



ELECTION PROTECTION **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE**
1-866-OUR-VOTE

Electronic Voting Machine Information Sheet

Premier Election Solutions (formerly Diebold)AccuVote-OS

Name/Model: AccuVote-OS Optical Scan System

Maker: Premier Election Solutions (formerly Diebold)

Federally-Qualified Voter-Verified Paper Audit Trail Capability: Uses paper ballots



Description: AccuVote-OS is a precinct and central accumulation optical scan voting system. The AccuVote is a small system, and can be transported without excessive difficulty.

When using the AccuVote-OS as a precinct based optical scan unit, ballots are processed in the polling place, not transported to a central location. Only the voter touches the ballot between the time it is cast and the time it is counted. The AccuVote-OS integrates the vote tabulation and recording process into one unit. The unit is powered with both an internal battery source and an external source. The AccuVote-OS is currently in use in 900 jurisdictions.¹

Detailed Voting Process: The AccuVote-OS functions much like a traditional paper ballot system. Upon entering the voting precinct, the voter will receive a paper ballot; the voter shades in the paper ballot with any standard pen or pencil and inserts the ballot into the AccuVote-OS, where they are given a chance to review their votes.² As votes are entered, the AccuVote-OS stores the vote tallies on its internal memory card.³ When the polls close, the AccuVote-OS then transmits the voting data from the polling place to the central host computer by way of a modem.⁴

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²Source Code Review of the Diebold Voting System, Office of the Secretary of State of California Top-to-Bottom Review, http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting_systems/ttbr/diebold-source-public-jul29.pdf
http://www.diebold.com/dieboldes/pdf/dieboldes_OS_brochure.pdf

³Id.

⁴Id.



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What to Look For

- Security Seals. Ideally, the OS's exposed ports, memory card access areas, ballot box doors and case seams would be covered with tamper-evident security seals. The integrity of these seals should be maintained at all times, and only breached under controlled, explained circumstances. A voided seal looks like this: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/joebeone/2247733620/> . Seals should be logged to maintain chain of custody of sensitive materials.
- Keys. The keys for the AccuVote-OS are the same for all AccuVote-OS machines and are easily pickable with readily available tools. Care should be observed around the ballot box lock and the scanner key lock (turns the system off and on).
- Ballot Box Access. Optical scan systems have at least one and possible more ballot boxes. Each ballot box should be inspected by a voter at the beginning of voting to make sure that they are empty. These ballot boxes should be locked and/or be sealed with tamper-evident tape.
- The Memory Card is Sensitive. Corrupt memory cards may be able to introduce viruses, cause the main election server to crash and falsify votes. Access to the memory card should be controlled, monitored and logged at all times.
- Correct Inks. Some Optical Scan systems have trouble reading red inks or inks with red in them. Voters should use the writing instrument provided at the polling place or, if voting at home, a black ballpoint pen that does not bleed through paper.

Past Problems:

Multiple problems have been encountered in a variety of jurisdictions, ranging from incorrect total vote counts in Barry County, Michigan, to not accepting ballots in King County, Washington, to delays in Putnam County, Georgia due to inaccuracies in the memory card totals.⁵ The problems have been encountered across multiple versions and after multiple certification procedures.

⁵ From the VotersUnite! website: <http://www.votersunite.org/info/Dieboldinthenews.pdf>