

Everyone Counts and Inclusion Solutions Partner to Bring the Next Generation of Transparent and Tested Accessible Voting to US Voters in the US and Abroad

26 July 2008 Grand Rapids, MI Election-technology leader Everyone Counts and Election-accessibility leader Inclusion Solutions announced at the National Association of Secretaries of State conference today a partnership to bring voters and election officials throughout the United States the next generation of transparent accessible voting technologies that have been proven throughout the world.

Under the partnership, Inclusion Solutions will spearhead initiatives to make US elections accessible to voters with disabilities worldwide using *Everyone Counts'* transparent eLect system as a solution. The system allows for accessible and secure voting for both absentee and on site voters, including civilians and military serving and living overseas. Voters who cannot get their polling place because of barriers can vote remotely either by phone or online in a private and independent manner.

Voters who are able to vote at polling locations can now be offered several secured, accessible alternatives. In accessible locations options include secured phone voting and voting via secured and portable voting devices. If a polling place is impossible to make 100% accessible, dignified and accessible curbside voting via either phone voting or via portable voting devices is also available.

The eLect system allows voting by touch screen, keyboard, mouse, voice, keypad, sip and puff and all one- and two-switch devices. It is compatible with most assistive technologies as well as other polling place accessibility solutions, including the Inclusion Solutions BallotCall alert system which allows a voter to request assistance with accessible voting.

“Voters with disabilities have always requested choices – and the partnership with Everyone Counts will allow Inclusion Solutions to help bring the most cutting edge accessibility solutions to all voters,” said Hollister Bundy, Vice President of Inclusion Solutions.

“The eLect system offers accessibility to voters with disabilities whether they want to vote at home on the internet, at another accessible facility, at the polling place, or even if they are abroad.”

The partnership will also address accessibility for absentee and overseas voters both *with and without disabilities*. These include military and civilians serving abroad, hospitalized voters, disabled veterans and voters with disabilities living abroad. “eLect is much more secure and accessible for voters abroad than current absentee voting alternatives, including voting by mail, fax and email.” “Voters are now able to vote online from anywhere in the world in an accessible, transparent, and secure manner,” said Paul DeGregorio, COO of Everyone Counts, and former Chair of the US Election Assistance Commission.

Inclusion Solutions has provided over 250 accessibility solutions for elections to state, county, and local officials in 52 states and territories and in 4 countries.

Everyone Counts has provided transparent, secured and accessible elections for governments, political parties and private sector organizations for more than a decade.

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