July 11, 2013

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #13055

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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


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 took effect on July 1, 2013.

OVSTA attended the third annual “National Voting Systems Certification Conference,” in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, June 20-21. The conference is a forum for state voting system certification staff to work together, to share best practices in each state and to create coalitions that can reuse test data to reduce redundant testing, speed up certification, and reduce the cost of certification.
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.”

Recently Approved

- Hart was granted administrative approval to use a new operating system, Windows 7, with its System 6.2.1 voting system.

- Hart was granted administrative approval to sell a new central count ballot scanner, the Canon DR-X10C, to be used with its System 6.2.1 voting system. The new scanner must run on the Windows 7 operating system platform. Further, the Ballot Now software needed very minor modifications to the source code to allow for the Canon DR-X10C to be used, creating the new Ballot Now version 3.3.12.

- Dominion was granted administrative approval to use a new SQL script entitled "Recount.sql," 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 (e.g. a single contest recount).

- Dominion was granted 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 that lack the preference vote data, was previously approved in September 2012.

- Dominion was granted 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. As this modification is a hardware engineering change, Dominion is approved to make the necessary changes to the MemoryPacks for all jurisdictions using either the WinEDS 3.1.012 or WinEDS 4.0.116B voting systems.

Under Review – Continuing

- 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 informed ES&S that it must receive a VSTL determination on the
equivalency, pursuant to the EAC Notice of Clarification #2012-01, of the Dell PowerEdge T310 tower to the currently approved GEMS server.

- Dominion is requesting administrative approval to upgrade the currently approved Symantec Anti-Virus Corporate Edition software used on both its WinEDS 3.1.012 and WinEDS 4.0.116B voting systems to the Symantec End Point Security 12.1 antivirus software. The currently approved Symantec Anti-Virus Corporate Edition software is no longer being supported. Testing on the WinEDS 4.0.116B took place during the week of June 25th and the testing on WinEDS 3.1.012 is scheduled for the week of July 22nd.

**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 July 2, 2013, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

**Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14.** EAC approved the Test Report Rev. B on July 9, 2013. EAC is working on certification documents and will issue a decision in the next couple weeks. Related documents can be found on the EAC website.

**Hart InterCivic Verity 1.0.** EAC Testing and Certification employees are in Austin, Texas, this week for the kickoff meeting. Hart continues to work on development and building of the voting system. Related documents can be found on the EAC website.

**Unisyn OpenElect 1.2.** EAC received the draft Test Plan on June 28. EAC comments on the Test Plan are due July 26. Unisyn is providing a demo of the modifications to the system to the EAC on July 9. 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 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 June, the Secretary of State did not receive any problem reports. 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 on Demand Systems Under Review
  • ES&S is requesting that the Balotar ballot on demand system be certified to be connected to the DFM EIMS voter registration system.

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