

## Anatomy of a Voting System Hack

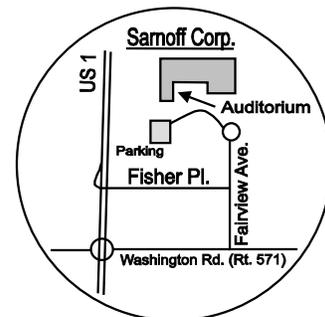
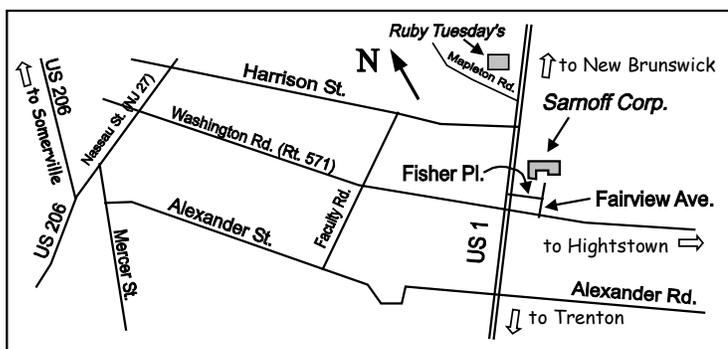
Harri Hursti

On December 13, 2005, Supervisor of Elections, Ion Sancho, arranged for a test of the Leon County Florida voting system to see if election results could be altered, without detection, with access to only a single memory card. Harri Hursti's involvement in this test was documented in the video, "Hacking Democracy," which aired on HBO just prior to the 2006 November general election (we will be showing a clip). The successful attack on optically scanned equipment, now known as the "Hursti Hack," resulted in re-examination of election equipment in California and Florida that confirmed Harri's results and revealed numerous additional security flaws. His subsequent hack, "Hursti II," involved touchscreen bootloaders, and resulted in Pennsylvania having to re-flash many of its voting units before the 2006 primary election. Harri will provide the details of these hacks, and will discuss the significance of his results with impacts on election technology deployment in the US and abroad.

**Harri Hursti** is a computer programmer who specializes in network and telecommunications security. As Chairman of the Board and co-founder of ROMmon, he supervised the development of the world's smallest 2 gigabit traffic analysis product. In various management capacities at KPNQwest, he assisted in the reorganization of their pan-European DSL access operations, and he acted as a troubleshooter to sort out irregularities and unethical business conducts discovered in various parts of the corporate structure. Harri was also the visionary and co-designer behind the first commercial public email and online forum system in Finland, the representative in UNESCO for computer aided education, and the Vice-President of the European Internet Service Providers' Association.

Note: ACM has an official policy on electronic voting systems with specific recommendations – see the ACM website at <http://www.acm.org/usacm/Issues/EVoting.htm>

Date: Thursday, March 15, 2007, 8:00 pm.  
(Refreshments and networking at 7:30 pm.)  
Place: Sarnoff Corp., Routes 1 and 571, Princeton, NJ  
Information: Rebecca Mercuri (609) 587-1886, Dennis Mancl (908) 582-7086  
On-line info: <http://www.acm.org/chapters/princetonacm>



All ACM / IEEE-CS meetings are open to the public. Students and their parents are welcome. There is no admission charge, and refreshments are served.

A pre-meeting dinner with the speaker is held at 6:00 p.m. at Ruby Tuesday's Restaurant on Route 1. Please send email to [princetonacm@acm.org](mailto:princetonacm@acm.org) in advance if you plan to attend the dinner.