

ECOs and State Certification Protocols: The Indiana Experience

Indiana Voting Systems
Technical Oversight Program (VSTOP)
The Bowen Center for Public Affairs
Ball State University

Voting Systems Technical Oversight Program (VSTOP)

- Started at Ball State in 2008
- Funded by Indiana Secretary of State's Office
- VSTOP and Indiana Election Division (IED) and Indiana Election Commission (IEC)
- Co-Directors
 - Ray Scheele, Professor of Political Science
 - Jay Bagga, Professor of Computer Science

VSTOP Team

- Dr. Ray Scheele
- Dr. Jay Bagga
- Dr. Joe Losco
- Ms. Chaitanya Mahasamudram
- Mr. Charles Vendenplas

VSTOP Activities

- Develop and manage Protocols and Processes of Voting Systems Certification and Modification
- Assist the IED and IEC in reviewing applications for recertification, new certification and modification of Voting Systems
- Quality Control - Monitor advisories
- Inventory and Contracts Database of Voting Systems
- Random Audits of Voting Systems
- Other related activities

Indiana Voting System Approval Process (1)

1. Vendor takes Voting System to a VSTL for testing; receives a report
2. Vendor files application for Voting System approval with Indiana
3. IED evaluates the application
 - The Indiana SOS is authorized to enter into a contract with a person or entity to assist the Commission in evaluating voting system approval applications pursuant to the Voting System Oversight Program (VSTOP), IC 3-11-16.

Indiana Voting System Approval Process (2)

4. IEC considers the application. IED must approve the application
5. Vendor Receives Voting System Certification
6. Voting system approvals run for a uniform term
 - Begin: October 1 of the year following a presidential election
 - End: Four years later.
 - “Mid-term” approvals also end on that October 1 date
7. Therefore, the certification of all voting systems currently approved will expire October 1, 2013.

VSTOP Certification Protocol (approved by IED)

Phase I-Application:

VSTOP determines if the application received from the Vendor is complete.

[Link to IEC-11 form - Discuss](#)

VSTOP Certification Protocol

Phase II – Documentation Review:

VSTOP reviews the documentation submitted by the vendor for compliance with Indiana Code.

VSTOP Certification Protocol

Phase III – Functional Testing:

Voting systems are tested against the VSS 2002 adopted by the FEC on April 30, 2002, or the VVSG 2005 adopted by EAC on December 13, 2005)(IC 3-11-15-13.3).

VSTOP Certification Protocol

Phase IV – Certification Documents:

VSTOP presents a report to IEC that includes a review of the documentation from EAC, the independent test laboratory, and the results of the independent tests conducted by VSTOP. IEC determines whether to certify the voting system.

VSTOP Certification Process

- **Link to VSTOP Certification Script**
- **Discussion**

Systems Certified in Indiana

- ES&S Unity 3.0.1.0, 3.2.0.0, Assure 1.2, AccuVote TSx and OS
- Hart InterCivic 6.2.1
- MicroVote Infinity VP-1
- Unisyn Open Elect 1.0

ECOs

- EAC Voting Systems Testing and Program Manual
- [Link to VSTOP ECO Protocol](#)
- Discussion

Discussion

- Certification Issues
 - IC Code Conformity
 - VSTL testing to State standards
- ECO issues
 - Variations in Documentation
 - Certification and service vendors

VSTOP

Thank You!