

VISION USER GROUP



Highlights in this edition:

Vision Board Nomination Form
Upcoming MS4 Releases

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Message from the president:

CALLING ALL SPACE CADETS – please plan to report to Mission Control (aka the Sheraton Centre in Salt Lake City) by Sunday, April 22nd as we prepare to launch the Vision 2007 User Group Conference. Our theme this year is the very broad topic of “space.” You can interpret it however you wish – the serious aspect of past and present space exploration, the entertaining view of future worlds like Star Trek and Star Wars, the imaginative possibilities of alien life forms ... it’s your choice. But whatever interpretation you pick, make it fun. We’ll be looking for some real costume creativity for the Gala celebration, or I should say the “Intergalactic Ball,” on Tuesday night.

The tagline “MS4 and Vision – Out of this World” reflects our feeling that MedSeries4 (MS4) is truly a stellar HIS product. Both Vision and MS4 are dedicated to teaching you how to squeeze all the functionality out of the applications for the benefit of your organization. We have another great lineup of workshops for you on Saturday and Sunday using the same popular format as last year. The Focus Groups are very excited about the education sessions they have planned during the Fall Meeting in September. Watch for details in upcoming newsletters.

Every year the Vision Conference has a high percentage of attendees from facilities who are new to MS4. We have created a new “virtual track” that allows them to attend a series of non-conflicting education sessions with subject material aimed at new users. We have also freed up a slot on Tuesday for some dedicated time with our Vision exhibitors. We will not schedule any education sessions at that time so you can talk with our vendors at length and not feel like you are missing your classroom time. For our senior level executives, we will again offer the Executive Partnership Forum on Sunday. This event focuses on current challenges in healthcare and how companies are using MS4 to address them.

By now you should have received your magnet containing the basic conference information. Hang it up in your office or cubicle as a reminder to make your hotel reservations soon. The registration site should be up and available right after the first of the year, and the conference registration booklet will be mailed out by early February. Watch our website at www.ms4vision.com for links to both of these items.

The countdown has started – see you soon!

Jonathan Farina
President
Vision User Group Board of Directors



Message from the Editor:

Welcome To the MedSeries4 Family

MS4 added 21 net new customers in fiscal year 2006. In fact, Jason Heim, VP, National Sales Director – MS4, was recognized as the Siemens salesman of the year for his hard efforts. Please welcome the following hospitals signed since the last newsletter to the “MS4 family”:

Nexus Health (4 Hosp)

Thomas Memorial

CHW (5 new Hosp)

Vanguard (2 new Hosp)

Focus Groups Seeking New Members

New members are being sought for the following focus groups: MIRA, Patient Financial Focus Group, Technical/SI, Case Mix/RE and General Financials. 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 15 of this publication.

Vision Board Nominations

It is election time again. The Vision Board of Directors is seeking qualified candidates to serve on the Vision Board. A qualified candidate will:

- Have the approval and full support of their local organization to serve on the Board and fulfill all the duties of a three year term
- Be able to attend and participate fully in all Board of Directors meetings. Meetings are held in June, August, September, December, February and during the Annual User Conference. Meetings typically require Wednesday-Friday commitment with the exception of our annual planning meeting which requires additional days
- Participate in teleconference meetings of approximately one-hour duration in May, July, October, November and February. Other teleconferences are scheduled as needed.
- Carry out assigned duties for the benefit of the User Group and for the Annual User conference as assigned.
- Represent a facility that has a support agreement with Siemens MS4
- Be tireless, good humored, willing to work hard and work (and play) well with others

It is a rewarding experience to be able to make a difference and also allows all of us who utilize MS4 to support our healthcare organization from either a clinical or operational perspective. The opportunity to actively participate in the development strategies of the product does not come around to most of us on a routine basis.

Please consider submitting your nomination. If you would like more information regarding serving on the Board of Directors, please contact Sherri Ward, Vision User Group President-Elect, at 307-633-7154 or email sherri.ward@crmcwy.org. The nomination form can be found on the next page and can be submitted directly to Sherri, for those who would like to express their interest to run in the Vision Board 2007 election.

Vision User Group Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: _____

Title: _____

Facility: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email Address: _____

Number of years working with Siemens MedSeries4 applications: _____

Professional experience: _____

Your interest in the Vision Board: _____

What direction would you like to see the Vision Board take: _____

How can you help the Vision Board accomplish its purpose: _____

What can you contribute to the Vision Board?: _____

Return to: Vision User Group, c/o Siemens, 215 N. Admiral Byrd Rd., Salt Lake City, Utah, 84116 or email to: board@ms4vision.com

Critical Clinical Event Process

Siemens has implemented a standard procedure across all Siemens products to provide a prompt notification of potential critical clinical issues in their products, called Critical e-Notifications.

