Inclusive Publishing for Learning and Professional Content

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- Robin Seaman, Director of Content Acquisition, Benetech

Making Content Accessible

Why We Need to Do It

Literacy is a fundamental human right.

An accessible eBook is a more valuable book

Creating Tools for Publishers

- Readium and Web Readers
- The Diagram Center
 - The Poet Image Description Tool
 - Math and Graphics Resources
- Bookaccess A Market Model for Retailing Accessible Books

Making Content Accessible

Why We Have to Do It

Why We Have to Do It

Americans with Disabilities Act

- Covered entities are required to ensure that communications with people with disabilities are as effective as communications with people without disabilities
- "Accessible electronic and information technology" is specifically listed as a means of achieving effective communication with people with vision disabilities
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
 - Same as ADA for recipients of federal financial assistance
- Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act
 - Requires federal government agencies to ensure that all electronic and information technology it procures, develops, maintains, or uses is accessible

Why We Have to Do It - Resources

- ADA Home Page www.ada.gov
- Section 508 Home Page http://www.access-board.gov/508.htm
- Settlement with Arizona State University re. Kindle e-books http://www.ada.gov/arizona_state_university.htm
- Joint DOJ-DOE "Dear Colleague" letter re. e-books http://www.ada.gov/kindle_ltr_eddoj.htm
- Sacramento Public Library settlement re. NOOK e-books http://www.ada.gov//sacramento_ca_settle.htm
- 2011 DOJ Section 508 Survey http://www.ada.gov//508/508_Report.htm
- Settlement with Law School Admission Council http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2012/October/12crt-1261.html

Making Content Accessible

How to Do It

EPUB 3 Is Engineered for Everybody

Disability Community on the Working Group

Screen Reader Setting Expectations

- 25+ years of persons who are blind getting access to information
- Functionality on PC setting expectations for reading systems
- Efficient reading
- Control over reading experience
- Requirements for accessibility from beginning

EPUB 3 Builds on W3C Technologies

- HTML 5 content document
- MathML
- SVG
- Canvas
- Interactivity through JavaScript
- Video
- Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) incorporated

EPUB 3 Accessibility Supporting Materials

- "10 Tips for Creating Accessible EPUB 3"
 - http://diagramcenter.org/resources/54-tips-forcreating-accessible-epub-3-files.html
- ▶ EPUB 3 Accessibility Guidelines online:
 - http://www.idpf.org/accessibility/guidelines/
- "EPUB 3 Best Practices," Matt Garrish (O'Reilly)
- Accessibility Forum
 - http://www.idpf.org/forums

Demand Accessible EPUB 3

- Software developers should be hearing from purchasers
- Publishers, universities, governmental agencies need accessible EPUB 3
- Ask about accessibility supporting features in authoring tools
- More to come—demand accessibility

Accessibility Features of EPUB 3

- Attention to accessibility from the beginning
- Synchronized text and audio through Media Overlays
- Rich navigation model made famous by DAISY
- TTS lexicons for correct synthetic pronunciation

Thank you

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