

RE-Vote09:
The First International Workshop on
Requirements Engineering for E-voting Systems
31st August, 2009 - Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

Workshop Abstract

Electronic voting has illustrated the importance of requirements engineering in the development of complex systems. Poorly engineered and documented requirements for voting systems have had serious negative consequences for the most important system stakeholders: voters, election administrators, procurement offices, standards bodies, testing authorities and manufacturers.

The workshop examines best-practice for the engineering of e-voting system requirements, and the specification of e-voting system standards and accreditation (certification) processes. Papers will compare and contrast requirements engineering processes and documents which predate electronic voting systems with those that motivate the development of future voting systems. The workshop will highlight the importance of case studies - with some papers addressing evaluation of existing commercial systems and others analysing prototypes that have developed out of research environments.

Electronic voting has also illustrated the difficulty in specifying requirements with respect to complex criteria such as security, risk and resilience. Papers in the workshop illustrate that - with respect to these complex criteria - e-voting system developers can, and should, adopt and adapt techniques that have proven successful in other problem domains. However, they also highlight some complex issues that are unique to e-voting.

The workshop concludes with a panel discussion addressing the current problems faced by election administrators and the most urgent issues that have arisen out of poorly specified requirements and standards.

This is the first RE-Vote workshop. The co-chairs would like to thank all members of the program committee, without whom the workshop would have remained an abstract requirement for what is now a concrete event.

J Paul Gibson & Douglas W. Jones (Co-Chairs)