



News-O-Matic Accessibility Conformance Report

Voluntary Product Accessibility Template® (December 16, 2021)

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Introduction

News-O-Matic strives offers an application that respects dignity of people with disabilities.

News-O-Matic worked with a dedicated accessibility Solution Provider, EqualWeb, that ensured relevant and easy use of the News-O-Matic platform.

This document describes the extent to which the product conforms to the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 Level AA standards and Section 508 standards. We are using a format similar to the Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®, or VPAT®.

There are 5 columns in the tables. The first column contains the reference number of the Criterion in the each of the WCAG 2.0 A and AA Success Criteria or Section 508 criteria; the second column gives the guideline details; the third column gives the conformance Level, the fourth column indicates whether the product meets the criterion, and the fifth column gives remarks about the product with regard to the criterion.



A summary of VPAT product details

Product Information: News-O-Matic

Products Description:

Date: December 16, 2021

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Voluntary Product Accessibility Template VPAT®

December 16, 2021

WCAG Edition + Section 508

Essential Requirements and Best Practices for using the VPAT® to complete an Accessibility Conformance Report.

The VPAT 2.0 template includes criteria from WCAG 2.0, WCAG 2.1 as well as the Revised Section 508 Standards.

The purpose of these instructions is to promote accurate and consistent reporting of product accessibility information.

The VPAT is a template used to document a product's conformance with accessibility standards and guidelines. The purpose of the Accessibility Conformance Report is to assist customers and buyers in making preliminary assessments regarding the availability of commercial "Electronic and Information Technology," also referred to as "Information and Communication Technology" (ICT) products and services with features that support accessibility.

A world leading accessibility solution for News-O-Matic digital content

News-O-Matic has equipped his web application <https://app.newsomatic.net/> with a complete Solution that fully remediates issues of web accessibility, issues determined by the W3C -World Wide Web Consortium, and guided by the WCAG – Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.

The accessibility tool we installed follows the here under principles:

- An SaaS module makes sure that our site is ALWAYS accessible
- No effect on the site's functionality, design, information display or content
- The module supports 42 Languages
- Continuous updates to comply with international accessibility standards
- Accessibility of contact and register forms on the site
- Intuitive and easy to use

A Comparison of WCAG 2.1 Success Criteria and EqualWeb's Premium Plan

News-O-Matic application is equipped with EqualWeb's Automated AI-Powered Accessibility Widget, upgraded with a human managed remediated Accessibility

- AI-Powered Accessibility Widget provides an average of 80% of the WCAG 2.1 coverage as required by regulatory authorities and is the world's most comprehensive automated solution for ADA compliance.
- **Premium managed Accessibility plan** for full compliance Ai-powered accessibility widget combined with manual adjustments, full customization, testing and ongoing maintenance services. This Product takes a “hybrid approach”—combining human knowledge with artificial intelligence and machine learning to provide the best of both worlds Experience & Expertise.

The Manual adjustments done on our application include:

- Dividing the website into separate navigation areas and making the central elements focusable.
- Creating a shortcut menu to the website navigation areas.
- Ignoring/hiding elements that are/aren't intended to be read/in focus.



- Changing and adding attributes to the existing elements on the page.
- Group links – aggregating multiple, related links in the same area on the page (links that lead to the same destination)
- Forcing events – triggering a JS event when another event occurs
- Handling dialogue boxes (+ popups)
- Handling customized form elements
- Handling tabs-panels
- Handling sub-menus
- Creating customized tool-tips
- Integrating hidden texts for the screen reader
- Manual control over moving elements (e.g. photo gallery)
- Making adaptations to the date-picker window
- Automatically incorporating special accessibility elements for all of the above to enable the screen reader software to read the text properly
- Highlighting the elements that are in focus, in a customized manner
- Handling objects that are dynamically added to the page
- Developing customized JavaScript code
- Developing customized CSS
- Stopping code or design-based animations + manual control (e.g. photo gallery)
- Stopping animated photos (gifs)
- Changing the website to greyscale colors
- Using dark backgrounds with light-colored text while increasing contrast
- Using light backgrounds with dark-colored text while increasing contrast
- Relatively increasing font size - 5 sizes
- Changing the fonts on the website to easily-readable fonts without tags
- Enlarging the mouse indicator and allowing the user to choose its color
- Zoom-in window: enlarge the display on the browser (zoom)
- Change the style of the links/titles on the website to stand out
- Present an alternative description for images (alt attribute) in a small window that appears when moving the mouse over the image.

