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Website and Digital Document Accessibility

#A11Y #ICT #EIT

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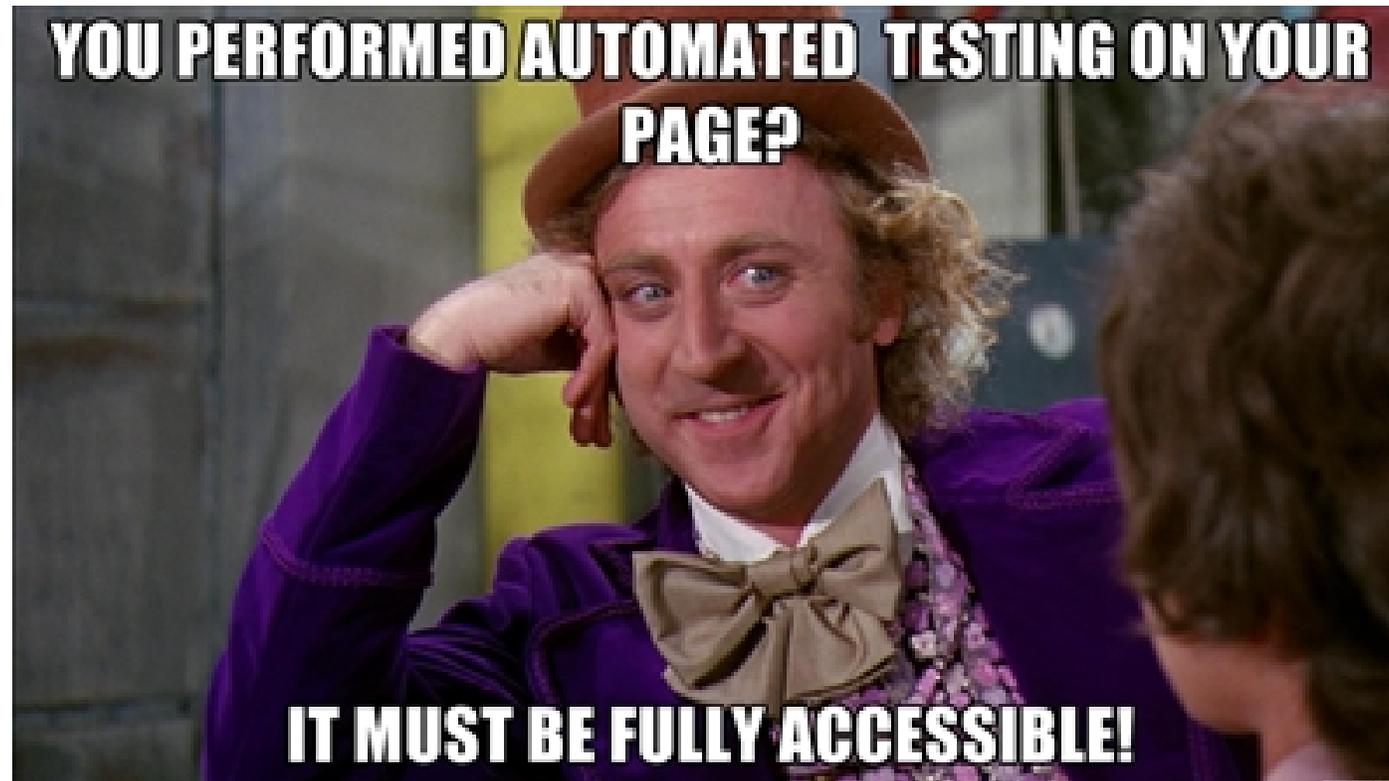
Accessibility Meme

