

IEEE

Voting Equipment Standard

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Project Presentation

Executive Summary

Problems that occurred in the recent U.S. Presidential election clearly identified the need for higher standards for voting equipment. Voting equipment that meets the highest standards for quality, accuracy, usability and reliability is of vital national interest. To address this vital need, in June 2001 the IEEE Standards Association inaugurated a new standards project; tasked with the development of standards for voting equipment, project P1583.

The Working Group for project P1583 will develop a standard that establishes requirements and evaluation methods for election voting equipment. The standard will provide technical specifications for electronic, mechanical, and human factors that can be used by manufacturers of voting machines or by those purchasing such machines. The tests and criteria developed will assure equipment:

- Accessibility
- Accuracy
- Confidentiality
- Reliability
- Security
- Usability

The project is actively being pursued in close communication with the Federal Election Commission, National Association of State Election Directors, National Institute of Science and Technology, US Transportation and Architectural Barriers Compliance Board and others.

Project Scope & Purpose

P1583 was approved on June 14, 2001 with the following scope and purpose:

Scope

Develop a standard for the evaluation of election voting equipment.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to develop an evaluation standard for election voting equipment. The standard will provide technical specifications for electronic, mechanical, and human factors that can be used by manufacturers of voting machines or by those purchasing such machines. The tests and criteria developed will assure equipment:

- Confidentiality,

- Security,
- Reliability,
- Accuracy,
- Usability,
- Accessibility.

About the IEEE

The IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) is the world's largest technical professional society, with over 360,000 members in 150 countries. The IEEE is comprised of over 40 entities, dealing with different areas of technology, standards development, education, and other areas of interest. IEEE Press publishes over 25% of all the technical literature in the world. For further information see:

www.ieee.org

About IEEE Standards

IEEE standards set specifications and procedures designed to ensure that materials, products, methods, or services are fit for their purpose and consistently perform the way they were intended. Standards establish an authoritative "common language" that defines quality and sets technical criteria. They are the common denominator that organize our technical world, ensure safety, facilitate trade, add value to products and help drive market developments.

About the IEEE Standards Association

The IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) is an internationally recognized standards-setting body that develops high-quality standards through an open consensus process. The IEEE-SA has more than 850 active consensus standards and more than 400 in development. Over 30,000 IEEE members worldwide voluntarily participate in standards development activities.

The IEEE-SA promotes the engineering process by creating, developing, integrating, sharing and applying knowledge about electro-technical and information technologies and sciences for the benefit of humanity and the profession. More information is found at:

<http://standards.ieee.org/sa-mem/index.html>

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