

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Regulations Modernization Taskforce

FROM: Ben Elliott; Chris Drake

DATE: September 28, 2012

RE: Discussion with Texas SOTS Office Concerning their Online Regulations System

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Contacts: Dan Procter; Dana Blanton

- Publication
  - o Agencies submit .txt files to the SOTS for publication
  - o .txt files are run through a program called Arbortext (by PTC) for formatting and then loaded into an Oracle Database
  - o A local Texas company called EAG put together their “frontend” to the Oracle database back in the 90’s, with two updates since.
  - o XML based documents allows publishing in multiple formats
    - Helps deal with formatting inconsistencies
- OCR
  - o When initially made change in early 80s used OCR software to switch from paper
  - o Required to run through and check for errors
  - o Old technology, likely less of a burden today
- Official Version
  - o TX register is prima facie evidence in court
  - o Official version is the copy submitted to the SOTS’s Office
    - Could be paper or digital copy
- Other recommended states
  - o FL
  - o Montana
  - o Utah: good work on small budget
  - o Virginia: robust public comment ability