized codes and concepts that enhance patient safety, facilitate clinical outcomes analysis and accelerate reimbursement. It also provides standards for modeling, storing, updating and distributing information consistently for interoperability between hospitals, regions and countries. For more information, visit [www.healthlanguage.com](http://www.healthlanguage.com) or call 303.307.4400.

**About International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO)**

The IHTSDO (International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation) and its Members seek to improve the health of humankind by fostering the development and use of suitable standardized clinical terminologies, notably SNOMED CT, in order to support the safe, accurate, and effective exchange of health information. The IHTSDO is an international organisation, established as a Danish not-for-profit association. Copies of the Request for Information/Request for Proposals for the IHTSDO Workbench can be accessed at <https://ihtsdo.projects.openhealthtools.org>.

**About SNOMED CT**

SNOMED Clinical Terms™ (SNOMED CT™) is a standardized terminology that can be used as the foundation for electronic health records and other applications. For example, different clinicians often use different terms to describe the same concept. SNOMED CT contains more than 310,000 unique concepts and more than 1.3 million links or relationships between them that ensure that this information is captured consistently, accurately, and reliably across the health system. The terminology is used in more than forty countries around the world. SNOMED CT was originally created by the College of American Pathologists by combining SNOMED RT and a computer-based nomenclature and classification known as Clinical Terms Version 3, formerly known as Read Codes Version 3, which was created on behalf of the UK Department of Health and is Crown copyright.

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