



# New Version of Orchard Harvest™ LIS to be Released

**O**rchard Software is pleased to announce the impending release of Orchard Harvest LIS version 3.5. Slated to hit client sites by midsummer, this latest version will take Harvest LIS into new areas of the lab and will take the laboratory to its customers.

Major developments featured in this new version include Orchard Harvest™ Webstation and Microbiology modules, as well as bi-directional reference laboratory interfaces.

The Harvest Webstation module, which allows order entry and result retrieval via the Internet, brings the lab a powerful utility that will enhance efficiency, customer satisfaction, and marketability.

Providers can view, print, or fax their own patients' results, or the results for any providers' patients who are in their security group. The same diagnosis code



screening and destination filters that you use in Harvest LIS are available when ordering via the web.

In response to numerous requests from customers, Orchard's programming team has also developed an innovative Microbiology module for Harvest LIS. Our beta testing sites have sent in overwhelmingly positive reviews. The new Microbiology module provides micro instrument interfaces, paperless "workup cards," as well as enhanced reporting capabilities.

Another customer request - the ability to have interfaces to multiple reference labs - will be fulfilled with version 3.5. The new reference lab interface engine will allow bi-directional interfaces to one or more labs, allowing patient demographic, order, result, and billing information to be exchanged. Harvest LIS' destination filter and diagnosis code screening will work with the interface to direct specimens to the appropriate lab and ensure proper billing.

Other enhancements include a re-engineered order entry screen, enhanced label printing capabilities, a turnaround time report, and state-specific CPT to ICD9 code validation against specific carriers (related to the Insurance Type).

Additional details and upgrade information will be sent to all of our clients this summer. We think you will agree that this is the best "harvest" yet. ❖

## HIPAA News and Views

**H**ealth and Human Services (HHS) has changed the effective date for the Privacy Rules.

Because this regulation is required by law to undergo a 60-day review by Congress prior to issuance and because the necessary documentation to begin the review process was late in being filed, the effective date of the regulation has been changed. The new effective date for the regulation is April 14, 2001.

In addition to the review period for Congress, HHS has re-opened the period for public comment for 30 days. A number of health care organizations are planning to prepare formal comments on those as-

pects of the final Privacy Rule that vary from the proposed rule. Based upon the comments received, HHS may then choose to modify portions of the final Privacy Rule.

First Consulting Group has prepared a White Paper covering the released HIPAA Privacy Regulations. You may view a copy of this document on the web at: [http://www.fcg.com/webfiles/WhitePaper/white\\_paper\\_files/wpHIPAA-PrivacyIndHealthInfo.asp](http://www.fcg.com/webfiles/WhitePaper/white_paper_files/wpHIPAA-PrivacyIndHealthInfo.asp).

As always, if you have any questions concerning how HIPAA affects you as an Orchard Software customer, contact Technical Support at (800) 571-5835. ❖

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**Visit us in Booth 1631 at CLMA.**

# Orchard's Enterprise-Level Solution - Helps Control the Flow...

Incorrect specimen routing, incorrect ABN completion, and lost reimbursement are just some of the challenges facing Integrated Delivery Networks. Hospital laboratories also face critical issues when implementing outreach programs to maximize the capacity of their laboratories.

Orchard Software offers a refreshing solution to these common problems in a new application with a working title of Orchard Harvest Enterprise.

Harvest Enterprise does not serve as an LIS for any specific laboratory. Rather, as a lab 'transaction broker,' it applies consistent business logic for the routing and management of all lab orders and results throughout the entire enterprise.

Harvest Enterprise is database independent and is designed to integrate smoothly with existing Oracle and Microsoft SQL Server databases, if desired. Harvest Enterprise utilizes a Java™ 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE) compliant application server. J2EE, developed by Sun Microsystems and its partners, defines the standard for developing multi-tier enterprise applications. End-user access is provided using either Java or Web browser clients.

Security, privacy, and general HIPAA compliance issues were primary considerations throughout the design process. As a result, Harvest Enterprise users can leverage the public domain to extend their wide-area networks and reach out to a larger body of their user base.

Patient information can be segmented and presented back to the user based on several criteria, including ordering physician, primary care physician, and the actual lab procedure itself. For example, patient files may only be made available to certain groups of physicians, or sensitive lab procedures may be blinded from users at the system administrator's discretion.

This results in an extremely flexible and scalable system that can be readily adapted to the needs and desires of each specific client.

Refer to page three for an example of how Harvest Enterprise works. Also, visit our website ([www.orchardsoft.com](http://www.orchardsoft.com)) for more product and release information. ❖

## Free Updates of Diagnosis Codes

One of the great features of Harvest LIS version 3.0 is the ability to screen orders against ICD-9 diagnosis codes. When using this feature, Harvest LIS automatically screens each order against the list of valid diagnosis codes and triggers an alert for tests that may not be reimbursed by the patient's insurance company.

