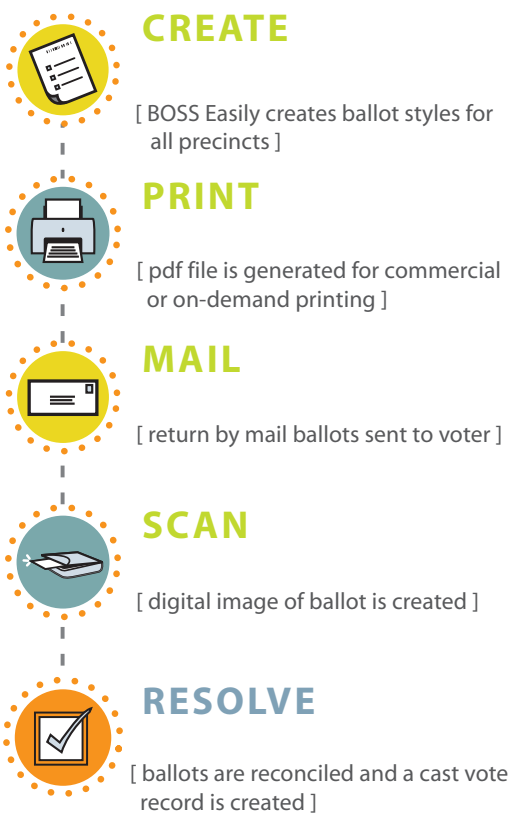


BALLOT NOW™

Intelligent Ballot Management

Hart InterCivic's Ballot Now System is a breakthrough product, combining state-of-the-art digital imaging and intelligent ballot management.



There are times when paper ballots are the best, or the only, alternative for conducting elections. For example, comprehensive election solutions must support absentee-by-mail or other special situations that may arise in modern elections.

Ballot Now offers paper ballots on demand, efficient processing of voted ballots, and unsurpassed efficiency when it is necessary to interpret voter intent. All of these features are included in a system that requires off-the-shelf computers, scanners and printers.

Ballot Now prints paper ballots on-demand for distribution to voters, either in person or by mail. Returned ballots are scanned and digital images are created for each ballot. Ballot Now captures each vote, creating electronic vote records that are then tabulated using the eSlate™ Electronic Voting System's powerful Tally™ tabulation and reporting application.system.

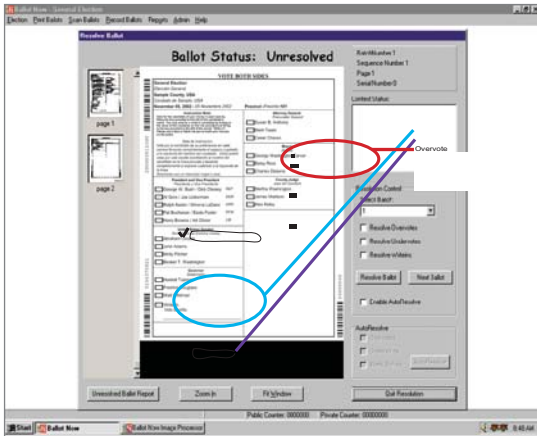
The Ballot Now Digital Ballot Imaging System can be a stand-alone paper voting system or fully integrated with the eSlate Electronic Voting System or another election system. Ballot Now comes complete with eSlate's Ballot Origination Software System™ for ballot generation and Tally tabulation software.

ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY IN BALLOT LAYOUT

Ballots need not be printed according to strict design standards required by typical proprietary optical scan systems. When formatting the ballots, Hart InterCivic's intuitive ballot generation software automatically matches the target zone for scanning to the area of the ballot to be marked by the voter. This eliminates human error in ballot formatting and the need for precise, costly printing. Security numbers may be printed on each ballot, preventing unauthorized ballot duplication or the same ballot being scanned twice. In addition, ballots can be printed on security paper to further reduce the possibility of fraud. Ballot Now creates ballots in multiple formats and prints on a variety of standard paper sizes and weights. Ballot Now also supports multiple languages.

ON-SCREEN BALLOT RESOLUTION: A TRUE INNOVATION IN ELECTION MANAGEMENT

Voters sometimes mismatch or unclearly mark ballots. In some states voter intent must be determined in these cases. In other states, voter intent is only analyzed in the case of a challenge or a recount. When it's time for election officials to review unresolved ballots in those cases where voter intent must be determined, Ballot Now presents digital images of each questionable ballot on the screen. Those contests requiring an interpretation of voter intent are automatically highlighted. Easy-to-use pull down menus offer election officials a range of choices for resolving ballot errors. When all ballot resolution determinations are made as necessary, Ballot Now creates an electronic cast vote record and adds it to the election results. Each resolution action is logged into Ballot Now's audit log, and there is no alteration of the original paper ballot. Ballot Now is the only paper ballot system on the market today offering optional on-screen resolution capability.



Voters sometimes mismatch or unclearly mark ballots. Ballot Now automatically highlights contests on each ballot where interpretation of voter intent is required.

BALLETS ON DEMAND

Ballots can be printed in whatever quantities are required, and can be printed on the spot at the election office or other designated locations. This means no unnecessary ballot printing. Election officials no longer need to order excess quantities of ballots, which increases costs and creates security and administrative hassles. Ballot printing can take place anywhere under the supervision of election officials - at election head-quarters, polling places, or even special remote voting locations. Ballots can also be prepared in electronic form for commercial printers to print larger, more economic quantities when needed. Ballot Now also interfaces with voter registration systems for voter registration-driven ballot printing.

DESIGNED TO GROW AS NEEDS GROW

Ballot Now supports a variety of scanners and printers, offering processing speeds and features that meet the wide range of requirements found throughout the country. Ballot Now scales up easily as volumes increase through the addition of Ballot Now scanning or printing stations, or higher performance scanners or printers.

NO MORE EXPENSIVE, PROPRIETARY HARDWARE

Ballot Now is a Windows-based application that installs on a standard PC and uses off-the-shelf scanners and printers. There is no need to buy expensive or proprietary optical scanning systems, and the components can be upgraded easily.

BUILT FOR MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY

Ballot Now scans all ballots without halting the scanning operation to resolve questionable or unclear ballots. The electronic images of ballots requiring resolution are automatically stored until election officials decide it is time to examine them. This means that scanners work constantly at their full, rated speed, and multiple scanners can be used for additional throughput.

No sorting by precinct is necessary since each ballot is marked with a serial bar code that identifies the precinct according to customer requirements. The Ballot Now software identifies each precinct and supports sorting by precinct.

FAST, FLEXIBLE REPORTING

Results are tabulated using eSlate's Tally tabulation and reporting software application. Tally is Windows-based software that counts votes and formats the results in a range of standard election reports. Reporting can be further enhanced through Tally's integration with Crystal Reports, the industry's leading custom report generation software. Tabulation results from Ballot Now are easily integrated with voting results from the eSlate Electronic Voting System or other election system by using the Tally software.

THE MOST COMPLETE AUDIT TRAIL

Ballot Now has internal audit logs and creates an electronic image of each ballot that can be securely and safely stored to create a permanent record of the election. The paper ballot is maintained in its original format, unlike older generation optical scan systems that require election officials to physically alter the paper ballot so it may be rescanned.