The Accessibility Evaluation Methods used:

- Manual Tests with screen readers performed by accessibility engineers
- Scans with in house WCAG automatic monitor, where applicable

The applicable Standards/Guidelines that are included in this edition of the VPAT template are:

- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 or WCAG 2.0
- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 or WCAG 2.1
- Revised Section 508 standards published January 18, 2017 and corrected January 22, 2018

Applicable Standards/Guidelines - WCAG 2.0 & WCAG 2.1

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standards/guidelines:

The Section 508 Refresh (“The Refresh” of January 18, 2018) recognizes WCAG 2.0 as the success criteria applicable to websites, Electronic documents and software. This brings the 508 standards up to date with the technologies available today, ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to use them. WCAG 2.0 is technology-neutral, so it is easily applied to all sorts of technology.

WCAG 2.0 states that technology should be perceivable, operable, understandable, and robust.

- **Perceivable:** Able to be seen by a person with visual impairments (through a screen reader, screen magnifier, or other assistive technology), or heard by a person who is hard of hearing or deaf (through captions, written transcript, etc.).
- **Operable:** The technology can be operated by a user with a disability, for example, a website can be navigable by keyboard shortcuts for someone unable to use a mouse.
- **Understandable:** The technology can be operated by users with varying cognitive abilities.
- **Robust:** The technology is compatible with current assistive technology and is prepared to upgrade for future iterations of AT.



The WCAG 2.0 requirements are broken up into three levels:

Level A: This level defines the lowest or minimum level of accessibility. Many groups of users with disabilities will find it very difficult or impossible to access information in the document. Satisfying these success criteria is the minimum set of requirements.

Level AA: This level defines a higher level of accessibility. One or more groups will find it difficult to access information in the document. Satisfying these success criteria will remove significant barriers to accessing web content. In order to be AA conformance content must also be level A conformant.

Level AAA: Satisfying these criteria will enhance the user experience for individuals with disabilities. Not all Level AAA success criteria can be addressed for all types of content.

EqualWeb VPAT® for News-O-Matic

Num	Guideline	Level	Manage	Remarks
1.1.1	Non-text Content	A	✓	Equalweb's widget provides an OCR technology which takes images without an alt (alternative text), and providing it with a description. We recommend the client to always provide images with alt since the OCR cannot always provide an accurate description.
1.2.1	Audio-only and Video-only (Pre-recorded)	A	✓	All new video content as of 11/2021 has embedded captions.
1.2.2	Captions (Pre-recorded)	A	✓	
1.2.3	Audio Description or Media Alternative (Pre-recorded)	A	✓	
1.2.4	Captions (Live)	AA	✓	
1.2.5	Audio Description (Pre-recorded)	AA	✓	
1.2.6	Sign Language (Pre-recorded)	AAA		
1.2.7	Extended Audio description (Pre-recorded)	AAA		
1.2.8	Media Alternative (Pre-recorded)	AAA		
1.2.9	Audio Only (Live)	AAA		
1.3.1	Info and Relationships	A	✓	
1.3.2	Meaningful Sequence	A	✓	

Num	Guideline	Level	Manage	Remarks
1.3.3	Sensory Characteristics	A	✓	
1.3.4	Orientation (WCAG 2.1)	AA	✓	
1.3.5	Identify Input Purpose (WCAG 2.1)	AA	✓	Providing labels to inputs that will communicate with screen readers.
1.3.6	Identify Purpose (WCAG 2.1)	AAA	✓	
1.4.1	Use of Color	A	✓	
1.4.2	Audio Control	A	✓	
1.4.3	Contrast (Minimum)	AA	✓	The user can adjust the content to any color of his choice, according to his exact needs.
1.4.4	Resize Text	AA	✓	The user can re-size the text in 3 different ways, up to 200%!
1.4.5	Images of Text	AA	✓	Recommended to avoid using images of text if you expect the text to be read by the user, unless it's necessary such as in a logo or brand name, in which case the alt text should be the same as the text in the image.
1.4.6	Contrast (Enhanced)	AAA	✓	The user can adjust the content to any color of his choice, according to his exact needs.
1.4.7	Low or No Background Audio	AAA	✓	
1.4.8	Visual Presentation	AAA	✓	
1.4.9	Images of Text (No Exception)	AAA	✓	
1.4.10	Reflow (WCAG 2.1)	AA	✓	
1.4.11	Non-Text Contrast (WCAG 2.1)	AA	✓	

