



VOTING SYSTEM

TESTING AND CERTIFICATION

PROGRAM E-NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dick and Dawn

For this issue, I think it is appropriate that I pay my respects to two friends and colleagues who both passed on Election Day, November 5, 2013.

Richard "Dick" Smolka has already received numerous memorials and accolades from others in the elections field which he so richly deserved. A professor emeritus at American University and one of the world's leading experts on voting and the electoral process, Dick was most widely known as the creator and editor of Election Administration Reports, a bi-weekly newsletter on election law and administration.

Dick was one of my first true mentors when I began my career in election administration back in the early '90's. Truth be told, I learned more history of elections and election administration from Dick during an afternoon and evening watching the ponies at Arlington Park than I learned in two or three months on the job. (And had a heck of a lot more fun doing it!) Dick was truly passionate about elections and I don't expect to see his like again.

Dawn Mehlhaff served as the Director of Voting Systems, Director of Outreach Programs, and as Deputy Chief of Elections for the California Secretary of State's Office from 1993 to 2004. Her responsibilities included full oversight of the California voting system certification process and for conducting complete system functional and certification testing on voting systems. After leaving the CA SOS office, I hired Dawn as one of the first EAC voting system Technical Reviewers. Most recently, Dawn's "day job" was as the Deputy Director for Policy, Strategic Initiatives, Legislative Affairs and Recovery for the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

I met Dawn at an Election Center meeting when we were both fairly new to elections. Like everyone that met her, I was immediately drawn to her intelligence and sharp, sarcastic wit. We became great friends over the years and her death was truly a shocking tragedy both for the elections community and the homeland security community.

Rest in peace friends.

- Brian Hancock

PROGRAM UPDATES

GENERAL INFORMATION

Useful Links

[Voting System Test Laboratory Program Manual](#)
[Voting System Testing & Certification Manual](#)
[Voting System Accredited Test Laboratories](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)
[EAC Blog, Twitter and YouTube](#)

[Quick Start Guides](#)
[Election Calendar](#)
[EAC Map](#)

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TECHNICAL UPDATES

Testing and Certification Division Update

Over the course of several conferences and meetings this summer, questions were raised about what the EAC is working

on without a quorum. While it is true that there are things that we cannot get Commissioner approval for without a quorum, work on both short and long-term projects continues at the

TECHNICAL UPDATES

EAC. Also, with EAC's recent move to 1335 East West Hwy., Suite 4300, Silver Spring, MD 20910, we thought it made sense to clarify and reiterate what we are working on these days.

The Testing and Certification Division continues to accept applications and conduct voting system testing campaigns. The EAC has certified 14 systems to date; there are currently 5 systems in testing with the EAC. In addition to testing and certification of voting systems, the Division continues to work on:

- Updates to VVSG 1.1 and resolving public comments received earlier in 2013 to make sure there is an up to date standard ready for review when Commissioners are appointed.
- Outlining a proposal for procedural changes to the certification process, which would not require Commissioner approval.
- Streamlining the Federal process to make sure that the current program is meeting the needs of state and local jurisdictions.
- Updating and reviewing revisions to the Certification Program Manual and the VSTL Program Manual to make sure they are up to date and in line with the proposed program direction.
- Developing an ECO database for state officials to access the most up to date information about changes to voting systems.
- Auditing and drafting accreditation recommendations for new VSTLs and renewal requests for existing VSTLs.
- Working with NIST and accessibility advocates to strengthen and improve usability/accessibility testing in the EAC Testing & Certification process.

ECO Database for States

EAC announces the first phase of our Engineering Change Order (ECO) database for State users to better handle our test matrix of VVSG requirements. [Read more...](#)

Accessible voting technology funding

ITIF AVTI is funding [four projects](#) to improve accessible election technology. Click [here](#) for details. For background info, click [here](#).

Requests for Interpretations (RFI)

To view all of the RFIs published by the EAC, please visit the [Request for Interpretation](#) section of the Certification Program Web site.

NEW RFI 2013-03 [EAC Decision on Timestamps](#)

NEW RFI 2013-04 [EAC Decision on Usability Testing](#)

Notice of Clarifications (NOC)

To view all of the NOCs published by the EAC, please visit the [Notice of Clarification](#) section of the Certification Program Web site.

NEW NOC 2013-01 [Discrepancy Listing in Test Report](#)

NEW NOC 2013-02 [Detailed Description of Changes for Modifications](#)

EAC Roundtable: Transforming Election Administration, Voting System Accessibility, and the Certification Process

Watch the [archived webcast](#) of EAC's roundtable, Transforming Election Administration, Voting System Accessibility, and the Certification Process. EAC hosted the roundtable to discuss the results of grant funded work and how recent innovations in accessibility research may be applied to the future of election administration and voting systems. See the list of panelists, agenda and discussion questions, and archived webcast [here](#). View on demand [webcasts](#) of prior EAC discussions on major topics in election administration.

Quality Monitoring Program

EAC's [Quality Monitoring Program](#) is designed to ensure that voting systems certified by EAC are the same systems sold by manufacturers. The quality monitoring process is a mandatory part of the program and includes elements such as fielded voting system review, anomaly reporting, and manufacturing site visits. The [system advisory alerts](#) include recommended procedures, possible root causes and contact information for those jurisdictions with additional questions.

Voting System Reports Collection

As part of EAC's clearinghouse responsibilities under Section 202 of the Help America Vote Act, the commission adopted a policy authorizing staff to post and distribute voting system reports and studies that have been conducted or commissioned by a state or local government.

EAC encourages state and local governments to submit their voting system reports and studies so they may be shared with the broader election community and the public. View the reports and studies [here](#).

TECHNICAL UPDATES CONT...

Systems Under Test				Highlighted box indicates current phase of test campaign				
VOTING SYSTEM NAME	VSTL	MANUFACTURER	APPLICATION ACCEPTED	PRE-TEST PLAN	TEST PLAN	TESTING	TEST REPORT	FINAL CERTIFICATION PROCESS
Democracy Suite 4.14-B (Modification)	Wyle	Dominion	11/15/2013					
Unity 3.4.1.0 (Modification)	Wyle	ES&S	08/29/2013					
EVS 5.0.1.0 (Modification)	Wyle	ES&S	11/06/2013					
Verity Voting 1.0	SLI Global	Hart	12/17/2012					
OpenElect 1.2 (Modification)	Wyle	Unisyn	05/22/2013					

Voting System Updates

[DVS Democracy Suite 4.14.B](#), EAC received an application for a modification to the Democracy Suite system on November 8th and approved it on November 15th.

[ES&S Unity 3.4.1.0](#), EAC received a draft Test Plan on October 25th. EAC will provide comments or approval by November 22nd.

[ES&S EVS 5.0.1.0](#), EAC received an application for the ES&S EVS 5.0.1.0 modification on November 1st and approved it on November 5th.

[Hart InterCivic Verity 1.0](#), Hart experienced internal testing and project delays in the last several weeks. They notified the EAC that the delivery of equipment to SLI to begin testing is pushed back until the end of November/beginning of December. EAC received a revised project schedule and will update the EAC timeline in the next week or two.

[Unisyn OpenElect 1.2](#), Testing is complete and the EAC received a draft Test Report on October 30th. EAC will provide comments or approval by December 2nd.

For additional information on certified voting systems and systems under test, including test plans, test reports, and scope of certifications, please see the [Voting Systems Status Report](#). For general questions about the EAC's Voting System Testing and Certification program, visit our [FAQ page](#).