ClearVote 2.1

ClearVote Glossary

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Preface

This section defines the purpose of this document. It contains the following subsections.

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About this document

This document provides information about the terminology used by Clear Ballot in the ClearVote products and documentation.

A ClearVote® system can comprise the ClearAccess®, ClearAudit®, ClearCast®, ClearCount®, and ClearDesign® products. Jurisdictions are not required to purchase all products. You can ignore references to any ClearVote products that are not part of your voting system. Also ignore implementation options that are not relevant to your policies and procedures.

Scope of this document

This document provides information about the terms used throughout the ClearVote documentation.

Intended audience

This document is intended for election officials and election staff who are responsible for operations and maintenance before, during, and after an election. This document is also used by Clear Ballot personnel who support election officials and election staff.

Contact us

Clear Ballot Group welcomes your feedback on our documentation. Please send comments to Documentation@ClearBallot.com.

If you have questions about using your ClearVote product, contact your Clear Ballot representative.

ClearVote terminology

absentee voters (AB)

An example of a counter group and a counter group ID; voters who will not be present at the polls and who instead fill out and submit their ballots by some remote voting method.

acceptance test

An examination of a voting system by a jurisdiction to validate that system is as expected.

access control list (ACL)

A list that specifies which users or system processes are granted access to objects, and which operations are allowed on given objects. For example, in the ClearDesign EMS, when users are created, they are assigned a user name, password, and access level. The ClearDesign client/server interface is protected by role-based access control lists (ACLs) stored on the DesignServer computer. These ACLs protect both the web and MySQL database transactions.

accessible definition file (ADF/ADFx)

A file package created in the ClearDesign EMS that is used to program the ClearAccess accessible-voting stations. ADF filenames have either an .adf extension (unencrypted) or an .adfx extension (encrypted).

accessible-voting system

A voting system equipped for individuals with disabilities that permits voters to vote privately and independently.

adjudication

See *digital adjudication*.

alias

In the ClearDesign EMS ballot macros, an alias is an alternative, simpler term that can be used. For example, *split.ballotGroup.ballotGroupStyle* can be aliased *{ballotGroupStyle}*.

Anywhere Ballot

The Anywhere Ballot was developed under a grant from the US Election Assistance Commission. It provides the highest level of usable/accessible ballot presentation across a range of display devices. When used in reference to the ClearAccess system, the Anywhere Ballot is a single HTML file, created by the ClearDesign EMS, that contains all of the data needed by a browser to display a single ballot style, allow voters (disabled or not) to select and verify their choices, and mark and print one or more ballot cards on a low-cost laser printer.

assigning write-ins

The process of using the ClearCount Write-in Assignments tool to link candidate names with write-in images.

audio ballot

A ballot presented to the voter in spoken, rather than written, form.

auditing system

A system used for validating the results of an election. It can also be used for recounts and election contests.

audit log

A set of system- and election-related transactions posted in chronological order and stored in an inviolable file. See *election log* and *system log*.

ballot

The official presentation of all of the contests to be decided in a particular election.

ballot receptacle

A container used to hold ballots. The ClearCast system includes a lightweight collapsible ballot bag, as well as a collapsible ballot box.

ballot definition file (BDF/BDFx)

A file package created in the ClearDesign EMS unique to each election that enables the ClearCount and the ClearCast systems to successfully register and analyze a ballot. Jurisdictions can also enlist Clear Ballot to create and test these files based on the jurisdiction's ballot style PDFs. BDF filenames have either a .bdf extension (unencrypted) or a .bdfx extension (encrypted).

ballot generation

In the ClearDesign EMS, the calculation of all ballot styles (based on the districts included in the current election, which contests go on which ballot style). After the ballot styles are generated, the actual ballot text can be dynamically laid out and the ballots can be examined for their aesthetics. Small manual adjustments can be made to reposition contests.

ballot jogger

A machine used to align ballots prior to central-count scanning, helping to eliminate misfeeds and ensuring consistent ballot speed throughput.

ballot-marking device

A ballot-marking device (BMD), used for vote capture, is a computer running the ClearAccess software as a browser application in "kiosk mode" with an associated printer.

ballot-marking station

In the ClearAccess system, a collection of the following physical components: a ballot-marking device, a sip-and-puff headset, headphones, an accessible keypad, a privacy screen, a laser printer, and a USB drive for ADF transfers.

