

VISION USER GROUP

Mark your calendars!

April 8 – 12, 2006

**MS4 Vision User Conference
Sheraton City Centre Hotel
Salt Lake City, UT**



Highlights in this edition:

Next Year's Conference Dates Set
Keeping You In Focus

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distributed quarterly.

Message from the president:

Dear Vision User Group Members,

Reading the evaluations and comments, I know you agree that the rhythm was indeed ours at the 2005 Vision User Group Conference. I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the hundreds of speakers, track coordinators, workshop instructors, focus group members, Siemens employees, and volunteers who made Vision 2005 such a great success. A special thanks to Judy Oliver for her kind and wise leadership this past year during her term as President.

The Board has already begun planning for next year's conference. We will be returning to the Sheraton so mark your calendars for Saturday April 8 through Wednesday April 12, 2006. The board will be meeting in June to select the theme for Vision 2006. Hmm...I wonder what we'll think of next. Look for an announcement in October.

The Board welcomes its newest member, Kathleen Dahlgren, RHIT, CCS. Kathleen is the Director of Patient Financial Services for Banner Health, Western Region, currently manages the accounts receivable for eight facilities, and has 25 years of experience in AR and HIM/coding. Kathleen brings a wealth of health care and system knowledge to the board and we look forward to working with her over the next three years.

Congratulations to Jonathan Farina, Director of Information Services at Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, who was voted President Elect for the coming year. Jon will become President next year at the close of the Vision 2006 conference.

In addition to our work on next year's conference, the Vision Board will be working on the following goals in the coming year:

- ❑ Improve upon communication and review of specification process
- ❑ Increase ongoing education availability to MS4 users to complement the conference
- ❑ Enhance the relationship between Vision and Siemens account representation

The Board is here to represent you and the needs of your facilities. If we can be of assistance, or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to e-mail us at board@ms4vision.com

Tam

Tammi L. Morgan
Vision Board President

Message from the Editor:

Thank you, Karen!

Karen Bowling from St. Joseph Hospital in Bangor, Maine has been the Newsletter editor for the past year. I'd like to recognize her efforts on doing a great job. I'm sure you all agree!

Karen will continue her role as Vision Board Secretary.

Please remit articles and inquires to editor@ms4vision.com

Focus Groups Seeking New Members

New members are being sought for the following focus groups: MIRA, Patient Financial Focus Group, Technical/SI, and Case Mix/RE. If you are interested in becoming a member of one of these groups, please contact the Co-Chair to request an application form. Refer to the Focus Group Leadership listing on page 10 of this publication.



KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Case Mix/RE Focus Group

Lori Hester Client Co-Chair
Mary Heckle Siemens Co-Chair

The 2005 Annual Vision Users' Group Conference is over! We had a great time interacting with our peers and conducted some great sessions this year. For those of you who did attend, I am hoping that you walked away with something new to implement at your facility(s). If you were unable to attend, you missed a great conference and I hope you try and attend next year's conference.

The Case Mix/RE Focus Group also had to say good-bye to two very dedicated people of our FG. Lisa Parsons from Sutter Health has been with the FG since 1992 resigned. She was such an asset to the group and will be sorely missed. Thank you Lisa for all of your contributions. Another loss to the FG was our Board Representative, Sherri Ward. Thank you, Sherri, for all of your hard work throughout the year.

The FG had good news also. We have a new Board Representative, Jane Ann Bridges of Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital. We are looking forward to

getting to know Jane Ann and working with her during the year for the 2006 conference. If anyone is interested in joining the FG, please feel free to contact me via e-mail at lori.hester@bannerhealth.com. We conduct monthly conference calls and go to Salt Lake City during the Fall for the Conference planning and then again for the conference. We are also always looking for speakers/topics for the sessions. Remember, you get a discount on the registration if you are a speaker.

The Focus Group also met at the conference to set new goals for the year. We will continue with our work on the SPECS focusing on Outpatient reimbursement. We will also continue developing "Best Practices" to assist in you with running Case Mix and Reimbursement Management. We have also decided to set another goal and that is "Realizing the Value of RE". I hope our group will continue to meet the needs of all users. Our group is always open to new ideas for meeting users' needs. Please feel free in contacting me with any of your suggestions. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted by,
Lori Hester
CMIX/RE Focus Group Client Co-Chair



KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Technical Focus Group

Mark Erb – Client Co-Chair

Jyh-Ching Yaur – Siemens Co Chair

We did it! We truly outdid ourselves! As I reported in a previous edition of this newsletter, we were very pleased with the 2004 Vision Conference, but we were determined to make 2005 even better. Once again (no brag, just fact!) the Technical Focus Group pulled some truly great reviews from our two session tracks again this year.

