

The State of Texas



Elections Division
P.O. Box 12060
Austin, Texas 78711-2060
www.sos.state.tx.us

Phone: 512-463-5650
Fax: 512-475-2811
Dial 7-1-1 For Relay Services
(800) 252-VOTE (8683)

Rolando B. Pablos
Secretary of State

MEMORANDUM

TO: Keith Ingram, Director of Elections, Secretary of State's Office

FROM: Christina Worrell Adkins, Staff Attorney, Elections Division Legal Section

DATE: May 18, 2017

RE: Election System and Software Voting Systems Examination

On April 18-19 2017, Election Systems & Software ("ES&S") presented for examination ES&S Unity 3.4.1.4 Voting system. This system includes components that were previously certified in Texas.

Component Submitted for Certification	Version	Previous Texas Certification
Unity (and related components)	3.4.1.4	NA
Election Reporting Manager (ERM)	7.9.0.1	09/02/2014
Hardware Programming Manager	5.9.0.1	09/02/2014

Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code §81.60, ES&S submitted their application for state certification, Forms 100 and 101, the Technical Data Package, authorization letters, and a copy of all firmware/software and source codes sent directly from NTS, a nationally accredited voting system test laboratory. Examiners were given a copy of the application and testing materials for review prior to the in-person examination that occurred on April 18-19, 2017.

Examination

Unity 3.4.1.4 was developed to create a "bridge" procedure to allow election results from different versions of Unity to be compiled so that election officials can continue to use their iVotronics along with the DS200 or DS850 in a given election. This bridge allows the election official to produce one report that contains all of their election results. There were only two components of Unity that were evaluated during this certification as the remaining software and hardware components contained the same version numbers and were not modified or changed with this certification.

On Day 1 of the examination, technical examiners, Stephen Berger, James Sneeringer, and I were present to observe and verify the installation of the vendor's software. I was present for observation purposes, but did not participate in the installation portion of the exam. In addition to observing the installation of the software, the technical examiners also verified version numbers of the software and component parts. On Day 2 of the exam, ES&S demonstrated the "bridge" procedure to show how results from the DS200 and/or DS850 tabulators would be exported and merged into previously certified versions of Unity.

ES&S provided detailed instruction on how to complete the merger process. They indicated that there are several counties in Texas that need this update because of their continued desire to use their iVotronics along with the newer DS850 central scanner. ES&S indicated that this was likely to be used on a short-term basis as it was intended to allow counties to upgrade their hardware gradually which may provide a more cost effective way for the counties to start phasing in newer, upgraded equipment.

This merger process for Unity 3.4.1.4 is similar to the merger process that was approved under Unity 3.4.1.0. The counties that will be using it are already familiar with the process. Because only those individuals that participate in the tabulation process will need to know how to implement the merger procedure there is no need for large scale training and no need to revise procedures for the election judges and clerks.

CONCLUSIONS

Over the course of the in-person examination and the review of the materials that were contained in the vendor's application, there was no evidence that Unity 3.4.1.4 failed to comply with the Voting System Standards outlined in Sections 122.001, 122.032, 122.033, and 122.0331 of the Texas Election Code or the rules outlined in Chapter 81, Subchapter C of the Texas Administrative Code.

Overall, Unity 3.4.1.4 met the requirements prescribed by the Texas Election Code, and the Texas Administrative Code that pertain to voting system certification. Therefore, I recommend certification of the aforementioned system.