Num	Guideline	Level	Manage	Remarks
1.4.12	Text Spacing (WCAG 2.1)	AA	✓	The user can space the text according to his needs. He can space between words, and space between lines.
1.4.13	Content on Hover or Focus (WCAG 2.1)	AA	✓	The user will see a change in the input's display, a border will be provided that will make the focused \ hovered element highlighted.
2.1.1	Keyboard	A	✓	
2.1.2	No Keyboard Trap	A	✓	The blind user can navigate in and from every element in the website.
2.1.3	Keyboard (No Exception)	AAA	✓	
2.1.4	Character Key Shortcuts (WCAG 2.1)	A	✓	The user got character key shortcuts that will take him to the main content \ main menu \ accessibility menu \ footer links (alt + 1 \ alt + 2 \ alt + 3 \ alt + 4)
2.2.1	Timing Adjustable	A	✓	
2.2.2	Pause, Stop, Hide	A	✓	All of the videos can be stopped.
2.2.3	No Timing	AAA	✓	
2.2.4	Interruptions	AAA	✓	
2.2.5	Re-authenticating	AAA	✓	
2.2.6	Timeouts (WCAG 2.1)	AAA	✓	
2.3.1	Three Flashes or Below	A	✓	The user can block a blinking element in the website using the accessibility system.
2.3.2	Three Flashes	AAA	✓	The user can block a blinking element in the website using the accessibility system.
2.3.3	Animation from Interactions (WCAG 2.1)	AAA	✓	

Num	Guideline	Level	Manage	Remarks
2.4.1	Bypass Blocks	A	✓	
2.4.10	Section Headings	AAA	✓	
2.4.2	Page Titled	A	✓	Every page got a unique title.
2.4.3	Focus Order	A	✓	The focus order is intuitive for blinds users.
2.4.4	Link Purpose (In Context)	A	✓	Links gets a text description of their content.
2.4.5	Multiple Ways	AA	✓	
2.4.6	Headings and Labels	AA	✓	
2.4.7	Focus Visible	AA	✓	The focus is visible and highlighted once using the navigation functions in the accessibility menu.
2.4.8	Location	AAA	✓	
2.4.9	Link Purpose (Link Only)	AAA	✓	
2.5.1	Pointer Gestures (WCAG 2.1)	A	✓	
2.5.2	Pointer Cancellation (WCAG 2.1)	A	✓	
2.5.3	Label in Name (WCAG 2.1)	A	✓	
2.5.4	Motion Actuation (WCAG 2.1)	A	✓	
2.5.5	Target Size (WCAG 2.1)	AAA	✓	
2.5.6	Concurrent Input Mechanisms (WCAG 2.1)	AAA	✓	
3.1.1	Language of Page	A	✓	
3.1.2	Language of Parts	AA	✓	
3.1.3	Unusual words	AAA	✓	The accessibility menu is providing a dictionary API.

Num	Guideline	Level	Manage	Remarks
3.1.4	Abbreviations	AAA	✓	
3.1.5	Reading Level	AAA	✓	
3.1.6	Pronunciation	AAA	✓	
3.2.1	On Focus	A	✓	
3.2.2	On Input	A	✓	
3.2.3	Consistent Navigation	AA	✓	The navigation the website is consistent and intuitive.
3.2.4	Consistent Identification	AA	✓	
3.2.5	Change on Request	AAA	✓	
3.3.1	Error Identification	A	✓	
3.3.2	Labels or Instructions	A	✓	
3.3.3	Error Suggestion	AA	✓	
3.3.4	Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	✓	
3.3.5	Help	AAA	✓	
3.3.6	Error Prevention (All)	AAA	✓	
4.1.1	Parsing	A	✓	IDs of elements in the DOM have to be unique.
4.1.2	Name, Role, Value	A	✓	
4.1.3	Status Messages (WCAG 2.1)	AA	✓	

What is Section 508?