A number of sessions, including WebSphere and High Availability have taken on lives of their own, and will likely produce spin-offs in the form of new workshops and/or expanded sessions. Some of the possibilities for 2006 are:

- Using WebSphere Development Studio Client to write RPG programs

- Using WebSphere Development Studio Client for MS4 Web - general topics and custom code

- MS4 WebFacing - general topics and custom code

- Disaster recovery best practices

- Disaster recovery workshop on a specific solution

- High Availability best practices or workshop on a specific solution

On a more general note some suggestions for 2006 include:

- First time attendee introduction

- Presentation skills workshops

- Overview of Siemens products (in addition to MS4, how they relate to MS4)

Some new topics under consideration for the true geeks are:

- How to transfer iSeries data to and from MS Office

- Security auditing using native IBM journaling

- Advanced topics for programmers, e.g. tips & techniques, reading dump files, ftp, advanced RPG, and useful AS/400 commands

Of course no discussion of the Vision Technical Tracks would be complete without mentioning HL7 workshops and sessions. As some of the most popular sessions within the Technical tracks, they continue to evolve, using feedback each year to make the following year's presentations even better.

Now, an update on membership. We are sorry that Bill Edmundson from Marshall Regional Medical Center in Texas took a turn in his career path that took him away from the Technical Focus Group. We wish Bill all the best in his new endeavors, as we welcome Bob Landers, also of Marshall Regional, as our newest member.

We are also sorry to lose Mark Erb as client co-chair after four years of outstanding service in that position. Thankfully, though, Mark will be staying on as a member of the group, so we will still be

KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Technical Focus Group (continued)

blessed with his talents. By the time we have our May conference call we hope to hold elections for client co-chair, knowing that Mark will be a tough act to follow!

Finally, we would like to extend an invitation to all. Please sign up for the Yahoo! MS4 Technical Group to interact with us concerning our proposed sessions & workshops. The MS4 Technical Yahoo! Group can be found at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MS4Technical>. If you are interested in joining our Technical Focus Group, please contact Mark Erb, Client Co-Chair at erbm@bayareahospital.org or Jyh-Ching Yaur, Siemens Co-Chair at jyh-ching.yaur@siemens.com.



Submitted by
Stan Fulton, Banner Health

MIRA Focus Group

Gaylene Gladden
Siemens Co-Chair

Several exciting MIRA sessions were held during the Vision Conference in April. Sessions included information on Triggers; an MS4 Online Clinical Data Overview; Information on the new privacy module - (ADT) Consents and Acknowledgements; Brighter Ideas; an informative session on Planning for ICD-10; The Life Cycle of an Account (Admit to Billing); GP Doctor File; Transition to Electronic Health Information Management. Also included were Focus Group Updates and an Ask the Expert

session. It was a wonderful and informative conference!

If you have ideas about what you would like to see included in MIRA in the future; if you have suggestions about how to make MIRA better, the MIRA Focus Group is for you. We are recruiting new members at this time, and are looking for about 6 new members. Membership involvement consists of a monthly conference call and attendance at a minimum of either the Fall Meeting or Vision each year. If you are interested in joining, please contact Gaylene Gladden at gaylene.gladden@siemens.com.

KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Financial Services Focus Group

Adrienne Jernigan, Client C-Chair
Masami Goldsberry – Siemens Co-Chair
Michael West – Siemens Co-Chair

The 2005 Vision Conference, “The Rhythm is Ours!”, was another success for the Financial Services Focus Group. Every year during our Focus Group Update Session, we encourage new members to join the group. This year’s session was held Tuesday, April 12, 2005. We hope to acquire a few more members from this year’s conference. This year we had the largest group of attendees in our Focus Group Update, than in years past. We had approximately 35+ General Financials and Payroll/Human Resources users attend our Update Meeting. This year’s agenda covered many items that were beneficial to the group. We talked about possible new enhancements that are being considered for upcoming development. We shared information on useful websites that are available to MS4 users. We also discussed the upcoming availability of a SPEC Listing report that will be available in May. If this type of information were of interest to you we would love to have you join our Focus Group. The benefits of participation consist of the following opportunities:

Share your experience with MedSeries4 applications with other organizations.

Submit suggestions regarding how MedSeries4 can improve current applications and processes.

Volunteer as a beta site for new MedSeries4 releases or updates.

Address facility-specific concerns from your organization.

