

Ensure Accessibility Compliance on your Digital Communications

Anand Natarajan, Project Manager at Smart Communications

What is Accessibility?



Simply making spaces and things available and usable for everyone or as many people as possible.

Banks

Shops

Restaurants

Office Blocks

Sporting Venues

Electronic Devices

Virtual Spaces
-Websites
-Digital content etc

Some Statistics



On average nearly 1 in 5 of the entire US population and over 30% of the US workforce have a disability

8 percent of children under 15

21 percent of people 15 and older

17 percent of people 21 to 64

50 percent of adults 65 and older



Why is this important?



- It's a large and significant population
- Demonstrates good ethics and morals
- Makes your products more usable by other groups, like mobile users
- Do I need to be compliant?
 If you are a business in the United States, the answer is most likely yes.

What is ADA, WCAG, 508?



ADA - ADA requires that **businesses**, **state and local governments**, **and nonprofit services providers** make accommodations for the **disabled public** to access the same services as able-bodied patrons.

WCAG - WCAG is simply a set of formal guidelines on how to develop accessible web content. These standards represent a higher level of accessibility than 508 standards, although they are identical or very similar. **WCAG focuses primarily on HTML accessibility.**

All 3 standards have a same goal to **make electronic and information technology accessible to people with disabilities** (e.g., color blindness, vision disabilities, hearing disabilities) in a way that is comparable to the access available to others

Technical Requirements: The coding of a website, software, operating system, etc needs to be compatible with assistive technologies.

Function Requirements: The entire system should be usable by someone with a disability.

Support Requirements: Support documents and alternative information should also be accessible by people with disabilities.

Section 508C



508 – Section 508 requires that accommodations be made for federal employees and members of the public with disabilities who wish to access **government Information and Communications Technology**

- Requires agencies to provide equal access to Electronic information and data.
- It's a technical requirement.
- Allows organizations to be more open, accessible while being competitive in the industry.

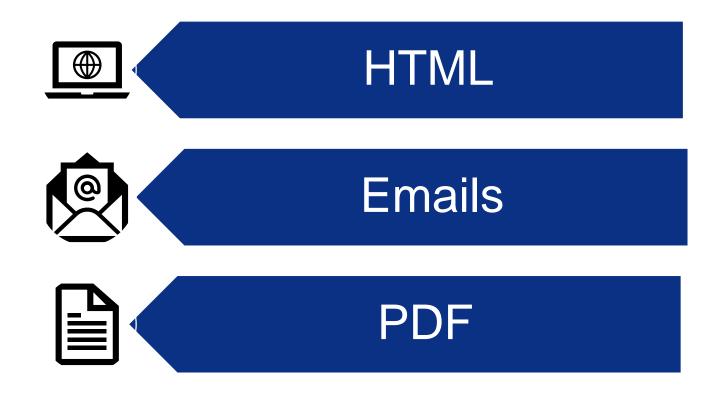
2019 INNOVATE

Digital Transformation Made **SMART**er

Accessibility in SmartCOMM

Digital Delivery Formats





How to enable Accessibility for generated PDF



- Smart Communications supports reading tools for the visually impaired thus ensuring PDF output is compliant with accessibility laws including section 508 of the U.S. Rehabilitation Act.
- To enable accessibility you will need to modify the fop.xconf property file.
- Add the following line:
 <accessibility>true</accessibility>

So the first part of your fop.xconf would look something like the following:

```
<fop version="1.0">
 <accessibility>true</accessibility>
 <base> </base>
 <source-resolution>96</source-resolution>
 <target-resolution>300</target-resolution>
 <default-page-settings height="11in" width="8.26in"/>
 <break-indent-inheritance>true
```

Confirm that it works?



If you see a tagged PDF its working!

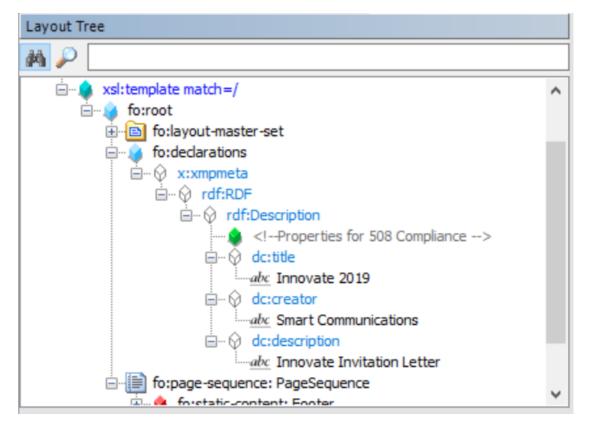
Now the readers like JAWS can read the content of the PDF to the visually impaired.

| Advanced | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|----|----|--------|
| PDF Producer: | Smart Communications | | | | |
| PDF Version: | 1.5 (Acrobat 6.x) | | | | |
| Location: | C:\Project_documents\Innovate-2019\ | | | | |
| File Size: | 44.42 KB (45,487 Bytes) | | | | |
| Page Size: | 8.50 x 11.00 in | Number of Pages: | 2 | | |
| Tagged PDF: | Yes | Fast Web View: | No | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Help | | | | ОК | Cancel |

Layout



For PDF outputs, metadata attribute must be placed in a fo:declaration section



```
<fo:declarations xmlns:fo="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Format">
<x:xmpmeta xmlns:x="adobe:ns:meta/">
<rd:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#">
<rd:Description rdf:about="" xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#">
<!--Properties for 508 Compliance-->
<dc:title>Innovate 2019</dc:title>
<dc:creator>Smart Communications</dc:creator>
<dc:description>Innovate Invitation Letter</dc:description>
</rdf:Description>
</rdf:RDF>
</x:xmpmeta>
</fo:declarations>
```

