

The State of Texas



Information Technology Division
P.O. Box 12887
Austin, Texas 78711-2887

Phone: 512-463-5609
Fax: 512-463-5678
Dial 7-1-1 For Relay Services
www.sos.state.tx.us

Roger Williams
Secretary of State

TO: Ann McGeehan
Elections Division Director

FROM: Glenn Glover
Voting System Examiner

DATE: May 27, 2005

A voting systems certification examination was held at the Office of the Secretary of State Elections Division on Thursday morning, May 26, 2005.

Unilect Corporation submitted the following election system products for certification:

Product	Version
Patriot Precinct Control Unit (PCU)	2.56
Patriot Color Voting Unit (CVU)	2.54
Patriot Curbside Model	2.54
Patriot Freedom Unit	1.0
IntEllect Voting Software	2.60
Absentee Card reader	Model 1000
Absentee Card reader	Model 20
InfoPackER	1.0
InfoPack	1.0

Unilect Corp. began the examination by stating that the necessary cables for their absentee card readers were not available for the examination effectively precluding evaluation of these components and certification of both card readers at this time. The Patriot Freedom Unit and the Patriot Curbside Unit also were not evaluated by the examiners: SOS election staff will be conducting ADA testing on both devices

Unilect presented their PCU and explained to the examiners the operations of the PCU. Unilect also presented their Direct Recording Electronic Voting equipment (DRE) components: the 10.4 inch black and white DRE and their 15 inch color model CVU. All Unilect DRE's at the precinct are connected to the PCU. The PCU serves as the precinct hub with Unilect DRE's daisy-chained together then connected to the PCU (similar to a configuration of dumb terminals daisy-chained to a server). Unilect described the PCU features including redundant power supplied by batteries; 7 redundant storage locations safeguarding cast vote records, report printing and modem transfer capabilities.

I also inspected the InfoPack module which is a portable memory device where election ballot and precinct information is electronically transferred from a PC running the Intellect Voting Software (IEVS) to the InfoPack. The InfoPack setups are done at a central election site or warehouse then distributed to the precinct's voting location for insertion into the PCU. At the precinct during election day, the PCU stores log file information and race totals into the InfoPack as well as the other redundant storage locations within the PCU.

The IEVS software, running on a PC, is responsible for setting up election information including precinct information, candidates for each race, ballot layouts, etc. The IEVS software uses the Windows 98 operating system and does not allow a user to shell out of the IEVS program. The IEVS writes to the InfoPack before the election and can read from the InfoPack after the election closes for accumulation of results from each precinct's PCU. Microsoft has ceased support of Windows 98 and Unilect's response that "customers can purchase Windows 98 licenses from Ebay" is undesirable in my opinion. I recommend that Unilect migrate to a newer operating system with full vendor support. The modem functionality of the IEVS software was not tested because of hardware or phone line failure.

After review of the documentation, examination and test voting, I recommend conditional certification of the IntEllect Voting Software 2.60 pending an upgrade of the IEVS operating system to a full vendor supported version and a follow up demonstration of the IEVS modem functionality. Contingent on the IEVS upgrade and a successful modem demonstration I would recommend certification of the following Unilect components: Patriot Precinct Control Unit (PCU) 2.56, Patriot Color Voting Unit (CVU) 2.54, InfoPackER 1.0 and InfoPack 1.0. At this time I can not recommend certification of the Absentee Card reader Model 1000, Absentee Card reader Model 20 for use in the State of Texas until a follow up demonstration is made to the examiners.