



The *DI*fference



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

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Winter 2006

DI to Provide Data Management Services for National Trauma Data Bank

On October 12, 2005, the American College of Surgeons and the Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT) announced an enhancement of its groundbreaking strategic business relationship with Digital Innovation, Inc. (DI). DI and ACS have established a 10-year agreement, with options to extend, for DI to provide data management and support services for the National Trauma Data Bank (NTDB).

Over the past three years, DI has supported the College's NTDB initiative and has helped hospital participation grow by over 20% each year. Under this exclusive arrangement, DI will provide technology, software development, and operational support of the NTDB while working in close collaboration with ACS and its NTDB team. The enhanced technology systems and program support will continue and further expand NTDB's ability to accept data from all trauma registry users and systems.

"DI is proud to announce the expansion of our relationship with the ACS", said Dr. John F. Kutcher, Jr., President and CEO of Digital Innovation, Inc. "We have dedicated 18 years of effort and service to the trauma marketplace and our involvement with the NTDB reinforces our commitment to the trauma community."

Dr. John Fildes (left), American College of Surgeons and Dr. John Kutcher, President & CEO, Digital Innovation, Incorporated.



CALL FOR DATA

ACS will continue to issue the call for data and to provide support to NTDB participants during the process from the first stages through reporting. **The 2006 Call for Data is now open and will continue through May 5, 2006.**

For participation information visit DI's NTDB web site at www.ntdbdatacenter.com.

Roll-Out Begins for DI Report Writer Software

The new DI Report Writer rollout process is exciting!

DI's Client Services team has been implementing the DI Report Writer Roll-out Plan. The plan will ensure that distribution, installation, and training for the 1,200+ modules are completed on schedule, as coordinated with our clients.

All maintenance clients using the Collector Trauma Registry software will receive the DI Report Writer module along with a free web training. Major trauma systems have been contacted regarding their scheduled roll-out date and are receiving the software. Facilities that are part of Collector systems should contact their Collector central site administrator with any questions regarding distribution and training.

Distribution of the DI Report Writer to "stand-alone" Collector facilities (those not associated with a group system) is also underway. Stand-alone facilities are being contacted with distribution dates and training information.

For more information contact Andy Copes, Client Services Manager at acopes@dicorp.com.

DI Announces NTRACS Burn Registry Product Roadmap

Digital Innovation is now the operational and technical partner for the American Burn Association. On July 1, 2005 Digital Innovation became directly responsible for the support, on-going development, and enhancements for the NTRACS Burn software package. The NTRACS Burn software was originally developed through the collaborative work of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and the American Burn Association (ABA).

In support of DI's commitment to providing our clients with continuing software enhancements and options for new technologies, the company will continue the collaborative efforts with the ABA. The ABA Burn Registry Users Committee will provide DI with clinical input for all NTRACS Burn product updates, upgrades, add-ons and enhancements.

DI recently announced its exciting product roadmap for enhancements to the NTRACS Burn software, with the release of Version 4.0 scheduled for release in November 2006.

NTRACS Burn 4.0 will be delivered as part of the existing

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NRCPR Supports MET Data Collection

The NRCPR is very pleased to announce its plans to support data collection and quality improvement for Medical Emergency Team programs. Version 5.0 of the NRCPR software offers an integrated MET component designed to provide facilities with valuable reports and comparative data. Scheduled for release in early February 2006, the software component includes MET Event Records and a MET dataset. The NRCPR MET dataset reflects what national and international MET experts have identified as the appropriate data points for tracking both patient outcomes and program related variables.

The goal of the MET (also referred to as Rapid Response Systems or Rapid Response Teams) is to identify and provide early intervention for medical conditions that are often present prior to a cardiac arrest, leading to decreased morbidity and mortality for hospitalized patients.

MET data collection will be an optional component for NRCPR participants. For more information on Medical Emergency Teams visit the NRCPR Website (www.nrcpr.org). To learn about participation in the NRCPR, contact DI's Director of Sales & Marketing, Tim Favazza at sales@dicorp.com.

DI's Saron Mack Begins New Journey

For many years, the friendly and energetic voice of Saron Mack has provided assistance to Collector and NRCPR users through training sessions, technical support calls and customer service projects.

In November, Saron left DI to pursue a calling as a full-time missionary in the Ukraine. She will serve for a minimum of two years, coordinating youth sports camps. Through regular updates and photos, we can see that Saron enjoys meeting many new people, experiencing the new culture and the challenge of learning a new language.

DI's best wishes are with Saron in this ministry.



