FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Cynthia Chu
AVANTE International Technology, Inc.
70 Washington Road, Princeton Junction
New Jersey, 08550, USA avante@aitechnology.com
Tel: (609) 799-8896 Fax: (609) 799-9308

First true pixel-based Optical Mark-Sense Voting System Achieved 0% Error Rate in 1.5 Million Votes To Receive the First 2002 NASED Certification Based on Federal Voting Standard

Traditional paper ballots are scanned with "discrete sensor" technology much like the SAT tests taken by students. Paper fed in the right way and straight within the target reading line will they be scanned and read correctly. According to a sobering review by Professor Doug Jones in a testimony before the US House of Representatives' Committee on Science on May 22, 2001, the typical error rate is 1 in 6000 to more than 1 in 1000 in his own experience as testing expert for the various voting optical mark-sense systems. This is dramatically lower than the FEC requirements of 1 in 1,000,000 votes based on 1990 standard and slightly over 1,500,000 votes based on 2002 standard.

While the discrete sensor-based optical scan systems are fine for testing students that may include their ability to fill in the ovals or square completely and correctly, they are not as user-friendly for voters that may not be familiar with taken tests. A lesser amount of marking on designated ovals or squares or markings with pen rather than pencil may mean losing your votes because the reading system simply may not register that there is a marking. There is no easy way to assess the voter intent after the ballots have been scanned.

To the discrete-sensor voting system, there are ballots that have sufficient volume of markings and there are ballots that do not have sufficient volume markings. The only way to assess if lesser markings were made by voters to indicate their intent to vote for any particular candidate can only be done by manual inspections of the ballots.

Yet, paper ballot is a key ingredient in the mix of voting methods that are used to accommodate the absentee voters. In some cases, it is the chosen method by most voters in some States. However, it is also well known that paper ballots can sometimes lead to more voter intent errors both by voters as well as by the counting method and technology.

AVANTE has overcome this paper balloting problem of voter intent with the pixel-based document imaging technology. For the first time, the OPTICAL VOTE-TRAKKER™ system has exceeded the FEC 2002 standard of less than 1 error in over 1,500,000 votes. With the use of pixel-based technology, instead of simply setting a threshold of light reflection in some discrete area, a full picture of the ballot is taken. All markings with different pixel volume of filled ballots are recorded. By evaluating the difference between

ballots with 10% filled verses 50% filled can help to find any voter intents that may have been missed by the pre-set standard of acceptance.

Another important feature is that any ballots that contain either over-votes or under-votes can be printed out as pictures (ballot images) for manual deciphering and inspection. That is, the counting machines do not have to stop whenever an over-voted or under-voted ballot is encountered.

Not relying on the paper alignment means lesser error because of the paper misalignment during feeding of ballots. It also reduces the cost of using “precision-cut” paper with heavy bond and replaced with standard copying paper. Instead, OPTICAL VOTE-TRAKKER™ uses fiducial markers to help distinguish the orientations. It will self-aligned any ballots that are not fed correctly.

With the fiducial markers, OPTICAL VOTE-TRAKKER™ is also able to “scale” any paper shrinkage by moisture and handling. This function helps to reduce the need to use replacement ballots that must be filled in by the voting officials.

OPTICAL VOTE-TRAKKER™ also incorporates machine-readable unique and randomly generated ballot identifier to authenticate each and every ballot. No duplicate ballots can ever be used or fed into the system. This unique feature eliminates both unintentional human errors and intentional tampering.

The randomly generated unique ballot-identifier not only preserves voter privacy but also allows the ballots to be faxed in by overseas voters. The ballots can be authenticated without doubt. Special receiving terminals can be set-up as not to print out the affidavit pages with voter signature but print out ballot images of the completed ballots. This technology has the potential to solve the problem of mailing in absentee ballots from overseas absentee and military voters.

AVANTE International Technology, Inc. is a new force in the voting industry located in Princeton, New Jersey. It pioneered the use of voter verifiable paper audit trail (VVPAT) for touch-screen voting system (VOTE-TRAKKER™) in March 2001. VVPAT based voting system has since become a nationally accepted gold standard for a trustworthy electronic voting system. AVANTE is currently working on an accessible version of the OPTICAL VOTE-TRAKKER™ to assist the blind voters and voters with other disabilities to vote independently. This accessible optical paper ballot system will be available in early July of 2004.

