



The *DI*fference



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Summer 2006

A semi-annual newsletter written especially for the users of
Digital Innovation, Inc.'s registry software products.

DI Annual Users Conference Heads South

Pack your bags and get ready to join the DI conference team on October 19th and 20th in Orlando, Florida for the **12th Annual DI Users Conference**. Our conference location is the award-winning Rosen Centre Hotel located on International Drive amidst hundreds of restaurants, attractions, and entertainment venues.

The annual Users Conference agenda includes numerous software-training workshops, guest speaker presentations, networking sessions, and hands-on lab time. Workshops scheduled for Thursday and Friday will focus on the DI Report Writer, Outcomes, NTRACS Foxfire reporting and more. The new **NTRACS 4.0 registry software** will also make its first appearance in a number of NTRACS training workshops. The DI Users Conference is a great way for trauma registry users to increase registry skills and discover how to make a positive impact on trauma programs.



This year's expanded **Pre-Conference** on October 18th features full-day basic training sessions on Collector Concepts, NTRACS Concepts and Collector Outcomes. The pre-conference sessions will help prepare users for the conference workshops on Thursday and Friday. An afternoon only **Special Topics** session is also available and designed specifically for central-site personnel and administrators.

DI is applying for approval to award continuing education units (CEU) through the Maryland Nurses Association (MNA). All conference attendees who successfully complete the objectives of their selected workshops will receive a certificate of completion listing the total number of **CEU's** awarded. Credits awarded may also be accepted toward the continuing education requirements for other professional agencies.

Don't miss out on DI's popular Thursday **Networking Night!** Our networking night is a great way to relax, meet friends and form groups to explore the many adventure parks, entertainment venues, attractions and dining options that Orlando offers. Most activities and eateries are within walking distance from the Rosen Centre Hotel, but if you prefer, the easy access I-Ride Trolley will take you where you need to go. We look forward to your arrival in the Sunshine State, a great conference experience and a fun-filled Orlando adventure.

Visit www.dicorp.com to register online, or complete and return the conference registration form inside this newsletter.

DI and NTR

Recently the American College of Surgeons (ACS) released a new national data set known as the National Trauma Registry (NTR). ACS' plan is to transition the National Trauma Data Bank (NTDB) to use the NTR data dictionary. A two-year transition plan is envisioned to allow all trauma centers as well as all trauma registry vendors ample time to prepare for the data submission changes required by this ACS initiative.

The plan will enable users to have a seamless path for NTDB participation in this national data collection registry. To ease users through this transition, the 2007 Call for Data will permit trauma data submissions to use either the existing NTDB format or the new NTR XML submission format. In the following year, 2008, the NTR XML format will be required for participation.

Fortunately, for all Collector and NTRACS users, DI has been closely involved with the NTR project since its inception. In fact, DI is the NTDB strategic technology partner for ACS. We have developed an NTR Software Development Toolkit (SDK) that will provide all trauma registry vendors with software tools that verify NTR data submission formats for NTDB participation.

During the transition period, DI will update all of our Collector and NTRACS trauma registry clients to have a revised NTDB data submission capability that uses the new NTR XML format. This interface will be provided at no additional cost to all of our active clients!

In addition, due to our familiarity and experience with the NTR data set and numerous trauma registry systems throughout the country, DI's project management staff can also serve as a valuable resource to any clients undertaking any data set expansion initiatives within their state or region.

DI Expands Options for Central-site Software

Digital Innovation has developed several expanded technologies and products that cater to the unique needs of our clients at central-site facilities. At the core of the development process were the issues our clients encountered daily - speed and ease of web data submission, fast and powerful reporting capabilities, system integration with EMS and other department areas, and many others. Many of DI's time and energy saving solutions to these issues are now available and are offered through DI's Central-site Software and Services Roadmap initiative. Plans for the full Roadmap will be announced at the DI Annual Users Conference in Orlando this October (see newsletter insert).

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Look Inside for Articles on:

- Expanded Options for Central-site software
- Upcoming Web Trainings
- DI Operates NTDB Data Center
- Welcome New Users
- DI's Community Commitment
- New DI Employees

DI Operates NTDB Data Center

In October 2005, Digital Innovation was selected as the data management and software technology developer for the American College of Surgeon's (ACS) National Trauma Data Bank (NTDB). DI is excited with the progress made through our business relationship with ACS and is looking forward to the opportunity to use our technology expertise and registry experience to provide additional functionality and services for the NTDB.

DI has undertaken two initial projects that support the NTDB's goal of increasing participation among trauma centers at all levels. In January 2006 the NTDB Data Center web site went live (www.ntdbdatacenter.com). The site includes general information about NTDB and it provides technical information regarding file submission format, contact numbers for technical support and a members secure login area used to maintain facility information and to submit data.

