



HL7 FHIR DevDays 2017



Introduction to the FHIR Foundation

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Amsterdam, 15-17 November | [@fhir_furore](#) | [#fhirdevdays17](#) | [www.fhirdevdays.com](#)

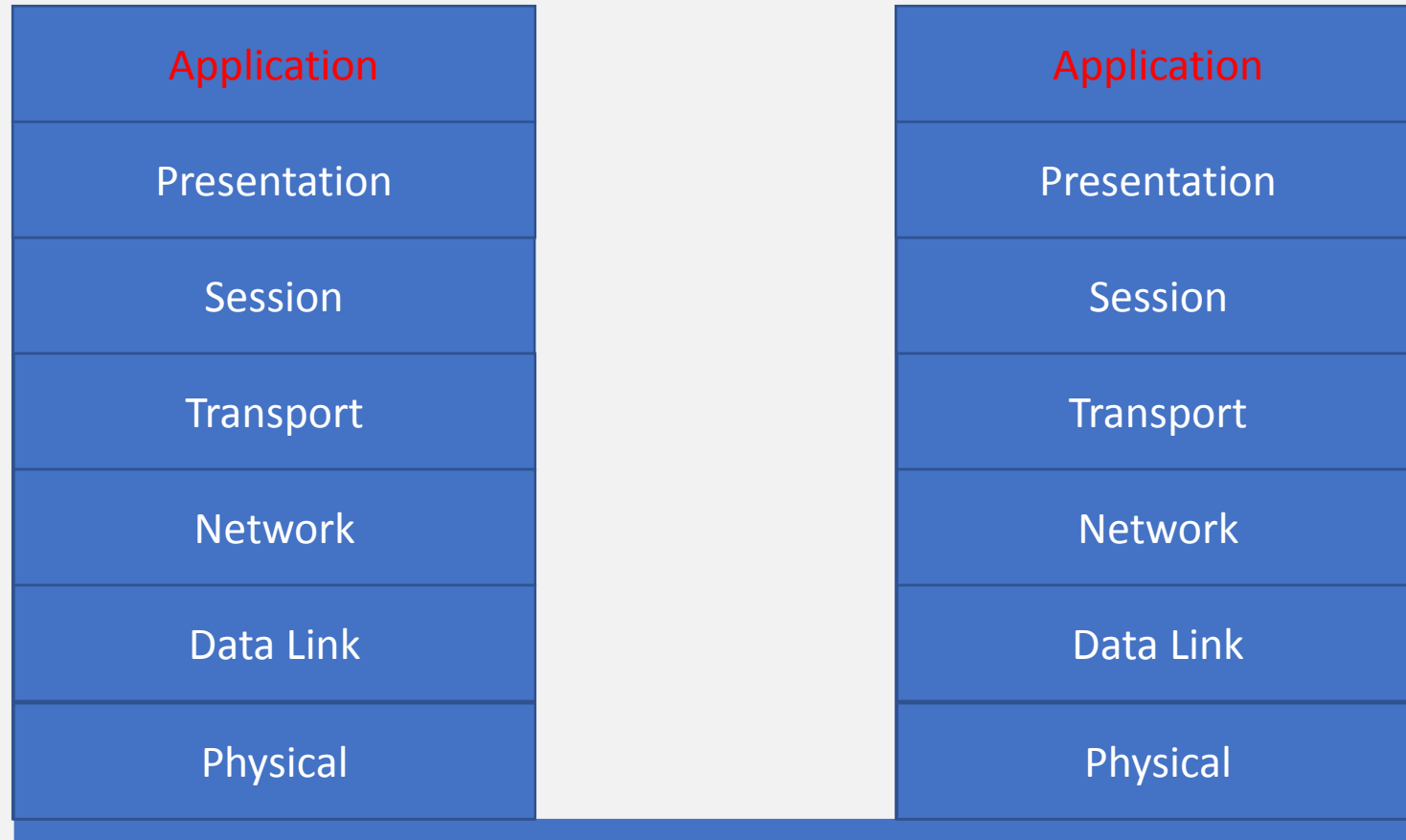
The HL7 FHIR Foundation

- Enabling Health Interoperability through FHIR
- The HL7[®] FHIR[®] Foundation promotes global adoption and implementation of the FHIR[®] platform standard. The foundation provides information, educational materials, tools, websites, and project support that helps the FHIR community collaborate, align, and expand. The foundation seeks to improve the interoperability of health data with a goal of improving the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare.