Using the diagnosis code table in Harvest LIS, you may review the text description of a diagnosis and highlight frequently used

codes for your facility. For many of you, your copy of diagnosis codes will expire during October 2001. However, Orchard Software is now supplying free updates for these codes, which you may obtain from our website.

To download the free codes, simply navigate to the ICD-9 page on our website (<http://www.orchardsoft.com/support/icd-9/icd9.html>), and click on the link to download ICD9CodeDescriptions.ZIP

(146KB), a compressed file containing the codes and their descriptions.

Once you have obtained the diagnosis codes, your Harvest LIS system administrator should unzip the file and then import the codes into Harvest LIS to either update or replace your existing ICD-9 codes. Refer to the Harvest LIS online help for additional information on importing and using diagnosis codes. ❖

## tech ips Backup Scheduler

For multi-workstation users: If you notice slowing down on your Orchard LIS, one of the first things you should look at is the Backup Scheduler on your server.

Check the scheduled frequency and make sure it is set to every DAY and not every MINUTE.

If the Backup Scheduler is set to go off every minute, 4D Server will attempt to do this at the expense of running other processes. This may be the cause of the slow down.

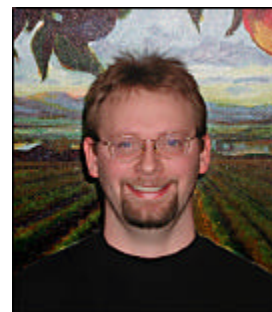
Fortunately, it is simple to fix. Just click on the drop-down in the Scheduler window, select DAY, and save your changes. ❖



## Employee Spotlight on John Miller

John Miller joined the Development department of Orchard Software in December 1999 as a Software Engineer. Since then, he has done great work on enhancements to Orchard's software, focusing mainly on instrument, host, and database interfaces; quality control; and database creation and maintenance. He is currently focused on the development of our new product, Harvest Enterprise.

Before joining Orchard, John worked for seven years as a consultant in the Indian-



John Miller

apolis area, gaining experience with many development tools, including 4th Dimension, Microsoft Access, Microsoft Visual C++, Microsoft Visual Basic, Microsoft SQL Server, and several proprietary tools.

When he is not writing software, John likes to spend time reading, boating (when

Indiana weather permits it), and playing computer games. He also enjoys spending time with his wife Angela, a teacher for the Indianapolis Public School system, and their dogs, Scooby and Kirby. ❖

# ... from Order Entry to Result Delivery

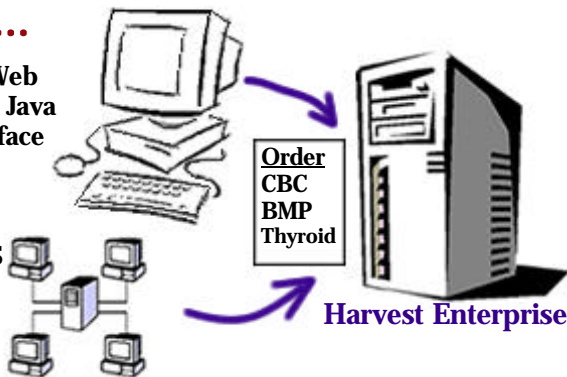
An example of how Harvest Enterprise facilitates every step of the order entry to result delivery process.

## An order is placed...

...using a Web browser or Java client interface

OR

...in an HIS or EMR System



Lab orders are entered into Harvest Enterprise directly via a Java client or Web browser, or they may be sent electronically from other applications such as Electronic Medical Record (EMR) systems.

Harvest Enterprise will also accept patient demographic and insurance information from one or more HIS, ADT, or Practice Management System.

As orders are placed, Harvest Enterprise determines the proper combination of specimen containers, accepts diagnosis codes and alerts personnel for Advance Beneficiary Notices as appropriate, and assists in managing the physical specimens for pick-up and delivery to the different testing locations.

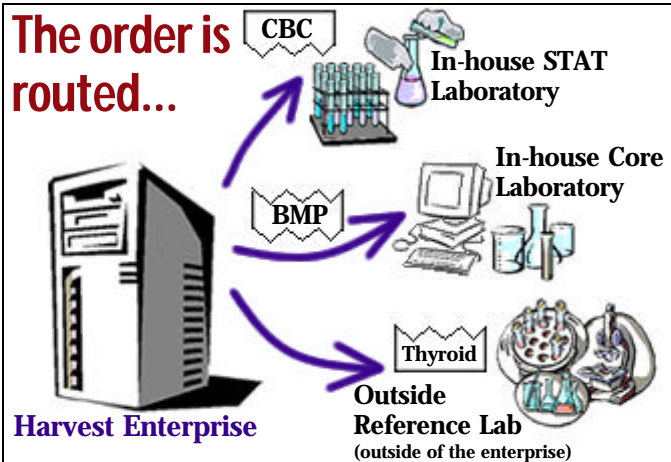
For example, a physician orders a series of lab procedures including a Basic Metabolic Profile (BMP), a thyroid profile, and a stat Complete Blood Count (CBC) using a Web browser or Java client interface.

