IMS Global Announces Record Levels of Member Growth and Adoption of IMS Interoperability Standards

2014 Annual Report Highlights Unprecedented Progress to Enable a Plug and Play Architecture, Ecosystem and Community for the Purpose of Advancing Educational Innovation

Lake Mary, Florida - 8 April 2015 - IMS Global Learning Consortium (IMS Global/IMS), the world’s leading education and learning technology standards consortium, announced the publication of its 2014 annual report. As part of its commitment to openness and transparency to members and stakeholders worldwide, the annual report is available to the public online at: http://www.imsglobal.org/imsglobal2014annualreport.pdf

In 2014 the IMS community, especially the Contributing Members listed at the end of this release, led impressive efforts to foster collaboration among leading education organizations and technology suppliers to achieve record levels of support and adoption of IMS interoperable standards, a ninth consecutive year of progress. Notably, IMS added 56 net new members – the largest growth in the history of IMS and issued a record 161 new conformance certifications to a wide variety of educational technology products. Today there are 100’s of digital resources, tools and apps that are certified to IMS standards, including more than 40 learning platforms, thus improving the ease of integration by a factor of 10-1000 to enable teaching and learning innovation.

In addition to membership, revenue and certification growth, IMS made substantial progress to advance several key initiatives to enable a “plug and play” architecture and ecosystem to improve teaching and learning experiences. Expanding on the success of the IMS Learning Tools Interoperability® (LTI®) specification, IMS released LTI v2, which enables 1-click auto-negotiated integration of learning resources and supports service extensions to accommodate key needs across K-20, including rich outcomes and rostering. IMS was awarded a three-year grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to accelerate deployment of LTI and Caliper Analytics™, the first open standard for analytics that provides click stream data from learning resources, tools and platforms. In response to a growing push by K-12 districts for adoption of digital curriculum standards, IMS introduced the Thin Common Cartridge specification, a variation of the Common Cartridge® standard, aimed at dramatically reducing the complexity and cost to integrate a wide variety of digital curriculum resources to support personalized learning. Additionally, the Connected Learning Innovation Community grew to more than 1,100 members in the first full year of existence and successfully launched the inaugural IMS App Challenge, recognizing five educational apps for their creativity and ease of integration based on IMS standards. The latest IMS Global achievements will be announced during the 2015 Learning Impact Leadership Institute, May 4-7 in Atlanta, Georgia.

“2014 was no doubt a super-charged year of progress and momentum for the IMS community,” said Dr. Rob Abel, Chief Executive Officer, IMS Global. “The achievements are largely attributable to the collaborative approach of the IMS member community to create and maintain a K-20 community architecture based on open
standards to support sustainable and scalable educational innovation. Via the IMS architecture for learning innovation, the IMS members are enabling better learning experiences from better learning technology.”


About IMS Global Learning Consortium (IMS Global)
IMS Global is a nonprofit organization that advances technology that can affordably scale and improve educational participation and attainment. IMS members are leading suppliers, institutions and government organizations that are enabling the future of education by collaborating on interoperability and adoption initiatives. IMS sponsors the Learning Impact Leadership Institute, a global program focused on recognizing the impact of innovative technology on educational access, affordability, and quality while developing the people and ideas that are going to help shape the future of educational technology. The 2015 Learning Impact Leadership Institute will be held May 4-7 in Atlanta, Georgia.

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