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John Selmyer

Professional

Founded Dawning Technologies, 1984;
serves as President.

Prior to 1984, worked in sales at two major IVD instrument companies, worked as a respiratory therapist and as a clinical laboratory technician; and served in the U.S. Army at Walter Reed Army Institute for Research, Washington, DC. Published papers on laboratory instrument interfacing and the hemodynamics of septic shock.

Education

BS, Biology
Rochester Institute of Technology;
MA, Educational Psychology
University of Rochester;
registered respiratory therapist.

Personal

Married to Yvette for 35 years;
has two adult children and two granddaughters.
Moved Dawning Technologies
from upstate New York to Fort Myers, FL, in 2005,
and became an avid boater.
Enjoys the diminished annual snowfall of Southwest Florida.

Selmyer links rules and intel at Dawning

Get more out of IT. The Internet has changed everything, but we still cannot connect healthcare devices and systems like plugging in a telephone. Many healthcare systems use Web-based protocols for user interaction and access to documentation. Healthcare is becoming more automated and data intensive, with more systems in and out of the hospital environment. At Dawning, we feel, done properly, middleware can help clients get more performance and useful life out of their IT investments. We achieve this by focusing on creating products with greater functionality, easier user controls, and increased Web compatibility in a more regulated environment.

Intelligent integrator. Our middleware is best described as an intelligent integrator residing between disparate systems and devices (such as HIS, EMR, LIS, and individual lab devices). Middleware can provide custom processing capability not found on any individual systems, possibly complementing the performance of all the components and certainly that of the LIS. Beyond the ability to handle multiple connections, protocols, and message-mapping requirements, the real benefits of middleware come from the user-defined, rules-based processing capabilities. These allow consistent decision-support actions to be taken in tightly defined circumstances, from simple range checking and comment additions to extensive rules filters defining an autoverification process. The ability to access data from multiple directions and databases for rules processing is an added advantage of middleware.

Customer connections. As more analytical devices and information systems support connectivity to an LIS and the value of sharing information among these entities multiplies, there will be more pressure to complete and refine the integration. Our first focus is to create middleware with the capability to benefit those who use it. Then we do our best to empower our customers to take full advantage of middleware, including the ability to increase their complexity of use over time. We offer webinars on a variety of middleware topics in which anyone can participate, and we present various training sessions for customers, either at our facility or onsite, so users can do more as they learn more.

Middleware makes automation work. Automation can help with today's shortage of trained lab personnel. Our primary middleware application, JResultNet, can automate a wide variety of result data-handling conditions that currently require some manual intervention. The logical goal is autoverification — where only the results that have failed some defined rules filters require manual review. DataMiner is a tool for analyzing the content of databases, which is suited to investigating laboratory utilization — with or without middleware in use — to identify where orders are being inappropriately placed. Used with middleware, this tool can provide real-time test utilization control and intelligent reflexing using data read from external databases. The benefits are operating more efficiently and being assured all appropriate data conditions are caught.

Community concerns. Dawning is a small company based in Lee County, Florida, one of the areas of the country hardest hit by the economic downturn. Our county's unemployment rate is more than 13%. The most meaningful thing Dawning Technologies can do to impact the community is to conduct our business to the best of our ability and to hire locally. We maintain a flexible management style, so our employees have the opportunity to participate in their chosen community and family activities. □