



Friday, January 15, 2010

TrustTheVote

Stakeholder Community

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Greetings Collaborators,

Happy New Year everyone. We're planning on an exciting year of progress, developments, and real results. We kick off this mid-term election year with an update on our work to build solutions that implement the mandates of the 2009 MOVE Act. We look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming NASS and NASED conference in D.C.

Two Documents

We've been at work on documents concerning our technology and its application to the MOVE Act implementation mandates. And we're ready for your comments and input. Here's a synopsis of each.

I. MOVE Act Implementation White Paper - Comment Requested

This paper has been prepared by our Core Team as a modest road map for how the MOVE Act can be implemented leveraging our emerging technology framework of open source elections systems software technology. We were joined by a couple of vital collaborators, **Susan Dzieduszicka-Suinat** of the Overseas Vote Foundation, whom we are collaborating with on the common voting data layer and format, and **Paul Stenbjorn** of Election Information Services. We thank them both for their time and contributions. We ask that you have a look at that Paper and please let us know what you think. You can find it as a PDF on the Project Wiki by following this link: <http://bit.ly/6XQKbu> (which downloads the PDF immediately; the Wiki Repository page itself is: <http://bit.ly/4zBUYb>). We hope you find this White Paper informative, and look forward to your comments (see below for a new feedback eMail address).

Our goal is to demonstrate Alpha-grade components of this solution at the upcoming National Association for State Secretaries Conference and/or the upcoming National Association of States Elections Directors Conference, overlapping with one another the end of this month. And we intend to demonstrate a much closer to production ready solution at this Spring's 2010 UOCAVA Summit in Munich, Germany. We hope you find this White Paper informative, and look forward to your comments (see below for a new feedback address).

II. Response to FVAP Request For Information on COTS Solutions - Comment Optional

This document is in response to an RFI from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) to gather information on how much of a solution (*if any*) exists today that can be acquired to enable the mandates of the MOVE Act, among them a digital means for overseas and military citizens to verify their registration status, and a digital (*online*) means to receive a blank ballot for an upcoming election.

The latter (*blank ballot delivery*) is a complicated undertaking to serve 56 States and territories for which we believe a combination of resources will be required to properly implement a robust solution. On paper, the required service sounds simple enough and certainly is essential. However, as is often the case when technology of well intended legislation meets the road of reality, the devil lurks in the details of implementation. So, the best solution will likely require components from the Pew VIP project, Overseas Vote Foundation, some core technology from the TrustTheVote Project, and the domain expertise of several.

We provided a response to the best of our knowledge with a hypothetical approach to a solution. We have the highest confidence that if given the opportunity to build a solution for FVAP, the non-profit TrustTheVote Project could do so with the greatest possible innovation, on an open source framework, and at a highly favorable cost structure (*given that the ultimate bearer of any price is the taxpayer.*) Of course, this depends on the FVAP actually issuing a Request for Proposal/Quote and the OSDV Foundation successfully winning the competitive bid process. Regardless, we will forge ahead with our technology development and it will be available for these purposes. We hope you find this RFI Response informative. You can find it as a PDF on the Project Wiki by following this link: <http://bit.ly/5TLPCO> (*which downloads the PDF immediately; the Wiki Repository page itself is: <http://bit.ly/4zBUYb>*). We look forward to your input.

New Feedback eMail Address

The next step in evolving our Stakeholder Community services is a **[new eMail address](#)** for sending comments and feedback *directly* to our Core Technology Team, without having to necessarily share it with every one else. Please start (re)directing your comments or feedback to this new address: stakeholder-replies@osdv.org.

[More Administrivia](#)

Speaking of eMail reply addresses, privacy, and the like, we owe you a "policy and process" document on managing your contributions in the Stakeholder community, and that's coming shortly. That memo will address what to expect from contributing to requests for comments, disclosure of your participation, etc. We should have it to you soon.

Thanks for your continued participation and support. We know your time is valuable, especially on this voluntary basis. We also deeply appreciate your realizing how imperative this public digital works project is, and the potential of helping shape publicly owned open source elections technology that is accurate, transparent, trustworthy, and secure.

Sincerely,

Gregory Miller, Co-Executive Director & Chief Foundation Development Officer

John Sebes, Co-Executive Director & Chief Technology Officer