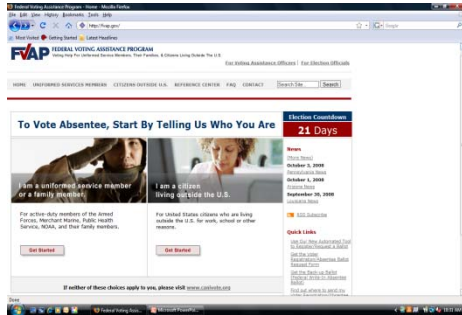


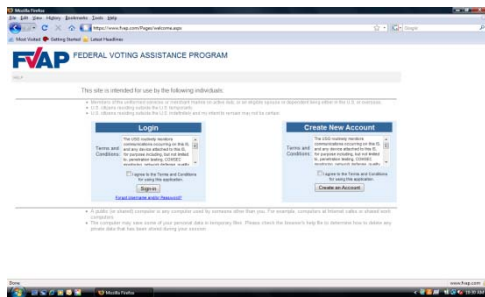
Criterion-Built System Makes Voter Registration Easier For US Military Personnel, Their Families, and American Citizens Overseas

On July 23rd, the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) announced their new website, featuring an automated Voter Registration/Ballot Delivery capability built by Criterion Systems of Vienna, Virginia. For the first time, voters overseas have greater access to timely and accurate absentee voting information and an electronic alternative to the registration by mail process. The new site was specifically designed to expedite the absentee voting process and provide direct electronic communication between local election offices (LEOs) and voters.



Built completely on commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) technology, the FVAP site takes voters through a step-by-step process, to complete the Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Form, tailored to their specific home state and jurisdiction. Voters from participating states and jurisdictions may also send a completed, signed, and scanned Registration and Ballot Request Form to their LEO and receive their blank ballot online via a secure server. These advancements are providing military and overseas voters an easy, quick, and secure way to register and request absentee ballots, as well as an

on-line alternative to the of absentee voting by mail, without sacrificing the security of the voter's privacy information.



By Election Day, over 44,000 registrants used the new facility which allows direct electronic interchange with approximately 425 LEOs. Polli Brunelli, Director of the Federal Voter Assistance Program, in a letter of appreciation to Criterion's Chief Operating Officer, stated: "With this automated tool, the Department will be able to provide Uniformed Services members, their families, U.S. citizens residing overseas, and the election officials who assist them with a convenient and secure way to request and deliver absentee ballots." Dr. J.

Greg Hanson, Criterion's Executive Vice President for Defense and Homeland Security stated: "We, at Criterion Systems, are very proud that we've been able to support the Federal Voter Assistance Program, our troops, and American citizens overseas by making the registration process simple and available during this important time in our nation's history."

The system is built with Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 Enterprise and Form Services which allow for future growth and scalability. SharePoint Server 2007 and InfoPath 2007, combined with a robust core developed using the Microsoft .NET Framework, reduce the complexity of the voter registration process to an experience customized for each individual voter. State-unique requirements, instructions, and business rules are stored in a Microsoft SQL Server database and applied to the registration process as needed. Information for on-line registrants and Local Election Officials (LEOs) is stored, encrypted, and managed using Microsoft Active Directory. The system front-end resides on Microsoft Server 2003 with Internet Information Services (IIS) 6.0, providing a location for the SharePoint/InfoPath environment and supporting applications without compromising system administration costs. Security is provided using a dual-firewall configuration.