For more information on this EAC certified optical scanning paper balloting and voting technology (NASED# N1-12-22-11-001 is based on FEC2002 voting system standard), please visit www.vote-trakker.com or call 609-799-8896.

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Member, City Council
Vote for 3. Rank the order of your preference.

ANDREW JOSEPH MORIN
Hydrologist/Business Owner
1 2 3

KERRI M. HOWELL
Incumbent
1 2 3

STEPHEN EDWARD MIKLOS
Incumbent
1 2 3

STEVEN EDWIN FAIRCHILD
Certified Financial Planner
1 2 3

KEITH D. CABLE
Trial Lawyer/Advocate
1 2 3

DOUGLAS L. UDELL
Retired City Management
1 2 3

STEPHANIE CHRISTINE JANTZEN
Business Owner
1 2 3

URI JOSEPH SCHORCH
1 2 3

NANCY LOUISE MITCHELL
School Trustee/Businesswoman
1 2 3

Write-In:
1 2 3

Write-In:
1 2 3

Write-In:
1 2 3

Skip Contest(s)

STATE PROPOSITION 46

PROPOSITION 46 HOUSING AND EMERGENCY SHELTER TRUST FUND ACT OF 2002. This act provides for the Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2002. For the purpose of providing shelters for battered women, clean and safe housing for low-income senior citizens, emergency shelters for homeless families with children, housing with social services for the homeless and mentally ill, repairs and accessibility improvements to apartments for families and handicapped citizens, homeownership assistance for military veterans, and security improvements and repairs to existing emergency shelters, shall the state create a housing trust fund by issuing bonds totaling two billion one hundred million dollars ($2,100,000,000), paid from existing state funds at an average annual cost of one hundred fifty seven million dollars ($157,000,000) per year over the 30-year life of the bonds, with the requirement that every city and county is eligible to receive funds as specified in the measure and with all expenditures subject to an independent audit?

Yes

No

Skip Contest

STATE PROPOSITION 47

PROPOSITION 47 KINDERGARTEN-UNIVERSITY PUBLIC EDUCATION FACILITIES BOND ACT OF 2002. This thirteen billion fifty million dollar ($13,050,000,000) bond issue will provide funding for necessary education facilities to relieve overcrowding and to repair older schools. Funds will be targeted to areas of the greatest need and must be spent according to strict accountability measures. Funds will also be used to upgrade and build new classrooms in the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California, to provide adequate higher education facilities to accommodate the growing student enrollment. These bonds may be used only for eligible projects. Fiscal Impact: State cost of about $26.2 billion over 30 years to pay off both the principal ($13.05 billion) and interest ($13.15 billion) costs on the bonds. Payments of about $873 million per year.

Yes

No

Skip Contest

PROPOSED INCORPORATION OF CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA MEASURE W

MEASURE W: Shall the order adopted on July 16, 2002, by the Board of Supervisors ordering the incorporation of the territory described in the order and designated in the order as Incorporation of Rancho Cordova, California (12-97) be confirmed subject to the terms and conditions including the annual payment from the City to the County of Sacramento, including the sharing of its revenue with the County of Sacramento and the Property Tax Revenue Agreement between the City and the County of Sacramento commencing in fiscal year 2003-2004 and terminating, as adjusted, no later than after the end of fiscal year 2033-2034; including authorization, as approved by the voters through this measure, for the City to continue to levy and collect within its territory the same general taxes, fees, charges, assessments and rates levied and collected by the County of Sacramento as of November 1, 2002; and, further including approval by the voters through this measure of the Tax Sharing Agreement Between the County of Sacramento and the City of Rancho Cordova, as more particularly described and set forth in the order?

