

HARDWARE ASSESSMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Clarify current accessibility status.
- Obtain reliable, independent analysis using standardized testing methodologies.
- Create a prioritized project plan and budget for implementing corrections.
- Review code-level examples of accessibility errors and recommended solutions.
- Detail how organizational process changes can help achieve accessibility.

SELECT CUSTOMERS

Organizations beginning their accessibility initiatives with a Hardware Assessment include:

- SUN Microsystems
- Hewlett-Packard
- Fujitsu
- General Electric
- AT&T
- Xerox

THE INITIAL ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

SSB's Initial Assessment Framework includes both a Business Assessment and Technical Assessments to begin your organization's accessibility initiative. A Business Assessment analyzes the relevant standards, markets, IT systems, and competitive pressures that your organization faces in order to quantify current accessibility risk and provides expert recommendation on the standards, effort and budget required to meet your accessibility goals. Technical Assessments analyze at-risk IT systems, as identified by the Business Assessment, to determine their current level of compliance and the technical changes required to achieve accessibility. The Initial Assessment Framework fulfills the Assess phase of SSB's Assess, Address, Assure™ accessibility solution.

SSB HARDWARE ASSESSMENT

An SSB Hardware Assessment analyzes your organization's hardware devices to determine their compliance with relevant accessibility standards. Using proprietary methodologies and technology developed over years of experience, SSB provides a thorough and complete analysis of the accessibility of your hardware. Our report clearly identifies and prioritizes all accessibility errors within your hardware devices and provides the information necessary to implement corrections. A Hardware Assessment enables your organization to accurately represent its current accessibility status, effectively allocate time and budget for implementing corrections, and demonstrate its commitment to providing accessible IT systems.

WHERE DOES A HARDWARE ASSESSMENT FIT IN THE PROCESS?

A Technical Assessment of relevant hardware devices is part of the Assess phase of your organization's accessibility initiative. Its findings enable your organization to understand its current status and develop effective plans to reach the appropriate level of accessibility. A comprehensive accessibility project begins with a Technical Assessment of the hardware devices identified as at-risk in your organization's Business Assessment performed by SSB.

WHO USES A HARDWARE ASSESSMENT?

A Hardware Assessment is most effective when its results are shared across the enterprise. A Hardware Assessment report includes high-level analysis allowing management, legal and marketing teams to understand current levels of accessibility and their impact on business operations. The report also includes specific details enabling engineering management, product engineers, and QA engineers to correct any accessibility errors.

WHY HARDWARE ACCESSIBILITY?

Hardware devices must be made accessible to protect your revenues. Legislation in many countries requires that public sector organizations—including U.S. Federal government agencies—only purchase hardware that is accessible to people with disabilities. In addition, your organization faces the risk of anti-discriminatory litigation from employees with disabilities who cannot perform essential job functions if your hardware devices are inaccessible. Hardware accessibility is relevant to several types of organizations:

- **Hardware manufacturers** must make their products accessible or risk losing public sector contracts.
- **Public sector organizations** including **U.S. Federal government agencies** are required by laws such as Section 508 to develop and purchase accessible hardware devices.
- **All organizations using hardware devices** face the potential of anti-discriminatory legal action from employees who cannot properly fulfill job functions if these devices are inaccessible.

Inaccessible hardware devices subject your organization to revenue loss, punitive damages, and compliance risks. An SSB Hardware Assessment is the first step in resolving these risks.



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BUSINESS BENEFITS OF ACCESSIBILITY

Achieving accessibility offers important benefits:

- Avoid costly litigation
- Increase public sector sales
- Enhance brand
- Lower help desk costs
- Improve product usability

CONTACT SSB

To learn more about how SSB can help your organization achieve accessibility, contact us to speak with an Accessibility Expert today.

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ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

SSB uses a proprietary testing methodology to analyze the accessibility of your organization's hardware devices. Testing includes four separate analyses:

- **End-user Analysis** - SSB conducts testing by people with disabilities using leading Assistive Technologies (AT). Prior to testing, SSB works with your organization to identify functional tasks performed on your hardware devices such as activating the system and inserting or removing components. Technologists with disabilities execute each of these test cases using relevant assistive technologies and provide structured feedback. This testing allows your organization to determine the usability of the hardware for people with disabilities.
- **Manual Review Analysis** - SSB's Accessibility Experts use a proprietary checklist to manually review hardware components. Manual tests help identify complex compliance violations and the most efficient accessibility fixes.
- **Associated Software Analysis** - SSB conducts comprehensive testing on software associated with your hardware devices. Many hardware devices use device drivers and other software applications that must be made accessible if the hardware is to be usable by people with disabilities. SSB's analysis of associated software ensures that your organization's hardware achieves the appropriate level of accessibility.
- **Prioritization Analysis** - All accessibility violations are analyzed and ranked based on their impact on users with disabilities, how difficult they are to correct, and how likely the violations are to be noticed. These metrics enable your organization to prioritize corrections and gain the highest possible return on investment for your efforts.

DELIVERABLE

Upon project completion, SSB delivers a thorough report detailing the accessibility status of your hardware devices. The report includes high-level information on your organization's overall status that is relevant to several groups including management, legal, sales, and marketing. In addition, the report includes specific details of all accessibility violations across your organization's hardware devices along with recommended fixes. This specific information can be provided to individual engineers allowing them to correct any errors. The report is typically delivered onsite to facilitate open communication between your organization and SSB's Accessibility Experts.

ABOUT SSB TECHNOLOGIES

SSB Technologies provides solutions that resolve the revenue loss, punitive damages, and compliance risks created by inaccessible Information Technology (IT) systems, including Web sites, Web applications, software, and hardware. SSB's proven Assess, Address, Assure™ solution integrates the business and technical requirements necessary to transform accessibility from a liability into a competitive advantage. With over 400 public and private sector customers, 600 successfully completed projects, and award-winning software, SSB has the experience and expertise to ensure that your organization reaches its accessibility goals.

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