The Critical e-Notification is an email regarding critical support news and appropriate actions to be taken. This e-notification replaces previous forms of communication including clinical alert emails from the MS4 list serve and provides a streamlined process for communicating important, time-sensitive information to our MS4 customers.

As a Siemens customer you should already be a registered user of the Siemens Customer only website. Validate the email address loaded in the customer demographic information profile for your facility. Then complete the e-notification subscription process. By subscribing, you determine the types of notices you receive from Siemens Technology services such as critical clinicals for MS4 clinical products, MS4 Laboratory and/or MS4 financial systems.

The website is:

<https://www2.smed.com/customer/information/critenotify.nsf>



MS4 CLINICAL SUITE UPDATE

Clinical Suite Increment 1 - WebConnect Access, WebConnect Orders, WebConnect Documentation (MS4 Release 25.00)

Last year East Texas Medical Center (Tyler, TX) went from paper to electronic charting on selected nursing units via WebConnect (WC) Documentation (previously known as MS4 Clinical Assessments). They also converted these units to WebConnect Orders, the web version of Order Communication. On Monday, October 2, 2006, they took on the monumental task of rolling out house-wide WC Documentation and WC Orders. That activity included:

- 810 users on WC Documentation and Orders in a live environment
- 210 devices moved from green screen to web
- 23 new departments and nursing stations added

The hospital project team did an exceptional job in training the users and organizing the roll out. The 24-hour Command Center was a lonely place to be, with only the occasional call for assistance. The nurse managers provided excellent support to the unit end users, and demonstrated commitment to a successful project. Congratulations to ETMC for a job well done as they begin beta activities for Increment 2.

Clinical Suite Increment 2 - WebConnect MAR and WebConnect Medication Orders (MS4 Release 26.10)

Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital (Nacogdoches, TX) has joined ETMC as a second beta site for Increment 2. Besides implementing the Clinical Suite components WC MAR and WC Medication Orders, they are converting to Siemens Pharmacy and activating its interface to MS4 Clinical Suite.

As a current user of MS4's GUI Order Communications, Nacogdoches will provide valuable feedback during the transition to the Increment 1 WebConnect modules and implementation of Increment 2. Their beta plan includes converting to or installing the following modules:

- WebConnect Orders
- WebConnect Documentation
- WebConnect Medication Orders
- WebConnect MAR (Medication Administration Record)
- Siemens Pharmacy
- Siemens MAK (Medication Administration Checking)

Stay tuned for more Clinical Suite updates in upcoming newsletters.

UPCOMING MS4 RELEASES

Author: Kristine Pitts, Solution Owner, MedSeries4 Systems

In August, 2006, a customer memo was sent to inform customers of MedSeries4's release plans for the remainder of 2006 and early 2007. In addition to the regular regulatory updates and bundle releases which were planned, additional releases will be required to support the new UB-04 and 1500 claim forms. Knowing that not all of you received this memo, we are publishing the memo's highlights in this newsletter. Please see your IT staff for the full memo.

For customers not familiar with the new forms, the National Uniform Billing Committee approved the UB-04 as the replacement for the UB-92 at its February 2005 meeting. Receivers (health plans and clearinghouses) need to be ready to receive the new UB-04 by March 1, 2007. Submitters (health care providers such as hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, hospice, and other institutional claim filers) can use the UB-04 beginning March 1, 2007; however, they will have a transitional period between March 1, 2007 and May 22, 2007 where they can use the UB-04 or the UB-92. Starting May 23, 2007 all institutional paper claims must use the UB-04; the UB-92 will no longer be acceptable after this date.

This article can be found at the following URL:

<http://www.nubc.org/public/whatsnew/NUBC%20ANNOUNCES%20APPROVAL%20OF%20UB.pdf>

The Form CMS-1500 (12-90) was revised by the National Uniform Claim Committee to accommodate the implementation of the National Provider Identifier. The Office of Management and Budget has approved the new Form CMS-1500 (08/05) under OMB Number 0938-0999.

The following is the proposed Medicare implementation timeline: the new Form CMS-1500 (08/05) will be effective for optional use starting October 1, 2006 through March 31, 2007, but will be required starting April 1, 2007. Further details regarding the Medicare implementation of the Form CMS-1500 (08/05) can be found in Change Requests 4293 and 5060. General industry information about the revised Form CMS-1500 (08/05) can be found at www.nucc.org.

