AvePoint Accessibility Solution
for Microsoft® SharePoint®

Today, more and more organizations – including public sector as well as private enterprises – utilize online communication and transaction features to deliver their services and messages to consumers. It is important to ensure that everyone has equal access to your online systems, regardless of their physical abilities. As Microsoft SharePoint continues to expand its footprint as an industry leading collaboration platform, it is imperative that enterprises align their SharePoint framework with existing accessibility compliance policies. Accessibility statutes like Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act Amendments in the United States as well as the World Wide Web (W3C) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) have been codified and mandated for worldwide public sector and private organizations. Organizations utilizing SharePoint must comply with these regulations and guidelines by ensuring their framework and web pages are accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities.

AvePoint Accessibility Accelerator (AAA), in combination with AvePoint Compliance Guardian, supports a robust risk management lifecycle to ensure SharePoint framework and web pages start and remain accessible. An optional add-on for AvePoint Compliance Guardian, AAA provides accessibility and usability enhancements for Microsoft SharePoint frameworks. AAA is developed as a set of building blocks rather than an end-to-end solution. This way, when deployed in combination with Compliance Guardian, customers can integrate the necessary features into their SharePoint deployment processes in order to meet their specific organizational or regulatory requirements. Compliance Guardian is used to scan and validate accessibility gaps in the SharePoint framework, and AAA is deployed to correct those gaps. Used iteratively, the solutions allow organizations to build and deploy a fully accessible SharePoint environment. Compliance Guardian is then used to maintain accessibility and compliance not only of the sites, but also of the content managed through them.

AAA provides an innovative approach empowering organizations to achieve their SharePoint accessibility goals by using accessible IT solutions to create inclusive, accessible websites and employee Intranet portals.

AAA is intended to significantly reduce the time, knowledge, and effort required to implement a SharePoint-based website that conforms to the aforementioned accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act Amendments and World Wide Web Consortium's WCAG 2.0 Guidelines. Deployed in combination with Compliance Guardian, AAA helps organizations building an accessible and reusable SharePoint environment to meet their specific organizational or regulatory requirements.

Key Challenges

Prevent
Integrate accessible design into the process of SharePoint framework development

Detect
Identify accessibility errors across SharePoint's presentation layer and framework

Track
Report and trend accessibility violations over time

Respond & Resolve
Quickly implement accessible Master Pages and Style Sheets while ensuring that Web Parts render accessible content

Prevent

- Provide optimized Master Pages and Cascading Style Sheets to proactively fix accessibility issues while implementing SharePoint sites
- Implement resizable text by modifying SharePoint Master Pages with AvePoint's accessible CSS

Detect

- Scan through the SharePoint framework and web content to identify accessibility gaps or violations on Web Parts, Master Pages, and other design elements
- Generate detailed risk-level reports with configurable scans for SharePoint accessibility violations out of the box (e.g. Section 508 and WCAG) to locate SharePoint framework accessibility issues, informing organizations where the majority of non-accessible pages are located

Track

- Gain a historical view of SharePoint framework accessibility status of over a period of time to demonstrate statutory compliance and maintain a complete audit trail
- Aggregate accessibility scan results across one or many SharePoint environments, and present results in easily consumable formats for Compliance Officers, company executives, and SharePoint administrators

Respond and Resolve

- Correct and comment on forms as necessary through the use of Control Adapter
- Replace text displayed on the SharePoint web page to address HTML or XHTML errors

For a more comprehensive initiative to prevent and address accessibility violations, integrate AvePoint Accessibility Accelerator and Compliance Guardian with AvePoint's extended Compliance Solutions to provide end-to-end compliance across decentralized SharePoint environments. This offering includes automated deployment of the SharePoint accessibility solution to the SharePoint footprint across an entire organization. Once deployment occurs, the solution can be configured to proactively monitor changes to the accessibility framework and provide automated infrastructure management to ensure that compliance is maintained.

Next Steps

If you would like a solution demonstration or receive pricing information, please contact: ComplianceSolution@AvePoint.com or your AvePoint sales representative.

Accessible content available upon request