

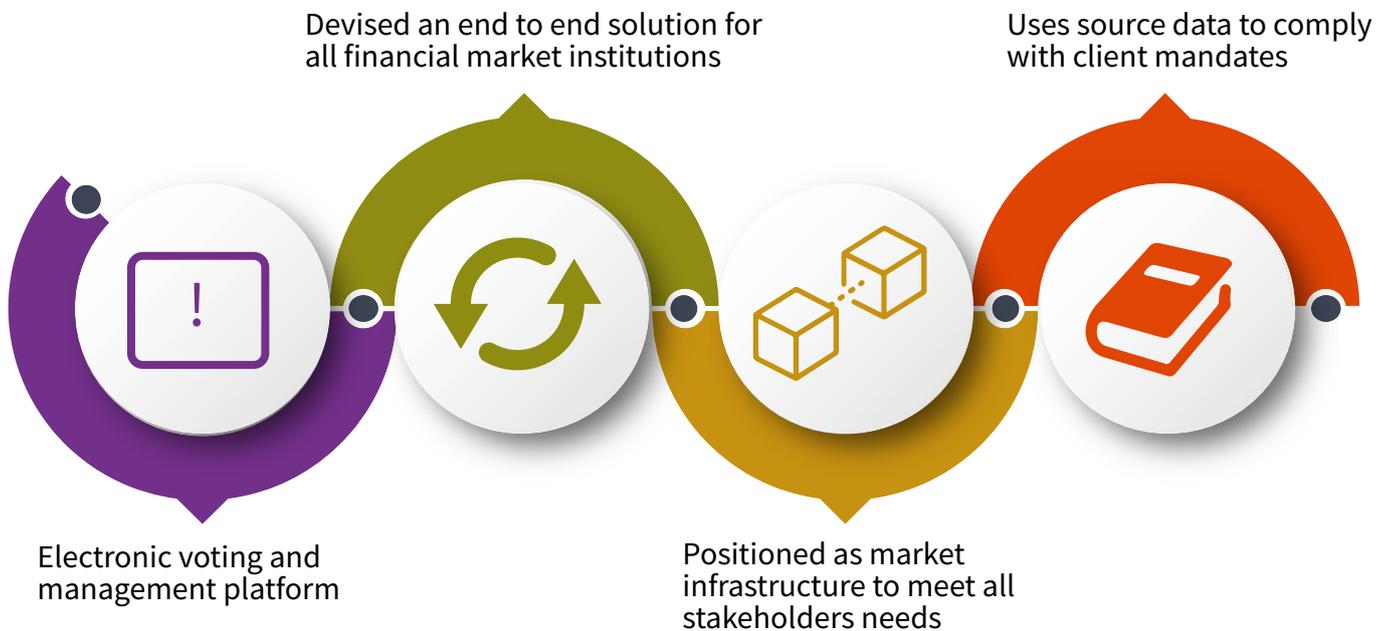
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e-Voting

Background

The current end-to-end voting process is complex, administratively burdensome and largely manual. Multiple layers of inefficiency across the voting value chain introduce significant risks for issuers, their agents, custodians, brokers, asset managers and, ultimately, beneficial shareholders.