AVAILABILITY

The delivery of the 1500 (08/05) Bill Form software will be with the fourth quarter regulatory release due out December 2006.

The delivery of the final version for the UB-04 Bill Form software will be made available prior to the NUBC transition date of March 1, 2007. It will be a release bundle in itself.

Siemens strongly recommends that ICO customers apply the software and that all customers validate the software within 45 days of receipt, but in any event no later than the time required by your Siemens support agreement.

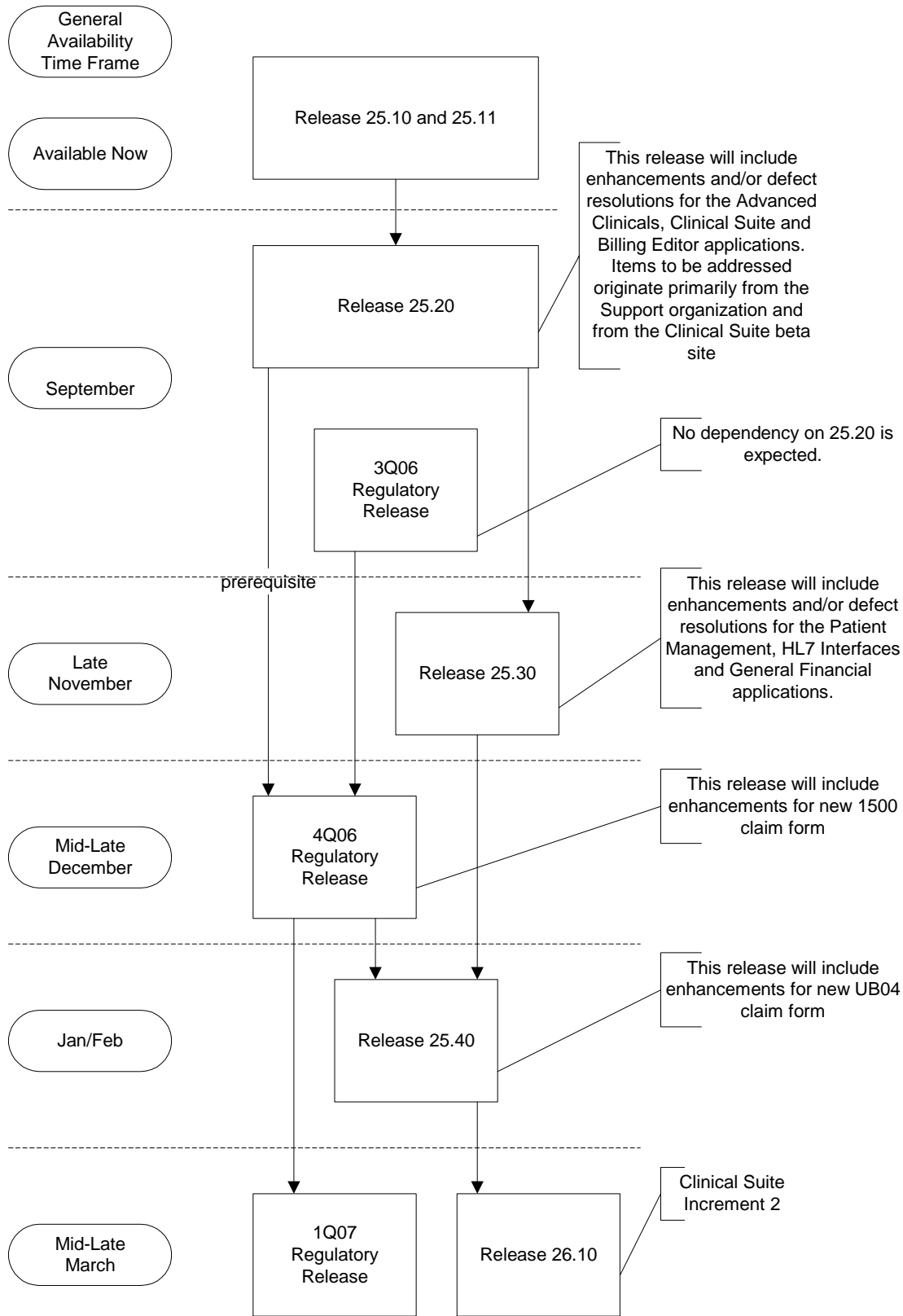
ACTION REQUIRED

ICO Customers - MedSeries4 ICO customers should install all applicable MedSeries4 releases that are currently available and plan for the upcoming releases.

