Annual Interagency Accessibility Forum
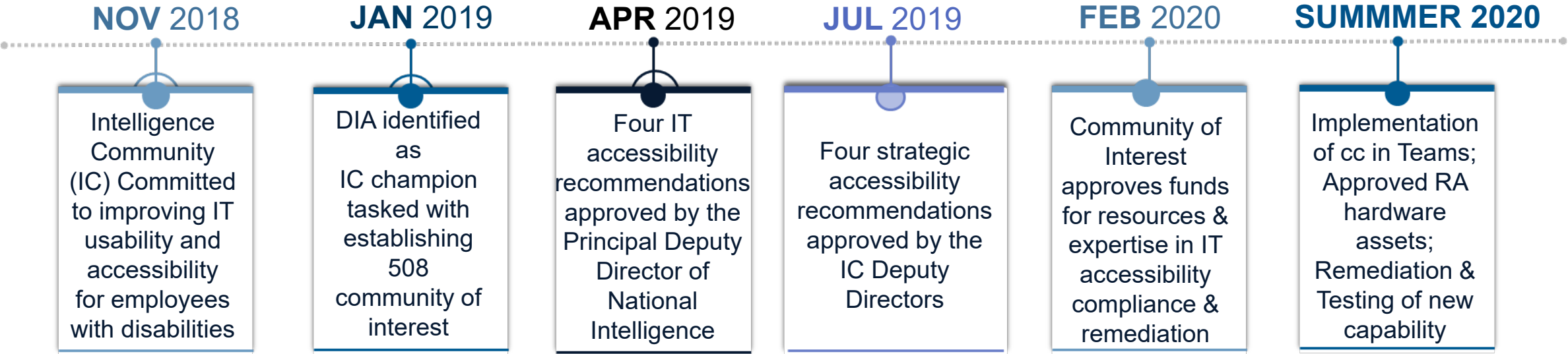
Enabling Missions through Accessible Technology – Leaving No One Behind

October 6 & 7, 2020

GSA · United States Census Bureau · CIO COUNCIL

Welcome to Section 508

Defense Intelligence Agency: What I learned & What We've Done

NOV 2018 — Intelligence Community (IC) Committed to improving IT usability and accessibility for employees with disabilities

JAN 2019 — DIA identified as IC champion tasked with establishing 508 community of interest

APR 2019 — Four IT accessibility recommendations approved by the Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence

JUL 2019 — Four strategic accessibility recommendations approved by the IC Deputy Directors

FEB 2020 — Community of Interest approves funds for resources & expertise in IT accessibility compliance & remediation

SUMMMER 2020 — Implementation of cc in Teams; Approved RA hardware assets; Remediation & Testing of new capability

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

508 COORDINATORS · IC REPRESENTATIVE · IC SCORESHEET & DISABILITY QUALITY INDEX · COMMON SERVICES · ACCESSIBILITY OFFICER · REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS STUDY · TELEWORK CAPABILITY

DIA Current Focus & FY21 Priorities

Drive accessibility through the use of inclusive IT capabilities to support a diverse workforce to meet mission requirements

Mature DIA's IT Accessibility Program

Engage, Educate, Inform

Test, Evaluate & Remediate Non-Conformance Issues & New Capabilities

Establish Documented Processes & Workflows

Welcome to Section 508 (for new members)

- **Section 508 - The Early Years**

  - **Initial information gathering**

  - **Section 508 Conference 2010**

- **Overview**

- **The National Archives' Top Accessibility Goals**

  1. Implementing a standard

  2. Maturing an accessibility program

  3. Conforming

  4. Providing a usable experience

- **The National Archives proactive approach**

  - **Step 1: Training**

  - **Step 2: Designing wireframes**

  - **Step 3: Equipping teams**

  - **Step 4: Establishing policies**

The National Archives Program Structure

- Chief Information Officer (CIO)

