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May 2, 2013

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #13042

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Susan Lapsley
Deputy Secretary of State and Counsel

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – May 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 proposed [Ballot Card Manufacturing and Finishing regulations](#) were submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), the state agency responsible for reviewing and approving state regulations. OAL approved the regulations on March 26, 2013. The regulations take effect on July 1, 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.”](#)

Under Review – Continuing

- 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). The Voting System Testing Laboratory (VSTL) submitted the test plan to OVSTA for final approval. After reviewing and approving the test plan, OVSTA, the VSTL and Dominion will conduct functional testing in conjunction with Dominion’s two other pending administrative approval requests: the MemoryPacks and the 400-C and Insight SQL script.
- 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. The VSTL submitted the test report to OVSTA. The MemoryPacks will be tested in conjunction with the WinEDS Vote Validation SQL script and the 400-C and Insight SQL script.
- Dominion is requesting administrative approval of a new SQL script, which identifies 400-C and Insight loads in WinEDS that lack the corresponding preference vote data for jurisdictions using the WinEDS 4.0.116B Voting System to run Ranked Choice Voting contests. A previous SQL script, which only identified 400-C loads, was previously approved in September 2012. The VSTL submitted the test plan to OVSTA for final approval. After reviewing and approving the test plan, OVSTA, the VSTL and Dominion will conduct functional testing in conjunction with the WinEDS Vote Validation SQL script and the MemoryPacks.
- Hart is requesting administrative approval of a new operating system, Windows 7, for its System 6.2.1 voting system. OVSTA is scheduled to participate in the testing for this administrative approval at the VSTL May 13-16.
- Hart is requesting administrative approval of a new central count ballot scanner, the Canon DC-X10C, to be used with its System 6.2.1 voting system. The new scanner will run on the Windows 7 operating system platform. OVSTA is scheduled to participate in the testing for this administrative approval at the VSTL May 13-16.
- Sonoma County is requesting administrative approval to change the incandescent bulb in the optical scan card reader for its Mark-A-Vote voting system with an infrared bulb. Testing for this administrative approval is scheduled for May 17.

Under Review – Newly Submitted

- ES&S is requesting administrative approval to use the Dell PowerEdge T310 tower as a backup server for jurisdictions using the GEMS 1.18.24 voting system. OVSTA is currently reviewing the documentation submitted for this administrative approval.

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.
- 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.

Testing and Certification at the EAC

The EAC provides a [weekly update](#) of voting system testing. As of April 23, 2013, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14. Testing continues at Wyle Laboratories. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

Election Systems & Software (ES&S) EVS 5.0.0.0. Wyle Laboratories provided a draft Test Report to the EAC on March 26, 2013. The EAC and Wyle Laboratories are working through comments on the Test Report. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

Hart InterCivic. The EAC is working with Hart to clarify security requirements for the system. Testing previously scheduled to begin the week of June 10, 2013, has been postponed at Hart’s request due to changes and delays in development and building of the system. More information can be found on the EAC [website](#).

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.

In April, the Secretary of State received one problem report on the Dominion WinEDS 3.1.012 voting system used in California. 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

Ballot Manufacturers and Finishers Certified:

- Moonlight BPO was certified to print Hart ballots.

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