The 2006 Call for Data period marks the first submission that accepted data via the new website. Participating facilities that registered through the website were eligible to submit data via the website. After the submitted data was processed, facilities could log in and review a preliminary data screening report indicating the number of records accepted for inclusion in the Call for Data. Additional website features will soon follow.

This year DI processed over 400,000 new NTDB submissions as part of DI's operation of the NTDB Data Center. NTDB is the largest aggregation of trauma registry data ever assembled, and DI looks forward to its continuing relationship as the operational and technical partner of ACS for NTDB.

For information on participating in NTDB, contact Melanie Neal, American College of Surgeons NTDB Manager, at mneal@facs.org or 312-202-5536.

DI's Community Commitment

DI Joins in the Fight Against Cancer

"The Innovations", DI's Relay for Life team, recently participated in a local overnight benefit walk for the American Cancer Society.

Digital Innovation matched contributions made to its namesake team. Consisting of DI staff and their family members, The Innovations were



pleased to present the American Cancer Society with nearly \$1,500 to use towards cancer research. Plans to participate in the 2007 Relay for Life campaign are already underway.

DI Presents 2006 Scholarship Awards

Digital Innovation recently presented the William J. Sacco Award to two 2006 high school graduating seniors. For many years Dr. Sacco has been an inspiration to students studying mathematics and related fields. DI President and CEO, Dr. John Kutcher, established the scholarship in 2004 in honor of Dr. Sacco's lifelong dedication to the teaching and application of mathematical skills.

(Central-site Options, continued from page 1)

Through a combination of enhancements to existing features and the introduction of new technologies, central-site users can anticipate some exciting changes on the horizon. The introduction of web portals for trauma and EMS systems presents many new opportunities for data collection, linkage, report publishing, ad hoc report sharing and other tasks. Data submission from individual facilities will be a more automated and simplified process using the I-Send technology and other web services capabilities.

In addition to enhancements to current functionality, DI is also offering a number of new features and services. An EMS/Pre-Hospital /Trauma connection will provide linkage software that supports the NEMIS Gold Pre-hospital data set. The web core data entry solution will provide a convenient data entry solution for many level 4 & 5 facilities. Populator software enables multiple facilities using different software packages to submit data into a common database package such as Oracle or SQL Server, making reporting and comparison quick and easy. DI is also prepared to assist with data hosting, data management and data analysis needs.

Other add-on modules and features such as tablet data entry configuration, web data entry and a variety of DI services will add even more functionality and **turn-key solutions** to the central site system.

For more information regarding DI's new central-site features contact Tim Favazza, Director of Sales and Marketing at tfavazza@dicorp.com.

DI Plans NTRACS 4.0 Distribution

As publicized earlier this year in the NTRACS Roadmap, DI is gearing up for distribution of the NTRACS 4.0 software upgrade. The 4.0 version features enhanced data entry screens, a robust data foundation and numerous improvements in functionality, including an easy submission process to NTDB and NTR.

The DI Report Writer and Tri-Code Coding software modules will also continue to be available for use with the NTRACS software. In addition, several other DI interface products will soon be offered to increase functionality for NTRACS users.

Active NTRACS users will receive version 4.0, scheduled for completion by the end of August and distribution throughout September, at no charge. Additionally, NTRACS training workshops at this year's DI Users Conference will be conducted using the new NTRACS 4.0.

Scholarship recipients were selected based upon their involvement in the field of mathematics and their application of critical thinking skills and problem solving techniques. The recipients were presented with a certificate of achievement and a cash award to assist with their continuing education costs.

DI Supports Students in National Robotics Competition

Creativity, innovation, and teamwork are fundamental to the success of any engineering team. DI provided support to help defray the costs for seventeen high school students who competed in several **FIRST Robotics** competitions this spring. The group participated in a Virginia regional event, the Chesapeake Regional competition and the National Competition held at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. DI congratulates these enthusiastic and hard-working high school students.

Upcoming Web Training Sessions

Additional training options and topic descriptions are available on the DI website or by contacting the DI sales department.



August 2006

Collector Concepts Tues. 8th
 DI Report Writer Thurs. 17th
 Outcomes Concepts Thurs. 10th
 Outcomes Configuration & Letters Wed. 16th
 Outcomes Adv. Report Writing Fri. 18th
 NTRACS Concepts Mon. 21st
 NTRACS Using Data Fri. 25th

September 2006

Collector Concepts Fri. 8th
 DI Report Writer Wed. 27th
 Outcomes Concepts Tues. 5th
 Outcomes Configuration & Letters Tues. 26th
 NTRACS Concepts Mon. 11th
 NTRACS Using Data Fri. 15th
 NTRACS In-House 2-Day Training Thurs. 21st & Fri. 22nd

October 2006

Collector Concepts Wed. 4th
 Outcomes Configuration & Letters Mon. 30th

DI USERS CONFERENCE

Oct. 19th & 20th

Pre-Conference

Oct. 18th

Training at DI's Maryland facilities and on-site sessions are also available. To schedule training contact the DI sales office: sales@dicorp.com or 800-344-3668 ext. 230.