NTRACS Burn Registry Roadmap

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maintenance contract. The update will also support future interfaces, included in the update, that will allow NTRACS Burn users the option of purchasing additional functionality through DI's line of products and features - without having to switch burn registry platforms! Examples of these existing registry modules include:

- DI's Report Writer (Ad Hoc Reprt Writer and Query Tool)
- Tablet PC Data Entry

Other DI modules are being reviewed by the Review Committee for possible inclusion as well.

A full press release, including a list of software update discussion topics is available on DI's website. DI's full product line will be on display at the annual Users Conference in Orlando this October. To inquire about web demonstrations of DI products or for information about the product roadmap, contact Tim Favazza, Director, DI Sales & Marketing.

800-344-3668 ext. 234 or sales@dicorp.com

Conference Workshops & Guest Presentors Win Fans in Las Vegas!

Nearly 200 DI trauma software users representing 35 states and provinces and three countries arrived in Las Vegas, NV, in anticipation of the 11th Annual DI Users Conference this past October. The record-breaking attendance group nearly filled the main conference hall and everyone was excited to get the event underway. Dr. John Kutcher, Digital Innovation President & CEO, gave a warm welcome and introduced the DI staff. The stage was then set for an action-packed, Las Vegas event!

To open the conference in true Vegas show-style, DI invited corporate magician/comedian Tim Noonan to kick things off. Tim dazzled the audience with his unique combination of humor and illusion in a half-hour show that included audience participation and a "real" raccoon!

Throughout the two-day event, many aspects of the trauma registry and trauma programs were addressed through training sessions and guest speaker presentations. Four individuals shared experiences and information from their areas of expertise, garnering numerous accolades from their peers. DI thanks our 2005 guest speakers for their contributions to the event: Sherry Rockwell, WV Trauma & Emergency Care System; Elizabeth Carlton, The University of Kansas Hospital; Tanya Charyk-Stewart, London Health Sciences Center; Lanyce Horn, Lancaster General Hospital.

DI's Collector users participated in record numbers in 2005. With an increase of nearly 33% from 2004, the planning team was happily wondering where we would put everyone! It was a special pleasure to welcome users of the NTRACS software to their first DI conference. The group was well-represented by more than 50 attendees!

Workshops and hands-on lab time were available for both Collector and NTRACS users. DI sponsored our annual Thursday Night Networking event on the poolside patio, and attendees were free to venture out for the evening or relax at the hotel and prepare for Friday's full day of information gathering.

Visit DI's web site to review the UC2005 Photo Album and to read this article in its complete format.

As always, the DI conference staff is looking forward to our next users conference. We are planning for another record-breaking attendance, offering training opportunities and making more great memories.

*Please join us in Orlando, Florida for
DI's 12th Annual Users Conference!*

DI Staff Member Contributes to JAMA Published Article



Congratulations to DI's Scott Carey, NRCPR Data Manager. Scott is a contributing member of a research project team whose findings were recently published in the January 4, 2006 issue of *JAMA (The Journal of the Medical Association)*.

Scott participated on a recent research project for the National Registry of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (NRCPR) Investigators. The study examined data from a multicenter registry (NRCPR) of cardiac arrests in 253 US and Canadian hospitals between January 1, 2000 and March 30, 2004. The project objective was "To test the hypothesis that children have relatively fewer in-house cardiac arrests associated with VF or pulseless VT compared with adults and, therefore, worse survival outcomes." (*JAMA*, January 4, 2006 - Vol. 295, No. 1)

12th Annual DI Users Conference: Pack the Sunscreen, We're Going to Florida!

October 19 & 20, 2006

Expanded Pre-Conference Day Workshop Sessions:
October 18th

Digital Innovation recently finalized plans to host the 12th annual DI Users Conference at the **Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida**. Winner of several prestigious awards, the Rosen Centre offers elegant accommodations, spacious conference meeting areas and luxurious amenities. The Rosen Centre web site provides an inside view to the hotel and its guest services (www.rosencentre.com)

The annual conference includes numerous professional development opportunities - software training workshops, guest speaker presentations, networking sessions, and opportunities to talk individually with DI staff members. Each year the DI conference team develops additional workshops, incorporating fresh examples for Collector and NTRACS users of all experience levels. You may also be able to satisfy CEU requirements for the successful completion of the Conference objectives. DI will be applying for approval to award continuing education hours.

At DI's Annual Users Conference, you learn more than just software techniques. You will have the unique opportunity to talk with more than 200 other professionals working in the trauma field from several *countries*. It's a great time to learn from others and to share your own insight. Many conference attendees have created valuable professional and personal friendships through this annual event.