ballot preparation station

A space consisting of a flat surface used to unseal ballot boxes (if required), stage ballots for the jogging station, and reseal ballot boxes. All required ballot box recordkeeping occurs at the ballot preparation station.

ballot production

In the ClearDesign EMS, the process of creating the PDF files and ballot definition files to send to a printer and to program the ClearCast and the ClearCount systems, as well as the ADF to allow a voter to vote and then print a ballot that can be tabulated.

ballot-proofing report

In the ClearDesign EMS, reports that help ensure that the geographic relationships are correct, all contests have been placed, candidate names are spelled correctly, and so forth.

ballot report

A ClearAccess report that can be reviewed and printed at the conclusion of equipment readiness testing and after an election.

ballotSet

In the ClearDesign EMS, the ballotSet is used to further filter contests, such as for "federal only" ballots, and to define whether separate ballots are to be generated for each voterGroup (party), as in a "closed primary."

ballot set template

In the ClearDesign EMS, refers to which ballot sets will be produced (such as, federal-only contests, sample ballots, or different-sized ballots for accessible marking).

ballot specifications

The specifications for ballot stock to be used for ClearVote ballots.

ballot style ID

A number that represents a particular ballot layout. A ballot style ID is unique to each election and identifies the front and back of each ballot card.

ballot style PDFs

The files that a jurisdiction provides for Clear Ballot to use to create a zipped BDF file.

batch ID

An ID that appears on the ClearCount target card and the box label for each batch of ballots. For example, if the target card indicates a batch ID of ED-11, a label marked ED-11 is affixed to the box where the ballots are to be placed. This helps identify the location of the ballots during Clear Ballot's Image-to-Ballot Traceability verification process. Related to *box ID*.

blank vote

A contest where no votes have been recorded. In a vote-for-one contest, an undervote is the same as a blank vote.

blank-voted ballot

A voted ballot that has no selections marked for any contests.

block style ballot

Ballots that have the votes arranged in columns. See *grid style ballot*.

box ID

A unique string that identifies a particular box of ballots and its corresponding card image files. It appears on the box label affixed to a box.

box label

A label that physically identifies each box of ballots. Like target cards, box labels use the box ID as a unique identifier. The box label is affixed to a uniform spot on the outside of a ballot box before the cards are scanned in the ClearCount system.

calibration card

A card used to test the ClearCount scanning equipment (available from the Clear Ballot support website).

candidate

A person contending in a contest for office. A candidate can be presented as one of the choices on a ballot or can be a write-in candidate. Each candidate is associated with a single contest and one or more parties. Each candidate has a name that is used for reporting purposes, and "ballot text" that is placed on the ballot.

canvass

The compilation of election returns and validation of the outcome that forms the basis of the official results by political subdivision.

canvassing board

The election officials who rule on permissible ballots and adjudicate marginal marks in close elections. The canvassing board may also certify the election results at the end of the election cycle, depending upon local statute.

card

When used in describing paper ballots, refers to a single piece of paper that may, by itself or along with other cards, form a voter's (complete) ballot.

card ID

A unique string that identifies a single particular voted ballot card.

card image file

One of two files—one for each side of a ballot card—created during scanning as industry-standard JPEG files, and stored in a folder on the ClearCount ScanServer computer.

Card Images report

A ClearCount report that allows election officials to review card image files.

Card Inventory report

A ClearCount report that details the contents of each box of cards.

Card Resolutions tool

An application that aids adjudication of a card by providing an image of the card and a way to set its vote status. The Card Resolutions tool is part of the Election Administration pages in the ClearCount system.

card style

A unique set of contests for a given ballot set in an election that fit onto a card template.

card template

In the ClearDesign EMS, refers to the card height (5"–22"), number of columns, front and back orientation (portrait or landscape), and the oval position (to the left or right of the candidate name).

casting

The act of placing a voted paper ballot into a ballot receptacle or precinct-count voting station.