FHIR: an HL7 Specification

- Standards Development Organisation (SDO)
- Mission: Publish standards for electronic exchange of Healthcare information
- Not for Profit (NGO)
- Healthcare Standards are adopted across the world

HL7 = Health Level 7



ISO OSI level Stack (1970s)

About HL7

- Membership based organization:
 - Vendors
 - Providers / Payers
 - Government Agencies/Programs,
 - Academics,
 - Consultants
- Members vote on standards, and for board, leaders
- Professional support from HQ (USA + others)
 - Administration / Legal compliance
 - Publishing / Technical Support

About HL7

- HL7 International is based in USA
- There are 33 national affiliates:
 - Represent national interests to HL7 (special needs)
 - Represent HL7 locally – education, marketing
 - Translate / publish international standards locally
 - Create / sell local standards (some countries: collaboration)
 - Must be NGO with affiliate agreement with HL7

HL7

- HL7 publishes standards – documents
- All the processes relate to doing this
 - Project approvals
 - Publication approvals
 - Engagement processes
 - “GOM” – Governance and Operations Manual
- HL7 should be good at this: it’s core business
- Subject to external review (ANSI)

Web Technology

- JSON / HTTP / Resources / RESTful API
- URIs / linked data / semantic web
- Aligns with other web standards

Health Standard

- Covers all of healthcare
- HL7 v2 / CDA, DICOM, IHE support

Web community

- Built on Social Media
- Open License
- Linked to W3C / IETF communities

Health Community

- Linked by HL7 processes
- Members from all around the world

The FHIR Project

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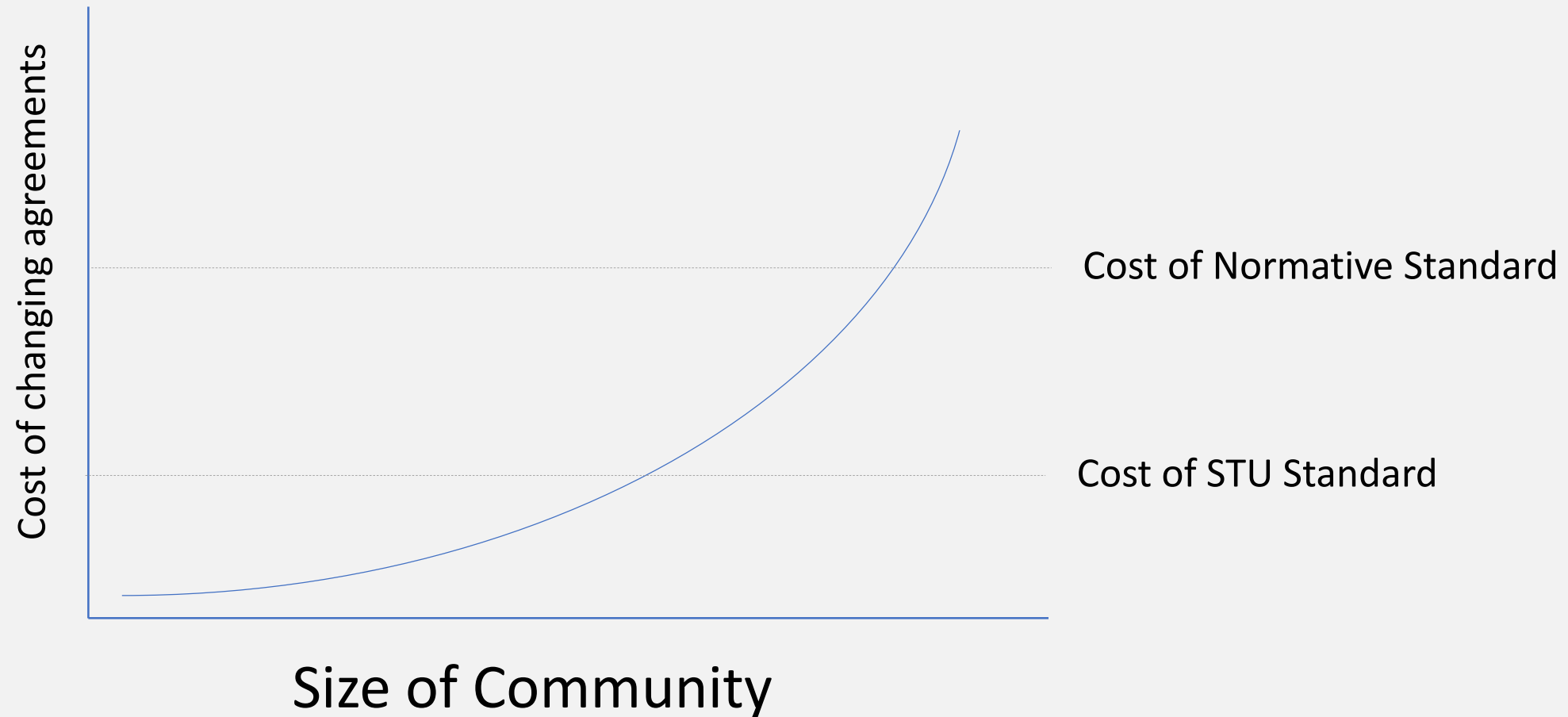
Health Community

