ADDRESSING ACCESSIBILITY WITH VENDORS & CONTENT DEVELOPERS

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AGENDA

• Accessibility recap
• Evaluating resources
• Reporting problems
• Q & A

We want to hear from you!
WEB ACCESSIBILITY MEANS THAT...

content shared electronically (websites, documents, etc.) is designed in such a way as to be equally available to all users, regardless of disabilities or assistive technologies used
EVALUATING RESOURCES
WHAT IS A VPAT?

• Voluntary Product Accessibility Template
• Helps us assess extent to which a product meets standards
• Helps identify potential barriers
• Starting point to determine a product’s compliance
VLC recorded webinar

“VPATs 101”

http://tinyurl.com/vlc-vpats
LOOKING AT A VPAT

• Standard structure
• For each criterion:
  – Support level
  – Remarks/explanations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Supporting Features</th>
<th>Remarks and explanations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems</td>
<td>Supports with exceptions</td>
<td>Supports with exceptions. See 1194.21(a) below for details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications</td>
<td>Supports with exceptions</td>
<td>Application is compliant but the data has some exceptions. See below for full details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 1194.23 Telecommunications Products</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>This product is not considered a telecommunications product according to the definition in Section 1194.23.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 1194.24 Video and Multi-media Products</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>This product is not considered a video and multi-media product according to the definition in Section 1194.24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 1194.25 Self-Contained, Closed Products</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>This product is not considered a self-contained product according to the definition in Section 1194.25.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENTS

• Not a VPAT replacement
• Stated goals or methods
• Contact information
• Examples:
  – NC.gov: Accessibility
  – USDA: Accessibility Statement
  – The Guardian: Accessibility statement
TEST IT YOURSELF!

• VPAT or no, investigate
• Tools and strategies from NCDAE
  – Identifying Web Accessibility Issues
TOOLS

• **WAVE** (WebAIM)
  – Enter your URL: errors flagged and explained

• **totally** (Khan Academy)
  – Toolbar in your browser

• **Sitelimprove** ($)
  – Site evaluation service
SITEIMPROVE

• Scans your site periodically to assess WCAG 2.0 compliance – A, AA, and AAA levels
• Your college may already use it – Talk to your webmaster
SCREEN READER SOFTWARE

• JAWS, ZoomText, NVDA…
  – Screen Reader User Surveys (WebAIM)
• Cost and learning curve

Has anyone used one?
COMMON ISSUES
WHAT TO LOOK FOR

• Layout and legibility when zoomed
• Text alternatives for non-text content
  – Images, graphs, and charts
  – Video and audio
CHECK THE CAPTIONS!
WHAT TO DO

• Navigate with your **keyboard**
  – Skip links
  – Form field order
  – Dropdown menus
  – Visible focus

• Try it on a **touchscreen** device
  – Media player controls
  – Hover-dependent?
NON-HTML CONTENT

• Flash
  – Keyboard-navigable?
  – If audio: captioned?

• PDFs
  – Actual text v. image thereof
  – Table of contents for long docs?
REPORTING PROBLEMS
HOW TO GET CHANGES MADE?

• Contact person
  – Sales, developer, webmaster?

• Refer to standards
  – Check stated compliance in VPAT/accessibility statement
  – Cite WCAG 2.0 recommendations

• Other ideas or strategies?
LET’S TALK
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