Cast Vote Record (CVR)

A ClearCount report that shows one record per ballot where columns are one per oval.

central count

A voting system that scans and tabulates ballots from multiple precincts at a central location. The ClearCount system is a central-count system. Compare *precinct count*.

central-count facility

The location where the ClearCount central-scan operation takes place.

certification

A procedure by which a third party gives written assurance that a product, process, or service conforms to specified requirements.

certified results

The results from an election that are considered the final result.

challenged ballot

A ballot provided to an individual who claims to be registered and eligible to vote, but whose eligibility or registration status cannot be confirmed at the time of voting. Also called a *provisional ballot*.

choice

- A selection presented to a voter for a single contest.
- The target location of a particular vote. This could be Yes or No for a bond issue, or one candidate from a field of candidates.

choice election identity

This identity states that for each choice within a contest on a ballot, that choice must be classified as a vote, a nonvote, or participating in an undervote or an overvote. As with the contest election identity, this means that the total of votes, overvotes, undervotes, and nonvotes for a given choice must equal the total number of times that the choice appeared on a scanned card.

choice zone

The area on a ballot that displays all the information about a specific contest choice, including the choice's target zone.

choice zone density

The calculation of the relative darkness of a vote target, used to interpret voter intent.

ClearAccess

Clear Ballot's accessible and universally usable voting station.

ClearAudit

Clear Ballot's paper-based, optical-scan election audit system.

ClearCast

Clear Ballot's paper-based, optical-scan precinct voting station.

ClearCount

Clear Ballot's paper-based, optical-scan central-count system.

ClearDesign

Clear Ballot's election management system (EMS).

ClearVote

Clear Ballot's suite of election products.

closed primary

A primary election in which voters receive a ballot listing only the contests affiliated with the voter's political party of registration/choice, in addition to any valid nonpartisan contests.

close election

When all reporting and administrative tasks pertaining to an election have been completed on an in-person voting device (ClearCast), the election can be closed, which effectively deletes the election and all stored tallies from the voting station.

close polls

The act of terminating the voting process on the ClearAccess accessible-voting station and terminating ballot casting on the ClearCast voting station, and in both cases setting the election to the Postelection mode.

code channel

The encoded unique barcode data imprinted on a ballot. Unlike the traditional barcode used on retail items, a ballot's barcode consists of heavy dark blocks. Its interpretation is defined by the vendor of the ballot layout system.

comma-separated values (CSV) file

A file that stores tabular data in plain text form separated by commas.

commercial off-the-shelf (COTS)

Commercial, readily available products, not modified by Clear Ballot, for use in the ClearVote system.

comparison results file (CRF)

A zipped file containing a number of text files in CSV format that collectively describe a set of tabulation totals to which ClearAudit tabulation totals should be compared. Creating a CRF is optional, and doing so allows the user to see the differences between ClearAudit tabulation totals and the comparison results file (CRF) totals.

consumables

Components, such as paper, toner, and scanner rollers and pads, that need to be replaced periodically. The documentation included in the ClearVote technical data package (TDP) specifies the schedule for consumables replacement, as well as the method for obtaining and installing them.

contest

A single decision within an election, such as a presidential race or a bond issue. A contest has a list of candidates or choices for the voter to select from, and may include a write-in choice. Each contest is associated with a single district and a single party. Each contest has a name that is used for reporting purposes, and "ballot text" that is placed on the ballot.

contest election identity

This identity states that for each contest on a ballot, that contest must be classified as either being properly voted, blank-voted, undervoted, or overvoted. The number of ballots in each of these classifications must equal the total number of ballots on which that contest is present.

contest template

In the ClearDesign EMS, a template that includes the "Vote for" descriptor, contest type (candidate, measure, and so forth), cross-endorsement, assignment to a header, district assignment, and rotation.

contest zone

The area on a ballot that displays all the text associated with that contest, including its choice zones.

controlled contest

Also known as *partisan contest*. A contest that has choices that would be "marked" by the system based on the voter selection in a controller contest.

controller

A contest with choices that causes downballot choices to be "marked" by the system. Generally, party names are the choices shown for this type of contest. The contest may have a title such as *Straight Party* and choices such as *Democratic Party* and *Republican Party*.

counter group

A group of voters identified by code so their votes can be reported separately from other groups. The names and IDs of counter groups can vary by jurisdiction. Examples are early voting (EV), Election Day (ED), provisional (PR), and absentee (AB).

cross-endorsement

The endorsement of a single candidate or slate of candidates by more than one political party. The candidate could appear on the ballot once only, with no visible endorsement printed on the ballot, or once for each endorsing party. If the cross-endorsed candidate appears once on the ballot only, and if the candidate is selected directly in the race, a single nonpartisan instance of the candidate is counted. If the candidate appears on the ballot once only and is endorsed by a party selected in a straight-party race, the endorsement of the candidate made by the straight-party selection is counted. If the candidate appears on the ballot once for each endorsing party, the voter can select an individual endorsement of the candidate. If the race allows a number to vote for greater than one, the voter can select the candidate as many times

as he or she desires as long as that number of votes does not exceed the specified number to vote for.

crossover voting

Crossing party lines on an open primary ballot.