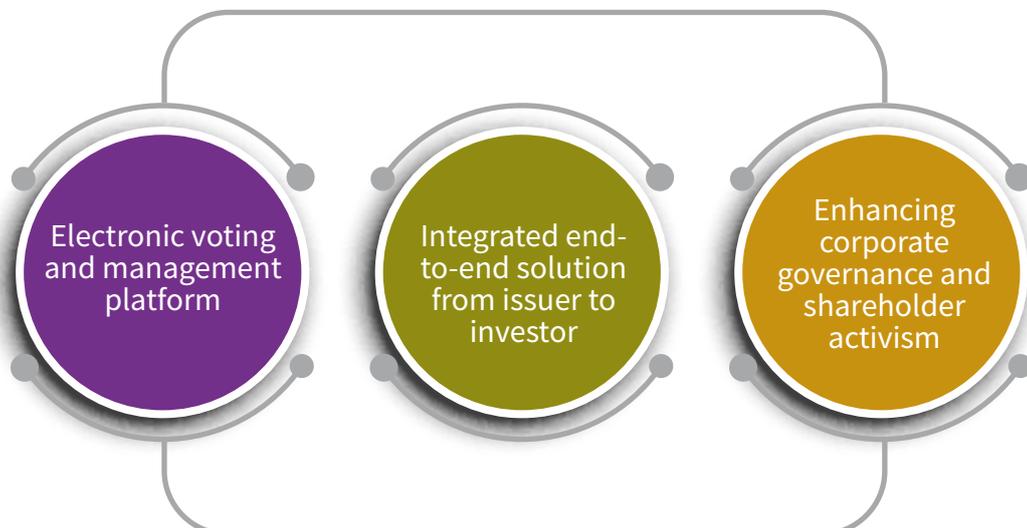
With the Strate e-Voting, stakeholders can manage meetings, appoint a proxy or vote through a simple online tool.



