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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HIMSS Foundation Establishes the Dorenfest Institute to Provide Free Historical Data for Healthcare IT Research

The Dorenfest Institute for Health Information Technology Research and Education will help meet academic and global demand for healthcare IT data to improve patient care

CHICAGO (January 4, 2005) – The HIMSS Foundation announced it has received a generous donation from Sheldon I. Dorenfest, former president/CEO of Sheldon I. Dorenfest and Associates, Ltd. in Chicago. Dorenfest has donated his company and its historical data assets to the HIMSS Foundation and using that data, the HIMSS Foundation has formed the Dorenfest Institute for Health Information Technology Research and Education (Dorenfest Institute) to further the interest in and benefits associated with ongoing research in healthcare information technology (IT).

“Historically, IT technology investments in the healthcare industry have not produced the benefits that were forecasted,” said Sheldon I. Dorenfest, president and CEO of The Dorenfest Group. “The reasons for this outcome are very complex and are being addressed today by many research studies about healthcare IT use. I am so happy and excited to work with the HIMSS Foundation to create The Dorenfest Institute to provide, without charge to eligible beneficiaries, this very valuable legacy of Dorenfest healthcare IT databases and market reports to support the research that is needed to improve outcomes from healthcare IT investment projects.”

Through the HIMSS Foundation, The Dorenfest Institute will provide a variety of detailed historical data about IT use in hospitals and integrated healthcare delivery networks at no charge to universities, students under university license, U.S. federal, state and local governments using the data for research purposes, and collaborative efforts with governments of other countries. The donated data includes the entire library of Dorenfest 3000+ Databases™ and Dorenfest Integrated Healthcare Delivery System Databases™

for the period 1986 through 2002 as well as many publications on IT use in the healthcare industry during that same time period. A complete listing of databases and publications available from the Dorenfest Institute is available upon request from the HIMSS Foundation. The Foundation will work with student members and chapters of HIMSS as well as the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) to contact academic researchers, faculty and students regarding the availability and use of this free data.

A library, located at the HIMSS office in Alexandria, Va., will house historical healthcare information technology (IT) data that has been collected in annual printed updates. In addition, the HIMSS Foundation through The Dorenfest Institute will distribute applicable research updates including an annual year-end report as well as student and faculty research available for publication through the institute. The 1986 through 2002 Dorenfest 3000+ Databases™ and The Dorenfest Integrated Healthcare Delivery System Databases™, annual IT market reports, research documents and other historical data will be available electronically at no charge for use by beneficiaries of the Dorenfest Institute through request of the HIMSS office in Chicago. HIMSS Analytics will provide annual updates to the institute beginning in July 2005.

“This donation of the company and its historical assets provide an obvious synergy with both current and past data,” said H. Stephen Lieber, president/CEO of HIMSS. “As a result, the HIMSS Foundation through the Dorenfest Institute will be able to provide a major new source of information to enhance research efforts in healthcare IT.”

For more information on the Dorenfest Institute, contact epantuso@himss.org.

About HIMSS:

HIMSS (Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society) is the healthcare industry's membership organization exclusively focused on providing leadership for the optimal use of healthcare information technology and management systems for the betterment of human health. Founded in 1961 with offices in Chicago, Washington D.C.,

and other locations across the country, HIMSS represents more than 14,000 individual members and some 220 member corporations that employ more than 1 million people. HIMSS frames and leads healthcare public policy and industry practices through its advocacy, educational and professional development initiatives to promote information and management systems' contributions to ensuring quality patient care. Visit www.himss.org for more information.

About Sheldon I. Dorenfest & Associates, Ltd.

Sheldon I. Dorenfest & Associates, Ltd., prior to its donation to HIMSS, was the leading source of information and knowledge about the healthcare information technology industry. Through its databases, market reports and analytical services, Dorenfest & Associates disseminated a wide variety of different types of information to the healthcare industry about information technology use in health care. Formed in 1976, Dorenfest & Associates was a leader in helping the healthcare information technology industry to achieve better results from their use of information technology.

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