Based on the business logic defined by the system administrator, Harvest Enterprise then routes the orders to various testing locations, both inside and outside the enterprise.

This means that a specimen may be broken up and sent to different testing locations based on factors such as:

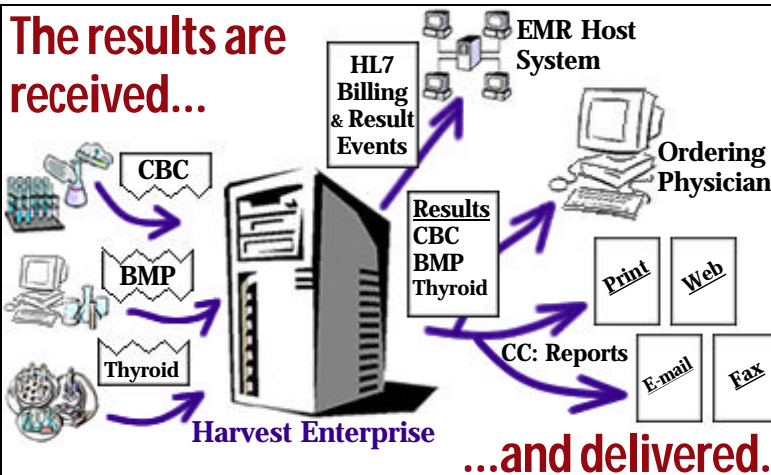
- The procedures themselves may need to be tested at certain labs.
- The patient's insurance payor may require that a test be performed at a particular lab.
- The time of day may influence which lab is used (e.g., using a stat lab for tests that must be completed quickly).

## The order is routed...



Harvest Enterprise sends the stat CBC to an in-house stat lab based on the time of day, the BMP to an in-house core lab, and the thyroid profile to the reference lab according to the patient's insurance payor contract.

## The results are received...



Once the various laboratories electronically return results to Harvest Enterprise, the results are delivered back to the ordering physician, with copies sent to other physicians based on a set of result delivery business logic.

Harvest Enterprise allows several result delivery options, including printing, faxing, HTML email, HTML or Java Client display over a secure web connection, or text paging. Also, HL7 result events may be sent to host EMR systems.

Default result delivery routing is set at order entry based on the defined business logic and variables such as:

- The ordering physician.
- Time of approval (during or after business hours).
- The status of results (critical, abnormal, or normal).
- The priority at time of order (stat, ASAP, or normal).

After receiving the results, Harvest Enterprise delivers reports to the ordering physician, as well as to any additional CC providers or EMR systems.

## Orchard's Software Aids Customer in Fighting Crime

Orchard's software is known for its many benefits. It is easy to use, highly flexible, and aids in connectivity with other clinical systems. But in the case of one of our new customers, it actually helped them catch people breaking the law.

The Orleans Parish Criminal Court in New Orleans, Louisiana, recently renovated its drug-testing lab, including adding three Harvest LIS workstations. The court's lab, which monitors people who have volunteered to enter rehabilitation and plead guilty to drug charges, is now able to test over 150 people every day.

The court's newly updated lab employs Harvest Webstation, one of the new modules to be officially released in version 3.5. Harvest Webstation allows the judges and parole agents to place orders and to view test results via the web.



*Harvest Webstation can be used to place orders and view results via the web. Shown above is a patient record that contains a photograph of the patient.*

The installation went smoothly and the users were eager to use the new system. So eager in fact that Gordon Saager, the Orchard Software Systems Engineer who installed the system, even ended up in court – to teach two of the judges how to use Harvest Webstation.

So how did Orchard's laboratory information system help them catch people breaking the law? The lab uses the feature in Harvest LIS that allows you to attach a picture of a patient to his or her record in the system. This feature aids the technicians in verifying that the person who came for a drug screening is the person that they should be testing.

During the first few days that they used Harvest LIS, they caught three people trying to take drug tests for someone else. These people, who had brought fake identification, were caught because the person there for the test did not match the picture on file in Harvest LIS.

We at Orchard Software love to hear success stories like this one and are pleased to welcome the Orleans Parish Criminal Court laboratory to the Orchard family. ❖



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