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LATEST NEWS

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ATG passes corporate governance review

Three independent corporate governance experts have completed their review of [Art Technology Group Inc.](#)'s corporate governance policies, calling those policies "excellent." In the summary of their report, the experts called ATG's board of directors "efficient and well-functioning."

The Cambridge-based software company's corporate governance review came about after a proxy battle between ATG (NASDAQ: ARTG) and its second largest shareholder at the end of 2004. The company's corporate governance was later reviewed by the Corporate Governance Center at Kennesaw State University, corporate governance advisory firm Board Assets Inc. and law firm [Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz.](#)

Based on the report recommendations, ATG will refine its process for establishing and measuring long-term goals, formalize a management succession plan, consider a policy requiring ownership of the company's shares by directors and review and clarify the process in place for stockholders to contact the board.

ATG's board has also removed provisions in its stock options plan that allowed loans to officers and directors. The company is currently searching for an independent director to join its board as a Class 1 director. This director will be selected by the board and the company's largest stockholders will have input into the choice.

The review was a commitment ATG made after its proxy battle with a dissident shareholder group, [Mitchell-Wright Technology Group LLC](#) of Great Neck, N.Y. The group originally opposed ATG's acquisition of [Primus Knowledge Systems Inc.](#) last year and the battle over corporate governance grew out of that disagreement. The Primus acquisition was successfully completed.