

## **Diebold Election Systems Response to the Princeton Voting System Report**

Cuyahoga County uses the AccuVote-TSX touch screen unit with voter verifiable paper audit trail printer, not the AccuVote-TS unit that was obtained by the individuals at Princeton. There are considerable architectural differences between the two voting stations, contrary to what the report unknowingly states.

The Princeton report states, *“The most important strategy for mitigating vote-stealing attacks is to use a voter-verifiable paper audit trail (VVPAT) coupled with random audits.”* Page 20, Section 5.5. Cuyahoga County uses a touch screen unit with a secured voter verified paper audit trail printer.

The individuals from Princeton would not disclose where the AccuVote-TS unit was obtained, so there is no confidence the unit actually functions as a normal AccuVote-TS unit, especially since the group had access to the unit for 3-4 months. The individuals from Princeton would not submit their report for a standard peer review, raising questions as to the accuracy and authenticity of the report.

A demonstration of a thorough logic and accuracy test was not performed by Princeton, so there is considerable doubt that this type of testing could be conducted without detection of the supposed tampering.

The Princeton report indicates that supposedly an EPROM is altered to change the functionality of the system. The AccuVote-TSX does not utilize an EPROM for this function.

A barreled tumbler lock is used to secure the memory card in the AccuVote-TSX voting tablet. As recommended, tamper-evident security seals should also be used on this door to indicate any attempt to tamper with the lock or the door. The same recommendation applies to the AccuVote-TS unit.

The software supported by the AccuVote-TS unit was Ballot Station version 4.3.15.

- This version of Ballot Station software is two generations old
- The software version will not be used in any jurisdictions in November
- The software version does not include the security enhancements that exist within the Ballot Station software utilized in Cuyahoga County.

Based on these facts, it is unclear why the Princeton report was generated, considering it was conducted on an older model touch screen unit with very dated software.

The Diebold Election Systems security enhancements include:

- Advanced Encryption Standard 128 bit data encryption of election results
- Digitally signed memory card data which would detect any attempt to tamper with the cards contents.

- Dynamic passwords which can be changed for each election by the respective jurisdiction
- Voter Access Cards contain a dynamic, sophisticated encryption key that must match the encryption key of the voting station, or the card will not be accepted, eliminating the risk of card duplication.
- Secure Socket Layer (SSL) encryption for the optional transmission of unofficial election night results. Two way authentication is also provided.