

Web Accessibility – An 11,166 ft. View

World HeadQuarters
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Overview

- Who am I?
- Web Accessibility – a Definition
- How to Measure Accessibility?
- What Accessibility Looks Like
- Who Benefits From Accessibility?
- What Can You Do Now?

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But first...

- #VEHAMO
 - Views expressed here are my own
- I am not a lawyer
 - Nor do I play one online!

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Who am I?

- Career Technologist... began in high school
- Mainframe, PC Servers, and Web
- Built first commercial Web site in 1996
- Entrepreneur, Consulting and Employed
- Spending a lot of time on Accessibility...

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Web Accessibility – A Definition

- My definition:
 - *Web Accessibility is the capability for all users to have a common functional experience*
- It's not about SEO or privacy



Image Source - NationalGeographic.com

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How to Measure Accessibility?

- W3C Web Content Accessibility *Guidelines*
 - Most recent is WCAG 2.1, last was WCAG 2.0
- Other *guidelines*, e.g. Section 508
- Mix of content and technology
 - Settings, programming



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Why is *Guidelines* Italicized?

- It's not the law in the US
 - Other countries may have laws
- Ambiguity over Americans with Disabilities Act
 - No ruling from DOJ if it falls under ADA or not
- “Drive-by” Lawsuits Prevail

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What Accessibility Looks Like

- Navigation of Web site
 - Keyboard, without mouse
 - Knowing where you are
- Labels for content, images, functionality
- Color contrasts

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Who Benefits from Accessibility?

- Visual impaired
 - Low vision
- Hearing impaired
- Heightened sensitivities
- Everyone else!

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What Can You Do Now?

- Talk to whomever develops your Web site
- “Built-in” Accessibility functionality
- Set “alt-text” for images
- Learn more
 - WebAIM.org

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