

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



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This publication is distributed quarterly.

Message from the president:

Dear Vision User Group Members,

The Vision Board met in June to begin detailed planning the Vision 2006 conference. We used your comments and suggestions from last year's conference, and believe we are well on our way to planning another great conference.

We are very pleased to announce that registration fees for next year will not increase. The Vision User Group conference remains one of the best educational values available. What you receive for your \$595 (\$695/late) is admission to more than 100 hours of specialty sessions, the very best in general session speakers, full breakfasts and lunches, snacks, welcome dinner reception, "Gala Night" dinner with first-class entertainment, and access to more than 300 hours of hands-on workshops (additional \$95 each). Better yet, the Vision conference is focused on our common goal to advance the effective use of the Siemens MedSeries4 system. Other conferences cost more, offer much less, and cover topics which may or may not be of direct help to you. Don't forget to include the Vision conference when budgeting for next year. Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 8 through Wednesday, April 12, 2006, and look for a theme announcement in October.

The focus groups are also hard at work developing sessions for next year. The focus groups will meet in Salt Lake City for the annual Fall Focus Group Summit during the first week in October.

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:



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 Focus Group Co-Chair or representative (listed below) to request an application form.

MIRA: Gaylene Gladden gaylene.gladden@siemens.com

Patient Financial: Lea Hammons at lea.hammons@glmc.net

Case Mix/RE: Lori Hester at lori.hester@bannerhealth.com

Technical/SI: Bob Landers at bob.landlers@mrmc.net

Focus Group Objectives: Focus Groups (FG) provide a forum for discussion, planning, and communication of ideas for customers to more effectively utilize the MS4 system. The FG also provides an avenue for input to MS4 Development on product direction of existing or new modules, applications and technologies. As appropriate, the FGs will provide input on the prioritization and specifications for fixes and enhancements. In addition, each FG is responsible to solicit ideas and plan for topics to be presented at the annual Vision Conference.

What is required of a FG representative? A two-year commitment is the minimum expectation for representatives to serve on the FG. It is expected that the representative attend 75% of the scheduled meetings and conference calls.

Travel Reimbursement: Each FG member will receive a maximum stipend of \$400, payable to their facility, for participation in the fall FG meeting following the annual user conference. This meeting is held in Salt Lake City at the Siemens Corporate offices. Stipends will only be paid for participation in FG meetings.

KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Case Mix/RE Focus Group

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

Now that the dust has settled from the 2005 Conference, the CMIX/RE Focus Group is now regrouping to meet the goals that we had set for 2006. We continue having our monthly Focus Group conference calls to reach these goals. We continue to discuss “Best Practices” in using Case Mix and Reimbursement Management modules to assist the many users of MS4. We are also in the planning stages of how to address our second goal which is “Realizing the Value of RE.” This Focus Group is a firm believer that RE can assist in financial decisions from lowering A/R to assisting in setting budgets. We feel that this is a viable tool for your PFS departments in lowering manual adjustments and assisting your Managed Care departments in modeling upcoming new contract rates.

Our Focus Group will also be meeting in the fall of 2005 to plan out the sessions for the 2006 conference coming April 8 through April 12. We welcome any session suggestions that you may want us to cover at the conference. I encourage all of you to make the effort to attend because you always walk away with good information to take back to your facilities. The other priceless thing you get is to meet your peers from other facilities and establish a network of contacts.

Helpful Hint: If you are a multi-facility that has your facilities linked with CBO, there is now a copy feature that allows you to copy contracts from one facility to another. This is a great feature that allows you to author your managed care terms only once then copy them to your other facilities. Please note that if you have to build either a new package code and/or a stop loss due to your terms in the contract, these two files are not copied over. You must build any new package code or stop loss file at each facility that you are copying the new contract terms to.

You can contact the CMIX/RE Focus Group through me at lori.hester@bannerhealth.com. We are always looking for interested people to come join our group.

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



KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Technical Focus Group

Bob Landers	Client Co-Chair
Jie Xu	Siemens Co-Chair
Ron Crall	Track Coordinator

These are exciting times for the Technical Focus Group! The dynamic nature of the group is highlighted by the comings and goings of the membership. Indeed, it is sad to say goodbye to Jyh-Ching Yaur, our Siemens co-chair and a member of the group since 2002. Jyh-Ching has accepted a position within Siemens as product manager for Soarian MedSuite, an integrated suite of products targeting international markets. Jyh-Ching has been with Siemens for nearly ten years, and we wish him all the best as his career takes him onward and upward! We'll miss you Jyh-Ching!

To fill the Siemens co-chair void created by Jyh-Ching's departure, we welcome Jie Xu to this position. Jie did an outstanding job as Track Coordinator last year, and although Jyh-Ching is a tough act to follow, we are confident that Jie will do a great job as co-chair. Jie Xu has been with Siemens since 1994, working in System Integration, Technology Research, MedSeries4 Advanced Clinicals, and Web application development. After he graduated in Electrical Engineering from Tsingua University in China, he went on to the University of Utah for his Masters degree in Bioengineering. He is currently enrolled in the EMBA program of the University of Utah. Welcome to your new position Jie!