If you're wondering how to fit some fun and relaxation in with all this work - don't worry. The DI staff also has extensive experience in exploration and they always seem to make group events memorable! Universal Studios is just a short ride away. We'll also be about 15 minutes from Walt Disney World and just a few blocks from dozens of shops, restaurants and nightclubs. For those who want to relax without leaving the hotel, make a reservation at the hotel spa, take a dip in the large tropical pool, or sip on a beverage from the poolside bar.

This year's 12th annual event is sure to be an outstanding event. Check DI's website for more information or to register on-line. Agenda and cost information will be coming soon!

WELCOME NEW USERS



DI extends a warm welcome to our newest clients and a heartfelt thank you to those who have recently joined the DI family and to those who continue to expand their trauma program capabilities by implementing additional DI software products.

Collector Trauma

- Central Penninsula, AK
- Good Samaritan MC, PA
- Jameson Mem. Hosp., PA
- Uniontown, PA

NTRACS

- Lutheran Med.Ctr, NY

Collector Outcomes and POPIMS

- Dartmouth Hitchcock, NH
- Good Samaritan MC, PA
- Harborview Med.Ctr., WA
- Jameson Mem. Hosp., PA
- Sacred Heart, WI
- St. Louis Children's, MO
- St. Louis University, MO
- Uniontown Hospital, PA
- Washington Hosp.Ctr., DC



DI offers a variety of training options for all of our software products. Descriptions of DI's training options and a list of the most commonly offered session titles are available on the DI website or by contacting the DI sales department.

Upcoming Web Training Sessions

MARCH 2006

Collector:
Collector Report Writing Friday, 17th
Collector Concepts Monday, 6th
Collector Report Writing Wednesday, 29th

NTRACS:
NTRACS Concepts Thursday, 9th
Using NTRACS Data Friday, 10th
NTRACS Data Analysis Friday, 31st

APRIL 2006

Collector:
Collector Concepts Monday, 10th
Collector Report Writing Wednesday, 19th
Outcomes - Adv. Config. Wednesday, 26th

NTRACS:
NTRACS Concepts Tuesday, 11th
Using NTRACS Data Friday, 21st

MAY 2006

Collector:
Collector Concepts Tuesday, 16th
Collector Report Writing Wednesday, 24th
Outcomes -Adv. Rpt. Writing Wednesday 31st

NTRACS:
NTRACS Concepts Monday, 8th
NTRACS Data Analysis Friday, 19th

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.

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	NTRACS:	800-435-3590, option 1 NTRACSupport@dicorp.com
	Training:	800-344-3668 ext. 230
	Product Sales:	410-838-4034 x234 sales@dicorp.com
	Project Management:	
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	NTRACS:	800-435-3590 x255
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Product Support: *THE BACK PAGE*

DI's Product Support Staff Answers Commonly Asked Collector Questions



Why are different classifications of body regions used within Collector?

This article is the last of a three-part series which identifies and describes the three injury coding models used within Collector. Part I and Part II were published, respectively, in the Winter 2005 and the Summer 2005 issues of *The Difference*. They can be downloaded in a .pdf format from DI's web site.

PART III: The Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) and AIS Body Region Classification

The Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) was developed and is still maintained by the Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine (AAAM). The AIS was designed to determine individual injury severity, and the associated AIS Body Region Classification (PREDOT-BR).

AIS Code Structure: The AIS uses an injury classifier (PREDOT) and an associated severity for a given injury (AIS-Severity). For each unique classification, a single severity code has been assigned. The composite code is referred to as an *AIS code* and is represented in the following manner: **PREDOT.severity** The PREDOT portion of the AIS is a composite code that includes the AIS Body Region classification and injury specific codes.

Example: Injury = optic nerve bilateral laceration in the head PREDOT = 130608 AIS-Severity= 2.

The resulting AIS code* = 130608.2

<u>Position</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Example</u>
#1	AIS Body Region (PREDOT-BR)	130608 ("1" represents the <i>head</i> body region)
#2	Anatomical Structure Classification	130608 ("3" represents <i>nerves</i>)
#3, #4	Specific Anatomic Structure or Nature	130608 ("06" represents <i>optic nerve</i>)
#5, #6	Level - Consecutive Numbers assigned to specific injury descriptions within a single injury type	130608 ("08" classifies the optic nerve injury as a <i>bilateral laceration</i>)

The descriptions for positions 1 and 2 are constant throughout the coding system. The codes for positions 3-6 are dependent upon the specific injury.

*The example used in this article is based on the AAAM - AIS Coding Guide (version 1998).