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OFFICE OF VOTING SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT
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January 10, 2013

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #13004

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: _____
Susan Lapsley
Deputy Secretary of State and Counsel

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – January 2013

Each month, the Office of Voting Systems Technology Assessment (OVSTA) provides an update on Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and Secretary of State (SOS) activities related to voting systems.

Each update will provide information on:

- Voting system related events that may be of interest.
- Administrative approvals and denials since the prior month's update.
- Administrative approval requests since the prior month's update.
- Voting system testing and approval at the SOS office.
- Voting system testing and certification at the EAC.
- Defect, failure and fault reports issued since the prior month's update.
- Ballot printing certification requests since the prior month's update.

Recent and Upcoming Events

- The CACEO New Law Conference provided a valuable opportunity for county election officials, the Secretary of State and voting system vendors to discuss: (1) making the annual User Group Meetings more beneficial; and (2) working together in 2013 to rewrite each system's Use Procedures to make them more user friendly.
- The EAC and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) will be holding a Future of Voting Systems Symposium on February 26-28th at NIST, in Gaithersburg, Maryland.
- The final date to submit written comments on the Secretary of State's Punch Card and Ballot Paper regulations is Friday, January 11, 2013, at 5:00 p.m.
- The EAC is holding a public comment period for the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG) version 1.1, available at the EAC. The comment period ends January 14, 2013.

Administrative Approval Requests

California Elections Code section 19213 precludes a voting system or part of a voting system that has been approved by the Secretary of State from being changed or modified until the Secretary of State has determined that the change "does not impair its accuracy and efficiency. . . ."

Information on submitting an administrative approval request is in "Requesting Administrative Approval of a Change or Modification to an Approved Voting System."

Approvals

There were no administrative approvals granted in December.

Under Review

- Dominion is requesting administrative approval of a new SQL script, which allows the Vote Validation functionality on its WinEDS 4.0.116B voting system to be turned off in tally type "Recount." This will allow jurisdictions using the WinEDS 4.0.116B voting system to conduct an electronic recount where not all contest are included in the recount (i.e. a single contest recount). Dominion is finalizing the required VSTL testing and documentation necessary for the Secretary of State to make a determination on this administrative approval request.

- Dominion is requesting administrative approval to add a jumper cable to the Insight MemoryPacks to create a constant, known voltage. This is designed to repair the defect in the MemoryPacks that can require election officials to rerun ballots on Election Night. Dominion has not submitted all of the required documentation necessary for the Secretary of State to make a determination on this administrative approval request.

Testing and Approval by the State of California

- On January, 10, 2013, the Secretary of State received an application for the testing and approval of the ES&S Unity 3.4.0.0 Voting System. The items submitted do not constitute a complete application and therefore the Secretary of State considers the application "pending" until all of the necessary documentation has been received. OVSTA will begin working with ES&S to create a test plan and timetable for testing.

- On October, 26, 2012, the Secretary of State received an application and deposit for the testing and approval of the Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14 Voting System. The items submitted do not constitute a complete application and therefore the Secretary of State considers the application "pending" until all of the necessary documentation, including an EAC qualification number, has been received. OVSTA is working with Dominion to create a test plan and timetable for testing.

Testing and Certification at the EAC

The EAC provides a weekly update of voting system testing. As of December 18, 2012, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14. Dominion completed the revisions to the scope of this system and submitted an amended application to the EAC on December 12, 2012. The amended application was approved on December 13, 2012. This amended application included a request to change the version number from 4.9 to 4.14, which will be reflected on all documentation and references from this point on. Wyle is working on the Test Plan for this system. Related documents can be found on the EAC website.

Dominion Sequoia WinEDS 4.0. EAC is in discussion with Dominion about the next steps. Related documents can be found on the EAC website.

Election Systems & Software (ES&S) EVS 5.0.0.0. The system is currently in testing at Wyle Laboratories. Related documents can be found on the EAC website.

Hart InterCivic. Hart submitted an application for testing their Verity Voting 1.0 system on December 11, 2012. The EAC approved the application on December 17, 2012. Hart is working with SLI Global Solutions to prepare for testing. More information will be available in January.

The EAC's "Voting Systems Under Test" and "Certified Voting Systems" pages provide more specifics on any voting system.

Defects, Failures and Faults

Defects, failures and faults (problem reports) of voting system hardware and software are reported to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State in turn provides the reports to the EAC which provides them to the public on the EAC Voting System Reports clearinghouse webpage.

The Secretary of State has received a problem report for the ES&S Unity 3.0.1.1 voting system. Each jurisdiction using this voting system should have received a copy of the problem report and any associated documentation directly from ES&S. For more information contact the voting system vendor, or OVSTA, or go to the EAC website, at EAC Voting System Reports.

Ballot Printing Certification Requests

No ballot printing or ballot on demand certification requests are pending.

A list of certified ballot printers can be found at www.sos.ca.gov/voting-systems/cert-and-approval/ballots.htm.