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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **HIMSS Finalizes Sale and Acquires Dorenfest IHDS+ Database™ as HIMSS Analytics Expands Its Market Research Efforts**

*HIMSS Analytics continues to market its services to healthcare organizations to assist in their business and IT decision-making*

CHICAGO (July 16, 2004) - The Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) announced that it has formally assumed control of THE DORENFEST IHDS+ DATABASE™ and related business assets from Sheldon I. Dorenfest & Associates, Ltd., a Chicago-based provider of health information technology IT market data. The intent to acquire the Dorenfest assets was announced in early June and the final closing date of the sale was July 15, 2004.

“Now that the sale has been finalized, the Dorenfest Database can be positioned with other strategic products and services that HIMSS Analytics offers,” said H. Stephen Lieber, president and CEO of HIMSS. “Market research and targeted analytical information are integral to improving the delivery of healthcare, and we are pleased to provide this service to the industry through HIMSS Analytics.” The DORENFEST IHDS+ DATABASE profiles the IT environments of all large healthcare providers and is used by many of the leading health information technology companies as the foundation of their strategic and tactical sales, marketing, and planning initiatives.

Sheldon I. Dorenfest, president and CEO of Dorenfest & Associates, Ltd., said, “THE DORENFEST IHDS+ DATABASE™ has been the primary source of information about the HIT industry for over two decades. Combining it with HIMSS Analytics’ other products and capabilities will set the stage for building a much stronger, even more accurate, and complete set of information for the HIT industry. I know I will be leaving my legacy in good hands.”

With the acquisition of the Dorenfest Database, the combined Dorenfest and HIMSS Analytics Database will be the largest in the healthcare IT industry, profiling the use of information technology across more than 35,000 healthcare provider organizations. HIMSS had been collecting, before the Dorenfest acquisition, demographic, IT cost and buying plan data on more than 1,000 hospitals.

“HIMSS Analytics understands the demands facing today’s health care organizations and we have developed, and will continue to enhance, our market research products and services to improve overall performance and decision-making,” said Dave Garets, president/CEO of HIMSS Analytics. “While we will provide basic market research data, HIMSS Analytics will build its reputation and its effectiveness by ensuring that our clients, including IT companies, consulting firms, and healthcare organizations, receive the services and information needed to positively affect their bottom-line business.”

HIMSS Analytics is headquartered in Chicago, Ill. For more information on HIMSS Analytics, visit [www.himssanalytics.com](http://www.himssanalytics.com).

**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.

**About HIMSS Analytics:**

HIMSS Analytics supports improved decision-making for healthcare organizations, healthcare IT companies and consulting firms by delivering high quality data and analytical expertise. The company collects and analyzes healthcare organization data relating to IT processes and environments, products, information systems (IS) department composition and costs, IS department management metrics, healthcare delivery trends and purchasing related decisions. HIMSS Analytics is a wholly owned, for-profit subsidiary of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS).

**About Sheldon I. Dorenfest & Associates, Ltd.**

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

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