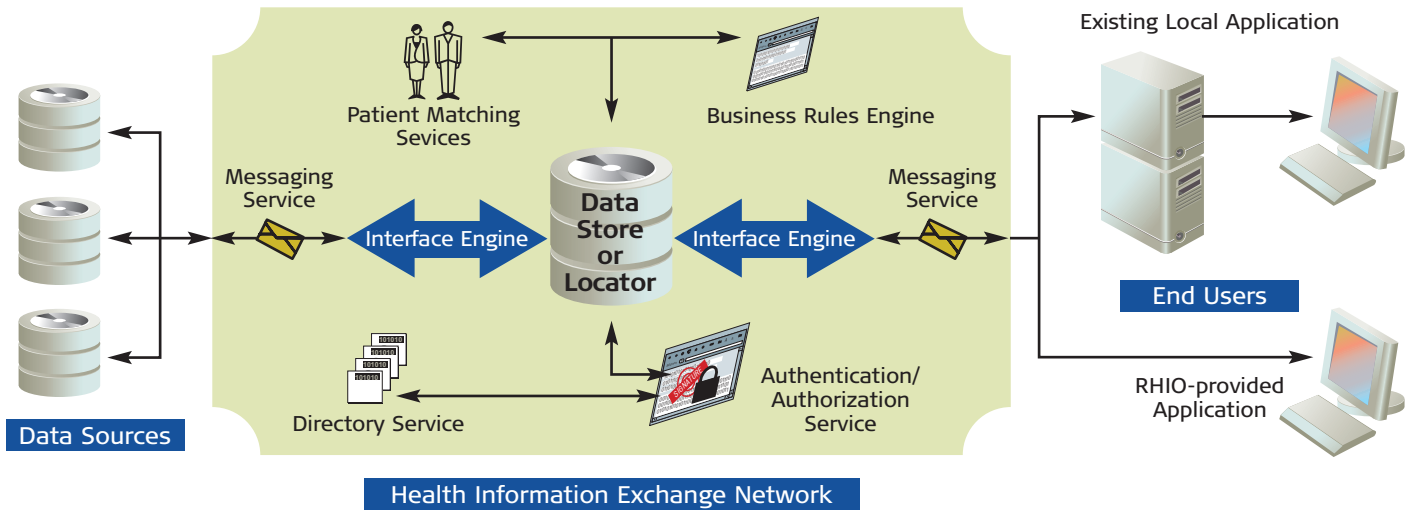


# Health Information Exchange Network

Health Information Exchange Networks (HIEN), and the Regional Health Information Organizations (RHIO) that support them, come in many sizes and shapes. But they all contain the same **basic components**. This brief reviews the common elements that every HIEN should have.



**Data Sources:** Systems that provide and/or receive data from the HIEN. Examples include provider-based electronic medical records or practice management systems, immunization or disease registries, surveillance systems, and laboratory information management systems, or pharmacy information systems.

**Data Store:** Central or distributed database containing patient identification and health information.

**Interface Engine:** Utility that provides translation of standard messages containing patient identification and health

information being sent to or from the data store.

**Messaging Service:** System that provides for the secure transport of information in and out of the HIEN.

**Matching Service:** Utility that provides reliable matching and linking of patient information received by the HIEN from disparate sources.

**Business Rules Engine:** Repository for the business rules that control how the HIEN treats data and the business processes it supports. These rules are available consistently to all HIEN applications.

**Authentication/Authorization Service:** Utility that provides reliable identity verification of system users (authentication) and ensures that users access information and services that are appropriate (authorization).

**Directory Service:** Central repository for information about system users.

**End User Applications:** Existing or new applications used to access HIEN patient and health information.



**A Collaborative Approach to Health Information Technology**

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HLN is available to help in all aspects of HIEN conceptualization, planning, project management, and execution. Contact one of our specialists at [info@hln.com](mailto:info@hln.com) to find out more information about how we can help you align public and private health IT initiatives in your area. Copyright ©2006 HLN Consulting, LLC.

**HLN Consulting, LLC**  
7072 Santa Fe Canyon Pl.  
San Diego, CA 92129

Email: [info@hln.com](mailto:info@hln.com)  
Phone: 858-538-2220  
Fax: 858-538-2209  
<http://www.hln.com>