



# OPEN HEALTH TOOLS

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OPEN HEALTH TOOLS

Skip McGaughey - Executive Director

## What is Open Health Tools?



Academic & researchers

Open Source Developers

Open Standards Organizations

Individuals

Vendor s

Health professionals

National, Regional & Local Health Services Providers

Collaborative Community



## ***VISION OF OPEN HEALTH TOOLS***

### **Vision:**

To enable a ubiquitous ecosystem where members of the Health and IT professions can collaborate to build open, standards-based interoperable systems that enable patients and their care providers to have access to vital and reliable medical information at the time and place it is needed.



## *Purpose*

Ensuring users have **increasingly better and affordable** access to and **use of** comprehensive health information whenever and wherever needed to improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities worldwide



# *What will the OHT Community do for You?*

**Enable a community** of individuals, vendors and organizations to integrate appropriate standards, early adopter implementations, reference applications and the necessary integration tooling to support this community.

**Enable healthcare information interoperability** by providing a common software tool platform based upon open standards for creating software.

**Provide a range of exemplary tools** and several reference / exemplary applications to facilitate the use of and illustrate the Open Health Tool Technology.

Provide software tooling to **enable easy integration** with existing systems and processes.

Create, nurture and enable suppliers to participate in an ecosystem that allows them to **profit from open standards and open source software**.



# *The approach to standards*

## **Strategy:**

Adopt recognized industry standards and best practices.

Maintain close working relationships with identified Standards Development Organizations (SDO).

Provide feedback to SDOs via early adopter program and communities to foster creation of useful, usable healthcare standards that address real healthcare requirements.

