



May 22, 2013

Keith Ingram
Director of Elections
Texas Secretary of State
208 East 10th Street
Rusk Building, Third Floor
Austin, Texas 78701

Via: Electronic Mail

RE: Approval Request for Hart Voting System 6.2.1 on Microsoft Windows 7 Professional Operating System

Dear Mr. Ingram,

Pursuant to Texas Election Code §122, Subchapter C, and Texas Administrative Code, Subchapter D, Rule §81.65, Hart InterCivic, Inc., requests administrative approval for the use of Hart Voting System 6.2.1 (HVS 6.2.1) election management system software components with Microsoft Windows 7 Professional (Win 7) Operating System (OS) in the State of Texas.

HVS 6.2.1, comprised of the following voting system software and voting device components, was federally certified by NASED on August 7, 2006 to the Federal Election Commission (FEC) Voting System Standards, April 2002 (2002 VSS) and subsequently approved for sale and use in Texas jurisdictions by the Texas Secretary of State on April 30, 2009.

Hart Voting System 6.2.1 Components: (NASED Number N-1-04-22-22-006 (2002))

eCM Manager	1.1.7	SERVO	4.2.10
BOSS	4.3.13	JBC	4.3.1
Ballot Now	3.3.11	eSlate/DAU	4.2.13
Tally	4.3.10	eScan	1.3.14
Rally	2.3.7	VBO (not used in TX)	1.8.3

Original Independent Test Authority (ITA) certification testing of HVS 6.2.1 was conducted on Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional (Win 2000). Microsoft Extended Support for Win 2000 ended in July, 2010. During the six years of highly successful HVS 6.2.1 field use on Win 2000, Microsoft introduced four new operating systems, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7 and most recently, Windows 8.

With Microsoft fielding new operating systems and releasing a declaration of Win 2000 as “end of life,” computer manufacturers no longer produce new hardware systems compatible with the aging OS, and COTS peripheral manufacturers often do not provide Win 2000 drivers for new products. As a result of these developments, new COTS PC and peripheral hardware devices can no longer be procured to support customer hardware refreshes and/or new system deployments. Additionally, many HVS customers have updated/upgraded their non-HVS computers and IT systems with new OS platforms to achieve increased compatibility, performance, and ever-important reliability. Many have requested these same improvements and benefits for their HVS computer and peripheral systems, as well.

In mid-2012, Hart conducted internal end-to-end functional system testing to validate operation of HVS 6.2.1 on the Win 7 OS in both non-hardened and hardened system configurations ***without modification of HVS 6.2.1 software or firmware.***

Validation testing included creation and confirmation of setup procedures and system hardening for installing HVS 6.2.1 on Win 7. End-to-end testing was conducted with all HVS 6.2.1 components, including SERVO. SERVO is the only HVS application not ported to Win 7 because the required Enhanced Parallel Port (EPP) communication between SERVO and voting device firmware is not supported by Win 7. Testing SERVO, running on Win 2000, with all other HVS 6.2.1 desktop applications running on Win 7 confirmed all applications performed as designed.

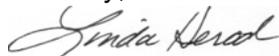
At the conclusion of internal Hart testing, HVS 6.2.1 running on Win 7 OS was administratively approved for use in the states of Washington and Oregon following a review of the Hart internal test script and results report. This configuration has been operating in the field without issue in jurisdictions in both states since that time.

Additionally, Hart Voting System 6.2.1, *without modification to software or firmware*, configured on Windows 7 Professional Operating System was submitted in May, 2013, for testing and review by SLI Global Solutions, Inc., an EAC, NIST and NVLAP accredited Voting System Test Laboratory (VSTL). A Hart system setup procedures document was submitted to your office in a previous communication and an updated revision, used by the VSTL and Hart, is attached to this request. The final VSTL test report indicates this system configuration was found to be "fully capable and qualified for use in a production environment." A copy of the final VSTL test report also attached to this request.

Hart is unaware of documentation beyond that contained in the TDP submitted at the time of the initial Texas certification event, and the two attachments to this letter, that may be needed to support the State's assessment of this request. Hart will, however, be pleased to provide appropriate additional documentation or other support requested by the State for this purpose.

Hart looks forward to the favorable review of this request and approval of the Hart Voting System 6.2.1 running on Windows 7 Professional OS in the State of Texas. For questions or additional information, please contact me directly by phone at 832.243.5726 or email at lherod@hartic.com.

Sincerely,



Certification Manager
Hart InterCivic, Inc.

CC: Juanita Woods, Texas SOS
Irene Diaz, Texas SOS
Christina Adkins, Texas SOS
Pete Lichtenheld, Hart InterCivic, Inc.
David Schwarzbach, Hart InterCivic, Inc.

Attachments:

1. *Win7_HVS621_Install_Setup_Hardening_rev 4.4.pdf*
2. *HVS_621_Win7_VSTL_Test_Rpt_Final.pdf*