Section 508 standards that are incorporated into the federal acquisition requirements apply to information and communication technology (ICT) that is used, developed, procured, maintained, or used by federal agencies. The standards, which have been in place for over 15 years, promote ICT that can be accessed by the public and employees with disabilities.

According to the Access Board, twenty-two of the thirty-eight WCAG 2.0 Success Criteria were substantially equivalent to previous Section 508 standards. This leaves 16 criteria that are new or substantially changed. Some agencies have already been going above and beyond the original Section 508 requirements and may have even fewer items on their to-do list. Since the updated Section 508 requirements harmonize with the WCAG 2.0 A and AA requirements, if you are compliant with WCAG 2.0, you should also be compliant with Section 508.

Since most of the changes in the Refresh are known, and technology firms like EqualWeb already have tools to bring your websites and apps into compliance with WCAG 2.0\2.1 A and AA level, it's best to start the auditing process immediately. This will allow you to take things at a more leisurely pace and avoid the staffing costs of having to remediate on an abbreviated timeline.



"Section 508 covers technology procured by a federal agency under contract with a private entity or produced within the agency itself."



Comparing WCAG 2.0 to Original Section 508

The Section 508 Refresh incorporates WCAG 2.0, Level AA standard by inclusion. Below is a table that indicates whether newly incorporated WCAG standards are substantially equivalent to prior Section 508 requirements, or if they are new criteria that now must be considered.

Num	Proposed (WCAG 2.0 Success Criteria [Level])	Existing 508 Corresponding Provision	Summary	What would Change	Remarks
1. Perceivable (WCAG 2.1)					
1.1 Text Alternatives					
1.1.1	Non-text Content	1194.22(a)	Provides for text alternatives of images and other non-text content, including user interface components	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1
1.2 Time-based Media					
1.2.1	Audio-only and Video-only (Pre-recorded)	1194.22(a)	Provides that prerecorded audio is available in a visible format and that silent animations are available in an audible format	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1
1.2.2	Captions (Pre-recorded)	1194.22(b) and .24(c)	Provides for synchronized captioning of prerecorded video and multimedia.	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1
1.2.3	Audio Description or Media Alternative (Pre-recorded)	1194.22(b) and .24(d)	Provides for audio description of	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1

Num	Proposed (WCAG 2.0 Success Criteria [Level])	Existing 508 Corresponding Provision	Summary	What would Change	Remarks
			prerecorded video and multimedia		
1.2.4	Captions (Live)	1194.22(b) and .24(c)	Provides for captioning of live video and multimedia	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1
1.2.5	Audio Description (Pre-recorded)	1194.22(b) and .24(d)	Provides for audio description of live video and multimedia	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1
1.3 Adaptable					
1.3.1	Info and Relationships	1194.22(e) through (h)	Provides that information, structure, and relationships conveyed visually are available to users of assistive technology	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1
1.3.2	Meaningful Sequence	None	Provides for a reasonable and logical reading order when using assistive technology	New	✓
1.3.3	Sensory Characteristics	None	Provides those instructions are not conveyed only through sound, shape, size, or visual orientation	New	✓
1.4 Distinguishable					

Num	Proposed (WCAG 2.0 Success Criteria [Level])	Existing 508 Corresponding Provision	Summary	What would Change	Remarks
1.4.1	Use of Color	1194.21(i) and .22(c)	Provides that information and prompts are not conveyed only through color	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1
1.4.2	Audio Control	None	Provides that there is a way to stop, pause, mute, or adjust volume with audio that plays automatically	New	✓
1.4.3	Contrast (Minimum)	None	Provides for specified contrast between foreground and background of text and images of text	New	✓
1.4.4	Resize Text	None	Provides for content that remains readable and functional when the font size is doubled	New	✓
1.4.5	Images of Text	1194.21(f)	Provides for the use of text, as opposed to images of text	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1
2. Operable (WCAG 2.1)					
2.1 Keyboard Accessible					
2.1.1	Keyboard	1194.21(a)	Provides for functionality when using	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓

