

HL7 Integration Engine Vendor Evaluation Template

	HHIC Weighting Factor	Vendor #1	Weighted Score	Vendor #2	Weighted Score	Vendor #3	Weighted Score	Vendor #4	Weighted Score
Scalability									
Ability to support 100% of transaction volumes	2								
Infrastructure	2								
Can handle future message types at no additional cost	4								
TOTAL	8	TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL	
Web Monitoring									
Remote access	3								
Error handling	4								
TOTAL	7	TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL	
Filtering Ability									
Remotely	2								
Locally	4								
TOTAL	6	TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL	
Support/Maintenance/Upgrades/Backup									
Customer support	4								
Backup	3								
Ease of upgrading/timing of patches	3								
TOTAL	10	TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL	
Security/Transport									
VPN	4								
TCP/IP	3								
FTP	3								
TOTAL	10	TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL	
Usability and Functionality									
LOINC matching (mapping code sets)	4								
Use of lookup tables	4								
Translation across HL7 formats	4								
TOTAL	12	TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL	

Capital Costs (3 years)								
Initial price	4							
Hardware	3							
Maintenance fee	3							
TOTAL	10	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
Resource/Skill Set Availability/Manpower								
Few outside consultants needed	4							
Little programming required	4							
In-house development benefits company	4							
TOTAL	12	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
Technology Direction								
Technology set has at least a 3 year shelf life	3							
Message handling	4							
Compatibility with systems	3							
TOTAL	10	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
Outside Recommendations								
Ease of Use/Setup/Configuration	3							
Customer support	3							
Product functionality	4							
TOTAL	10	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
Ease of Installation								
Server setup	4							
Remote location (virtual) setup	2							
TOTAL	6	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
PROOF OF CONCEPT								
Import/parse/filter messages	13							
System setup/connections /configurations	11							
TOTAL	24	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
Favorability Rating	125							

Ranking value = 1-5 (5 being the highest)

Definitions for HL7 Evaluation/Assessment

Scalability	-The ability of the system, network, or process, to handle growing amounts of work/volume
Ability to support 100% of transaction volumes	-Platform capacity for hundreds of thousands of HL7 messages
Infrastructure	-Hardware, traffic, volume, capacity, uptime, inventory
Can handle future message types at no additional cost	-HL7, ADT, ORM, ORU, XML, ADT, NCPDP, X12, DICOM, UB92, HCFA, ASTM, EDIFACT
Web Monitoring	-Each TCP server communication point monitors a specific port
Remote access	-Remote web server and website monitoring with alerts via SMS, e-mail, or phone
Error handling	-Data error handling, field variables, session time-out
Filtering Ability	-Represents various ways of transforming a message within the interface engine
Remotely	-Connection can be implemented as a filter to modify a message received from an external system (such as code translation)
Locally	-Mapping filter converts one message structure to another
Support/Maintenance/Upgrades/Backup	
Customer support (hours, methods, costs)	-Company is responsive and replies quickly
Backup and recovery on interface	-Configuration files can be backed up in less than 30 minutes
Ease and timeliness of upgrades	-Patches are timely and work/hot patches used as needed
Security/Transport	
VPN	-Virtual Private Networks
TCP/IP	-Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol
FTP	-FTP/S (File Transfer Protocol) and HTTP/S file transfers
Usability and Functionality	-Customizable specific dictionaries/schema
LOINC matching (mapping code sets)	-Message crosswalk to HL7 fields
Ease of use/setup/configuration changes	-Not hard to set up/Allows configuration changes
Use of lookup tables	-Cross reference data elements used by one or more applications
Capital Costs (3 years)	-Software only, does not include manpower
Initial price	-Main interface engine
Hardware	-Server, storage, etc.
Maintenance fee	-20% is the standard. Comparison should include maintenance fees for all components
Resource/Skill Set Availability/Manpower	-Resources are available or need to be contracted
Few outside resources needed	-Writing/queries of the test catalog/HL7 messages (dependent on mapping)
In-house development benefits company	-Support on education online, WebEx or LOINC tutorials (in person or online); or self-education via LOINC User's Guide

Technology Direction	-Future technology direction in regard to standards
Technology set has at least a 3 year shelf life	-Will handle requirements for the life of the grant
Message handling	-Message definitions for unique messages, future changes, compatibility
Compatibility with systems	-Works with existing setup
Outside Recommendations	-Companies that already installed
Ease of use/setup/configuration	-Not hard to set up/allows configuration changes
Customer support	-Returns calls and offer helpful suggestions
Product functionality	-Including connectivity, HL7 message translation/mapping/routing/storing
Ease of Installation	-Not hard to setup/allows configuration changes
Server setup	-Server space, hardware and software requirements
Remote (virtual) setup	-Remote desktop/server access and setup
Proof of Concept	
See "HL7 Interface Demonstration"	