I am Channing Stowell, an MIT educated Data Scientist with over 50 years experience applying data technology and services to a number of American companies including General Mills, US Bank, Charles Schwab, Sears, General Motors, Zurich Insurance, and State Farm. My career spans the conception and maturing of the computer age,

**WHY DOES ANOKA COUNTY EVEN HAVE MODEMS?**

1. The county’s DS200’s all have modems installed as integral part of their computer mother boards. (not at al like the modems we have in our homes for internet)
2. The modems are all controlled only be the machine’s programs. There are no manual switches or on off controls.
3. The modems are powered up anytime the computer/voting machine is turned on.
4. While we cannot say if the modem is connected to the internet while powered up whenever the machine is on, we - and no one else -n can say that it is not, either intentionally or by hacking.
5. These modems’ ONLY PURPOSE is to communicate the UNOFFICIAL RESULTS into the county on election close! The official results still must be sent in via the flash drives. The modems gain maybe 1-2 hour time while exposing all of the DS200’s to great risk.
6. Dave Triplett , who runs Ramsey County elections (160 precincts) is adamant re having no modems on their Hart voting machines: “ Why would I spend $2 million for such a limited purpose while significantly increasing my risk?”
7. These machines are in CLEAR VIOLATION of Minnesota Election Law:

**206.845 BALLOT RECORDING AND COUNTING SECURITY.**

[**§**](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet) Subdivision 1.**Prohibited connections.**

  The county auditor and municipal clerk must secure ballot recording and tabulating systems physically and electronically against unauthorized access. Except for wired connections within the polling place, ballot recording and tabulating systems must not be connected to or operated on, directly or indirectly, any electronic network, including a local area network, a wide-area network, the Internet[Next](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet), or the World Wide Web. Wireless communications may not be used in any way in a vote recording or vote tabulating system. Wireless, device-to-device capability is not permitted. No connection by modem is permitted.

Transfer of information from the ballot recording or tabulating system to another system for network distribution or broadcast must be made by disk, tape, or other physical means of communication, other than direct or indirect electronic connection of the vote recording or vote tabulating system.

Subd. 2.**Transmission to central reporting location.**

  After the close of the polls, the head [Previous](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet)election[Next](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet) judge must create a printed record of the results of the [Previous](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet)election[Next](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet) for that precinct. After the record has been printed, the head [Previous](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet)election[Next](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet) judge in a precinct that employs automatic tabulating equipment **may** transmit the accumulated tally for each device to a central reporting location using a telephone, modem, [Previous](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet)**Internet**, or other electronic connection. During the canvassing period, the results transmitted electronically must be considered unofficial until the canvassing board has performed a complete reconciliation of the results.

Here's the law - <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2022/cite/206.845?keyword_type=all&keyword=election+internet>

1. Even NBC is reporting on this vulnerability



The largest manufacturer of voting machines, ES&S, told NBC News their systems are protected by firewalls and are not on the “public internet.” But both Skoglund and Andrew Appel, a Princeton computer science professor and expert on elections, said such firewalls can and have been breached.

“AT&T and Verizon and so on try and protect as best they can the security of their phone network from the rest of the internet, but it’s still part of the internet,” Appel explained. “There can still be security holes that allow hackers to get into the phone network.”

“Modems in voting machines are a bad idea,” said Appel. “Those modems that ES&S [and other manufacturers] are putting in their voting machines are network connections, and that leaves them vulnerable to hacking by anybody who can connect to that network.”

“ES&S has repeatedly advertised its DS200 with internal modem — a critical component to ES&S’s voting systems — as being EAC certified when, in fact, it is not,” the letter said. “We therefore again respectfully request that EAC investigate and take action to correct this serious issue.”

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/amp/ncna1112436>

2. Here's a quite in-depth article pertaining to the DS200 and it's weaknesses.

<https://www.auditelectionsusa.org/2016/12/12/ess-ds200-wireless-vulnerabilities/>

3.More articles re the vulnerability of DS200

<https://www.essvote.com/products/electionware/>See the bottom of the page where it talks about "System Security. Obviously this "hardened device" running ElectionWare has got to be connected to the internet in order for the DS-200 modems to talk back to it.

<https://whowhatwhy.org/politics/elections/new-video-provides-proof-of-cellular-modems-in-fl-voting-machines/>

4. Proof of Modem on Anoka Machines from the Anoka County Guidebook on Elections!!

From Anoka County Guidebook “<https://www.anokacountymn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/23813/DS200--AutoMARK-Troubleshooting-Guide>

