



■ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY COUNCIL ■

~ Progress Report ~ Section 508 “Refresh”

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DATSCG

16 April 2008

The U.S. Access Board and Section 508

- Legal charter - To establish and occasionally update standards for ICT that would give Federal employees with disabilities comparable access to information
- The Access Board does not have authority to implement the standards, to establish testing requirements or processes, etc.

Unique Legal Focus of Section 508

Under Section 508, the U.S. Congress designated Federal agencies as the party legally obligated to comply with the law, not products or vendors

TEITAC

- 40+ representatives drawn from consumer organizations, Federal and state governments, academia, industry and international governments
- Chartered to “advise” the Access Board on “revising and updating” the 508 standards
- Consensus-based process, i.e., “can you live with this”

Phase 1 Completed

- 3rd April 2008: TEITAC presented report to U.S. Access Board

<http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/refresh/report/#1>

<http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/update-index.htm>

- Three General Parts: “Narrative,” Recommendations, “Minority Reports”
- Only the Recommendations in Part 5 represent the consensus of TEITAC

Phase 2 Activities

- Federal agency members of the Access Board to review and comment on recommendations, plus provide their own recommendations
- Economic impact analysis
- Initiation of process to revise Federal regulation to implement changes to Section 508 standards

Roadmap to Refresh

- Completion of Phase 2 activities
- Staff develops and presents its recommendations to the Access Board
- Board deliberates, instructs staff
- Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) submitted to OMB and other agencies of record for review and comment

Roadmap to Refresh

- ANPR with public consultation for 90 days
- Review of comments, revisions
- Proposed Rule submitted to OMB and other agencies of record for review and comment
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking with public consultation for 90 days
- Review of comments, revisions

Roadmap to Refresh

- Submittal of Final Rule to OMB and agencies of record for review and comment
- Publication of Final Rule, i.e., the updated standards
- Rulemaking for changing implementing regulation
- Light at the end of the proverbial tunnel...

Summer of 2010 ? ? ?

Thank you.

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