Yes

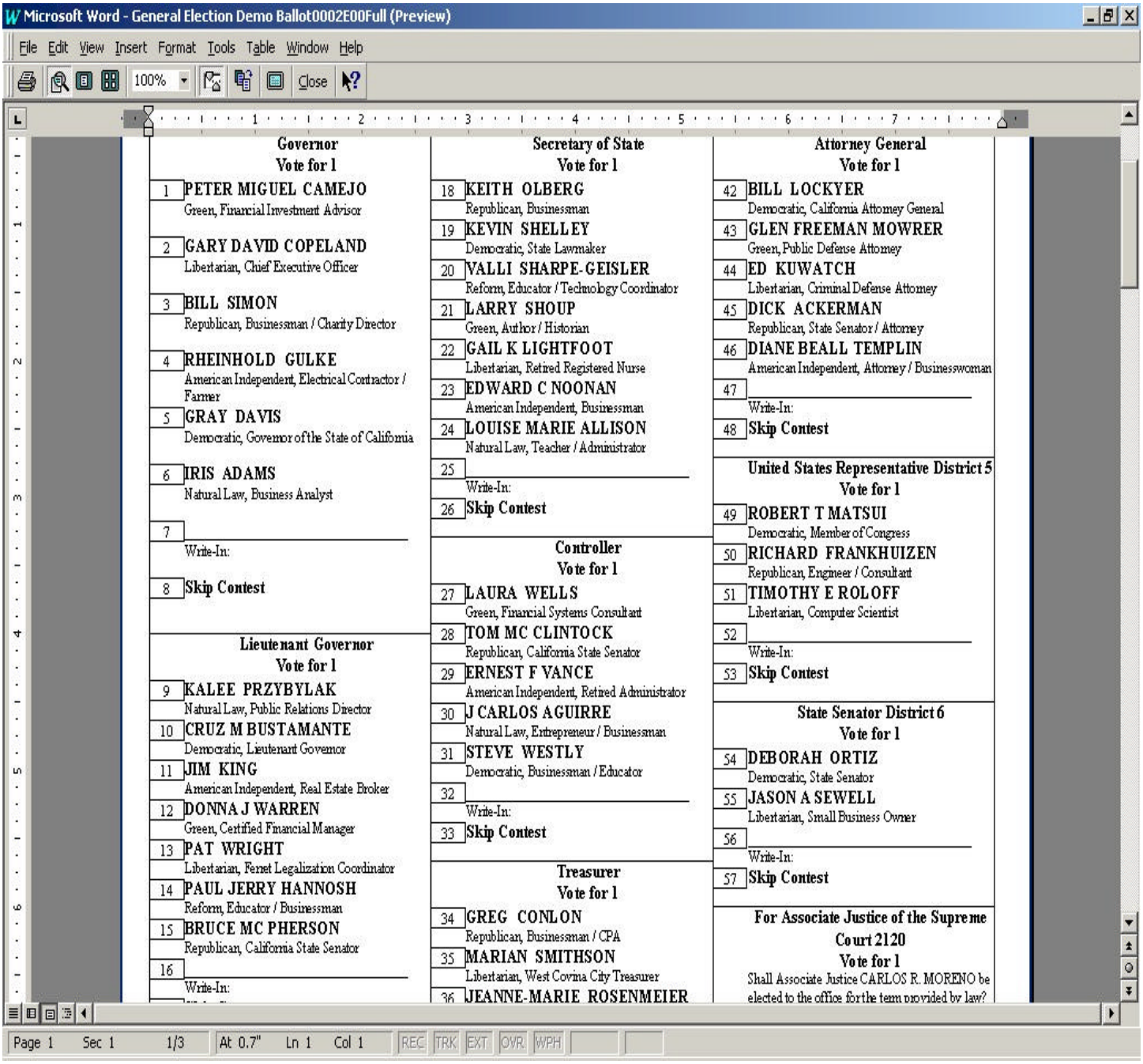
No

Skip Contest

OPTICAL-VOTE-TRAKKER™ is the first in the voting industry to provide ranked voting for "instant run-off".

