

Election Systems & Software (ES&S) is a proud provider of voting system technology across the United States. We have been in the business of providing tabulation systems to local and state jurisdictions for more than 40 years.

U.S. registered voters cast their ballots using several different methods. The types and kinds of technology in use across the nation vary from state to state and county to county, based on the election laws and preferred voting methods for a particular jurisdiction. Depending on the jurisdiction, voters can cast their ballots by mail in advance of Election Day or in a polling location on Election Day, and in some cases, in a polling location during an Early Voting period. Many voters cast their ballots on a voting device designed to ensure that those with disabilities can vote securely and independently. The most common way to vote, however, remains in-person at a polling location on the day of the election. Polling place ballots are then tabulated at the precinct, or in some cases, they are centrally counted at the elections office.



#### **Testing and Certification**

ES&S submits our tabulation systems to rigorous and lengthy test campaigns as part of the Election Assistance Commission's (EAC) Voting System Certification Program. This important program details security and performance standards that were developed by scientists, academicians and election officials. ES&S submits equipment to testing by independent third parties, including the Idaho National Lab for penetration and full security testing. All independent laboratories that test our systems have received federal accreditation.



### **Encryption and Digital Signatures**

In addition to adhering to the security and performance requirements of the EAC Certification Program, our voting equipment adheres to secure practices that surround the creation, transfer and storage of important election files and data. Our products employ encryption and digital signing for data in transit and at rest, using cryptographic modules that meet the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS). Our systems allow Election Officials to easily adhere to the laws of their state, which mandates strict physical security and tight chain of custody of the voting machines.



### **Ensuring Trusted Voting Results**

If a voting machine has a mechanical issue or a human makes an error in preparing or using a voting machine, every state in the nation has protocols for the use of back-up equipment, audits of voting results and publicly documented physical tests to ensure that issues can be corrected before Election Day or before the final certification of voting results.



### **Security Partnerships and Collaboration**

ES&S continues to strengthen our partnerships with various external entities, including the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Information Sharing and Analysis Centers (ISACs). We are also a member of the Elections Infrastructure Sector Coordinating Council (SCC), an organization in partnership with the Government Coordinating Council, designed to guide voting system manufacturers and other interested parties in election security and best practices.

# **Post-Election Auditing and Paper Ballot Cards**

ES&S fully supports the use of paper ballots and post-election audits as a way to ensure accuracy and increase confidence in our country's election process.

- ES&S' Electionware® election management software offers election officials
  the ability to conduct a wide range of post-election audits with improved
  effectiveness and efficiency. The system provides easy-to-read, side-byside comparisons of the unaltered ballot image and its corresponding cast
  vote record, making it possible to audit any election in a fraction of the
  time.
- Electionware provides an export of cast vote records that are easily imported into the various risk-limiting audit systems in use today.



#### **Is a Paper Ballot Card Auditable?**

Yes. Just as hand-marked paper ballots can be inspected or audited by hand or by machine, so can ballot cards. A ballot card contains the same data as a hand-marked ballot, displayed in different ways. During a post-election hand-count audit, selected candidate names are used to count the vote.

ES&S views paper records as critical for auditing. A physical paper record of the selected candidate names provides the means to a statistically valid post-election audit.

# **ES&S Security Philosophy**

Nothing is more important to ES&S than protecting America's democracy through secure and accurate elections. That's why every ES&S product reflects the company's three-part security philosophy:

- **Design:** All products are designed, without compromise, to meet the latest and ever-evolving standards in security, accuracy and reliability.
- **Testing**: In addition to ES&S testing protocols, all tabulation systems are rigorously tested and certified by the federal Election Assistance Commission (EAC), which reflects security and performance standards developed by scientists, academia and election officials. The ES&S testing protocol also involves testing by independent, accredited laboratories. ES&S submitted our end-to-end voting configuration for Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) critical product evaluation (CPE) at Idaho National Labs.
- **Implementation:** The entire ES&S team is devoted to ensuring that each piece of technology performs as expected on election day, helping election officials uphold the laws of their state which mandate strict physical security and tight chain of custody of all voting machines.

Perhaps most importantly, ES&S' essence — its very being — is predicated on providing America with secure, accurate and accessible elections. Every person at ES&S holds themselves, and each other, accountable for this mandate, and is proud to serve a role in this noble purpose.