RCO Customers - Siemens performs upgrades and maintenance on your behalf. You will be notified of the install schedule for any release as well as any pre- or post-install activities that must be performed in conjunction with an implementation.

DETAILED PREREQUISITES

The graphic below illustrates the releases planned for the remainder of 2006 and early 2007. Prerequisite dependencies are indicated by the arrows.



KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Case Mix / RE Focus Group

Ron Wensel Client Co-Chair

Mary Heckle Siemens Co-Chair

The CMIX/RE Focus Group geared up for the Vision Fall Meeting to finalize the sessions for the next annual Vision User Group Conference in April 2007. We have some really exciting sessions planned. For a few examples, we have slated some of the following topics:

- ❖ Denial Management/Underpayment – use of RE to be paid correctly
- ❖ Adjustments Posting – auto adjustments, reconciling adjustments, cash process
- ❖ Decision Support – applications of Case Mix and RE to management decisions
- ❖ A possible joint session with both the AR and MIRA groups as well.

The Focus Group has also set goals for the group during our monthly conference calls.

- ❖ Strengthen the RE product
- ❖ Strengthen the CMIX/RE Group
- ❖ Strengthen knowledge to effectively use RE to produce results at each hospital

At this time I would also like to introduce the newest and very talented members to the Focus Group:

1. Daniel Hammer – Sutter Health
2. Bruce Johnson – Alaska Native Medical Center
3. Heather Lattuada – Sonora Regional Medical Center

We are very excited to have these new members and are always looking for more to join this dynamic group. Please contact the Client Co-chair, Ron Wensel at wenselr@ah.org if you are interested in joining the group. We are especially interested in members from the midwest as well as the east coast. We have monthly conference calls as well as two trips to Salt Lake City, one in the fall for the Vision Conference planning as well as the Conference itself in the spring.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lori Hester

CMIX/RE Focus Group Member

KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Financial Services Focus Group

In September 2006, the Financial Services Focus Group met and conducted their annual fall planning meeting. The group spent time planning and coordinating information about sessions and workshops for the 2007 Vision User Conference in the area of General Financials. We had an excellent turn out to this year's fall meeting and great things have been planned.

The Financial Services Focus Group is excited to announce three new members, John Gahagan from East Texas Medical Center, Bonnie Castilow from Granada Lake Medical Center, and Mary Brown from Vanguard Healthcare (Abrazo Region). We are thrilled to add these new members to our group and look forward to the knowledge and experience they will bring in the area of general financials.

Recent enhancements to the general financial products that will be available in the Fall Bundle release include laser checks for Accounts Payable and Payroll, as well as laser bin labels and patient charge labels for Materials Management.

The FSFG is continuously seeking additional members. We are looking for people with the general financials applications (GL, MA, AP, PP/HR, FA, and Budgeting). We are especially in need of representatives for payroll and human resources.

For session/workshop ideas, membership information, or any other questions, please call or email:

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(541) 269-8139

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Michael.West@siemens.com

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FSFG Recruitment

Gordon Miller gmill@abrazohealth.com



KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Patient Care Focus Group

Client Co-Chair Kim Atkins
Siemens Co-Chair Kathleen Kingston

The patient care focus group gathered in Salt Lake for the annual fall meeting on September 17-19. We worked on organizing, planning and writing abstracts for the Vision conference sessions. The group is very excited about the upcoming sessions and will continue to finalize content over the next several months. We are excited to have two sessions that will offer continuing education credits for attendees. We worked to create sessions designed for various levels of users. A high level overview session was planned as requested by the Board to offer a special tract for new MS4 users. Suggestions for workshops were shared with Siemens staff for consideration.

The group met with several development team members to discuss future releases and offer many suggestions for product enhancement. The PCFG appreciates the time and attention that the development team spends with the group. Clinical SPECS were also discussed and prioritized.

