ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Public Hearing
The Use of COTS Products in EAC Certified Voting System
September 2, 2009

EAC HEARING GOALS AND DELL OBSERVATIONS

- EAC Mission
  - Adopt voting system guidelines
  - Certification of voting systems
  - Clearinghouse for information on election administration
- Hearing Goals
  - Understand use of COTS technology
  - Implications on testing and certification of voting systems
  - What should EAC do about use of COTS in voting systems?
- Dell Observations
  - Use of open standards COTS PCs saves money, provides flexibility and high performance
  - Many industry models exist where Independent Software Vendors or Independent Solution Vendors (ISVs) build specialized applications on COTS hardware
  - ISVs typically specify hardware configurations tested by the ISV to ensure good system performance
  - ISV applications and COTS technology are driven by individual market dynamics
    - Test and certification may be done by ISVs, consortiums or 3rd parties
    - To get benefits buyers can purchase "bundled solutions" or use in-house "solution expertise"
  - COTS hardware buyers control decisions about what "optimal" means to them
    - Platform stability, lifecycle support, enterprise integration, manageability, serviceability , environmentals
    - And cost … focus on total cost of ownership vs. one-time purchase cost
    - Specific to the ES&S certification scenario, we'll share 2 examples that illustrate how Dell plans "business class" systems and technology roadmaps to give buyers a way to plan for future compatibility

PRINCIPLES OF DELL DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY ROADMAPS

- Desktops
  - OptiPlex™
    - Dell's global business class desktop systems that provides a managed lifecycle and transitions
- Notebooks
  - Latitude™
    - Dell's global business class portable systems that provides a wide variety of systems ranging from lightweight to fully ruggedized with managed lifecycles and transitions

DELL Optiplex™

OPTIPLEX MEANS BUSINESS
Global and stable platform

GLOBAL & STABLE
- Up to 36 months lifecycles
- Global Standard Platforms
- Managed Transitions

PRODUCTIVITY
- High-performance for IT and User productivity

CUSTOMIZATION
- Configure your desktop to meet your unique needs
- Custom Factory Integration
- Staging centers

OPTIPLEX IS EASY TO OWN
Manageable and reliable with efficient support

MANAGEABILITY
- Remote systems management
- ImageDirect
- Flexible Computing

SERVICEABILITY
- Easy-to-service tool-less chassis

DELL PROSUPPORT
- Consistent and customizable support for IT and End Users

DELL SERVICES
- Client Migration Services

OPTIPLEX SECURITY
Broad choice of security options

ENTERPRISE-CLASS
- Biometrics options
- Smartcard options
- Full disk encryption

LEADING-EDGE
- Client Isolation
- Remote patching

BROAD & DEEP
- Hardware options
- Software choices

OPTIPLEX GETS GREEN
Designed to Minimize Energy use, Toxins and Waste

COST-REDUCING
- Energy efficient
- Consume less, compute more

GREEN CHASSIS
- Green by design
- Built with environmentally preferable materials

ENVIRONMENTAL
- Committed to become the greenest PC company on the planet

DELL LATITUDE™

WORKFORCE PRODUCTIVITY
All Day Computing*
& Energy efficiency

PRODUCTIVITY
- Extended battery life
- Fast battery recharge

COLLABORATION
- Extensive connectivity
- Versatile communication

EFFICIENCY
- Energy Smart settings
- Power efficient design

INSPIRED DESIGN
Smart & Stylish.
Rugged & Ready.

DURABLE
- Extensive testing
- Ruggedized models

PRACTICAL
- Broad offering
- Convertible Tablet

SMART
- Dell ControlPoint™

STYLISH
- Thin & Light
- Colors

PEACE OF MIND
Protected & served
wherever you go.

SECURITY
- Access Control
- Data Protection
- Dell ControlVault™

PROSUPPORT SERVICES*
- Worldwide 24/7
- Asset Protection
- Data Protection

TOTAL CONTROL OF OWNERSHIP
Works efficiently.
Puts in the hours.
Comes in under budget.

LIFECYCLES
- Transition periods
- Global Standard Platforms

ADMINISTRATION
- Remote systems management

DELL SERVICES
- Lifecycle Services
- ImageDirect

COMMONALITY
- Peripheral compatibility

SUMMARY AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR EAC USE OF COTS

- COTS Benefits
  - Open standards systems = value, flexibility and high performance
  - Technology competition = steadily improving price/performance curve
  - Buyer control = best fit for different requirements
- COTS EAC Considerations
  - Clear delineation of voting system applications vs. COTS platform
  - Allow ISVs validate compatibility vs. re-certification to address COTS product technology evolution
  - EAC guidance on:
    - COTS functional requirements or restrictions (i.e. wireless)
    - Platform stability, lifecycle support, and enterprise integration
    - Security, manageability, and serviceability
  - Establish plan for market research
    - Periodic update of standards and reference configurations