#innovateUS2019

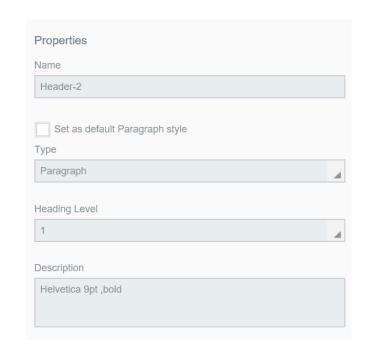
Styleset



To allow for tagged tables:

Set the Custom attribute fox:header=true

- Ensure all headers in your output has designated header levels
 this provides structure and aid in content navigation
- Level 1(H1) for major sections, H2 or H3 for sub levels



#innovateUS2019

Template



- Proper styles need to be applied to the headings of the sections
- Tables
 - -Layout tables- Organize content (style property)- apply a custom attribute called "Role" with a value "P". (Table, ROW, and cell style)
 - -Data tables (use multipart tables)

| | Header 1 | Header 2 | Header 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 1 | | | |
| Row 2 | | | |
| Row 3 | | | |

- -Distinct Header, Body and Footer rows
- OBJR tags appear for each URL

Shared Content



The entire table must be wholly contained in a single shared content.

Overlays and Accessibility

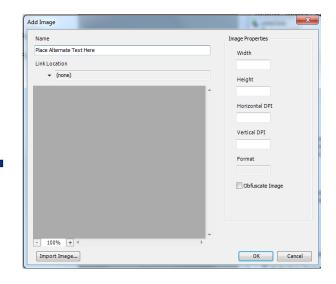


- Will pass Full PDF accessibility check
- None of the text on the imported pdf or iPDF will be read.
- Only the data placed on the overlay through SmartCOMM will be read out loud.

Other Considerations



- Bulleted list
- Indentation
- Table treatments/Tags
- Images must have alternate text associated with it.

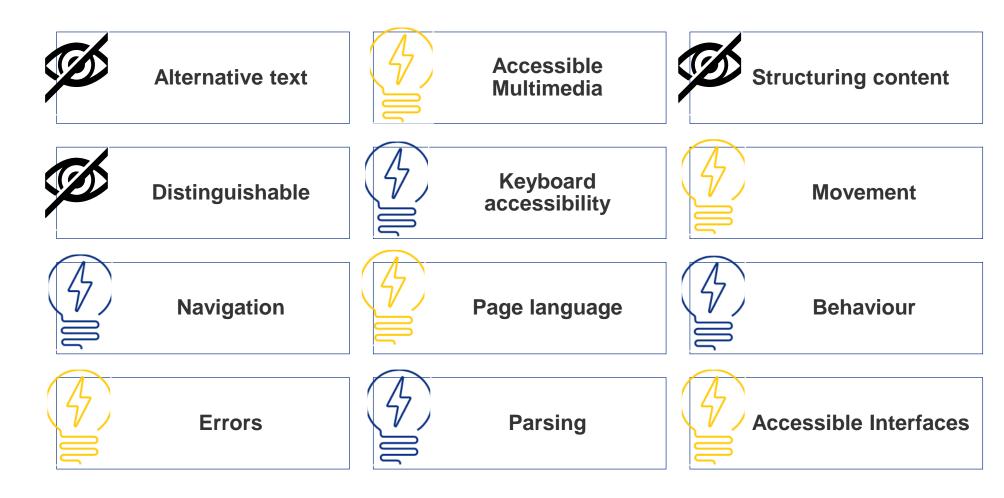


- Size of output
- Artifacts: any Graphic that are not part of the main body of content
 - Page Headers
 - Footers
 - Horizontal lines and spacers

#innovateUS2019

Accessibility Checklist





#innovateUS2019

Assistive Readers and Testing Tools





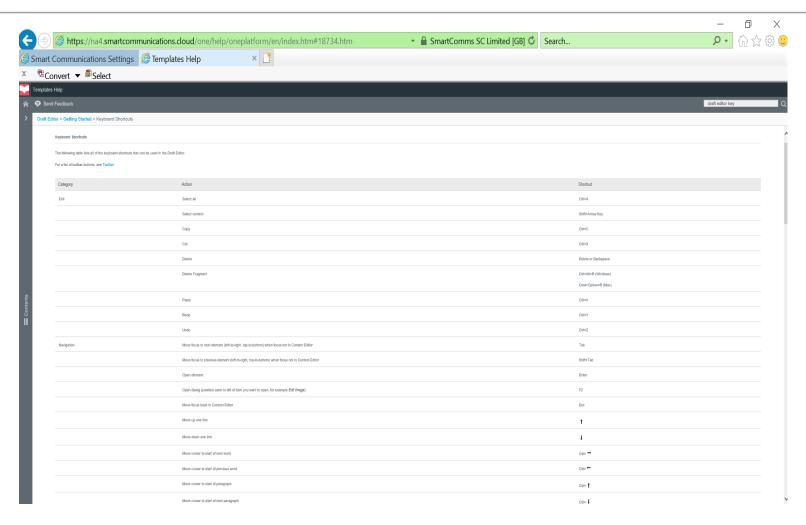
SmartCOMM Interfaces.



Draft Editor/ ATD

- Keyboard shortcuts





#innovateUS2019



Thank You