



DEBRA BOWEN | SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA | ELECTIONS

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March 8, 2013

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #13027

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

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

RE: Voting Systems: OVSTA Monthly Update – March 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 National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the EAC held the Future of Voting Systems Symposium on February 26-28th, in Gaithersburg, Maryland, and members of OVSTA participated in "The Evolving Nature of State Certification" panel. The [webcast](#) of the symposium has been archived if you would like to see any of the presentations.

OVSTA will participate in the Election Verification Network Annual Conference March 13-15th, in Atlanta, Georgia.

The written public comment period for the proposed [Ballot Card Manufacturing and Finishing regulations](#) was December 19, 2012, through January 11, 2013. The proposed regulations have been submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), the state agency responsible for reviewing and approving state

regulations. OAL has until March 26, 2013, to review the proposed regulations and approve or reject them.

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

- The City and County of San Francisco and Alameda County were granted administrative approval to continue the use of WinEDS 4.0.116B, including Rank-Choice Voting logic, blended with WinEDS 3.1.012 and Edge v. 5.0.24.
- San Bernardino County was granted administrative approval to waive the “air-gap” requirement on its WinEDS 3.1.012 voting system for the second of two elections it will be conducting in the span of seven days.

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 contests 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.
- 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 to the Secretary of State.
- 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.

Under Review – Newly Submitted

- ES&S is requesting administrative approval to update the SSL certificates for the GEMS version 1.18.24 election management system and AccuVote-TSx (BallotStation) version 4.6.4. ES&S has not submitted all of the required documentation to the Secretary of State.
- Hart is requesting administrative approval of a new operating system, Windows 7, for its System 6.2.1 voting system. OVSTA is working with Hart on finalizing the test plan, which will then be submitted, verified and tested at a VSTL.
- 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. This administrative approval will be submitted, verified and tested by a VSTL following the results of the Windows 7 administrative approval testing at the VSTL.

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 March 5, 2013, the current testing and certification status for systems relevant to California is:

Dominion Democracy Suite 4.14. Wyle and Dominion are making final preparations to begin testing and developing test cases. Related documents can be found on the EAC [website](#).

Dominion Sequoia WinEDS 4.0. Dominion issued a letter to the EAC on March 1, 2013, requesting to withdraw the Sequoia WinEDS 4.0 from Federal Certification Testing. 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 is working with SLI Global Solutions to prepare for testing, which is scheduled to begin. 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 February, the Secretary of State did not receive any problem reports for the voting systems 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

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.