The client co-chair position has also changed hands. Thankfully Mark Erb is staying on a focus group member, but his many commitments at Bay Area Hospital are preventing him from devoting the time necessary to continue his duties as co-chair. We appreciate all your hard work as co-chair the last four years, Mark, and we are very grateful that you are continuing your membership with the group.

Taking Mark's place as client co-chair is one of the newer members of the team, Bob Landers, Information Technology Director, Marshall Regional Medical Center, Marshall, Texas. Bob has worked with MS4 for 10 years and was previously on the HL7 steering committee. Bob has worked in a hospital environment for over 11 years. Welcome Bob!

Another new team member who has jumped right in by accepting the vacant Track Coordinator position is Ron Crall, CIO, St Joseph Healthcare, Bangor, Maine. Ron has 25 years of IT experience, 20 of which have been in IT management. Ron has experience with IBM, HP, Cisco, and Novell platforms. Ron also is Microsoft certified and has training experience (California Post-secondary teaching) and three years of MS4 experience. Ron is also a former IBM business partner. Welcome Ron – you have stepped into a very demanding role, but also a very rewarding one as Track Coordinator.

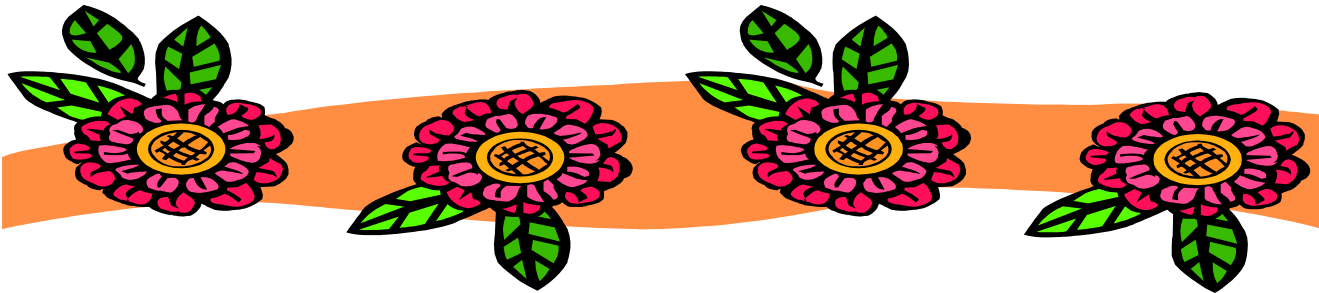
Believe it or not, we're not done yet! We still have three more members to meet! Please welcome Beverly Hiltner, System Analyst/Project Leader, Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD. Beverly has worked for Kennedy Krieger Institute since 1994. Her experience includes training end users, testing new releases, producing new specs and leading projects. In 2004, Beverly implemented CBO and multi-facilities for the institute, and those who have been through CBO conversion know how daunting a task that is!

A warm welcome also to David Keel, Network/Database Administration, T. J. Samson Community Hospital, Glasgow, Kentucky. David holds a BS Degree in Healthcare Administration from Western Kentucky University. He has been with T. J. Samson for 25 years in various positions. In his current position (since 1998), he is responsible for maintaining, updating, and supporting all systems and modules. David's programming skills include RPG, Database and HTML.

Another warm welcome to Joyce Ahlberg, Supervisor, Product Support, Sutter Health. Joyce started with Sutter Health as a data entry operator in January of 1981, and went into AS/400 and MS4 operations in October of 1989. Joyce progressed through the ranks over the years to MIS Specialist, where she was responsible for nightly saves and all MS4 application processes, including AR, RE, DG, MR, OC, PP, AP and MA at the Sutter affiliate level. She moved to the Corporate Data Center in January of 1998 as a Production Support Analyst and is now Supervisor of Production Support for the Sutter Health Corporate Data Center.

Welcome one and all!

**Submitted by
Stan Fulton
Banner Health**



MIRA Focus Group

**Gaylene Gladden
Siemens Co-Chair**

In June the MIRA Focus Group participated in a Webcast for MS4's new Clinical Suite, and we were able to give input on how we think this new product will enhance the MR application. The Focus Group was very appreciative that we were involved at the beginning of the development process.

The MIRA FG has also been working on reviewing the evaluations for the 2005 Vision Conference, and we have begun planning for the 2006 Vision Conference.

We continue to recruit new members, and are looking for about six new members. Membership involvement consists of a monthly conference call and attendance at a minimum of either the Fall Meeting or Vision each year (although this is negotiable). 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 Co-chair
Masami Goldsberry, Siemens Co-chair
Michael West, Siemens Co-chair

By devoting an entire track to the subject of Materials Management, we achieved our goal of increasing attendance in the FSFG sessions at the 2005 Vision Conference. With so many different applications to cover, it has been difficult for hospitals to send people for only a couple of sessions. We had a good response to this format and will be getting together soon to decide where to focus our attention next year. If you have any suggestions, please forward them to michael.west@siemens.com.

