IHE-Europe Announces Stéphane Spanhi as User Co-Chair.

IHE-Europe is delighted to announce the appointment of Stéphane Spahni PhD, as the new User Co-Chair, succeeding Professor Peter Mildenberger with immediate effect. He will work closely with Jürgen Brandstätter, IHE-Europe's Vendor Co-Chair, on both the IHE-Europe Steering Committee and Executive Board.

Stéphane Spahni is an experienced computer architect and an alumnus of the University Hospitals of Geneva (HUG) where he has worked for some 20 years. He has devoted much of his working life to eHealth with particular emphasis on data sharing between organisations using international standards. Furthermore he has technical responsibility for the CEF eHDSI (Connecting Europe Facility eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure) National contact point, e-Medication Project for the Geneva region and national electronic patient records.

His PhD thesis, back in 1993, was in the Field of Open Systems Connections so it was a natural progression when he was invited to take on responsibility for projects linking the HUG with the Swiss eHealth world at regional, national and international levels as part of the acclaimed epSOS project, where he also worked alongside Jürgen Brandstätter.

Stéphane has worked with IHE Profiles for over six years and he immediately embraced their importance. He joined IHE-Switzerland and quickly found himself elected to the board soon holding the User Co-Chair position.

"Certainly taking on the User Co-Chair role of IHE-Europe is a step-up but one I am very happy and honoured to accept", he commented. "I feel that this is a hugely important time for IHE-Europe and I have a strong understanding of what my fellow users and I need in terms of IHE Profiles, Test Tools and the importance of Conformity Assessment. It will also help me to contribute to IHE's recognition, especially IHE-Europe and its strong services entity – IHE-Services", he added.

"Stéphane brings a wealth of experience to the role and we are delighted that he has accepted this position. I would also like, on behalf of my fellow Steering Committee Members, to thank Professor Peter Mildenberger for his strong leadership and clarity of vision over the last four years that has helped IHE-Europe immensely, he will be sorely missed", concluded Jürgen Brandstätter.

Press contact: Sandra Antoni (sandra.antoni@ihe-europe.net)