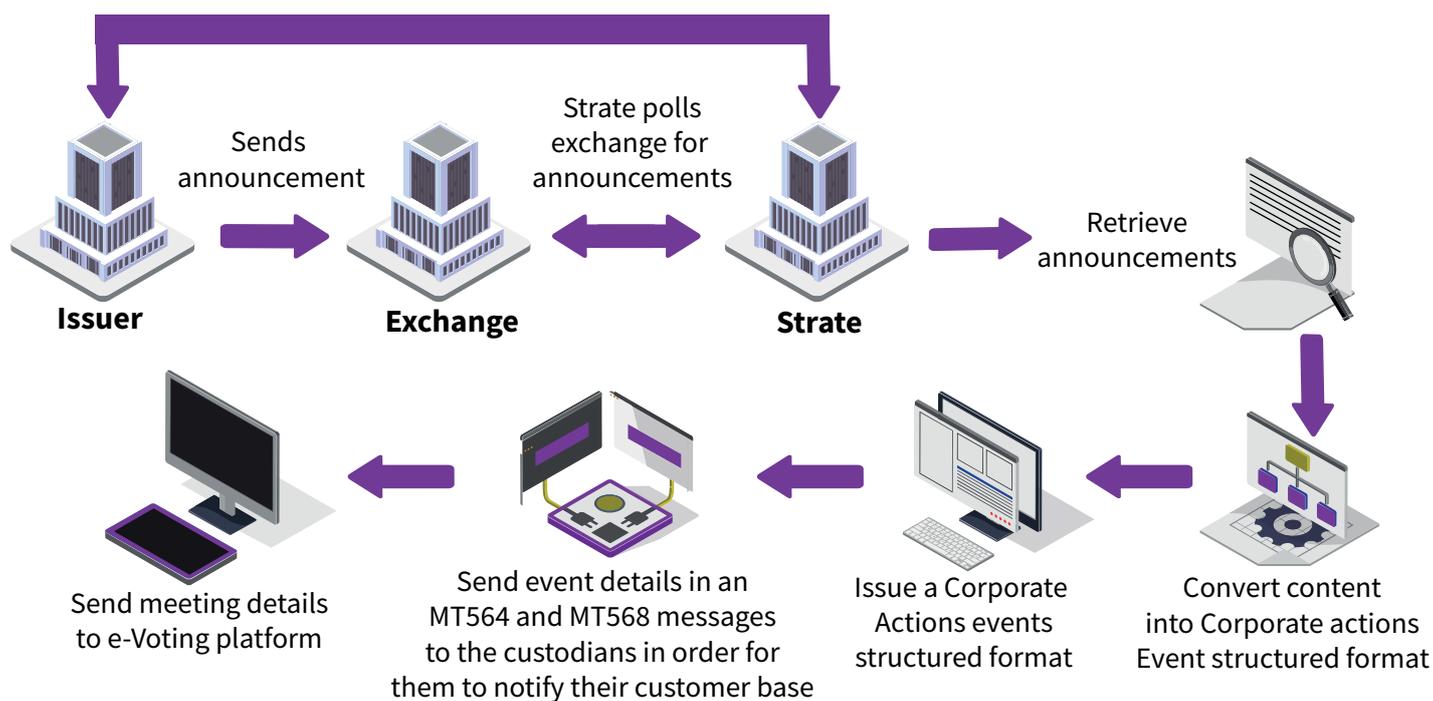
e-Voting Platform

Strate e-Voting is a revolutionary, secure, web-based application used to manage shareholder meetings for South African and foreign-listed issuers. In a market first, all regulatory aspects of meetings are streamlined end-to-end, bringing greater transparency, reliability and flexibility to shareholder voting and meetings.

As an integrated solution, Strate e-Voting enhances corporate governance and shareholder participation by improving the accessibility, efficiency and transparency of shareholder decision-making at meetings. Strate e-Voting eliminates the cost, volumes of paperwork and complexity of meetings for all parties from issuers and investors to custodians and asset managers.



Meeting set-up overview



Voting Process

Shareholders can vote prior to a meeting (intention to vote) or in person using a mobile phone, tablet or laptop. Issuers have the ability to track voting.

Custodians connect to Strate e-Voting via an application programming interface (API), a graphical user interface (GUI) or a comma-separated values (CSV) file. Custodians have access to real-time voting information leading up to, and during, a meeting. Moreover, custodians can assign voting rights to clients on the system, allowing them to vote directly. Votes are automatically tallied on behalf of asset managers and submitted to issuers and their agents.

Enhanced corporate governance is a major benefit to all parties as fully transparent and auditable results are delivered in real time.

Why Blockchain?

Blockchain provides an immutable record and cryptographically secure ledger of transactions. The result is that votes are recorded in an efficient and tamper-proof way.

Strate e-Voting has been co-developed by Nasdaq, a leading global provider of trading, clearing, exchange technology, listing, information and public company services.

Strate e-Voting Benefits

Benefits
EFFICIENCY
Provides an innovative and better service across the value chain, from issuer to investor
Reduces the administrative burden of managing proxy voting and letters of representation, resulting in reduced paperwork and administrative burden
Addresses and simplifies the legal complexities and legislative intent of votes
GOVERNANCE
Significantly improves governance in how shareholder meetings and votes are organised, monitored and recorded
Real-time transparent and auditable vote tracking and results, significantly boosts governance standards & reduces the risk that an audit will differ to a meeting's record
FLEXIBILITY
Enables remote or electronic meetings and is the most equitable process for reaching all shareholders and involving them in voting for company resolutions
Provides voters with the flexibility to change votes and appoint proxies at any time up to a meeting resolution close
TRANSPARENCY
Shareholders can choose to disclose their vote to issuers or custodians
SECURE
Meeting results are securely archived and easily accessible
Real-time comprehensive reporting and analysis on voting progress and results to meet the standards of the Code for Responsible Investing in South Africa (CRISA)
Chain of proxies is monitored and tracked throughout the custody chain

Beneficial shareholder / voter	Issuer and issuer agent	Custodian	Asset manager	Regulator
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About Strate

Strate is South Africa's central securities depository and a tri-party collateral platform provider. Its purpose is to serve the financial markets and help build local and international investor trust in the South African financial system.

As the central depository to which multiple exchanges, issuers and other market participants connect, Strate safeguards the ownership rights of investors in securities and other assets using digitally enabled processes. Through its tri-party collateral platform, it connects collateral givers and receivers in an efficient and robust way that leads to the traceable re-use of capital and other assets as collateral.

Strate has served the South African financial market for over 20 years. It is governed by the Financial Markets Act, 2012 and overseen by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) and South Africa's Prudential Authority.

Contact us

To find out more about how Strate e-Voting can help you as a custodian, issuer, issuer agent, shareholder or voter, please contact us:

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