



Simple, Secure Transfer of Medical Documents

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Agenda

1. About Argus
2. Argus Design Features
3. The Argus Product Range
4. Argus Now
5. Argus Future
6. Argus and projects in Victoria and Tasmania
7. Growing ArgusConnect



About Argus

- Argus is a communication tool kit that provides safe, simple and secure transfer of clinical and patient data.
- The Argus product suite has been designed so that there are products that suit the whole range of professional health practice, from Specialists and single GP practices to large hospitals and pathology and radiology companies.
- Uses the HL7 standard for clinical message formats
- Uses HeSA PKI.
- Works with any Internet Service Provider
- Does not charge anyone per message



Argus_Design Features

- **The Advantages of Email:**
 - Point to point
 - Uses an existing, pervasive infrastructure
 - Simple and inexpensive i.e. doesn't require complicated networks, central gateways, VPNs or broadband

Design Features

- **Using HL7**
 - Provides a **Formal Structure** to an email allowing a message to be machine interpretable. This enables an Argus message to match a patient record in recipient clinical applications.
 - HL7 has an inbuilt **Acknowledgement Protocol** and Argus uses this to match acknowledgements sent by recipient systems to the original message.
- **PKI Security**
 - Argus has implemented secure messaging by using HeSA PKI encryption which prevents anyone but the designated recipient being able to read the message.



The Argus Product Range

ArgusMessenger – manages the sending and receiving of encrypted messages. It contains a configurable rule engine so that received email messages can be stored on a local drive, forwarded to another address or exported to a data file.

ArgusAgent – directory-polling method of file pickup by Argus

ArgusAPI and **Argus MAPI** – a direct program-to-program interface and the ability to use an applications email option

ArgusWord - is a Microsoft Word interface giving users the ability to send letters and documents using Argus, without leaving Word.

ArgusEnterprise and **Argus X** - are enterprise versions of Argus designed to provide a robust, higher volume facility. The enterprise versions are particularly suited to pathology and radiology practices, hospitals and other healthcare organizations that routinely send reports to a large client-base.



Argus Now

Argus version 4.08 is due to be released at the end of the week

Receiving Results and Reports

Any clinical software package which can currently import pathology and radiology reports can import results and reports received via Argus

Sending Letters and Reports

Letters can be created and sent directly from the following clinical applications:

Medical Director, Blue Chip, Medipak CR\$, MedTech32, Genie.

Argus Address Book / LDAP Server

Argus have implemented a first cut for an LDAP server which will enable the Argus address book to be updated with the email address and PKI location certificate of the specified recipient. This is currently being trialed in Toowoomba and South Tasmania.

Installation

Previous versions of Argus have been criticized for being difficult to install, the latest version of Argus is considerably easier.

ArgusConnect are now holding structured certified installer courses.

PKI Location Certificates

ArgusConnect and Sonic have been authorised to distribute PKI Location certificates for use with Argus. This will cut the application time down to a couple of days rather than weeks.



Argus Future

Sending Letters and Reports

ArgusConnect are investigating developing a printer driver facility which will enable any clinical software product to send reports via Argus.

Argus Address Book / LDAP Server

Continue to improve and add to the LDAP server to provide easier search and download functionality and regional access.

Installation

Provide automatic upgrade of Argus software.

Argus Forms

ArgusConnect are investigating the possibility of creating and sending forms.

Argus and Projects in Victoria and Tasmania

Current Projects

- Specialist to GP reports – SWARH
- Radiology reports to GPs – Melbourne
- Specialist to GP reports - South Tasmania
- South Tasmania Division have committed to rolling out Argus throughout South Tasmania

Future Projects

- ALMS – Australian Locum Medical Service
- Specialist to GP reports - Caulfield
- Interest expressed by Dandenong Division
- Interest expressed by Central Bayside Division

Growing ArgusConnect

Future Projects

- Top End Division have committed to rolling out Argus throughout the Northern Territory
- Approval given for an OACIS trial in SA distributing separation summaries from the major metropolitan hospitals.
- Numerous GP and Specialist activities planned in NSW, Victoria and Queensland.

ArgusConnect

- Staff numbers continue to grow with additional development and support staff.

More Information

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