Selecting and Using Authoring Tools for Web Accessibility Update - Planning

# Purpose

The purpose of the [Selecting and Using Authoring Tools for Web Accessibility](https://www.w3.org/WAI/impl/software) document is to provide our audience with information to consider when selecting authoring tools tool to evaluate web sites for accessibility. It is also to provide our audience with information on how to adjust around tools' limitations.

# Audience

* **Primary audience**: Web developers and designers working on systems allowing content creation (CMS, CRM, LMS, etc.) who want to ensure their system is accessible and comply with web accessibility standards.
* **Secondary audiences**: Procurement officers, web accessibility specialists and researchers

# Current Document(s)

* <https://www.w3.org/WAI/impl/software>

# Recommended Approach

* Update content with current references, standards and resources, including links.
* Simplify and tersify language.
* Reduce amount of text if possible, without changing meaning.
* Information should be accessible nearly at a glance.
* Complete rewrite of introduction – It should serve as TL>DR and hit main points of the page.
* Break the page into four clearly different sections:
  1. Introduction
  2. Tool selection
  3. Tool use
  4. Product reviews
* Align section titles to page title
* Review entire section "Working around Limitations of Existing Authoring Tools" – Important information, likely needing updating. Could be reduced.
* ***Consider***: Getting rid of Product reviews section as entirely too far out of date.
* ***Consider***: Create an actual checklist after the information about what to consider. Or rename that section without calling it a checklist.
* ***Consider***: Seeking informal feedback from CMS/LMS/CRM developers about what they would find useful on such a page. This could take longer to get information, but would arguably lead to a resource developers find useful.

# Proposed New Outline

<h2>Introduction

<h2> Selecting Authoring Tools

<h3>Points to consider

<h4>Adjust headings according to text edits

<h3>Checklist

<h2>Limitations of Existing Authoring Tools

<h3>Examples of strategies to work around limitations of existing authoring tools

<h2>Product Reviews

# Target Delivery date (subject to change)

* Send out email to CMS/LMS/CRM developers about what they'd find useful on this page – March 16, 2018
* Create resource on GitHub – March 17, 2018
* Prepare First Draft – March 17 to March 25, 2018
* Consult with EOWG during F2F meetings (if necessary) – March 19 to March 23, 2018
* Draft ready for Review Team – March 26 to March 30, 2018
* Review Team/Editor Iterations – April 2 to April 6, 2018
* One week review cycle and feedback – April 9 to April 13, 2018
* Final Draft ready for EOWG Thorough Review – April 16 to April 20, 2018

# Dependencies

* GitHub resource setup
* Response from CMS/LMS/CRM developers
* Response time from review team

# Further required work

Review and update of Authoring Tool Conformance Evaluations <https://www.w3.org/WAI/AU/2002/tools>. This will require extensive work as the page hasn't been updated since 2002. Page produced by Authoring Tool Accessibility Guidelines Working Group (ATAGWG) – are they still active? Last indication of work is October 2014. If they are no longer active, perhaps a resource for EOWG to work on. If they are still active, need to prompt them for update on this resource.