MIRA Focus Group

Client Co-Chair Janet Hoffberg
Siemens Co-Chair Gaylene Gladden

During the Fall MIRA Focus Group Meeting VISION 2007 sessions were determined. They include:

- New MIRA Releases -- Siemens will discuss what enhancements you can expect in the near future.
- Government Updates which is a joint session with Case Mix/Reimbursement
- CPT4 Code Flow & Issue Resolution which is a joint session with AR -- designed to be interactive with the audience so real issues and possible resolutions can be discussed.
- What is a Legal Record?
- EHR where is MS4 going?
- Beginning MIRA -- designed for new clients, where they can see how the MIRA products function.
- MIRA and Case Mix Business Support which is a joint session with Case Mix/Reimbursement
- Data Extraction -- help MIRA users search for data using query reporting.
- Unit Consolidation features, process flow

The group worked hard to add new topics but kept some of those that are always popular and well attended. Remember, you will earn CEU credits for each session you attend.

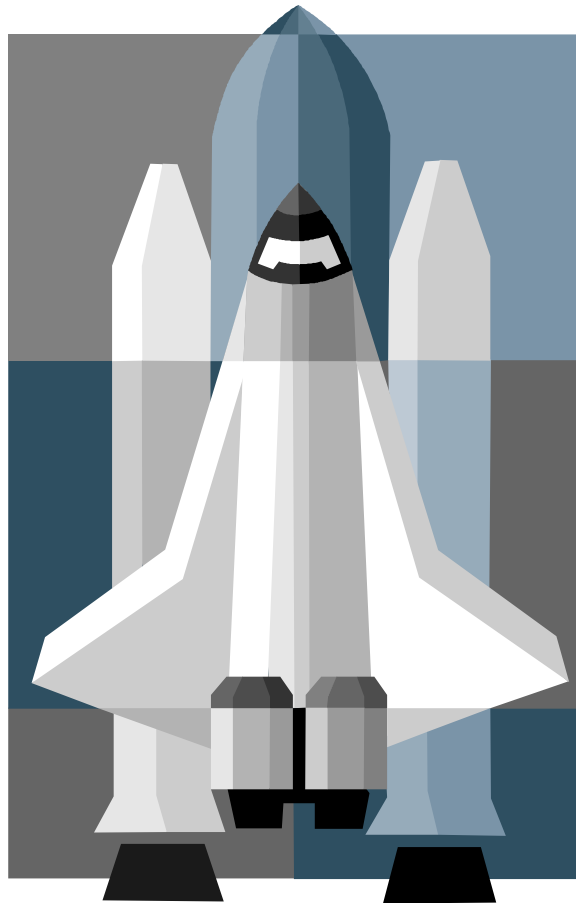
Fall Bundle MIRA Chart Analysis updates include:

- Color tag indicators
- Deficiency Entry/Update search screen improvements

CHECK IT OUT!!!

The MIRA Focus Group continues to look for new members. Membership involvement consists of a monthly conference call and attendance at the Fall Meeting in Salt Lake City and the Vision Conference each year. Members also have first hand knowledge of the upcoming fixes and enhancements for the MS4 MIRA and Privacy Administration applications, and have the opportunity to voice specific needs of your hospital, as well as the HIM industry. And, you will have a great network of “friends”!

If you are interested in joining, please contact Gaylene Gladden at gaylene.gladden@siemens.com.



KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Technical Focus Group

Stan Fulton – Client Co-Chair

Jie Xu – Siemens Co-Chair

At our fall planning session in Salt Lake City in September the Technical Focus Group had the opportunity to welcome our newest member, Patrick Crum, IS Director at Grenada Lake (there's only ONE lake!) Medical Center in Grenada, Mississippi. Patrick adds a new perspective to the group as the only member from an RCO facility. His active participation and thoughtful, insightful ideas make him a great addition to the team.

David Keel, with TJ Samson Hospital in Glasgow, Kentucky, and Ron Crall, with St. Joseph's Hospital in Bangor, Maine are this year's Track Coordinators. As usual they have their work cut out for them as they bring all the elements of a successful Vision conference together. We appreciate their hard work and dedication as they oversee the creative efforts of the great folks who will be presenting sessions in the two technical tracks.

Once again in 2007 the Technical Focus Group will be highlighting the importance of IBM WebSphere. IBM will be there with WebSphere updates from a universal perspective, while Siemens developers will tune us in to how MS4 uses WebSphere.

New this year will be two sessions geared specifically to folks who are new to IBM midrange computing and/or new to MS4. "Query for Dummies" will be an introduction to Query 400 and how helpful it can be in retrieving data from the extensive MS4 database. "MedSeries4 and iSeries for Dummies" will introduce general topics including System i (iSeries) objects, such as physical and logical files; libraries and library lists; and user profiles. Also included will be a discussion of MS4 naming conventions, application relationships, and using the MS4 menu driver.