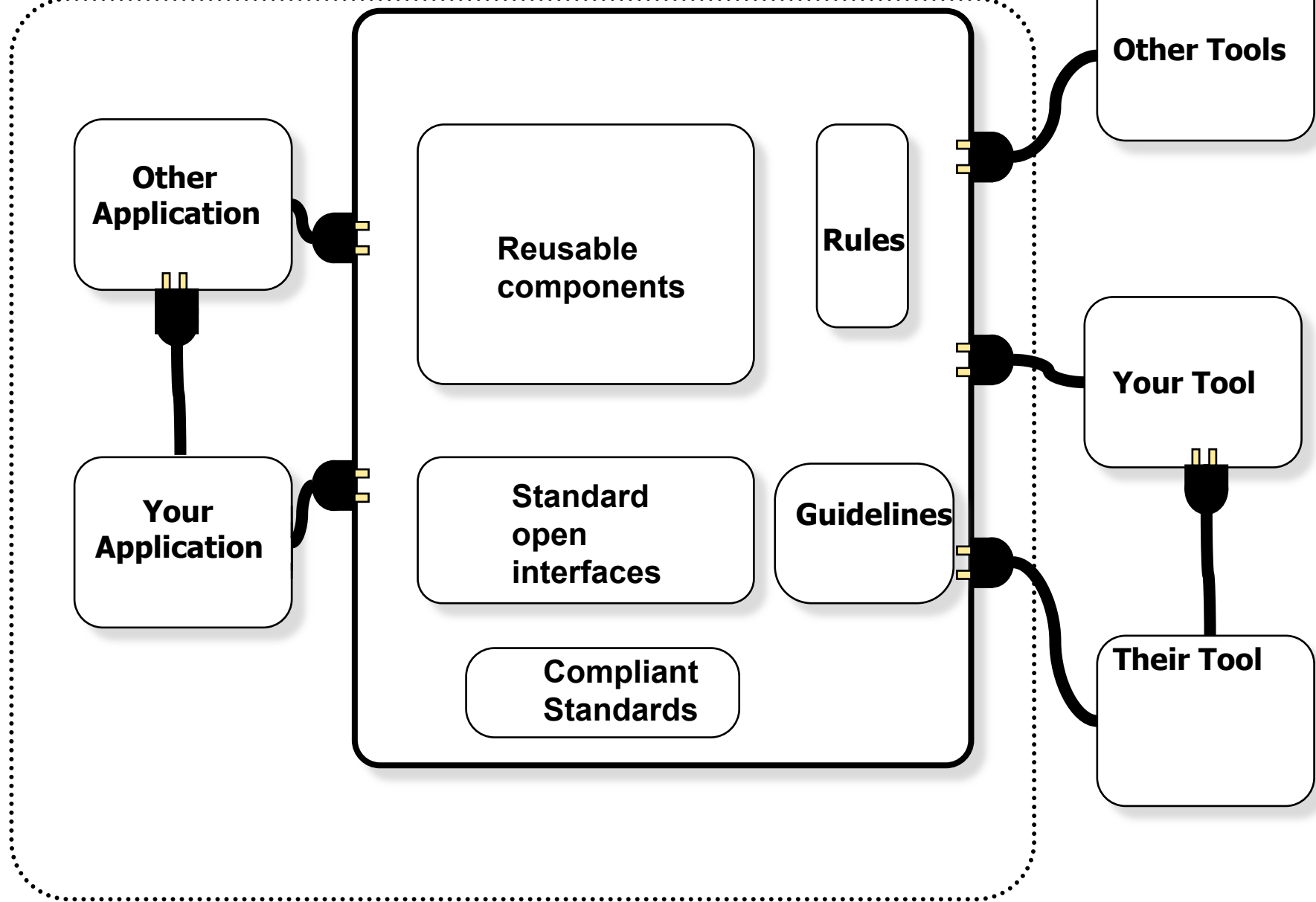
## **SDOs:**

- HL7: CCD, Semantics, Documents, Services
- OMG: technical specifications of services
- IHE: pragmatic community for adoption
- IHTSDO (SNOMED): Semantics, terminology definitions for healthcare
- ASTM: CCR / CCD specifications
- ISO/CEN/HL7: EHR requirements and specifications

**OHT is NOT a Standards organization.**

**OHT implements standards in the development of software.**

# Interoperability

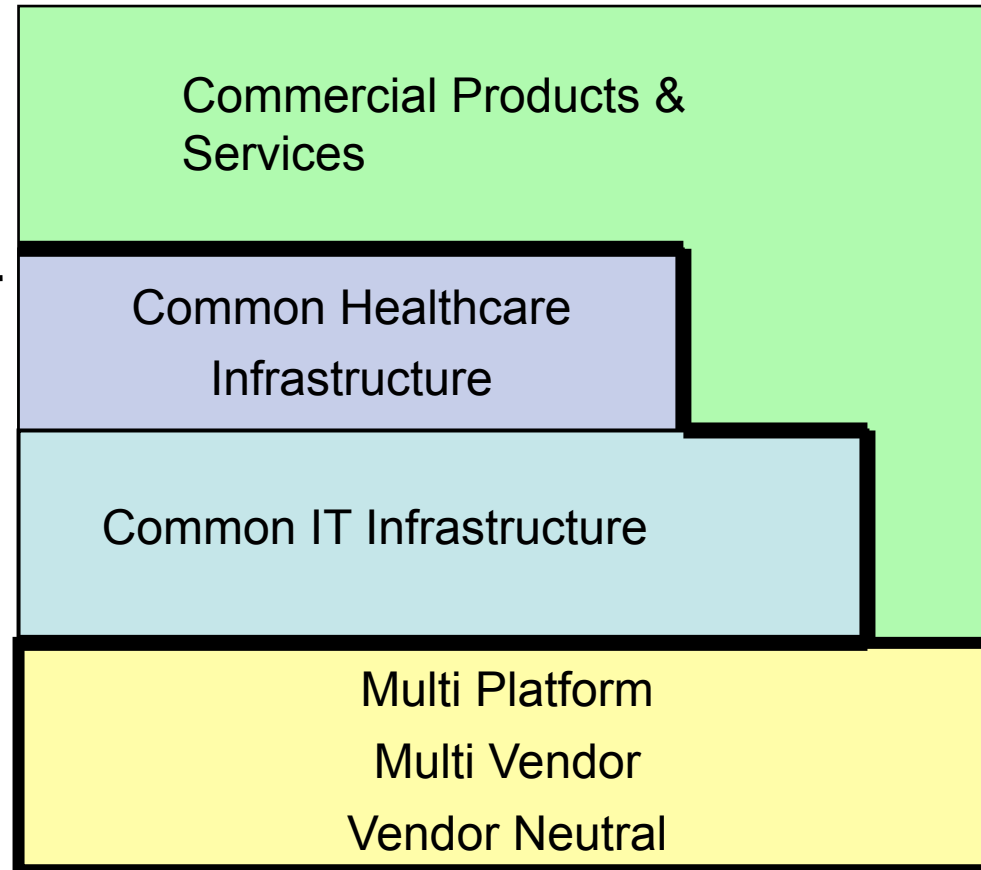




# Hybrid Business Model

## Open Source

Free  
Community Developed  
Commercial Friendly Lic  
Formal Development  
Process  
Design  
Develop  
Test  
Free Support  
Free Code



