

Flaws in electronic voting systems

Dutch researchers released a paper last month saying that the electronic voting systems used in the Netherlands, Germany and France can be easily manipulated.

Rop Gonggrijp and Willem-Jan Hengeveld led a team of e-voting experts described the glitches in the Nedap / Groenendaal ES3B voting machines, which are used by almost 90 percent of the Dutch population.

According to the team, "Anyone with brief access to the voting devices at any

time before the election can gain complete and virtually undetectable control over the election results." It added that the electronic voting system is so flawed that malicious elements could monitor radio emissions to judge the votes cast by people.

These flaws were very identical to those discovered in Diebold Election Systems Inc.'s touch-screen voting machine. The ES3B machine is a joint venture between NV Nederlandsche Apparatenfabriek (Nedap) and Groenendaal. The latter is

a software maker.

Nedap however maintained that the machines were very difficult to manipulate as compared to paper ballots.

