

Emergency Legislative Voting Information System Helps Governments Resume Business in the Event of Homeland Disaster

With recent natural disasters and terror threats, cities and states are putting in place Homeland Security measures and practices.

In the event of an emergency relocation for government officials, International Roll-Call® Corporation has found a viable solution to safeguard the work of local, state and national governing bodies. Working with our business partner Televic we have integrated the IRC voting software to utilize Televic's hardware providing legislative bodies with wireless voting and sound.



IRC has created the Emergency Legislative Voting Information System (E.L.V.I.S.) which will allow legislatures to continue legislative business during times of disaster at an acceptable level.

“E.L.V.I.S. gives legislatures a security blanket that the functioning of government will march forward during times of crisis,” said Bill Schaeffer, Vice President of IRC.

Using a laptop computer and wireless base station, members' votes are recorded through the receiving and transmitting of information to/from the members' wireless voting consoles. The wireless voting consoles can use battery or other available power outlets.

E.L.V.I.S. is designed to be mobile with the entire system being stored in a durable protective enclosure. This allows the system to be set up and taken down in multiple locations as necessary.

System Description:

The system can support laptop computers in front of the Presiding Officer, Secretary or Clerk and the Voting Operator. Laptop computers can be networked together to a RAID Server. All work stations would have keyboard and mouse interacting with the voting system software. A base station is attached to the voting operator's computer for receiving and transmitting information to and from the member's wireless voting consoles. The voting system software would provide data to two projectors for displaying bill and member voting information from behind two display screens. The system could also support a small printer for recorded roll-call votes. The entire system would be stored within a durable Anvil protective enclosure (see above).



The system would utilize the member's wireless unit number assignment application and assign

numbers to the members of the legislative body. The wireless units would also be numbered appropriately to correspond with that assigned wireless unit member number.

Major System Components:

- 1. Wireless Voting Station:** A wireless transceiver voting station at each member's desk that communicates with the system control unit via an encoded, closed-loop Ultra High Frequency digital FM signal with a range of up to 100 feet indoors. The Wireless Voting System also provides a wireless microphone, speaker, vote total display and battery power indicator. The wireless units will not interfere or receive interference from wireless network. The wireless voting system uses a range of frequencies which are different than the frequencies allocated for a wireless network. To accommodate large legislatures we provide the slim-line wireless voting units as seen below.
- 2. Voting Buttons:** The voting buttons located at each member's desk shall be sealed-contact switches with LEDs, ensuring reliability and longevity as well as indicating to a member that their vote has been received by the system. Each set of desk switches will be mounted in a unit which will allow mobility of the voting buttons. Voting buttons will support Yes, No, Abstention and RTS (Request To Speak).
- 3. Wireless Base Station:** The wireless receiver shall be attached to the voting operator's computer through a serial cable and will require AC power. The Wireless Base Station should be centrally located. The Wireless Base Station control unit will receive the vote signals from the member desks.
- 4. Session Desktop Laptop Computer:** This computer acts as the main control for the voting system, using IRC's Session software to create and manage the items on the agenda. This computer is also used to record the vote, display the information on the display board in the chamber, export to external data systems, and print vote results, manage the membership, and display messages.
- 5. Display Boards:** Two rear projectors and screens will be provided for displaying the member names, vote status, bill information, and vote totals to the members. Projection could also be from the front depending on the availability of space.

