



## IHE – The Journey Begins

Born in 1998, Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (**IHE**) is an initiative that drives the interoperability of health IT systems worldwide, producing standards-based specifications and delivering its services.

More than 700 organisational members from 45 countries, 13 domains of clinical and operational expertise, 22 national organisations around the world facilitate the deployment of IHE solutions through the publication of **IHE** Technical Frameworks.

**IHE** International oversees programs for Conformity Assessment, testing tool development, liaison with other health organisations, education and outreach.

The **IHE** International Board has announced a campaign on **IHE**'s 2020 Vision to build an even more consistent organisation.



### You Are Part of IHE's 2020 Vision

As stakeholders in the health IT community, members and benefactors are at the centre of **IHE**'s 2020 Vision. Here is an remarkable opportunity to participate in a unique and rigorous process including identification of clinical and workflow requirements, development of use cases, detailed specifications and testing of interoperable products and systems.

Interoperability is critical to the effective use of health IT to improve patient outcomes. **IHE** members are part of the solution as **IHE** membership allows all stakeholders to keep abreast of the latest developments, giving visibility among industry peers, and demonstrating support of standards-based interoperability solutions addressing vital health information needs.



**IHE's 2020 Vision** has been launched during the **IHE-Europe** annual Connectathon in Luxembourg, attracting a large number of **IHE** members - vendors, users and specialists. The Med-e-Tel International eHealth, Telemedicine and Health ICT Forum runs concurrently (22-24 April) and includes a special IHE Symposium (22 April) that will be addressed by both the Luxembourg Prime Minister and Minister of Health. This is extremely important given that Luxembourg has a solid roadmap to deploy a national solution for healthcare interoperability leveraging **IHE** technical specifications and the Connectathon.



**Hervé Barge** of Agence eSante Luxembourg said, *“Agence e-Santé it is young Agency established to deploy health records for shared care and to promote an interoperability framework for the “actors” of the health system, general practitioners, and other care areas such as hospitals in Luxembourg. From its inception, the Agency has opted to establish an international interoperability framework rather than trying to develop solutions that would be too local or purely national. Quite naturally, our recommendations as an eHealth Agency, have been for **IHE** Profiles, such as PIX for identity and XDS for document sharing. **IHE** is therefore important to us not only for the body of technical specifications it provides but also for the Connectathon, a connectivity marathon to test **IHE** implementations in the industry that we are proud to organize and host here this year.”*

## The Benefits of IHE's 2020 Vision

**IHE's 2020 Vision** is to build on the foundation we have established to:

- Broaden stakeholder engagement.
- Increase awareness and adoption of **IHE** Profiles.
- Enrich support for **IHE** members, committees, and international deployment organisations.
- Broaden testing services to improve product and deployment successes.
- Enhance the organisation's governance and capacity by transitioning to a financially self-sustaining entity.

Reaching these goals will require renewed support from **IHE's** member organisations. More information about **IHE's 2020 Vision**, including how you can participate is at:

[ihe.net/2020Vision/](http://ihe.net/2020Vision/)