



*Working Together for Secure and Accurate Elections*

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**For Immediate Release**

**ELECTION TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL RELEASES INDUSTRY GUIDELINES FOR  
SAFEGUARDING THE 2008 ELECTION CYCLE**

**Houston, TX – January 9, 2008 –**

The Election Technology Council today announced the release of industry guidelines outlining best practices for election officials to adopt in response to potential and perceived threats to electronic voting systems. In releasing the guidelines, David Beirne, Executive Director of the Election Technology Council, said, “The Council recognizes that no voting technology is invulnerable, and as with other types of voting systems, it is critical for election administrators around the country to build robust procedures for safeguarding the use of electronic voting systems. Misconceptions concerning the operation of electronic voting systems, if left unanswered, can have a corrosive effect on voter confidence if they are not taken seriously and addressed with clear, factual information.”

The published guidelines from the Election Technology Council highlight common practices that county and state election officials can adopt leading up to, during, and after Election Day. If adopted in their entirety, these procedures will provide clear evidence of the integrity of their voting systems and will assist in documenting the accuracy and validity of the election results. The guidelines list the most common perceived threats and provide clear mitigation strategies for each.

The integrity of all elections is dependent upon clear procedures to identify potential threats and detect them after an election is completed. Detection is the critical component when verifying the integrity of an election. This is true in both the use of voting technologies and during the exercise of the voting process at the polling place.

Many of these best practices have already been adopted by various jurisdictions. With the release of these new guidelines, the Council offers a comprehensive framework for jurisdictions to apply, determining those procedures which best suit their needs during the 2008 Presidential Election Cycle, in accordance with State laws and regulations.

Copies of the full publication, "Safeguarding The Vote", may be retrieved from [www.electiontech.org](http://www.electiontech.org).

**About the Election Technology Council ([www.electiontech.org](http://www.electiontech.org))**

The Election Technology Council (ETC) consists of companies that offer voting system technology hardware products, software and services to support the electoral process. The ETC represents manufacturers of the voting equipment used by over 90% of the population in the United States. These companies have organized as an industry trade association to work together to address common issues facing the industry. Membership in the ETC is open to any company in the election systems marketplace. Current members of the Election Technology Council include Advanced Voting Systems, Election Systems & Software, Hart InterCivic, Premier Election Solutions and Sequoia Voting Systems.

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