

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **“Full-Face” Touch-Screen Voting System with Voter-Verifiable Paper Audit Trail and 0% Residual Votes Is Now Available From AVANTE**

Since the introduction of “Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail” (VVPAT) for touch-screen voting system by AVANTE VOTE-TRAKKER™ in March 2001, VVPAT has since become a nationally accepted gold standard for a trustworthy voting system. Many computer experts and voting experts such as David Dill, Peter Neumann, David Jefferson, Rebecca Mercuri, Avi Ruben, Kim Alexander, Bev Harris, Linda Franz and others have contributed to bring this security aspect of electronic voting system into spotlight. It was interesting and striking that in a recent show survey by Lou Dobbs of CNN (February 17, 2004) that 88% responded that they do not trust any electronic voting without the paper record that the voter can verify.

States such as New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts that are more comfortable with full-face presentation of ballots similar to that of the lever and touch-key systems have not been able to realize the benefits of accessibility and flexibility of the touch-screen voting system. AVANTE has just completed its development effort to bring the flexibility of multiple alternate languages for the immigrant population as well as voice-assistance and expanded font-size for the visually impaired in a first of its kind full-face touch-screen voting system. This full-face touch-screen voting system also incorporates the voter verifiable paper audit trail that AVANTE pioneered. The system has since received rave reviews from legislators and election officials in several States.

The VOTE-TRAKKER™ EVC308-SPR-FF has all of the secured and proven election management protocol and ballot system as the existing FEC certified system. The only changes were the incorporation of a 30-inch touch-screen interface rather than the traditional 14-15 inch touch-screen. The larger screen enables the system to present the voters with all of the contests in a single presentation (full-face).

The flexibility and advantages of touch-screen rather than touch-key is fully realized. Any contest can be expanded to more than 6.3 mm height in font size to help the visually impaired and voters with weaker eyesight to make selection easier. A touch of the “Alternate Language” allows the voters to change to the language of presentation that they may feel more comfortable with. Another touch on the “Different Contrast” areas allow the voters to go to reverse tone and other contrasts to provide a more visual clarity to the specific voter’s need.

Most importantly, not only that the cost-of-ownership is much lower for the County, this full-face system also incorporates with the voter verifiable paper audit trail as the gold standard of voter confidence. AVANTE had used its VOTE-TRAKKER™ EVC308 with the voter verifiable paper audit trail in five elections since its introduction with outstanding success. The success of voter verifiable paper audit trail is reflected in more than 96.5% of voters feeling confident about their votes being cast correctly. This confidence level on voting system is dramatically higher than traditional punch-card system at less than 60% and 70% (Georgia data) for electronic voting systems without any paper records that are verified by the voters.

The most recent elections that this world's first proven voting system used flawlessly included four municipalities in Connecticut in the 2003 November elections. There was more than four thousand votes cast. Not a single paper record jammed occurred as some of the opponents voiced their concerns. All paper records were presented to voters and retrieved as audit trail after they have been reviewed and confirmed by the voters. The voter verifiable paper audit trail provided the evidence to the voters for the first time in their voting experience that their votes were cast correctly and counted correctly.

Besides the dramatic improvement in voter confidence, for the second time in voting history, 0% residual votes were achieved again. This was achieved through the use of "one-way" approach in voter interface to guide the voters through the election process. Similar "one-way" path concept is also incorporated in this full-face system. In contrast to other electronic systems that typically recorded 2-12.3% of under-votes for President and US Senator races, the accuracy of VOTE-TRAKKER™ is unparalleled.

For more information on how this proven and certified technology can help you in managing your election, please visit [www.vote-trakker.com](http://www.vote-trakker.com) or call 609-799-8896.