DeleteBox utility

The utility in the ClearCount system that allows election officials with modify access or above to delete boxes of ballots from a ScanStation computer.

DesignServer

In the ClearDesign EMS, a computer that runs the ClearDesign software and hosts its database and the web server that serves its reports.

DesignStation

In the ClearDesign EMS, a computer connected to the DesignServer computer, where ballot layout and design is performed.

digital adjudication

The method for election officials to identify, analyze, and resolve ballot issues using the ClearCount system.

digital outstacking

The ClearCount system's method of flagging unreadable card images so they can be electronically reviewed and adjudicated.

digital signature

An asymmetric key operation where the private key is used to digitally sign an electronic document and the public key is used to verify the signature. Digital signatures provide data authentication and integrity protection.

Discriminant Function (DF)

A ClearVote software module that analyzes and classifies voter marks read from those card images that pass registration. The Discriminant Function uses progressive rounds of grouping and comparison to classify voter marks.

district

In the ClearDesign EMS, districts are used to define the geographical division of voters. Each district belongs to one district category and has one or more splits associated with it. Districts also have contests associated with them.

district category

In the ClearDesign EMS, district categories are used to group districts so that each split can only belong to one district of a district category.

early voting (EV)

An example of a counter group and a counter group ID; voting conducted before election day.

edge marks

The markings between the ballot text and voting targets and the outside edge of the paper. These edge marks include timing marks and code channel marks. Typically, these are not human-readable. The tabulator applications in the ClearCast and the ClearCount systems use edge marks as landmarks to rotate and then align the ballot for vote recognition.

election activity log

A set of election-specific transactions posted in chronological order by the ClearCount system, and stored in an inviolable file.

Election Administration pages

The tools in the ClearCount system that an election official uses to create and administer an election.

election administration station

In the ClearCount system, one or more Microsoft Windows computers installed with browser software. Election officials use this computer to manage elections and users, to monitor and interact with election reports, and to adjudicate unreadable cards. System administrators use it to monitor the ClearCount system. Election administration station computers are connected to the ScanServer computer.

election database

In the ClearCast and the ClearCount systems, the database that stores all the information about a specific election.

Election Day (ED)

An example of a counter group and a counter group ID (voters casting ballots at a polling place on election day; in the US, the day on which elections for national public office are held, occurring annually on the first Tuesday after November 1.

election definition

In the ClearDesign EMS, refers to template selection, selection of contests to be included, entry of candidate names, and measure text.

election district

Synonymous with precinct (varies by jurisdiction).

election identity

See *contest election identity* and *choice election identity*.

election log

A set of election-specific transactions posted in chronological order and stored in an inviolable file. Election logs are available in the ClearAccess, ClearCast and ClearDesign products.

election management system (EMS)

A system that handles the election definition, ballot preparation, precinct-count operations, and vote consolidation in an election, such as the ClearDesign EMS.

Election mode

The mode to which a voting system is set after all election testing has been completed. Used by in-person voting systems (ClearCast, ClearAccess).

election officials

The people associated with administering and conducting elections, including government personnel and poll workers.

election phase

In the ClearCount system, an election can be in one of three phases—Scanning, Reviewing, or Closed.

encryption

The process of obscuring information by changing plain text into ciphertext for the purpose of security or privacy.

Ethernet

The closed, wired network that connects computers in the ClearVote products.

FIPS

Federal Information Processing Standard, a government computer security standard used to approve cryptographic modules.

functional configuration audit (FCA)

An exhaustive verification of every system function and combination of functions performed as part of voting system certification. See also *physical configuration audit*.

general election

An election in which voters, regardless of party affiliation, are permitted to vote on ballot issues and select candidates to fill public office.

geographic data entry

In the ClearDesign EMS, data entry that includes district listing, precinct and split listings, and their relationships.

grid style ballot

Ballots that have columns for contests and rows for parties. See *block style ballot*.

hash

An algorithm that maps a bit string of arbitrary length to a fixed-length bit string. A cryptographic hash function allows one to easily verify that some input data maps to a given hash value, but if the input data is unknown, it is deliberately difficult to reconstruct it (or equivalent alternatives) by knowing the stored hash value. Hashes are used as a basis for ensuring integrity of the card images and other files across the ClearVote system.

header

The instructional information that is placed on the ballots. Headers can be "card" headers that are associated with ballots independent of any contest, or "contest" headers that are associated with a ballot only if their associated contest is on the ballot. Each header has a name that is used for reporting purposes, and "ballot text" that is placed on the ballot.

