

# **Start of the HITCH Project**

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Today, information and communication technology plays a key role in order to deliver optimal patient care (eHealth). Since the corresponding care processes encompass different sectors and healthcare providers the interoperability of the involved information systems is crucial and can only be guaranteed if the various vendors, users, patients and authorities make use of reasonable certification and labelling systems for their eHealth systems.

With the beginning of 2010, within the OFFIS health division the project HITCH (Healthcare Interoperability Testing and Conformance Harmonisation) is started contributing to better interoperability of information systems in health care. Together with partners from France (ETSI and INRIA), Belgium (EuroRec and IHE) and Denmark (EuroRec) and with involving all major stakeholders, OFFIS develops a roadmap for establishing interoperability conformance testing for information systems in health care.