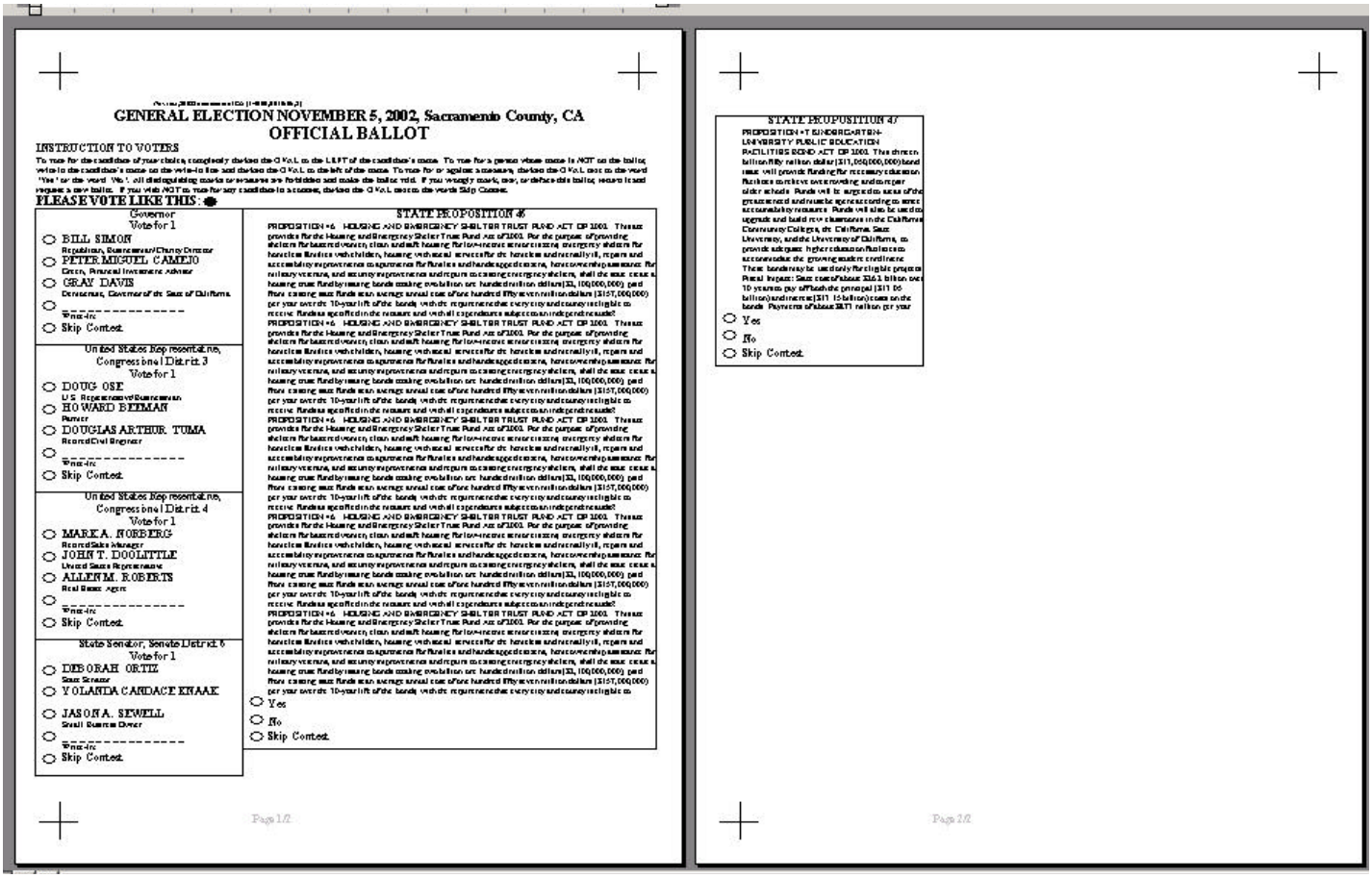
This pixel-based "mark-sense" voting system permits post-election voter intent comparison by providing comparative tallies at different percentage of filled ovals. For example, 10% vs. 50% and in comparison to the standard setting of say 20%.

Ballot Generation program of OPTICAL VOTE-TRAKKER™ is fully integrated with the DRE VOTE-TRAKKER™. The paper ballots can be immediately reviewed on the screen before it is printed. Printing can be done in-house with laser printer or authorized printing companies. Last minute changes or court orders can be implemented up to the day election.



OPTICAL VOTE-TRAKKER™ ballots can be printed on demand. Multiple pages can be used on standard paper sizes of 11 inch, 14 inch or 17 inch length.

OPTICAL VOTE-TRAKKER™ automatically recognizes the ballot styles, page number, and orientation of the ballots being read. This mechanism eliminates the need to pre-sort the ballots. Its saves many staff-hours and eliminates all human errors.



GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 5, 2002, Sacramento County, CA
OFFICIAL BALLOT

INSTRUCTION TO VOTERS

PLEASE VOTE LIKE THIS : ●

Governor
Vote for 1
○ BILL SIMON
○ PETER MIGUEL CAMEJO
○ GRAY DAVIS
○ ______________
Write-In
○ Skip Contest

United States Representative,
Congressional District 3
Vote for 1
○ DOUG OSE
○ HOWARD BEEMAN
○ DOUGLAS ARTHUR TUMA
○ ______________
Write-In
○ Skip Contest

United States Representative,
Congressional District 4
Vote for 1
○ MARK A. NORBERG
○ JOHN T. DOOLITTLE
○ ALLEN M. ROBERTS
○ ______________
Write-In
○ Skip Contest

State Senator, Senate District 6
Vote for 1
○ DEBORAH ORTIZ
○ YOLANDA CANDACE KNAAK
○ JASON A. SEWELL
○ ______________
Write-In
○ Skip Contest

STATE PROPOSITION 46
○ Yes
○ No
○ Skip Contest

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STATE PROPOSITION 47
○ Yes
○ No
○ Skip Contest

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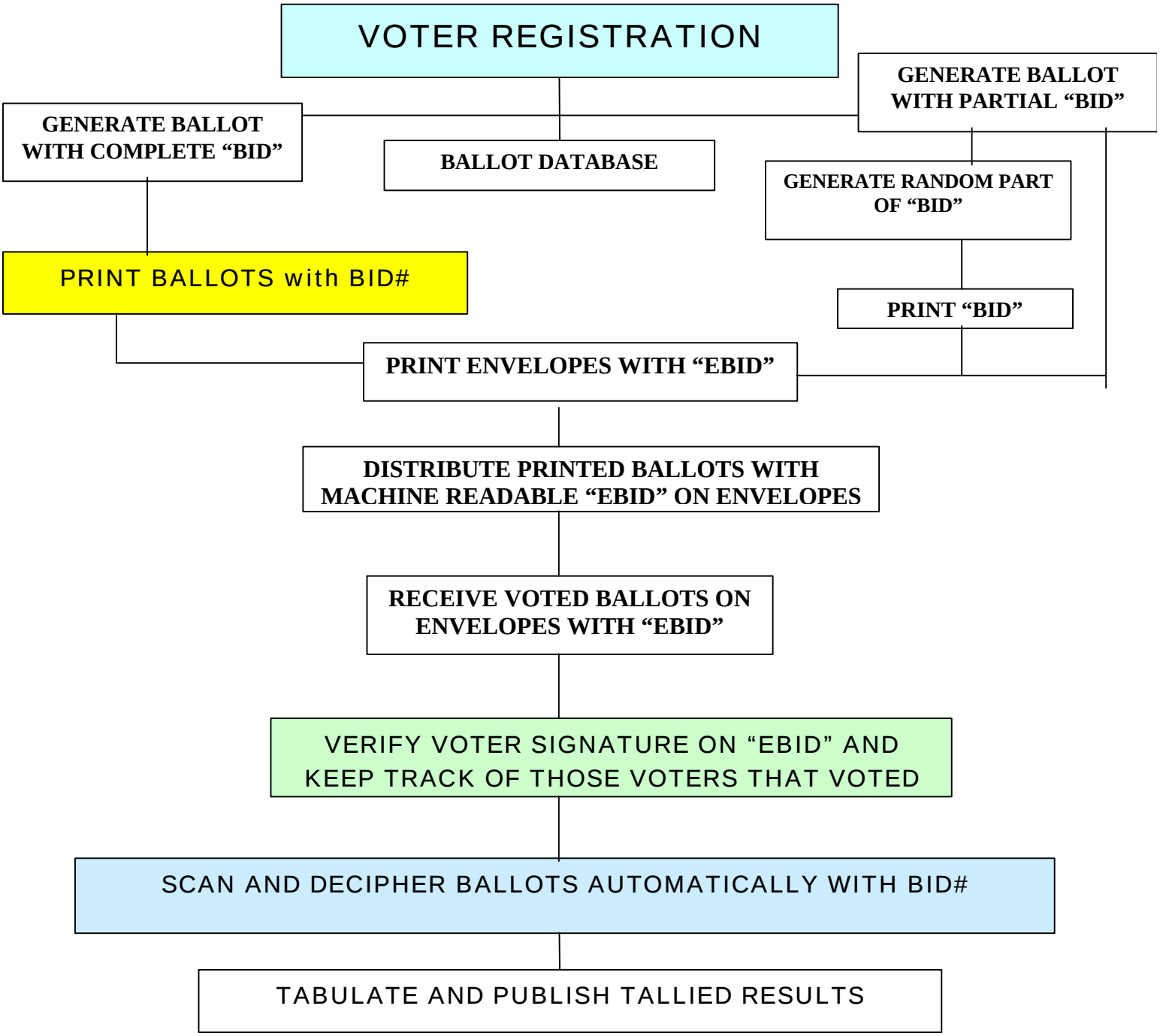
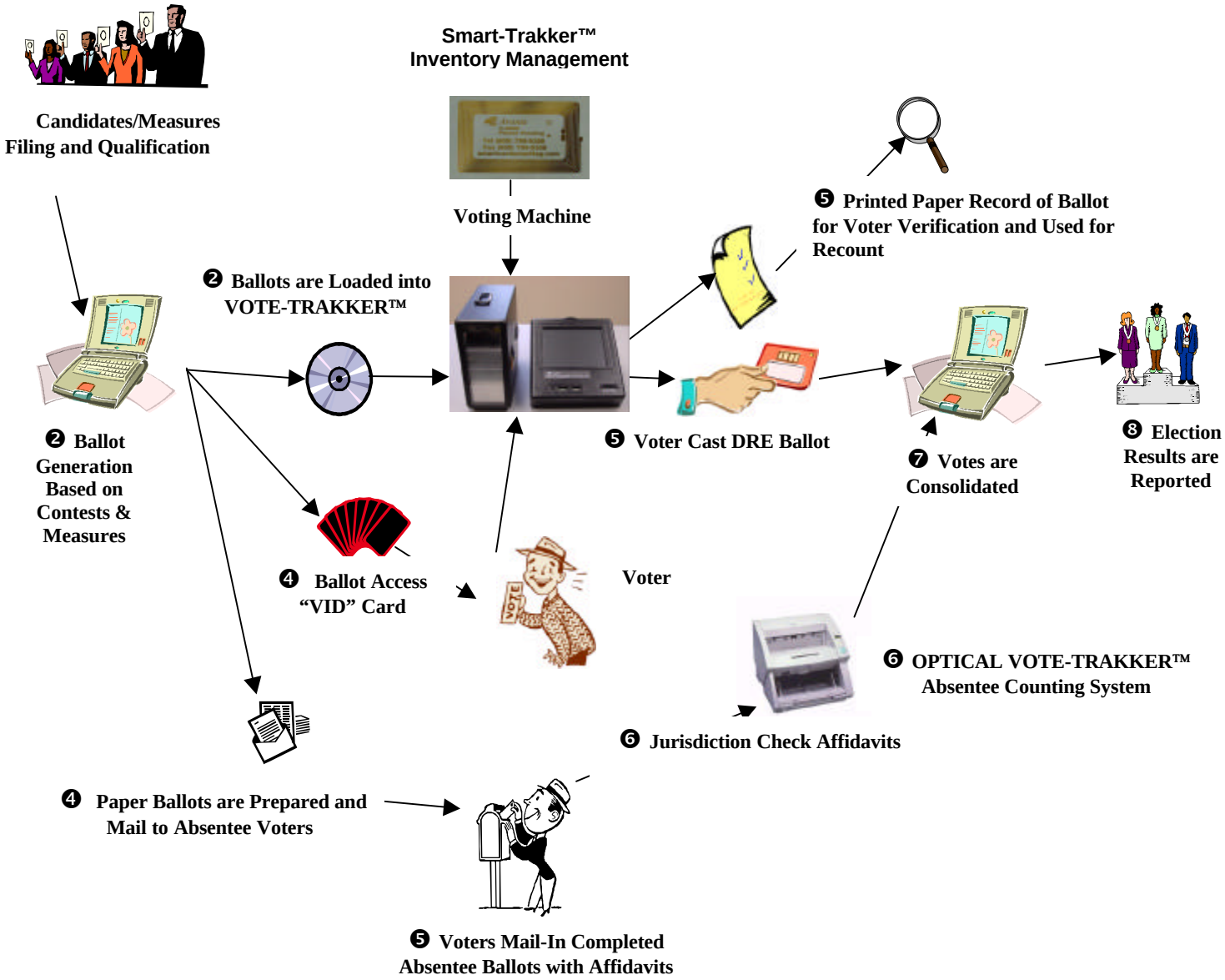
OPTICAL VOTE-TRAKKER™ Imaging "Mark-sense" System is Part of the AVANTE Total Voting Solution





VOTE-TRAKKER™ SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE AND OVERVIEW

(Rev. 12-19-03)