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simple // seamless // accessibility

Today's Speakers
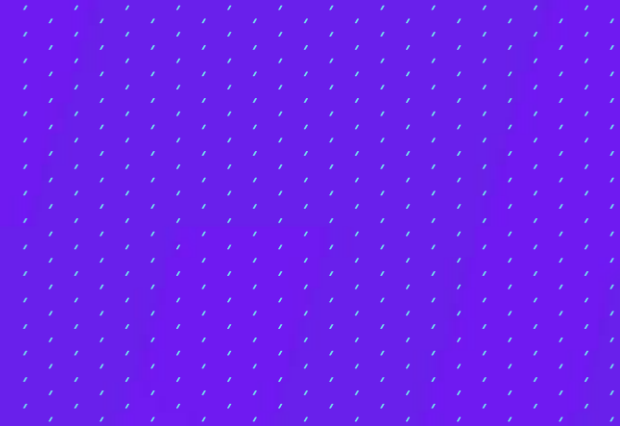
simple **//** seamless **//** accessibility

Aaron Page
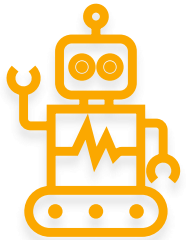VP of Accessibility
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Director, Document Solutions
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Digital Accessibility and A.I. in Government

A.I.

Artificial Intelligence refers to the use of machine learning, natural language processing, and automation algorithms to perform tasks **typically requiring human judgment** — such as identifying inaccessible content or suggesting fixes.

Most agencies will need outside vendor support. There is just no way that government agencies can do it all alone. **And resources are limited. What problems can we expect A.I. to solve?**

Why does government *want and need A.I.?*

Lack of Education.

Most are not aware of the problem or risks of not addressing it.

Decades of Work.

Unlike hardware or security, accessibility has not always been a requirement

Lack of Support.

Title II is under-funded and ADA leads are overwhelmed.

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Lack of Education

Most **CIOs & CTOs are not trained on digital accessibility**. Formal IT Training has only recently started including accessibility – Certification programs like PMP or CISSP barely mention it.

Risk perception is lower for accessibility because even the **most critical issues are not visible.**

Assumptions on a lack of Federal enforcement has slowed urgency while digital accessibility civil suits continue to rise.

If one person remediated just 10 documents per day, it would take **more than 5,400 years** to fully fix the backlog of Federal Agency PDFs.

Decades of Work.

Less than **30% of state government websites** meet WCAG 2.0

86% of Government PDFs fail critical tagging like reading order and alt text.

60% of federal websites have **critical** accessibility barriers

300% increase in ADA digital lawsuits from 2018 to 2023

Lack of Support.

Accessibility as historically viewed as **a "specialized issue," not a standard requirement.**

Accessibility often doesn't have a centralized executive owner — it gets split across legal, HR, IT, communications, and individual departments.

There's no playbook. Building a business case for budget means **educating upward and forging new ground** – most ADA coordinators have a second full-time job.
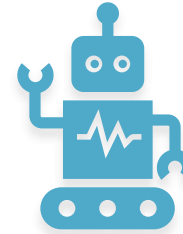
A.I in digital accessibility: Hero, villain, or other?

A.I. to the rescue?

Avoid at all costs?

Can we find a way to "use it" – so **we don't all lose it!**

What it can do well...

A.I. Hero

Inventory and scoping: Catch basic issues through free audits or scanning tools.

Triage and prioritization: Flag the highest severity issues helping teams start where it matters most.

Color contrast and alt-text: Free market tools make alt-text suggestions and color adjustments easy.

Auto-captioning and transcripts: YouTube, Zoom, or MS Teams can caption simple videos automatically.

Continuous monitoring: Free "checkers" and "scanners" help maintain accessibility over time at no cost.

Where are the gotchas?

A.I. Bad Guy

A.I. can detect missing alt text and suggest options, **but it can't decide if it's meaningful, accurate or helpful.**

A.I. can auto-tag a PDF, but **it can't always catch logical reading order, form fields, or keyboard navigations.**

A.I. can "pass" a webpage that is **still confusing or unusable.**

A.I. can flag accessibility issues, but **cannot redesign your content for usability.**

Another thing A.I. does well?

A.I. Bad Guy

Provides a false sense of security. The explosion of A.I. tools on the market has created more "AI-driven" accessibility solutions than ever before — but more tools don't always mean better outcomes.

There is no magic wand for accessibility. There is no one-click fix for equal access.

Equal access has always come down to the people who believe it matters. A.I. can accelerate our progress, but it's people who ensure we get there.

A.I. is helping drive "equal access" forward

With scale, speed, and open-source free tools the advancements of artificial intelligence in digital accessibility have helped organizations get closer to the goal of equal access.

Progress over perfection. A.I. has a long way to go before it can differentiate between the nuances of compliance, usability, and accessibility. But that doesn't mean we should discount its value. **We can incorporate A.I. alongside human expertise to get the best outcomes.**

A.I. goes fast so people can go far!
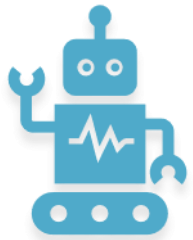
A.I. can go fast...

- Use free scanning tools to scope issues but validate with expert review.
- Auto-tag where possible then test to confirm full compliance.
- Apply repeatable fixes and monitor regularly to stay accessible.

You can go far!

- Incorporate humans in the "last mile" to validate compliance.
- Fix nuanced, complex, and interactive elements.
- Conduct user testing with people with disabilities.
- Instill the value of equal access in your people.

Procuring "AI-driven" solutions: What to ask?

What percentage of your process is automated versus human-reviewed?

Do you test your work with real users — including people with disabilities?

Do you provide a conformance report to verify compliance? To which standard?

How do you ensure accuracy in complex documents like PDFs, forms, or tables?

Do you offer litigation support services or guarantees on your work?

Tip: Always do a quick search: *[Vendor Name] + accessibility complaint or lawsuit* — it's a smart step in vendor due diligence.

Don't forget IT security team!

Ask your IT and Vendor Procurement team about their concerns first to save time

Closed-Sourced or Open-Sourced A.I.?

What security certifications do they have?

How do they handle protected data?

Tip: Always do a quick search: *[Vendor Name] + accessibility complaint or lawsuit* — it's a smart step in vendor due diligence.

How does Allyant leverage Artificial Intelligence?

1 True Up.

2 Catch Up.

3 Keep Up.

1 **True Up.**

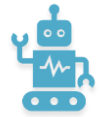**2** **Catch Up.**

3 **Keep Up.**

A.I. Tool to scan both digital assets & PDFs; prioritizing critical issues against any standard of compliance.

Live-user digital audits with sighted & non-sighted users; Education on best practices & compliance

Hub Platform for continuous visibility on QA Testing, scanning, and prioritization.

PDF Remediation Services with a 2:1 ratio of remediators to QA Testers; Our digital team educates yours on remediation best practices for digital assets.

API to prevent inaccessible content from being published; Continuous scanning tools to monitor ongoing accessibility and flag new issues.
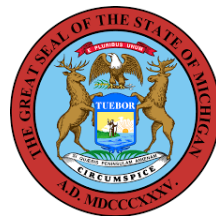
End-user software to empower your teams to do document remediation and validation.

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Schedule your complimentary PDF or digital scan with us today.

Email sales@allyant.com

Or complete the form in the chat.

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Questions?

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