Guidelines! Standards architecture

What it is not

- Not a regulation
 - Standard: Document established by consensus and approved by a recognized body that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context. (Glossary v2.4)
- Not a standard architecture

What it is

- Architecture of the standard
- Conformance clause
- Normative language
- Compliance points
- Profiles
- Implementation statements

Why it is

- TGDC Resolution #24-05, "Conformance clause;" #25-05, "Precise and Testable Requirements"
- Prerequisite for precision and testability
- Application of best practices

Where it is

- Still evolving
- Discussion in draft VVSG2 Sec. 4.2.1.1.2.2
- Conformance clause (w/ normative language)
- Compliance points in new and revised texts
- Profiles (see errata)
- Will gain complete, normative definition in conformance clause of VVSG2

Profiles

- Formalized profiles for equipment classes (DRE, marksense, etc.) and central vs. precinct count
- Added profiles for supported voting variations and optional functions
- Types of independent verification

Example from Principle 2.4, accumulate, count, and report (see errata)

- Requirements from 2002 VSS extricated from one another, made separate compliance points
- General requirements clarified by subrequirements that are profile-specific
- Confusing, overlapping requirements refactored (esp. reporting)

Before:

- The TDP accompanying the system shall specifically identify which of the following items can and cannot be supported by the system, as well as how the system can implement the items supported: ... Open primaries ... (2002 VSS I.2.2.8.2)
- Recognizing variations in system design and the technologies employed by different vendors, the ITAs shall design test procedures that account for such variations and reflect the system-specific functional capabilities in Volume I, Section 2. (2002 VSS II.3.2.1)

After:

• (For systems claiming conformance to the *Open primaries* and *DRE* profiles) In an open primary on a DRE system, the voter shall be allowed to choose a party affiliation at the time of voting and vote the appropriate ballot form in privacy (i.e., the choice of affiliation shall be private as well as the ballot). (Errata, A1.5, FR4.1.4.2.1)

Issues

- Organization of compliance points subject to change
- Conflicting requirements on organization
- Identification, referencing and indexing of compliance points complicate document production
- Endless opportunities for sub-requirements

Non-issues

- Configuration management of standard qualification is to a specific version; states decide which versions are acceptable
- Conformance levels as of 2006, priority is raising the minimum level

Discussion