The U.S. Election Assistance Commission

Looking Ahead in 2006

March 2006
Overview

• 2005 was a busy year
• Voluntary Voting System Guidelines approved Dec. 13, 2005
• Effective in 2007
• More work ahead in 2006 for TGDC, NIST and EAC
  • Work on future iterations already underway
  • Certification program top priority
Overview

- We’ve all come a long way in a short amount of time
- As a former TGDC member and Secretary of State, I know firsthand how hard you’ve worked
- Thank you Dr. Hratch Semerjian and Dr. William Jeffrey for your leadership
Overview

• VVSG address increasingly complex voting system technology and how it impacts
  • Security
  • Usability
  • Accessibility

• Work on future iterations of VVSG is ongoing
  • Must keep pace with technology
  • Must address security issues
VVSG -- Moving Forward

- Future iterations
  - Security – software & wireless
  - VVPAT
  - Test suites
  - More forms of independent verification
VVSG -- Moving Forward

• Modular updates not practical
  • Multiple iterations may create confusion
  • Based on feedback from stakeholders
  • Practical & fiscal considerations-publishing costs, board review & approval
• Larger updates, less frequent
• Technical amendments
• Certification program
TGDC’s Role

- Increased involvement
- Integrate efforts of Standards Board and Board of Advisors
- EAC staff will participate in subgroup teleconferences
- Looking to TGDC for information about systems that have no standards
- Congress wants to know: How do we better serve military and overseas voters?
EAC Certification

• Getting certification program up and running a top priority
• Process must be transparent – no stumbles out of the starting gate
• EAC will attend pre-assessments for voting system test labs
Beyond the VVSG

- VVSG only half of the equation
- Voting is a human exercise
- Training and support must accompany VVSG
  - Election Management Guidelines
- Tom will discuss other EAC research currently underway
Conclusion

• We’ve already proven that working together, we can accomplish anything
• 2006 will be a pivotal year for all of us
• The focus will shift to the government’s first voting system certification program
• Election reform will always be an ongoing process
• Important to keep pace with voting system technology