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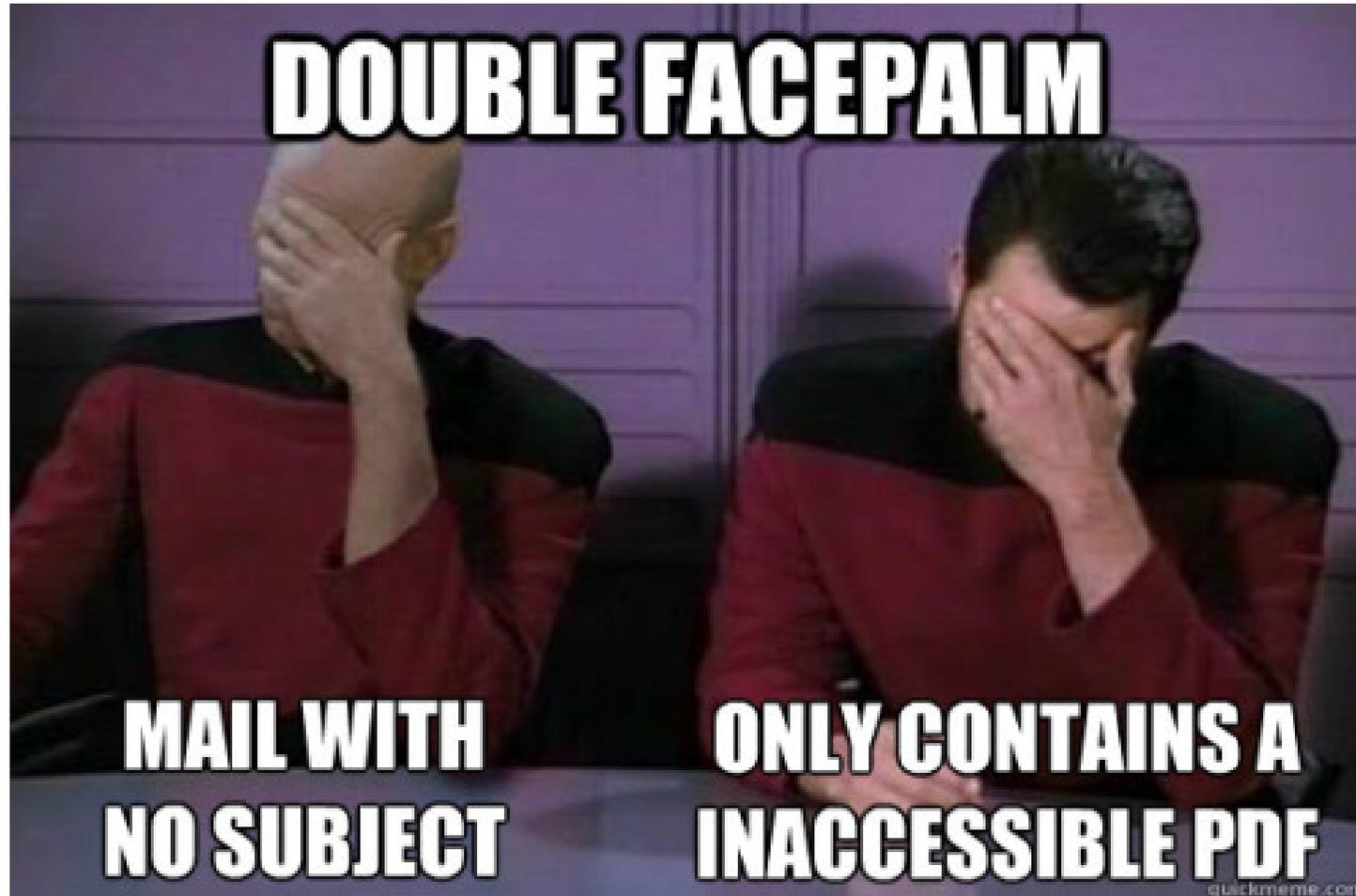
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Accessibility Meme



Accessibility Meme



What is Accessibility?

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Accessibility means access. It refers to the ability for everyone, regardless of disability or special needs, to access, use and benefit from everything within their environment. It is the “degree to which a product, device, service, or environment is available to as many people as possible.”

Why is Accessibility Important?

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- 10 – 20% of Americans have or will have a disability
- An aging population has increasing accessibility needs
- Accessibility and usability go hand-in-hand
- It's the law
- It's the right thing to do

Accessibility Laws

- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
 - First civil rights legislation in the US designed to protect individuals with disabilities.
- Americans with Disability Act (ADA)
 - Title II, which states that communications with persons with disabilities must be “as effective as communications with others”
 - Title III, which deals with public accommodation of people with disabilities
 - Most OCR complaints cite ADA
- Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act
 - Provided the first-ever US federal accessibility standard for the internet.
 - Recently updated as of 1/10/17 to WCAG 2.0 AA compliance
- Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act
 - Providing guidelines for video captioning, telecommunications, live broadcasting etc.

Other Laws and Requirements

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- Illinois Information Technology Accessibility Act (IITAA)
 - Created in 2008 by the Division of Rehabilitation Services and other entities including IATP.
 - It was to provide a technical standard and guidelines that wasn't being met by section 508 guidelines.
 - K – 12 entities were not required to meet guidelines, only State Agencies and Universities.
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
 - ESSA does not specifically site a specific standard schools are to adhere to but does site the requirement to provide accessible alternative formats.

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This is the interactive part...

How many of you have html or coding background?

How many of you the website or digital documents is a “Other duty as assigned?”

How many of you want to just get up and leave and wish you never came today?

How many of you use content management system (CMS)?



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How many of you use content management systems your organization has developed in house?

How do you measure accessibility?

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Guidelines

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

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- WCAG 2.0
 - Created by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)
 - W3C Definition of WCAG 2.0 - WCAG 2.0 is a stable, referenceable technical standard. It has 12 guidelines that are organized under 4 principles: perceivable, operable, understandable, and robust. For each guideline, there are testable success criteria, which are at three levels: A, AA, and AAA.
- Section 508 was recently updated to WCAG 2.0 AA compliance
- <https://www.w3.org/WAI/intro/wcag.php>

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<https://www.w3.org/WAI/intro/wcag.php>

WCAG 2.0 is not just web content...