As we begin thinking of next year’s Vision Conference we would love to hear from you in regards to Session or Workshop topics that you would like taught. Is there an area that you could use some review? Send us your ideas and we will try to make them part of next years wonderful user conference. Your ideas can be sent to masami.goldsberry@siemens.com or michael.west@siemens.com.

Join us in an effort to continue to improve the financial applications provided by MedSeries4. If we missed you at Vision, we hope to see you next year. If you attended Vision, it was good to visit and answer your questions. Thank you again for an exciting and productive 2005 Vision User Conference.



KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Patient Financial Focus Group

Lea Hammons – Client Co-Chair
Diane Hummel – Siemens Co-Chair

What an awesome Vision 2005 Conference! We thoroughly enjoyed great workshops, sessions, food, entertainment & special speakers. Again, the Sheraton staff could not have been more hospitable. The Vision ‘movie’ was the best ever...Kudos to all who assisted in creating the ‘epic’ film. Did you see those Board members in their party masks, beads, and costumes?

Our monthly Patient Financial Focus Group (PFFG) teleconference calls in January, February, and March have centered on the new releases/upgrades as well as planning for Vision 2005. Current hot topics include the Security upgrades for auditing, HDX issues, and the spec process. The goal in the coming months for the PFFG will be to continue to address issues and provide possible solutions to present to Siemens Product Managers to further enhance the product for better functionality.

The PFFG met in SLC on April 9th for our pre-Vision get-together to iron out last minute wrinkles as well as untangle Mardi Gras beads! Our post conference meeting was held on April 14th. We reviewed the comments and suggestions on the session evaluations and made a few suggestions to the Board to ensure Vision 2006 is the best ever.

We are happy to announce that we have a firm grip on our presentations for Vision 2006 focusing on Revenue Cycle Management. We have created a diagram of the entire revenue cycle and will be working each month on our sessions to ensure that each contains very detailed information which will assist facilities in lowering their AR

Days. Each session will be created to enable facilities to use the power point as a teaching tool long after its debut in a Vision session.

A special welcome to the following new members:

- Mary Danli, Senior Application Analyst, Sutter Health
- Beth Miller, Director of Business Services, Caldwell Memorial Hospital

We would also like to thank retiring long-time members Audrey Bender & Beverly Park, and newer members David Amerman & John Niles for their contributions to the PFFG. We have benefited from your years of service and commitment to this Group. Your knowledge, expertise and dedication will truly be missed. NOTE: The PFFG is always in search of new focus group members. If you are interested, please contact Lea Hammons to obtain an application form. You can email her at lea.hammons@glmc.net or call 662-227-7595.

We would also love to hear your comments and suggestions so please email us thru the Yahoo Groups at

MS4ARADTFG@yahoogroups.com.

Lea Hammons – Client Co-Chair, Patient Accounts Manager, Grenada Lake Medical Center

Diane Hummel – Siemens Co-Chair, Systems Analyst Development



FOCUS GROUP LEADERSHIP

| Focus Group | Client Co-Chair | Track Coordinator | Board Representative | Siemens Co-Chair |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Technical/SI | Bob Landers Marshall Regional | Jie Xu Siemens Stan Fulton Banner Health | Bob Adams Bay Area Hospital | Jyh-Ching Yaur Siemens |
| Patient Care | Kathy Fryd Neosho Memorial Regional | Denise Dyer Sutter Health | Chuck Scronce Caldwell Memorial Hospital | Kathleen Kingston Siemens |
| Case Mix/RE | Lori Hester Banner Health | Samantha Redmond Valley Health | Jane Ann Bridges Nacagdoches Memorial Hospital | Mary Heckle Siemens |
| MIRA | Gretchen Keller Neosho Memorial | Karen Hope Sutter Health | Jon Farina Brattleboro Memorial Hospital | Gaylene Gladden Siemens |
| Patient Financial Services | Lea Hammons Grenada Lake Medical Center | Bruce Spratling Deaconess Billing Clinic Susan Mattos Sutter Health | Tam Morgan Adventist Health | Diane Hummel Siemens |
| Financial Services | Adrienne Jernigan Bay Area Hosp | Deb Cherry Fisher Titus Med Center Judy Grogan Marshall Regional | Sarah Longest Grenada Lake Medical Center | Michael West Siemens Masami Goldsberry Siemens |

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NEWSLETTER NOTIFICATION

If your email address is on file, you received an electronic notification of this newsletter. All Vision conference attendees are added to the mailing list automatically.

If you know of someone who would like to receive notification of the newsletter, please let us know.

If you received the newsletter notification in error, please email Kathleen Dahlgren at editor@ms4vision.com, to have the necessary changes made.

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