## Profit Based

Distribute  
Deploy  
Brand  
Sell  
Price  
Package  
Promote  
Fee support  
Fee services  
High margin  
products &  
services





# Membership of Healthcare providers

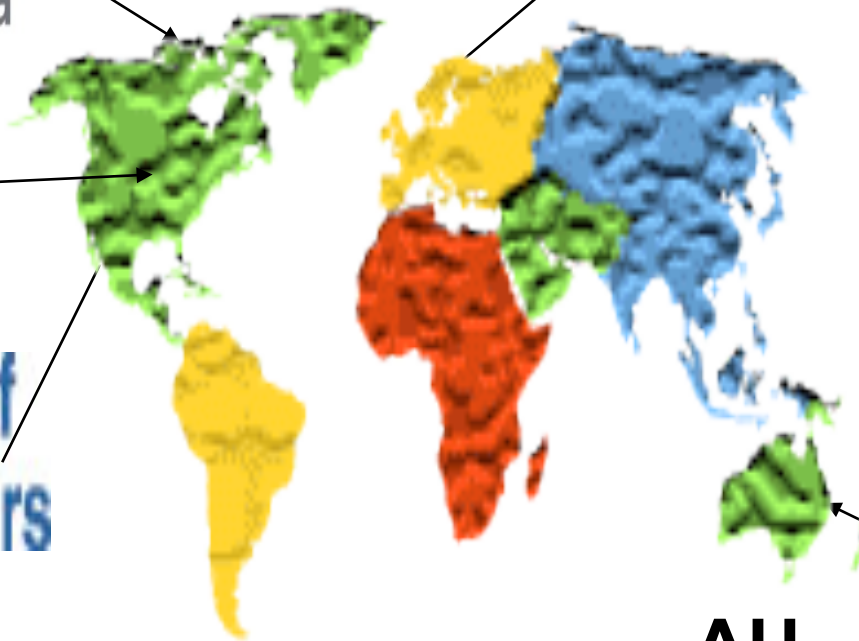


Canada Inforoute  
Health Santé  
Infoway du Canada

National  
Cancer  
Institute



Department of  
Veterans Affairs



UK 

Connecting for Health

AU 



# Membership Open Standards Organizations



IHTSDO

## Vendor Members

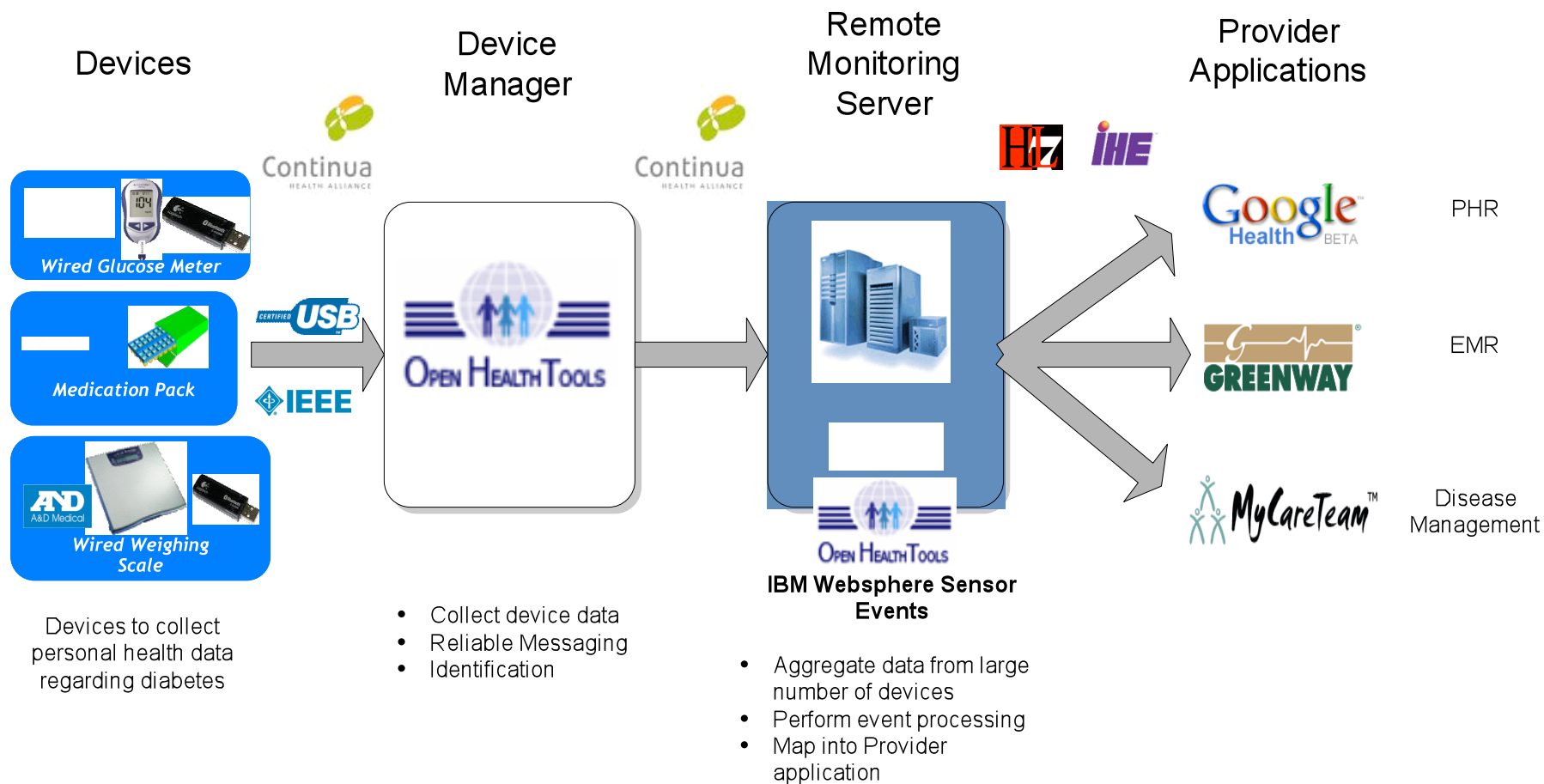




## *Example projects*

IHE Profiles	Implementation of IHE profiles used in health information exchanges
Model Driven Health Tools (MDHT)	UML platform with healthcare standards. Produce tools for developers, e.g. HL7 CDA tooling
Stepstone – remote patient monitoring	Home care solution for improved chronic disease mgmt. Reference implementation using healthcare standards and SOA

# Home Care Solution Architecture Overview





# Challenges

- **Licensing** - there are different open source licenses, with significantly different implications re: intellectual property and rights. (OHT has chosen an approach to licensing that is friendly to software vendors which enables them to participate, e.g. Eclipse Public License)
- **Awareness** - OHT not that well known in Europe beyond UK (NHS is a founding member.)
- **Contributions to projects** - investment models needed, why invest in open source?  
can be challenging - can be achieved, e.g. foundational initiatives such as AAL that desire innovations, and reference implementations that can scale to production, standards orgs and alliances (e.g. HL7, Continua)



## *Is the OHT Community for you?*

- Learn more about OHT, there is a lot going on
- Take advantage of opportunities to participate
- Leverage your expertise and skills
- Share your experience with others



# Summary

- **Health & well-being is the outcome**
- **Information is the enabler**
  - Health and reference information is available to individuals, their providers, and population health entities in the most useable form whenever and wherever they need it [accessible, available]
- **“IT solutions” are the means by which the information is used**
  - OHT contribution is to create and maintain a collaborative, inclusive, continuously evolving ecosystem to support and improve these solutions – with a specific orientation on meeting the needs of the solution users



## *References*

Open Health Tools

<http://www.openhealthtools.org/>

Open Health Tools – IHE Profiles

<https://iheprofiles.projects.openhealthtools.org/>

Open Health Tools – Stepstone

<https://stepstone.projects.openhealthtools.org/>

Open Health Tools – HoME

<https://mdht.projects.openhealthtools.org/>

Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise

<http://www.ihe.net/>

Continua Health Alliance

<http://continuaalliance.org>