P1622.2

Submitter Email: ark@soe.ucsc.edu
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Status: Modification to a Previously Approved PAR
Root PAR: P1622.2 Approved on: 08-Jun-2012

1.1 Project Number: P1622.2
1.2 Type of Document: Standard
1.3 Life Cycle: Full Use

2.1 Title: Standard for Election Results Reporting Data Interchange Format

3.1 Working Group: Election Results Reporting (C/VSSC/1622.2_WG)
Contact Information for Working Group Chair
   Name: Sarah Whitt
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   None

3.2 Sponsoring Society and Committee: IEEE Computer Society/Voting Systems Standards Committee (C/VSSC)
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4.1 Type of Ballot: Individual
4.2 Expected Date of submission of draft to the IEEE-SA for Initial Sponsor Ballot: 06/2014
4.3 Projected Completion Date for Submittal to RevCom: 02/2015

5.1 Approximate number of people expected to be actively involved in the development of this project: 25
5.2 Scope: This standard defines common data interchange formats for information reported about election results. Election results information is based on data from vote capture devices and resultant tabulation data or other information about the election from election management systems. This standard focuses on the data elements and structures for contest totals and associated counts used for reconciliations and audits.
Changes in scope: This standard defines common data interchange formats for information reported about election results. Election results information is based on data from vote capture devices and resultant tabulation data or other information about the election from election management systems. This standard focuses on the OASIS (Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards) EML (Election Markup Language) version 7 data elements and structures for contest totals and associated counts used for reconciliations and audits.

5.3 Is the completion of this standard dependent upon the completion of another standard: No
5.4 Purpose: This standard facilitates the import and export, in a common format, of election results data that is typically reported from distributed voting places to central offices of local jurisdictions, from local jurisdictions to state election systems, and from local and state election offices to news media and the general public. It can also facilitate post-election auditing of election results.

5.5 Need for the Project: Reporting of election results from vote-capture devices to local jurisdictions and from local jurisdictions to the state level typically requires many exchanges of data between election management systems that may use different proprietary formats. This requires significant investment by states in software to support such data exchanges and may lock a state into using proprietary approaches or their own in-house solutions. Additionally, news media, election results analysts, post-election auditors, and the general public want election results to be reported quickly and according to a standard that they can use easily. Using a coordinated set of standard formats for reporting election results
will help local election offices as well as outside groups (such as media organizations) develop software to facilitate their own importing and reporting and analysis of election results. Since election management systems generally have the capacity to import and export election results data, it is beneficial to specify a common data format that any state or local jurisdiction can use for election results reporting and post-election auditing. Voting system vendors can also benefit from employing a common data exchange standard to interoperate with other election systems.

5.6 Stakeholders for the Standard: Voters (including overseas and military voters), election equipment and software developers, election officials, election observers and analysts, the US Election Assistance Commission (EAC), the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), election reporting and news media, and the general public.

Intellectual Property
6.1.a. Is the Sponsor aware of any copyright permissions needed for this project?: No
6.1.b. Is the Sponsor aware of possible registration activity related to this project?: No

7.1 Are there other standards or projects with a similar scope?: No
7.2 Joint Development
   Is it the intent to develop this document jointly with another organization?: No

8.1 Additional Explanatory Notes (Item Number and Explanation): Change is to 5.2, to remove specific reference to OASIS EML version 7.
   This change is being made because the standard being drafted may not be limited to being based on OASIS EML.
   The overall intended scope of the PAR is largely unchanged.
   However, we are making this change so that we do not get complaints during Sponsor Ballot about conformity with OASIS EML.