

The State of Texas



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A voting systems certification examination was held at the Office of the Secretary of State Elections Division on Wednesday morning, May 26, 2004. ES&S, Inc. submitted the following election system components and version numbers to the certification examiners for review.

Unity Hardware Programming Manager (HRM)	5.0.3.0b
Unity Data Acquisition Manager (DAM)	5.0.3.1a
Unity Election Reporting Manager (ERM)	6.4.3.0a
iVotronic DRE	8.0.1.0n
Model 150/550	2.1.1.0a

The Unity Election System Software package version 2.4.3 consists of the HRM, DAM, and ERM components listed above. ES&S provided documentation that listed the changes of each of these components and the modules in which the changes occurred. The iVotronic DRE and the Model 150/550 Central Tabulators were also updated with newer software and itemized in the change release summary documents submitted to the certification examiners.

The ES&S presentation began with a discussion of the fix for the ERM real time log printing problems encountered in the January 2003 examination. They demonstrated that this problem has now been resolved and is documented in the ERM change report document. ES&S spoke of the iVotronic DRE's increased capacity for larger ballot styles and package definition. Additional changes included improved support and message displays of poll management and ballot workflows and improved iVotronic DRE touch screen controls. Firmware revisions were made to the Model 150/550 as required by an Independent Testing Authority (ITA) to meet specifications set forth by the Voting Systems Standards. I reviewed these revisions which were programming and comment changes to the code used to perform the ballot-style boundary test. These changes did not affect the functionality of the program.

The examiners noted during testing of the Unity System, that when beginning a new election, election data from previous elections are not automatically deleted after confirmation that a new election is to begin. ES&S responded that data from previous elections should be manually deleted and was not an automated process. The certification panel recommends that this be

automated. The examination continued with a test election with voting on the iVotronic DRE, and marking the sample Texas ballots which were scanned into the Model 150 and Model 550 optical scanner central tabulator. The iVotronic and Model 150/550 successfully accumulated* and transmitted ballot data via modem to the Unity System. The ERM logged all significant events including data transmission to the real time log audit printer. The review continued with an examination of the Unity components including the DAM, ERM, and HRM. These components operated satisfactory with no problems encountered. The examination panel verified that the devices tallied the test votes correctly.

Based on the ES&S documentation submitted and the observations from the examination of the ES&S voting system, I find that the Unity HRM 5.0.3.0b, DAM 5.0.3.1a, Unity ERM 6.4.3.0a, iVotronic DRE 8.0.1.0n, and Model 150/550 2.1.1.0a are in compliance with Texas Election Standards and recommend their certification for use in the State of Texas.

* Initially, the scan of the Texas sample ballot into the Model 150/550 resulted in an erroneous tally. We believe this was the result of the ES&S staff's inconsistent handling of ejected ballots. A subsequent and controlled rescan of the Texas sample ballot resulted in a correct tally.