- WCAG 2.0 isn't just about web accessibility it also focuses on digital document accessibility for example PDF
- WCAG 2.0 offers a section about recommended PDF Techniques
 - A set of 23 techniques that will make you PDF's accessible
- <https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG-TECHS/pdf.html>

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<https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG-TECHS/pdf.html>

Guidelines for Reference

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- Illinois Information Technology Accessibility Act (IITAA)
 - Formally known as the Illinois Web Accessibility Standards
 - Illinois is one of 15 state that has its own web accessibility standards outside of section 508

Now that I am all schooled on why I have to do it, tell me how I can test for accessibility. #A11Y

Testing...

- Quick Test Checklist
- Automated Testing
- Code Review
- Testing with Assistive Technology

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Typical things we look for

- Valid HTML
- Headings
- Unique Page Titles
- Color Contrast
- Ability to Resize Text
- Alt Text
- Tab Focus
- Captions on Videos
- Skip Navigation
- Tab Order
- Link Text
- Form Field Labels
- Keyboard Operation
- Reading Order

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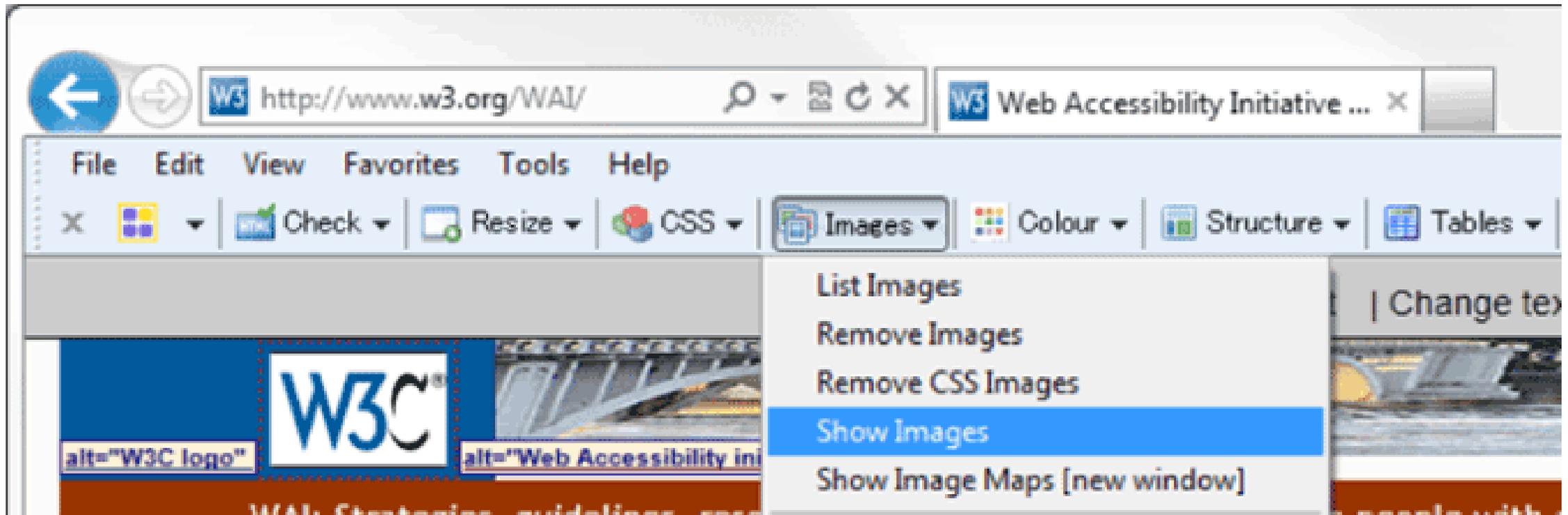
Automated Accessibility Tools

Important automated testing tools typically only catch about 40% of compliance issues.

Suggested Testing Tools

- Functional Accessibility Evaluator 2.0 (FAE) - Free
 - <https://fae.disability.illinois.edu/>
- Web Accessibility Evaluation Tool (WAVE) - Free
 - <http://wave.webaim.org/>
- AInspector – Firefox add-on - Free
 - <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-us/firefox/addon/ainspector-sidebar/>
- Web Accessibility Toolbar – Free
 - <https://www.paciellogroup.com/resources/wat/>

WAT toolbar



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Code Review / Manual Checks

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Testing with Assistive Technology

This is usually the moment you
have the Aha or Uh Oh.

Number one rule of web
accessibility

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Don't panic

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Come up with a plan



My Accessibility Plan

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1. Figure out your digital footprint number of pages, websites, intranets, learning management systems, videos, digital documents
2. Do an accessibility audit or get an accessibility audit
3. Actually review the audit see where you stand
4. Create an accessibility statement
5. Attack redesign in small manageable sections
6. Ask questions, if you don't know get training
7. Stick to your plan

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