HMAC

hash message authentication code

image registration

The process of determining the logical front side of the ballot and its readable orientation, and then locating all important landmarks on the image.

Image-to-Ballot Traceability

The procedures and recordkeeping necessary to allow an election official to find the specific ballot that corresponds to a given card image at any point following the initial scan in the ClearCount system.

implied oval

A selection "marked" by the voting system based on the voter selection in a controlled contest.

jurisdictional data entry

In the ClearDesign EMS, the data that includes localization of terminology (such as, precincts vs. election districts vs. wards), enumeration of languages, political parties, district categories, headers, commonly used graphical elements (such as, county seal), and ballot layout styles (including party placement).

L&A testing

Logic and accuracy testing; a voting system test in which a test deck of specially marked ballots is scanned to see if the voting system is processing ballots correctly.

localization

In the ClearDesign EMS, the ability for jurisdictions to set their own preferred vocabulary for terms that appear in the user interface and on ballots. For example, *precinct* could be localized to *election district*.

logic and accuracy testing (L&A testing)

A voting system test in which a test deck of specially marked ballots is scanned to see if the voting system is processing ballots correctly.

macro

A single computer instruction that encompasses and initiates a sequence of operations. In the ClearDesign EMS, ballot macros are used to allow variable data to be added to ballots during viewing and printing. You can add macros to device messages and any entity that uses the ballot text editor.

marginal votes

The votes that convey voter intent with the least certainty.

marksense

A voting system involving the optical scanning of marks made in designated vote response fields on paper ballots.

MatchPoint

In Clear Ballot's MatchPoint system, MatchPoints are identically defined, independently computed points of comparison between the voting system and the ClearAudit system. There are two kinds of MatchPoints: A Ballot MatchPoint is created for each counter group for each precinct, and a Vote MatchPoint is created for each choice available on a Ballot MatchPoint. Together, Ballot MatchPoints and Vote MatchPoints provide a scalable measure to compare the general accuracy of the results of an election.

misfeed

Misfeeds (also called paper jams) occur when a ballot card gets stuck moving through a scanner.

multifeed

A scanner error in which more than one ballot card is pulled in and scanned, or attempted to be scanned, at the same time.

multigrab

Scanned ballot cards reported as more than .25 inch longer than expected, the result of a multifeed.

network switch

The device that connects computers in ClearVote products (such as the ClearCount ScanStation computers and the ScanServer computer, or the ClearDesign DesignStation computers and the DesignServer computer).

No Election mode

The election mode prior to any election being loaded. Used by in-person voting systems (ClearCast, ClearAccess).

nonpartisan contest

A contest that has no choices that are "marked" based on>any controlled contest. Also known as an *uncontrolled contest*.

nonvote

A ballot position for which the target has not been marked, but the vote rule has been satisfied for other choices.

open primary

A primary election in which the voter receives a ballot listing all partisan and nonpartisan contests valid in the voter's registered precinct.

oval

The location a voter marks to indicate his or her choice in a given contest, used synonymously with vote target by Clear Ballot. In some voting systems, the vote target consists of a different shape, such as a rectangle or a broken arrow.

oval density

The calculated darkness or density of a voted oval. Higher densities represent a stronger indication of voter intent. After calculating oval density, the ClearCount system sorts the ovals by density.

overvote

A ballot position for which the target has been marked, but more targets in its contest have been marked than the contest's vote rule allows. The vote rule is the maximum number of choices that a voter can select for a contest.

PDF analysis

A process in which ClearVote software uses information to describe an unvoted ballot and generate BDF tables. The information provided is in PDF files and is either text or the virtual coordinates of a region on the ballot.

personal assistive technology (PAT) devices

PAT devices used in the ClearAccess accessible-voting system. See *accessible keypad* and *sip-and-puff device*.

physical configuration audit (PCA)

A comparison of system components to system documentation, performed as part of voting system certification. See also *functional configuration audit*.

polling place

A location for in-person voting.

