



**Elections Division
Office of the Secretary of State**

**Report of the Secretary of State on the Examination
of Dominion Voting Systems Democracy Suite
5.0**

March 1, 2017

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Overview

Application

On January 6th Dominion Voting Systems submitted an application for Washington State Certification of Democracy Suite 5.0. Dominion applied to certify the full functionality of all the Democracy Suite.

New Voting System

This is a modification of the previously certified Democracy Suite 4.14-D system. This system is a paper-based optical scan voting system with a commercial off the shelf (COTS) scanner.

Democracy Suite 5.0 is a new system not currently certified in any other state. Previous versions are certified and used in Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Illinois, Louisiana, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

National Certification

After the completion of testing by a certified Voting System Test Lab (VSTL), the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) certified Democracy Suite 5.0 on February 8, 2017. The following hardware and software of the system has been approved by the EAC:

Software comprised of:

- EMS Election Event Designer (EED) 5.0.15.1
- EMS Results Tally and Reporting (RTR) 5.0.15.1
- EMS File System Service (FSS) 5.0.15.1
- EMS Audio Studio (AS) 5.0.15.1
- EMS Data Center Manager (DCM) 5.0.15.1
- EMS Election Data Translator (EDT) 5.0.15.1
- EMS Application Server (APPS) 5.0.15.1
- EMS Adjudication 5.0.0.17002
- ImageCast Central Application 5.0.1-0001
- ICX Application 5.0.6149.28963

Hardware comprised of:

- Canon DR-M160II Scanner*
- Canon DR-G1130 Scanner
- iButton (SHA-1)
- ICX Tablet - Avalue 15" Tablet (SID-15V) & Avalue 21" Tablet (SID-21V)

Additional information about software components is available in the EAC Test Lab report.

* The Canon DR-M160II Scanner was tested by Pro V&V in a separate independent test. Pro V&V concluded that “Based on the results obtained during this state level test campaign, Pro V&V determines that the Democracy Suite 5.0 System, as presented for evaluation, meets the requirements for the EAC 2005 VVSG.”

Testing & Inspection

Testing and evaluation of Democracy Suite 5.0 was conducted by Secretary of State staff at the Elections Division in Olympia, WA on March 1, 2017. Examining the system for the Office of the Secretary of State was Stuart Holmes, Voting Information Systems (VIS) Manager. Patrick Pow, a member of the Voting System Review Board was also present.

Due to Democracy Suite 5.0 receiving National Certification from the EAC, a two phase testing program was developed and approved by Secretary of State VIS Manager for state certification testing.

Delivery Acceptance Testing of the equipment and software to determine if the correct model and versions of the equipment and software are delivered and that the equipment, software and system operate as documented by the vendor.

Election Results Testing to ensure that the equipment, software and system perform each of the functions required by federal, state and local law in order to administer an election from the beginning to the end.

Executive Summary of Findings of Secretary of State Staff

Voting System Accuracy

Democracy Suite 5.0 successfully and accurately tabulated all ballots including additional hand-marked and manually voted ballots from the accessible voting units. Results were manually audited and reviewed by a team of two.

During the test a batch of scanned ballots was deleted incorrectly which caused unanticipated consequences. Once the batch data was deleted correctly, the system resumed normal functionality.

Results Reporting

Democracy Suite 5.0 was able to produce the state required reports for election results by precinct and cumulative.

System Limits

This table depicts the limits the system has been tested and certified to meet.

Characteristic	Limiting Component	Limit	Comment
Ballot positions	The ballot	462	Both
Precincts in an election	EMS	1000; 250	Standard; Express
Contests in an election	EMS	4000; 250	Standard; Express
Candidates/Counters in an election	EMS	40000; 2500	Standard; Express
Candidates/Counters in a precinct	Tabulator	462	Both
Candidates/Counters in a tabulator	Tabulator	10000; 2500	Standard; Express
Ballot Styles in an election	Tabulator	4000; 750	Standard; Express
Ballot IDs in a tabulator	Tabulator	200	Both
Contests in a ballot style	Tabulator	125	Standard; Express
Candidates in a contest	EMS	462; 231	Standard; Express
Ballot styles in a precinct	Tabulator	5	Both
Number of political parties	Tabulator	30	Both
“vote for” in a contest	Tabulator	30	Both
Supported languages in an election	Tabulator	5	Both
Number of write-ins	The ballot	462	Both

Ballot Scanning

The Democracy Suite system uses Canon high-speed scanners capable of scanning 130 pages per minute. During testing of an 8.5”x14” length ballot, we observed a scanning speed of about a ballot per second. If the scanner was used continuously for 8 hours, a total of 28,800 ballots could be scanned by one unit. During testing we did not need to replace the scanner’s feeder roller but Dominion approximates that the roller would have to be replaced every 20,000 ballots.

Ballot Processing

The system will allow multiple users to adjudicate ballots simultaneously, including ballots in the same batch. This feature will speed up the processing of ballots by county staff. Additionally, user roles can be restricted so they can only perform certain tasks within the application which will reduce the risk of accidental or intentional changes.

System Security

Windows logs are used to track the use of the PC's by individual users in addition to the Democracy Suite audit logs. These logs can be printed. Another important feature is that every ballot scanned has an audit log attached for easy review of the history of that ballot from scanning to tabulation.

Democracy Suite uses two-step authentication by requiring the user to enter their name and password as well as having a valid 'iButton' connected to the PC.

The system documentation provides procedures on how the user can check the hash code of the software to verify that the applications have not been modified from their certified versions.

Physical Security (excerpt from Dominion's security documentation)

The Democracy Suite EMS environment must be physically secured in a locked area with security access controls in place. No access to this area should be permitted to unauthorized personnel. Dominion Voting Systems requires that an access control system is utilized that will automatically log and record each individual's access to the EMS Datacenter environment.

Such systems include the use of electronic passes or biometrics to gain entry into the secure area. In addition, if cameras and/or a cardkey system are not in use, all personnel must be required to sign in and out when accessing the secure Democracy Suite EMS environment area. The access log must include: name, organization, purpose of access, date, time in, time out, and signature. Buildings and rooms within those buildings which contain EMS and ICC installations must be secured. Security for these can include traditional methods such as keys and locks, cardkeys, and surveillance cameras.

Write-Ins

Democracy Suite does allow the user to enter write-in candidates into the system. However, write-in candidates cannot be entered until they have been added to the list of write-in candidates in the system.

Accessible Voting

This version of Democracy Suite includes new touch screen accessible voting units. The user interface and experience was very user friendly and wonderfully designed. At the end of the session, the voter's choices are printed on a machine readable ballot that can be put into the voter's return envelopes and returned into a ballot drop box.

Ambiguous Marks

Democracy Suite has the ability to adjust the settings on what is an 'ambiguous mark'. Essentially it adjusts the systems sensitivity on what it considers a valid mark. There is no RCW/WAC in place that states a minimum requirement for the 'ambiguous mark' control.

Conclusion

After an evaluation of the system, staff believes the system and its' components meet current Washington State requirements for Presidential Primary, Special, Primary, and General Elections.