- Chief Acquisition Officer

- Purchase cardholders

- Chief Financial Officer

- Office of Innovation

- Web Content Editors and Content Authors

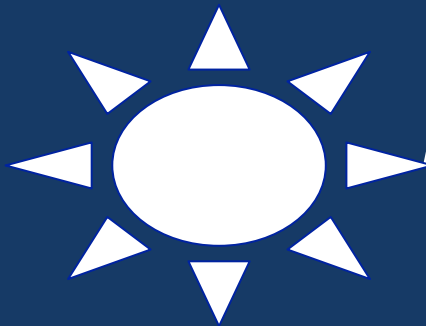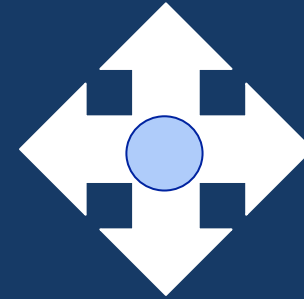- Office of General Counsel

- Section 508 Coordinators

- **Top Five Challenges for The National Archives' Accessibility Programs**

1. Education & Awareness

2. Incorporating accessibility

3. Too many content creators

4. Access to usability testers

5. Time

Conclusion

My Journey Into The Section 508 Program - The Twilight Zone Beginning

It isn't successful until we all

have the opportunity to be successful!

My Journey Into The Section 508 Program - I Can See Clearly Now The Rain Has Gone

Accessibility Statutory Authority

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (as amended in 1998) gives GSA and the U.S. Access Board shared statutory responsibility for providing technical assistance to individuals and agencies on the implementation of Section 508 of the Act. This responsibility is formally delegated to OGP in the <u>GSA Delegations of Authority Manual</u>.

The <u>Strategic Plan for Improving Management of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act</u> (OMB 2013), and several previous OMB Memorandums established federal roles for managing Section 508.

Section 508 - Accessibility: A Business Essential

Section 508: A Broad Focus

An accessible website is just the tip of the iceberg

Websites: Public-facing & Intranets

IT Product and Service Procurement

Agency Official Communications

Electronic Forms & Digital Signatures

Telecommunications

Virtual Meetings & Distance Learning

Language Proficiency

Software

Computer Hardware / Laptops

Printers, Copiers and Office Equipment

Content Authoring Tools

Self-service Kiosks & Closed Products

Access Controls & Authentication

Section 508 - Federal Management and Coordination

Section 508 Federal Strategic Plan

OMB set the stage for the current Section 508 Program
Strategic Plan: Improving Management of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act

"A framework to enhance and sustain management improvements to increase the accessibility of electronic and information technology"

1) Outlines a consistent foundation for agencies to build, mature, and sustain a successful accessibility program

2) Established the current biannual Section 508 Program Maturity IDC reporting process

3) Focuses on three core tenets:
   a) Increase transparency;
   b) Strengthen accountability; and
   c) Improve collaboration

How it works

- **U.S. Access Board** sets the legal guidelines and standards
- **GSA** provides technical implementation support to agencies, and manages the Biannual 508 Program Maturity Report
- **ACoP** acts as a bridge between the CIOC and CAOC, corrals resources, and formalizes agency engagement
- **DHS** built the Trusted Tester Program
- **DoJ** is responsible for law enforcement
- **Agency Section 508 Program Managers** are the front line, provide training to their agency, and coordination with their acquisition and development teams
- **OMB** sets the strategic direction & reinforces the priorities

GSA Government-wide Section 508 Training

Section 508 Training Opportunities

- Section508.gov
  - Online training
  - On-demand webinars
  - Additional training resources
  - Accessibility Community Meetings
- U.S. Access Board
  - Webinars
- Federal Acquisition Institute
- Interagency Accessibility Forum (IAAF)

Suggested Communities of Practice & Conferences

- Section 508 Listserv
- Federal Accessibility Community of Practice (ACOP)
- Interagency Accessibility Forum (IAAF)
- International Association of Accessibility Professionals (IAAP)

Section 508 Internet Resources

- www.Section508.gov includes information on:
  - Managing a Section 508 program
  - Creating accessible products
  - Purchasing accessible products
  - Testing for accessibility
  - Selling accessible products (vendor information)
  - Section 508 training
- The Access Board (www.Access-Board.gov)
- W3C (www.w3.org)

QUESTIONS ?

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Thank You for Attending Accessibility 101 Breakout Session