Polls open mode

The election mode in which official voting/ballot casting occurs. Used by in-person voting systems (ClearCast, ClearAccess).

Postelection mode

The election mode in which postelection administrative activities take place. Used by in-person voting systems (ClearCast, ClearAccess).

precinct

The geographical division of voters for the purpose of organizing them for an election. In the ClearDesign EMS, precincts have one or more splits associated with them.

precinct count

A voting system that scans and tabulates ballots at the voting locations. The ClearCast voting station is Clear Ballot's precinct-count system. Precinct counts must be certified at a later step. Compare *central count*.

Pre-election mode

The election mode used for election preparation and logic and accuracy testing. Used by in-person voting systems (ClearCast, ClearAccess).

primary election

An election held to determine which candidate will represent a political party for a given office in the general election.

primary party preference

In an open primary election, all partisan and nonpartisan races are on the same ballot. Despite the offices representing all parties in the election being on the same ballot, voters are required to adhere to a party line. The primary party preference race presented at the top of the open primary ballot provides a means for voters to adhere to a party line. Selecting one of the parties in the primary party preference race causes only the selections in races endorsed by the chosen party to be counted. Any candidate selections in races endorsed by other parties are ignored. Selections in nonpartisan races are not affected by the party selected in the primary party preference race.

Two possibilities exist for making selections in the primary party preference race. The voter can select the desired party in the race, or the poll worker can select the party in the primary party

preference race based on the voter's registered party prior to issuing the ballot to the voter. The manner in which the selection is made depends upon jurisdictional requirements.

prime name

When multiple languages appear on a ballot, the name in a contest might appear in a number of languages (for example, when a ballot serves a population that uses a distinct alphabet). In the US, the prime name is in English.

privacy screen

A portable cardboard screen used to ensure privacy for voters using the ClearAccess accessible-voting station.

programmable ballot return conditions

A ballot-marking condition that can be configured in the ClearDesign EMS and downloaded to a ClearCast voting station by means of the BDF. Any ballot encountering the condition is automatically returned to the voter. Programmable ballot return conditions include overvoting, undervoting, blank voting, blank-voted cards, crossover voting, and straight-party overvoting.

A ClearCast voting station can have the resolution of the ballot return condition decided by the voter (a choice of Submit or Return displays onscreen), or the return condition can be unrecoverable and the ballot cannot be cast until the condition is resolved (for example, lack of an election official's initials on a ballot where that is required to demonstrate that the ballot is valid).

provisional (PR)

An example of a counter group and a counter group ID.

provisional ballot

A ballot provided to a voter who claims to be registered and eligible to vote, but whose status cannot be confirmed at the voting location. The voter can mark the ballot, but the provisional ballot should be filed in an envelope for later adjudication, rather than being cast on the ClearCast voting station. Also called a *challenged ballot*.

question

A contest involving the approval of an issue (such as a bond measure), requiring a positive or negative response.

recall race

A recall race involves two separate races on the ballot—a recall question and a recall candidacy race. The recall question presents a question as to whether a particular candidate should be recalled, with possible affirmative or negative responses. The recall candidacy race lists a set of candidates the voter can select for the office to replace the recalled candidate, subject to the number to vote for. The candidates selected in the recall candidacy race are only counted if the voter has made an affirmative selection in the recall question. If the voter makes a negative

selection in the recall question, any candidate selections in the recall candidacy race are ignored.

registration

The process of determining the logical front of the ballot, its readable orientation and locating all important landmarks on the image, such as timing marks and the marks in the code channel.

returned ballot

The act of returning a ballot cast in the ClearCast voting station via the input tray as a result of encountering a calibration issue or a preprogrammed ballot return condition.

rotation

The process of varying the order of the candidate names within a given contest. Candidate selections are counted and tallied in the same manner, regardless of the order. In the ClearCast system, candidates in a rotating race are listed on the zero Totals and election results reports in the nonrotating order.

runoff election

An election to select a winner following a primary or a general election, in which no candidate in the contest received the required minimum percentage of the votes cast.

ScandAll PRO

The Fujitsu scanner software installed on a ScanStation computer.

scanner

A device used to optically scan paper ballots and capture their images.

ScanServer

In the ClearCount system, a computer running the ClearCount software that hosts the election database and the web server that serves the election reports. The ScanServer computer runs a Linux operating system (a configured version of which is installed with the ClearCount software).