Also new this year will be a discussion of integrating systems with multiple vendors and different system protocols to assist in mapping a strategy to achieve your facility's goals regarding Electronic Health Records (EHR) and Regional Health Information Organizations (RHIO).

Some of the recurring themes for 2007 will include "MS4 Solutions – Today and Tomorrow;" "Emerging Technology;" "Healthcare Technology Trends;" and "IBM System i (iSeries) Update," sessions that always draw rave reviews. Add to this some HL7 interface sessions; managing database triggers; managing release upgrades; and system security, and you truly have a mix of sessions that includes something for everyone.

The Technical Focus Group is very excited about Vision 2007, and we look forward to seeing our many friends again next April.

If you would like to join the Technical Focus Group please contact one of our co-chairs: Stan Fulton – Client Co-Chair at stan.fulton@bannerhealth.com ; or Jie Xu – Siemens Co-Chair at jiexu@siemens.com . The MS4 Technical Yahoo! Group can be found at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MS4Technical> .

Respectfully submitted by
Stan Fulton

KEEPING YOU IN FOCUS

Patient Financial Focus Group

Client Co-Chair **Melanie Betancourt**

Siemens Co-Chair **Diane Hummel**

The Patient Financial Focus Group (PFFG) held our monthly conference calls to receive Board updates, review new clients, discuss release updates, improve the SPEC review process, discuss issues, and plan for Vision.

Vision will be here before you know it. Have you made plans to attend? Make sure you budget for Vision...it is an excellent opportunity to network with other facilities, gain useful knowledge to carry back to your facility, and have an awesome time! Did I mention the food? Not to mention the opportunity to see the Board Members dressed up in those hilarious costumes!

The PFFG was delighted with the new theme “**Out of This World.**” We had a “**BLAST**” at our Fall Meeting coming up with the titles for all our sessions. We expect this Vision to the best yet!!!

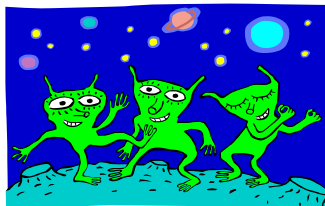
Can you guess what these sessions will be about?????

- Going Where No Man Has Gone UB04
- Space Cowboys – The Four Dudes
- Houston, We Have a Problem!
- Resistance is Futile...You Will Be Assimilated...The New HF
- CPTs, Lost in Space
- Black Holes, Worm Holes and Asteroid Belts – ACTS
- Invasion of The Body Snatchers – Census
- The Trouble with Tribbles – hmmmmm

We are happy to welcome the arrival of our newest member, **Betty Kevan**, from Sutter Health. We still have plenty of room on our group and welcome interested **ADT** specialists to email our Client Co-Chair, Melanie Betancourt, at BetancMA@AH.org if you want to be a Focus group member.

If your hospital would like to test upcoming releases, Siemens is always looking for beta sites. The 25.30 release will soon be available as well as the new UB04 and the improved HF 1500. Auditing for PH will also be available in the 25.30 release and many other new enhancements and fixes, something for everyone. The PFFG is delighted to work with our MS4 colleagues to assist in the development and testing of each new release.

submitted by Lea Hammons



FOCUS GROUP LEADERSHIP

Focus Group	Client Co-Chair	Track Coordinator	Board Representative	Siemens Co-Chair
Technical/SI	Stan Fulton Banner Health	David Keel TJ Samson Ron Crall St. Joseph's Hospital	Bob Adams Bay Area Hospital	Jie Xu Siemens
Patient Care	Kim Atkins Faith Regional Health	Susan Bottom University Medical Center	Chuck Scronce Caldwell Memorial Hospital	Kathleen Kingston Siemens
Case Mix/RE	Ron Wensel Adventist Health	Debi Freymuth Chelsea Community Hospital	Jane Ann Bridges Nacagdoches Memorial Hospital	Mary Heckle Siemens
MIRA	Janet Hoffberg Glendale Adventist Medical Center	Connie Henderson Beatrice Community Hospital	Kathleen Dahlgren Banner Health	Gaylene Gladden Siemens
Patient Financial Services	Melanie Betancourt Paradise Valley Hospital	Carmen Musitano Universal Health Services	Tam Morgan Adventist Health	Diane Hummel Siemens
Financial Services	Adrienne Jernigan Bay Area Hospital	Jane Postin Hutchinson Hospital Michael West Siemens	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.

You may also obtain an electronic copy of this newsletter or previous newsletters on the www.ms4vision.com website.

