



DSN-2007 - Special Plenary Session

(Wed. 27 June, 2007, 14.00-16.00)

The National Programme for Information Technology (NPfIT):

Chair: Professor Brian Randell, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

The National Health Service (NHS) provides the majority of health-care in the UK. Its main section, that for England, serves a population of over 50 million, employs 40,000 general practitioners (family physicians), 80,000 other doctors, and 350,000 nurses, and includes over 300 hospitals. NHS Connecting for Health's National Programme for Information Technology (NPfIT) is the largest civil IT project in the world. (Estimates of its total cost have ranged from £6.2 billion up to £20 billion.) This project, which was launched in 2002, aims to implement electronic care records for all patients and to provide a reliable and secure information service, for medical records, radiography, patient administration, etc., for all the hospitals, and all general practitioners' premises. This Special Plenary Session will provide an overview of NPfIT, and its dependability challenges and strategies.

Speakers:

Dr. Libby Morris, Hermitage Medical Practice, Edinburgh - **"The Dangers of Speeding"**

Dr Morris will give a brief history of the development of the Emergency Care Summary for use in out of hours medical care in Scotland, and the practical issues involved in the transition from paper to electronic records in General Practice. Dr Morris chairs SCIMP (Scottish Clinical Information Management in Practice), a user group which helps medical practices utilise modern technology, and the Emergency Care Summary project board, and is Vice Chair of the Royal College of General Practice Informatics Group.

Dr. Paul Jones, Chief Technology Officer, NHS Connecting for Health - **"The National Programme for IT - A view from the inside"**

Dr Jones began his career as an academic lecturing in Computer Science before joining a software company in the City of London. The majority of his career before joining NHS Connecting for Health was in IT and Management consultancy. Dr Jones is responsible for NHS Connecting for Health's Technology Office function, which provides technical architecture leadership and guidance to suppliers, programmes and the NHS as a whole. It has three key areas of responsibility: the technical assurance of the solutions that make up the National Programme for IT, the development and management of NHS technology and data standards and guidance, the provision of expert technical advice and skills to the wider NHS Information Management and Technology communities. His presentation will explain some of the history of NPfIT, the scope and changes to scope of NPfIT, the high level architecture, the approach to "dependability" and the progress made to date.

Mr. Martyn Legge, Computer Science Corporation - **"CSC's approach to delivering dependability and security"**

Mr Legge began his career as a software engineer working on large scale civil engineering programs. Since then he has been responsible for the architecture and design of many large scale systems on a variety of technology platforms including being part of the design team for the OS/2 operating system. Mr Legge was until recently chief architect for CSC on the National Programme. His presentation will cover the following main topics: CSC's Role on the National Programme, The Aims of the National Programme, CSC's Scope, Our Dependability Requirements, High Level view of the current and planned architecture, Testing Regime, and Security Aspects

Professor Ross Anderson, University of Cambridge - **"Safety and Privacy in Clinical Information Systems"**

Ross Anderson is Professor of Security Engineering at Cambridge. He is best known for being one of the inventors of peer-to-peer file-sharing systems, a founder of the discipline of security economics, and a writer on technology policy issues from surveillance to fraud. He has also been involved for many years with clinical systems. In 1995-6 he was the BMA's adviser on safety and privacy in clinical systems when there was a first proposal to centralise all medical records in the UK. He is one of the authors of the Information Commissioner's authoritative report on Children's Databases last year. He is currently a special adviser to the Health Committee's inquiry into the Electronic Patient Record.