



October 9, 2015

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #15129

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – October 2015

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 provides 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

A draft of the ballot printing regulation amendments have been created and circulated to: (1) jurisdictions using ballot on demand systems; (2) ballot printers; and (3) voting system vendors. OVSTA requested feedback prior to beginning the formal rulemaking process. Comments have been reviewed and OVSTA has met with counties and ballot print vendors to discuss modifications. An updated draft will be released in October to stakeholders for a second round of comments.

OVSTA and Elections are partnering with the PEW Voting Information Project (VIP) to utilize its Election Night Results Reporting module as a complimentary tool to the current Election Night Reporting webpage that the Secretary of State provides.

OVSTA has volunteered to work with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) on the next iteration of the EAC Voluntary Voting Systems Guidelines (VVSG). NIST and EAC are using a series of public working groups to accelerate the development of the new version of the VVSG. NIST and EAC will create three the following working groups (1) Pre-Election; (2) Election; and (3) Post-Election. This new structure will ensure that the standards

address all areas of necessary functionality with the three areas of focus from before being covered throughout the process analysis. To ensure this takes place four “constituency groups” will be created to inform the working groups. These four groups are: (1) Cyber-security; (2) Accessibility/Usability; (3) Interoperability; and (4) Testing and Certification. These constituency groups will not create work product themselves but will serve as a place for various members of the working groups to report back to people interested in each area to ensure that those areas are addressed in each working group. More information is provided on the [NIST public working group webpage](#).

Testing and Approval by the State of California

- On February 10, 2015, the Secretary of State received an application and technical data package for the testing and approval of the Elections Systems and Software, Inc. (ES&S) Unity 3.4.1.0 voting system. ES&S supplied the updated Use Procedures on October 5, 2015. OVSTA has begun the process for soliciting a request for quote (RFQ) for consulting services.

Administrative Approval Requests

California Elections Code section 19216 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 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](#).”

Administrative Approval Application Closed:

- Dominion has withdrawn its request for administrative approval to add the Canon DR-G1130 commercial off the shelf scanner as a secondary central count optical scanner to work in conjunction with its currently approved ImageCast Central software.

Administrative Approval Request:

- On September 24, 2015, the County of Kern requested administrative approval to modify the Dominion Voting System certified Use Procedures to allow the use of the Adjudication module during the 10 day timeframe for processing vote by mail ballots, prescribed by Elections Code section 15101 (b).

Testing and Certification at the EAC

The EAC provides a [weekly update](#) of voting system testing. As of September 8, 2015, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

ES&S EVS 5.2.1.0. ES&S submitted an application to the EAC on September 29, 2015. NTS completed the Readiness Review on September 30, 2015. After completing

the Readiness Review, the EAC approved the application to begin testing on October 1, 2015. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

ES&S EVS 5.4.0.0. ES&S will deliver the hardware and begin testing at NTS in early October. NTS is currently reviewing the source code for this system. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

Everyone Counts eLect Voting Solution 4.0. The EAC is waiting for additional information related to the system. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

The EAC's "[Voting Systems Under Test](#)" and "[Certified Voting Systems](#)" pages provide more specifics on each voting system.

Defects, Failures and Faults

Defects, failures and faults (problem reports) of (1) voting system hardware and software and (2) ballot printing manufacturing and finishing are reported to the Secretary of State.

- The Secretary of State did not receive any defect reports in the month of September.

Ballot Printing Certification Requests

Ballot on Demand Applications Approved:

- Runbeck Election Solutions was approved to manufacture and finish Hart BallotNow ballots using the OKI Data 9650 printer in conjunction with the Sentio Ballot Printing system.

Ballot Manufacturer and Finisher Applications Approved:

- Runbeck Election Solutions was approved to manufacture and finish Hart BallotNow ballots at its Tempe, Arizona facility.

Ballot Manufacturer and Finisher Applications Under Review:

- Runbeck Election Solutions has requested approval for its on-screen ballot marking, duplication software entitled "Novus".
- Times Printing has requested certification to print Hart BallotNow ballots at its new facility located at 106 T Street, Eureka, California.

A list of certified ballot printers can be found at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-systems/certification-and-approval/ballot-printer-certification/>.