Healthcare Technology Foundation News

Following the implementation last year of the new strategic plan, HTF has identified for action a significant challenge that most healthcare technology managers are facing. As many of you know, we are seeing an increasing number of devices with embedded intelligence and a stronger necessity for interoperability. This is requiring interfacing clinical engineering skills with those of telecommunications and an increased attention to IT and risk management. The combined effect is the evolution of integrated knowledge and understanding of subjects that were not critical for a successful clinical engineering career until now. To help managers address this challenge, HTF has developed an initiative and committed funds to inaugurate it.

HTF has approached other leading organizations to collaborate and share in the implementation of this initiative:

**Tools for Managing Integrated Technology Risk in Healthcare Delivery Organizations**

This HTF Demonstration Project is intended to help clinical engineers and IT departments understand what is required to practically apply risk management methodology, like that described in the recently approved standard IEC-80001, within their organization. In the process clinical engineering will realize the benefits of 80001 for their communities as well as their own professional growth. However, focusing only on 80001 is not the answer to achieving effective system utilization. The initiative will also provide a basis for clinical engineering to take a leadership position for influencing the development of related guidance documents by standards organizations. It includes education of consumers who are directly affected by the networked technologies that provide health care. Once completed, this project can support the setting of standard of practice for clinical engineering and IT communities in healthcare.

The initial project will focus on development and publishing a monograph and other instructional materials and activities covering the **Opportunities, Skills and Competencies**
needed by clinical engineers to practically apply 80001 to manage networked medical technologies within their healthcare delivery organizations. We look forward to sharing more as the initiative develops.

Don’t forget about HTF for your donation opportunity. We will accept them anytime and they are always tax deductible! Please visit our website: http://www.thehtf.org/

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