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FHIR Community

- The FHIR community publishes standards
 - FHIR itself
 - National Implementation & Project Specific Guides
 - Some are published by HL7
 - Some are not

Value of Formal Standards



FHIR Community

- The FHIR community publishes standards
 - FHIR itself
 - National Implementation & Project Specific Guides
 - Some are published by HL7
 - Some are not – for good reason
- The FHIR community does more than publish standards
 - Runs social media to support the community
 - Fosters & supports mini-communities with special interests
 - Hosts test servers, conformance and publishing infrastructure

FHIR Foundation

- Let HL7 be good at publishing standards
- Create a new organization to support the community
- Catalyze / Publish / Curate Implementation Guides
 - Some will migrate to HL7 as value is proven
- Support specific projects (Trusted 3rd party)
- Provide ongoing infrastructure support

- Exemplar: Argonaut

FHIR Foundation Ongoing services

- <http://www.fhir.org> – official presence, calendar, implementation guides:
 - Argonaut, HSPC, ...
- <http://registry.fhir.org> – official registry for FHIR Community
- <http://chat.fhir.org> – Support / discussion for the community
- <http://community.fhir.org> – like chat.fhir.org but for the unengaged
- <http://test.fhir.org> / <http://hapi.fhir.org> – test servers
- <http://tx.fhir.org> – terminology server that supports the publishing infrastructure
- <http://build.fhir.org> – CI build support for FHIR + IGs
- <http://devices.fhir.org> – Supports devices implementation community

FHIR Foundation Organization Structure

- The HL7 FHIR Foundation is a non-profit registered 501c3 in USA
 - HL7 is not
- FHIR Foundation has a board
 - Initial Board established by HL7 and FHIR community:
 - Stan Huff (chair), Chuck Jaffe, Russ Leftwich, Dave Shaver, Viet Nguyen, Ewout Kramer, Grahame Grieve, Micky Tripathi, Pat Van Dyke (per HL7 Chair), Paul Biondich, Todd Cooper, Ed Hammond, Wayne Kubick
 - Secretariat support from HL7
 - Board minutes are published on web site

FHIR Foundation Members

- FHIR Foundation is accepting individual members
- \$250US/year for founding members
- Contributions sustain foundation (e.g. legal costs etc)
- Member benefits:

FHIR Foundation Corporate Members

- Status of Corporate Members is not yet resolved
- Specific projects need specific sponsors
- Other roles/benefits for corporate sponsors not yet resolved

Open Issues

- Division of responsibilities between FHIR Foundation and HL7
 - Education
 - Certification Testing
 - Conformance Testing
- How to increase member value
- Status of Corporate members
- Scaling FHIR Foundation activities and depth with the FHIR Community
- How can the FHIR Foundation help the community?