ScanStation

In the ClearCount system, one or more computers with attached scanners that scan and adjudicate ballots. The ScanStation computers run the Microsoft Windows operating system and are connected to the ScanServer computer.

secrecy sleeve

A cardboard sleeve that holds and conceals a voted ballot when being carried by a voter to a voting station or ballot receptacle.

sensitivity test

Testing to ensure the system is reading marginal marks properly.

sip-and-puff device

A personal assistive device used with the ClearAccess system.

software restriction policy (SRP)

A feature of Microsoft Windows operating systems that enables administrators to control which applications are allowed to run on a computer.

split

Splits are the geographical area within a precinct that is not split by any district. In the ClearDesign EMS, each split is associated with a single precinct and only one district of each district category.

spoiled ballot

A ballot that has been voted, but will not be cast.

straight-party voting

A method that allows a voter to cast a single vote to select all candidates on a ballot from a single political party.

system log

A set of system-specific transactions posted in chronological order and stored in an inviolable file. System logs are available in the ClearAccess, ClearCast and ClearDesign products.

Tabulator application

The program that runs on each ScanStation computer in the ClearCount system. It allows the computer to analyze the documents on the ScanStation computers and transfer them to the ScanServer computer. It processes card images to count the votes for every candidate or choice.

target card

A printed card that indicates that a new box is being scanned in the ClearCount system. Its barcode is used to assign the value as the box ID prefix for all subsequent ballots. There is one target card per box label.

target zone

The area in which a voter marks the ballot to indicate voter intent.

technical data package (TDP)

The documentation relating to a voting system that the vendor of the voting system is required to submit as a precondition of federal certification.

test deck

A set of specially marked ballots used to test a voting system.

test plan

A document created prior to testing that outlines the scope and nature of testing, items to be tested, test approach, resources needed to perform testing, test tasks, risks and schedule.

timing marks

The outermost marking on many ballots used to align the scanner to the voting target area.

Totals report

A ClearCast report of ballot tallies.

transition zone

In the ClearCount system's Vote Visualization, the region containing the relatively small numbers of ovals for a candidate or issue that, under human inspection, might be reclassified (such as, a marginal vote to an undervote, an overvote to a vote, and so on).

uncontrolled contest

A contest that has no choices that are "marked" based on any controlled contest. Also known as a *nonpartisan contest*.

undervote

A ballot position for which the target has not been marked, and the number of marks in the contest are fewer than the vote rule.

uninterruptible power supply (UPS)

A backup power supply unit used to power election equipment in the event of a power outage during an election.

virtual coordinates

The coordinates in database tables that describe the ballot layout.

vote

A ballot position for which the target has been marked and no other targets in its contest have been classified as overvoted.

voted ballot

A ballot that contains all of a voter's selections and has been cast.

voter-marked oval

An oval selection in which a voter made a mark conforming to a jursidiction's definitions of a vote.

vote rule

The maximum number of choices that a voter can select for a contest.

vote target

The location a voter marks to indicate his or her choice for a contest on a ballot. Also known as an *oval*, although other shapes, such as an arrow with a gap that must be bridged, are sometimes used.

Vote Visualization

The ClearCount system's Vote Visualization tool allows election officials to review voter marks on scanned ballot cards to resolve voter intent. The Vote Visualization tool examines every oval for each candidate. It groups marginal votes, overvotes, and undervotes in a narrow field of view so the canvassing board can quickly determine the degree to which the software algorithm for adjudicating a vote agrees with human interpretation.

voting tabulation system

The primary counting system for an election. See *auditing system*.

whitelist

A list that allows you to designate which software programs are allowed to run on a computer.

Write-in Assignments tool

The ClearCount system captures write-in images for all contests that have write-in choice zones associated with them in an election's BDF. Election officials can use the Write-in Assignments tool to assign candidate names to write-in images. Those assigned write-in choices can then appear in key ClearCount election results reports, such as the Statement of Votes Cast reports. The assigned write-in choices can also be exported as a CSV file.

write-in vote

A selection of a candidate not listed on the ballot. A voter can select a candidate not included in the candidates listed for the contest by writing the name of the desired selection in the write-in space when such spaces are included on a ballot. Write-in selections count toward the number to vote for. The combination of candidate and write-in selections in a race cannot exceed the vote rule.

zero totals report

The report printed at a precinct-polling location at the beginning of voting or prior to the start of central-count scanning. Election officials must review the report to ensure that all candidate totals are zero.