Num	Proposed (WCAG 2.0 Success Criteria [Level])	Existing 508 Corresponding Provision	Summary	What would Change	Remarks
			only the keyboard interface		
2.1.2	No Keyboard Trap	None	Provides that the keyboard focus is not trapped when the keyboard is used for navigation	New	Only on manage
2.2 Enough Time					
2.2.1	Timing Adjustable	1194.22(p)	Provides for flexible time limits	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
2.2.2	Pause, Stop, Hide	1194.21(h)	Provides for user control over moving, blinking, scrolling, and information that updates automatically	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
2.3 Seizures and Physical Reactions					
2.3.1	Three Flashes or Below	1194.21(k) and .22(j)	Provides that nothing flashes more than three times per second, unless the flash is very small and does not contain too much red	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
2.4 Navigable					
2.4.1	Bypass Blocks	1194.22(o)	Provides for a skip navigation link or other	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓

Num	Proposed (WCAG 2.0 Success Criteria [Level])	Existing 508 Corresponding Provision	Summary	What would Change	Remarks
			means to bypass repetitive content		
2.4.2	Page Titled	1194.22(i)	Provides for descriptive and informative page titles	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
2.4.3	Focus Order	None	Provides for a keyboard-oriented navigation order that is reasonable and logical Provides that links, form elements, and other user interface controls and components have a reasonable and logical navigation order	New	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
2.4.4	Link Purpose (In Context)	None	Provides that the purpose of any link is understandable from its text or context	New	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
2.4.5	Multiple Ways	None	Provides for two or more means to locate content	New	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
2.4.6	Headings and Labels	None	Provides those headings and label are descriptive	New	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
2.4.7	Focus Visible	None	Provides that the keyboard focus is visually apparent when	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓

Num	Proposed (WCAG 2.0 Success Criteria [Level])	Existing 508 Corresponding Provision	Summary	What would Change	Remarks
			using the keyboard to navigate		
3. Understandable (WCAG 2.1)					
3.1 Readable					
3.1.1	Language of Page	None	Provides that the default language of content is exposed to assistive technology	New	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
3.1.2	Language of Parts	None	Provides that changes in language are exposed to assistive technology	New	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
3.2 Predictable					
3.2.1	On Focus	1194.21(l) and .22(n)	Provides that user interface components do not initiate a change of context when receiving focus	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
3.2.2	On Input	1194.21(l) and .22(n)	Provides that changing the setting of user interface components does not automatically cause a change of context	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
3.2.3	Consistent Navigation	None	Provides that repeated navigational components occur in the same relative order each time they are encountered	New	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓

Num	Proposed (WCAG 2.0 Success Criteria [Level])	Existing 508 Corresponding Provision	Summary	What would Change	Remarks
3.2.4	Consistent Identification	1194.21(e)	Provides that components having the same functionality are identified consistently	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
4. Robust (WCAG 2.1)					
3.3 Input Assistance					
3.3.1	Error Identification	1194.21(l) and .22(n)	Provides that automatically detected input errors are identified and described in text to the user	Substantially Equivalent	Only on manage
3.3.2	Labels or Instructions	1194.21(l) and .22(n)	Provides for labels or instructions when content requires user input	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
3.3.3	Error Suggestion	None	Provides that the system makes suggestions for correction when input errors are automatically detected and suggestions are available	New	Only on manage
3.3.4	Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	None	Provides that when legal, financial, or test data can be changed or deleted the changes or deletions can be reversed, verified, or confirmed	New	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓
4.1 Compatible					
4.1.1	Parsing	None	Provides that significant HTML/XHTML validation	New	Customer responsibility

Num	Proposed (WCAG 2.0 Success Criteria [Level])	Existing 508 Corresponding Provision	Summary	What would Change	Remarks
			and parsing errors in source code are avoided		
4.1.2	Name, Role, Value	1194.21(d)	Provides that sufficient information (including identity, operation, and state) about user interface components is available to assistive technology	Substantially Equivalent	Same as clause at WCAG 2.1 ✓