Accessibility Audit Services: our three-phase approach

We perform technical and user testing, then provide a formal opinion, badge, and certificate, so that you can declare your compliance level to others.



STANDARDS WE TARGET

- Government of Canada's Standard on Web Accessibility
- AODA
- ADA
- Section 508 (existing and "new")
- IITAA (existing and anticipated 2.0)
- Oklahoma
- PDF/UA

PHASE 1: AUDIT/GAP ANALYSIS

In the first phase, we perform compliance testing of representative pages or documents, resulting in a gap analysis of where your product is in comparison to where it needs to be.

- Orientation to assets, and requirements analysis
- Pertinent WCAG 2.0 compliance testing
 - 25 Level A success criteria
 - 13 Level AA success criteria (with exceptions)
 - 23 Level AAA success criteria
- Methodology
- Comprehensive examination of:
 - code
 - content
 - visual interface elements
- · Human review of each success criteria
- Gap Analysis Report listing each success criteria:
 - includes variance explanations
 - · suggests remedial action examples

PHASE 2: REMEDIATION

After the Gap Analysis is complete, remediation is often need to be performed to achieve compliance (either by your programming team optionally coached by us, our team, or a combination of your choice).

We will also recommend adding a compliance statement to your product, that will help celebrate and educate visitors regarding your degree of compliance. For example, the United States government typically likes to see a VPAT statement. If you would like, we will include the content for such a compliance statement in our report. Additionally we will provide a badge graphic for the level of compliance achieve that we have certified, which can optionally link back to a public-facing page on the third party site that presents the report. All of this is at no additional cost to you.

PHASE 3: CERTIFICATION

When Remediation is complete, we test again, then provide an updated report and Compliance Opinion Letter, accompanied by a Compliance Certificate as warranted.

Our letter and certificate would reference the audit date and attest to the degree of compliance achieved with regard to the standards being tested. Each document would be suitable for presenting to auditors or visitors.

We will be pleased to optionally present the results as well (for example to senior management).

OPTIONAL STEPS

USABILITY TESTING BY END-USERS WITH SPECIFIC DEFICITS:

This service involves human subjects with specific deficits. We ask our testers to perform one or more designated tasks on your product. Their experiences are recorded as they strive to complete the assigned task(s) in a timely manner. Testing at this level provides extraordinary feedback that can guide accessibility and usability enhancements. This process enables our clients to provide a usable and accessible experience that exceeds published standards, because it is possible to meet all the standards without producing a product that is usable by people with certain deficits.













EXPERIENCE

WEB ACCESSIBILITY

We are experts in the fulfillment of WCAG, AODA, and Section 508 requirements regarding accessible documents and Web publishing. We have performed accessibility audit and review for Tim Berners-Lee's World Wide Web Foundation, on both government and business Web sites in each of over 40 countries.

AODA

We have expert knowledge in all relevant requirements of the accessibility standards called for in the regulations under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA).

We are experts in the fulfillment of AODA regulations regarding accessible documents and Web publishing. Our strength in this area is such that we run regular courses in Ontario that specifically teach executives, managers, educators, content developers, and Web programmers how to comply with AODA regulations. The Accessibility Directorate of Ontario itself (who governs AODA) has repeatedly sent their managers and staff to be trained personally by us.

PDF STANDARDS

We have provided training on strategizing, developing and testing accessible PDF, including Adobe employees, and at Adobe Canada headquarters. We run regular public courses that specifically teach managers, content developers, and Web programmers how to comply with federal and provincial accessibility regulations.

David Berman is a member of the ISO committee that has developed the international standard for accessible PDF (PDF/UA).

MUNICIPALITIES AND SCHOOL BOARDS

Our AODA clients for consulting and training have included a variety of municipalities and public institutions in Ontario (including the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, City of Cambridge, City of Oakville, City of Ottawa, City of Owen Sound, City of Hamilton, City of Peterborough, County of Essex, County of Wellington, Halton District School Board, Hamilton-Wentworth School Board, Limestone District School Board, Niagara Parks Commission, Norfolk County, Region of Peel, Toronto Transit Commission, and the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit.)

HIGHER EDUCATION/ACADEMIA

Our clients for consulting and training have included a variety of colleges and universities within Ontario (including Algonquin College, Brock University, Carleton University, Durham College, Humber College, McMaster University, Mohawk College, Seneca College, St. Lawrence College, University of Guelph, University of Toronto, University of Waterloo, University of Windsor, W. Ross MacDonald School for the Blind, and York University), elsewhere in Canada (Concordia University), the United States (Boston College, Virginia Commonwealth University, University of Virginia, Savannah College of Art and Design), and beyond (Cardiff Metropolitan University, London School of Printing and Publishing, Universidad de las Americas, Yarmouk University, Bauhaus / Anhalt University of Applied

Sciences, Binus University, Caldas University, Central Academy of Fine Arts of China, Federal University of Pernambuco, Lebanese American University, Vilnius Academy of Arts, VCU Qatar).

David is Chair of Carleton University's Carleton Access Network for accessible information technology, run out of Carleton University's Paul Menton Centre as an initiative of the School of Engineering.

GOVERNMENT ACCESSIBILITY

We have been involved with United States and Government of Canada Treasury Board standards on accessibility for over a decade, and have provided training to most major departments and agencies in the federal government. We have also provided consultation to the governments of Manitoba, Ontario, Queensland (Australia), India, and Norway.

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