Welcome

New Users

Collector Trauma

- Mary Washington Hospital, VA
- Waitemata, New Zealand



Collector Outcomes

- Jon Moore Trauma Center UVW, WV
- Arrowhead Regional, CA
- St. Francis, CT
- Central Washington Hospital, WA

NTRACS

- Florida State Support, FL
- Beth Israel Deaconess, MA
- Kaweah Delta Health Care, CA
- Walton Regional, GA

Report Writer & Tri-Code

for NTRACS

- North Fulton, GA
- South Shore, MA
- Hurley Medical Center, MI
- Vanderbilt University, TN
- Huntsville Hospital, AL



Introducing... The new DI Employees

To assist our growing user base, DI is excited to introduce five new additions to our team.

Grant Dittmer joined DI in February as a Principle Solution Architect. Grant will manage selected resources of the Engineering Department as well as design and implement architectural blueprints for DI registry products. Grant's extensive background includes high-level designs and implementation strategies for information and system resources, system configuration, application security administration and deep troubleshooting processes. Coming to the U.S. from New Zealand 5½ years ago, Grant enjoys hiking, painting and reading.

In May, DI welcomed **Marcus Budnick** to our technical support team. With previous work experience as an IT specialist at a national retailer distribution center, Marcus is proficient with help desk customer support, SQL server maintenance and database administration. Marcus is A+ certified and enjoys reading and gaming.

Mark Frieman, Data Analyst, joined DI's Data Solutions Team in mid-May to support the development of DI registry products. Mark's most recent experience was at an educational software firm where he monitored compliance for special education requirements and became efficient in generating reports, analyzing data, data mining, data development and system maintenance. Before his career in data analysis and product development, Mark was a chef in the Blair house for visiting dignitaries during the administrations of President Bush Sr. and President Clinton.

In June, **Matthew Baird** joined the DI team in the NRCPR Customer Service division. Matthew will assist in responding to NRCPR customer e-mails and calls as well as provide technical support. Prior to DI, Matthew worked as a customer service provider and a media supervisor. Matthew and his wife recently welcomed the arrival of their first child.

Andrew Wilson, the most recent addition to DI, will assist in software programming to assure quality reporting. Andrew has a B.S. in computer science and experience with building operating systems. For the past few years, Andrew did software technical support and worked at various hotels during his travels throughout Florida and Puerto Rico.

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| | NTRACS: | 800-435-3590, option 1 NTRACSupport@dicorp.com |
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DI on the web: www.dicorp.com

Product Support: *THE BACK PAGE*

DI's Product Support Staff Answers Commonly Asked Questions



Convert Collector Custom Reports into the New DI Report Writer

Custom reports housed in the Collector Report Writer can be easily converted into the DI Report Writer by following the directions to the right, and then select the reporting tools to be converted.

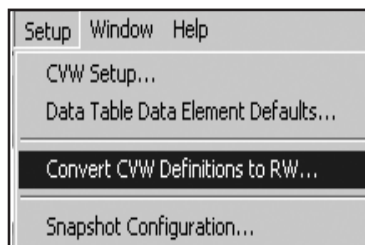
The conversion process is simple, maintains the integrity of the data and eliminates the need for users to recreate queries, report gathers, files, coded variables and DBF exports. In addition, facilities can convert their custom reports from a "mirror" or reporting copy of Collector.

Once the conversion of the Collector database into the DI Report Writer is complete, users have the flexibility to add, delete, and edit their reporting customization tools.

DI Report Writer Tips

How to access the conversion and snapshot features.

On your DI Report Writer toolbar, click on the "setup" menu option and use the dropdown menu to choose either "Convert CVW Definitions to RW" or "Snapshot Configuration".



Simultaneous reporting and data entry for network Collector users

The DI Report Writer Snapshot feature allows users working on a "network" Collector to save a "picture" of their Collector database to the hard drive of their personal workstation. This "picture" enables users to access and run reports on Collector data amidst others' access to the "live" network database. It also provides a stable reporting view for accurate and efficient data analysis.

To set up the Snapshot feature, follow the directions to the left. After Snapshot has been enabled, users can keep their Collector database snapshot current by selecting "Refresh Snapshot" located on the bottom of the Run Report screen.

Important note to users of the stand-alone (non-network) Collector: Please do not activate the snapshot feature; by doing so, an error message will appear.