



Partnering for Success:
Promoting Technology Advancements for the Dental Industry

May 5-8, 2010 – San Diego, CA

Program: The Future of Electronic Attachments

Date: May 6, 2010, 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Speakers: TJ Hughes, Bob Thickens

CEU's: 1

Description

There will be options to improve the efficiency of handling electronic attachments. Two companies will present their vision of the future.

Speakers:



Thomas William Hughes (“TJ”) chief technology officer for National Electronic Attachment (NEA), has over 18 years in the healthcare information technology field. He has worked with NEA from its inception and previously was one of the founders of Electronic Claims & Funding Inc. Mr. Hughes has extensive experience with EDI transactions and he is responsible for the design and development of the *FastAttach*[™] software. Mr. Hughes currently oversees all information technology initiatives for NEA. The entire technology staff including programming, quality assurance, and systems administration report to him. Mr. Hughes is also responsible for NEA's HIPAA compliance and serves as NEA's chief

information security officer.

Mr. Hughes is an avid amateur radio operator and volunteers extensively within organizations supporting various Emergency Management Agencies.



Bob Thickens is a managing member/partner in the DENx/MEDx, LLC venture as well as being the founder and owner of Empire Medical Review Services, Inc., of Mequon, WI, which is the custom software house where our applications are designed, developed, written and tested. The DENx DirectConnect[™] software, including the accompanying automated secondary claims filing, claim status and eligibility tools, as well as our unique feature that enables DENx's customers to transmit virtually any attachment electronically via a 275 file, are all authored by Bob and his team of developers/programmers. Bob is considered an expert in his field and has accumulated his vast knowledge of the dental/medical claims processing business as a result of his work customizing software solutions to automate and facilitate claims processing for providers, payers and clearinghouses over the last 30 years.

Among his accomplishments during his career Bob has:

- Created automated Workers Compensation bill review processes.
- Amongst the first to incorporate early utilization of RVRBS based fee schedule systems and later published software to allow Physician fee schedule lookup based on the Medicare RBRVS system.
- Created Physician Practice Management and billing systems that created standards based electronic claim files in 1992 and sold over 20,000 copies.
- Created claim import system for Wisconsin based PPO that imported and re-priced claims and then filed them with payers electronically. This system was used daily by PPO for the next ten years through several owners without experiencing but a rare service call.
- With advent of HIPAA Administrative Simplification created HippaMagic, AnsiMagic and other medical claim format translators to assist clients in moving from legacy formats to HIPAA compliant formats.
- Designed and architected ClearingMagic, the precursor of the DENx/MEDx DirectConnect[™] software product, which is in essence, a clearinghouse on a disk.



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Education:

- BA CUM LAUDE Mathematics 1974 Lawrence University, Appleton WI
- MBA 1986 University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI. (Member Beta Gamma Sigma)