WCAG Compliance Training

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Agenda

- **What is WCAG and Why is it important?**

- **WCAG 101**

- **How to ensure newsroom articles are compliant**

- **How to ensure pdfs are compliant**

- **Q&A**

Overview of Compliance Level

A
Must Have

This is the most basic level of compliance in WCAG.

AA
Should Have

This is the most desired level of guidelines having good readable text along with good contrast ratio and support for interface zoom.

AAA
Good To Have

This is the highest level of accessibility requires sign language for audio content which is a bit difficult in all cases to put in place.

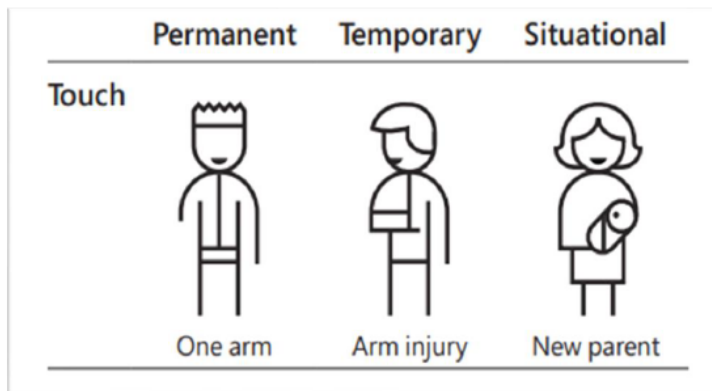National

What is accessibility?

Defining Accessibility

Accessibility refers to the design of products, devices, services, or environments for people who experience disabilities. The concept of accessible design and practice of accessible development ensures both "direct access" and "indirect access" meaning compatibility with a person's assistive technology.

Forrester's definition for digital Accessibility:
"The extent to which customers are able to get value out of a digital experience regardless of variations in their abilities"

What is accessibility?

Who does it impact?

Source: Microsoft design principles

An accessible website benefits all users, but especially:

- People with some form of physical or cognitive impairment

- Older users with physical or technical limitations

- Users with older technologies or slow connections

- Users with little or no experience of using computers

Remember: *disability is not always permanent but is always important.*

Understand the Guidelines

WCAG 2.1: International standard of accessibility

- The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) is the international body that develops standards for the Web and related technologies.

- Via the Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) it has created the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) with the goal of providing a single shared standard for accessibility.

- Version 1.0: 1999 / Version 2.0 2008 / Version 2.1 2018

- Note: WCAG 2.1 is backwards compatible so no need to panic
  - The previous categories and guidelines still apply
  - The numbering still applies
  - The basic principles still apply
  - The three levels of success criteria (A, AA, AAA) still apply
  - One additional guideline and 17 additional success criteria have been introduced

W3C WORLD WIDE WEB *consortium.*

Understand the Guidelines

WCAG Accessibility Levels

WCAG guidelines are divided into three Levels: A, AA, AAA

- **Level A** requirements achieve a minimum level of accessibility, often with minimal impact on the design of the site.

- **Level AA** requirements achieve an enhanced level of accessibility which can be reasonably applied to all web content.

- **Level AAA** requirements provide additional enhancements for users with disabilities, but some may be technically or logistically infeasible to implement across a whole site.

Understand the Guidelines

The four WCAG 2.1 principles: P-O-U-R
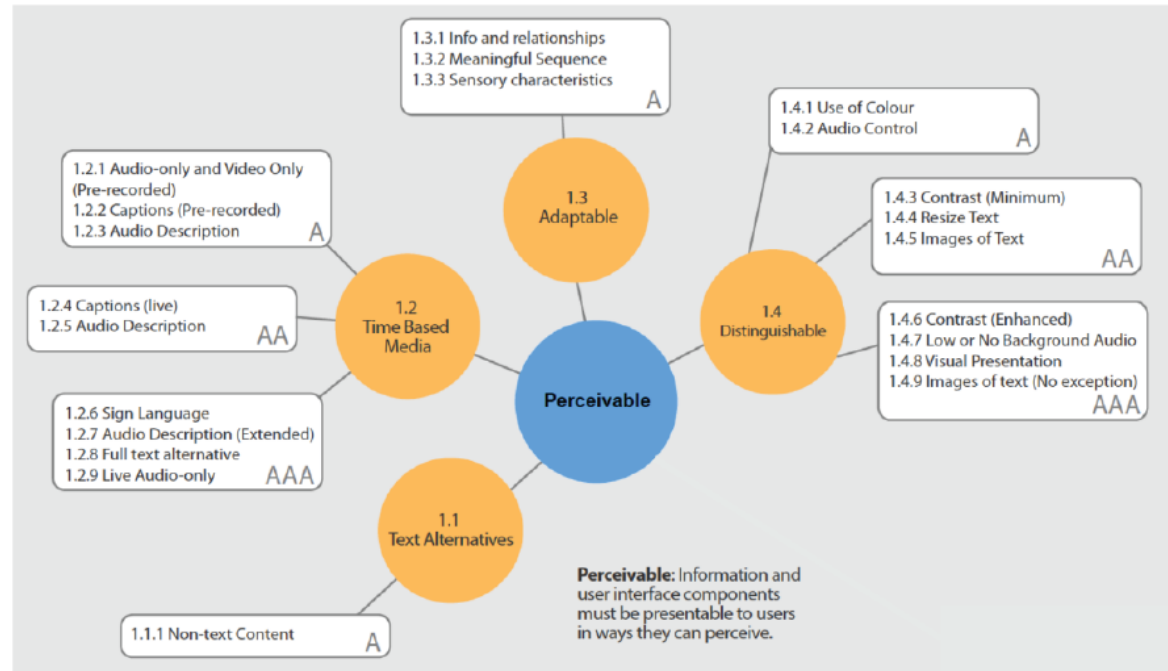
Web content should be:

1. **Perceivable:** Information and user interface components must be presentable to users in ways they can perceive.

2. **Operable:** User interface components and navigation must be operable.

3. **Understandable:** Information and the operation of user interface must be understandable.

4. **Robust:** Content must be robust enough that it can be interpreted reliably by a wide variety or user agents, including assistive technologies.

Understanding the Guidelines

WCAG 2.0: Guidelines & success criteria

- 4 Principles

- 13 Guidelines

- 78 Success Criteria

- Techniques (sufficient & advisory) and failures

Source: Stamford Interactive - https://www.digitalpulse.pwc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/WCAG20Map.pdf

Notable Web Accessibility Laws and Policies

Why is it Important?

Australia
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) - WCAG 2.0
- Procurement Standard Guidance - WCAG 2.0

Canada
- Canadian Human Rights Act
- Policy on Communications and Federal Identity - WCAG 2.0

China
- Law on the Protection of Persons with Disabilities 1990
- Voluntary Web Accessibility Standard - WCAG 2.0 derivative

Denmark
- Agreement on the use of open standards for software in the public sector - WCAG 2.0

European Union
- Web and Mobile Accessibility Directive - WCAG 2.0
- European Accessibility Act (proposed) - WCAG 2.0 derivative

Finland
- Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector

France
- Law N° 2005-102 Article 47
- Order of 29 April 2015 on the general accessibility framework for public administrations - WCAG 2.0 derivative
- Law N° 2016-1321 Article 106

Germany
- Act on Equal Opportunities for Disabled Persons of 2002
- Federal Ordinance on Barrier-Free Information Technology - WCAG 2.0 derivative

Hong Kong
- Guidelines on Dissemination of Information through Government Websites - WCAG 2.0

Ireland
- The Disability Act, 2005
- Equal Status Acts 2000 to 2004 - WCAG 2.0
- Employment Equality Acts 1998 and 2004

Israel
- Equal Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, as amended - WCAG 2.0

Italy
- Law 9 January 2004, n. 4 "Provisions to support the access of disabled people to IT tools" (Stanca Law) - WCAG 2.0

Japan
- Basic Act on the Formation of an Advanced Information and Telecommunications Network Society

Netherlands
- Procurement Law 2012 - WCAG 2.0
- Policy in the Netherlands - WCAG 2.0

New Zealand
- Human Rights Act 1993, including amendments
- Online Practice Guidelines - WCAG 2.0

Norway
- Regulations on universal design of ICT - WCAG 2.0 derivative

Republic of Korea
- Act on Welfare of Persons with Disabilities - WCAG 2.0 derivative

Switzerland
- Federal Law on the Elimination of Inequalities for Persons with Disabilities, as amended - WCAG 2.0

United Kingdom
- Equality Act 2010 - WCAG 2.0

United States
- Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended - WCAG 1.0 derivative
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as amended
- Section 504 of the U.S. Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended - WCAG 1.0 derivative
- Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996
- Air Carrier Access Act of 1986 - WCAG 2.0
- 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 (CVAA)

What do we need to do to ensure compliance?

Image "alt" text should contain more than one word
SEO, Accessibility WCAG 2.0, 1.1.1.

Why is this important?
The "alt" text should supply a meaningful text alternative to an image. A single word may not provide an adequate description.

How can I resolve this issue?
Describe the alt attribute of an image with more than one word. Use this to replace the meaning of the image not just have it be a simple description.

Alt="cat relaxing in bathrobe" vs.
Alt= "Cat"

What do we need to do to ensure compliance with all pdfs for the web?

All pdfs created for the web need to created with a complete title field

Steps:
1) Select 'File' menu from the top options
2) Select 'Properties' in drop-down
3) Title the document in clear and accurate language in the 'Title' field
4) Click 'Ok'
5) Click the save icon (disk icon)