Speaking of “focus” and “getting together,” we are still waiting for more of those applications to the Financial Services Focus Group to come rolling in. It’s never too late and we can’t emphasize how rewarding and fun your participation would be. Please contact our Recruiter, Kim Niethammer at kimn@cch.org if you are interested in participating in our Financial Services Focus Group.

We would like to say good-bye to some of our members that will be leaving the group this year and thank them for their hard work and support. We would like to thank Patty Heflin from Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital for her hard work as Secretary for the FSFG. Patty will be on a rotational membership with Kay Johnson also from Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital. They will rotate participation on the FSFG every other year. We would like to thank Gordon Miller from Abrazo Health for his participation with the Focus Group. We wish him well on his next endeavor. We are excited to have Jane Postin from Hutchinson Hospital as our newest member to the FSFG we look forward to her participation and the knowledge she will provide.

We continue to solicit your support by joining the FSFG. Keep sending suggestions on Vision session topics and other information that is helpful to the Focus Group and MS4 Users.



KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Patient Financial Focus Group

Lea Hammons – Client Co-Chair

Diane Hummel – Siemens C0-Chair

Our focus group is very excited about the progress we have made in these last few months on our 2006 Vision sessions and presentations. We have formed subgroups with 2-3 people working on each presentation. These groups meet in addition to our monthly PFFG calls. We have found this to be very beneficial and helpful to those responsible for the creation and presentation of the sessions/workshops. We are looking very forward to our October meeting in Salt Lake City where the 2006 theme will be uncovered, and where we will have the opportunity to work face to face!

We have a very dynamic team and are very excited about our focus group and the 2006 Vision Conference. PFFG continues to identify and address issues and seek solutions to present Siemens Solution Owners to continue the enhancement of our products for better functionality and increased proficiency. With Lea's leadership we are very focused and productive.

A special welcome to the following new members:

- Maxine Korb, Patient Accounts Manager, Wayne Memorial Hospital, Honesdale, PA
- Carmen Musitano, System Conversion Manager, Universal Health Services, King of Prussia, PA

The PFFG is always in search of new focus group members. If you are interested, please contact Lea Hammons to obtain an application. She can be reached via email at lea.hammons@glmc.net or by phone at 662-227-7595.

As always, we would love to hear your comments and suggestions so please email us thru the Yahoo Groups at MS4ARADTFG@yahoogroups.com.

Respectfully submitted by,
Debbi Kloberdanz
Patient Financial Services Manager
Banner Health, Colorado Region

KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

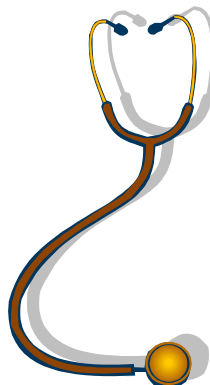
Patient Care Focus Group **Client Co-Chair - Kathy Fryd**

The party is over and we are back in the routine for the summer, but the memories of Vision 2005 will last for quite some time! Overall, the Patient Care Focus Group felt that Vision 2005 was a success! On Sunday, the PCFG met for their Annual Vision Business Meeting. After doing last minute preparations for the conference, the group had an in-depth discussion about the MS4 Advanced Clinicals with the development team at Siemens. The group made multiple suggestions for enhancements to the products and also contributed prioritization input to the current list. We discussed requirements and regulations that we are facing with HIPAA and other agencies such as JCAHO.

Of course, we always recruit new members at the conference and this year was no different. If anyone who did not contact us at the conference, but would like to join the focus group – please do not hesitate to contact one of our current members for information. We have heard from some potential new members and will be working on that very soon. We also want to welcome Chuck Scronce, Caldwell Memorial Hospital in Lenoir, NC, our Vision Board representative back from serving our country in Afganistan!

In an effort to keep everyone current with the happenings at MS4, Siemens presented a webcast introducing the new MedSeries4 Clinical Suite in June to preview some of the enhancements that are coming very soon. The webcast was well attended and we will be reviewing the feedback at our next conference call. Kathleen Kingston also presented a webcast to the MIRA and AR/ADT focus groups regarding the Clinical Suite.

Finally, we are busy evaluating Vision and are in the infant stages of planning next year's clinical sessions. If you would like input or have innovative ideas, please do not hesitate to send us your suggestions and comments. You may send them to kathy_fryd@nmrmc.com.



FOCUS GROUP LEADERSHIP

Focus Group	Client Co-Chair	Track Coordinator	Board Representative	Siemens Co-Chair
Technical/SI	Bob Landers Marshall Regional	Ron Crall St. Joseph Healthcare	Bob Adams Bay Area Hospital	Jie Xu 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	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.

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