



Location

California, United States.

Industry

Software Company

About Client

Adobe Systems Incorporated, commonly known as Adobe, is an American multinational computer software company, headquartered in San Jose, California, United States.

Adobe has historically focused upon the creation of multimedia and creativity software products, with a more recent foray towards rich Internet application software development. It is best known for Photoshop, an image editing software, Acrobat Reader, the Portable Document Format (PDF), and Adobe Creative Suite, as well as its successor, Adobe Creative Cloud.

Introduction

Octaware Technologies vision is *“To serve, add value and create growth, for individuals, businesses and entities to become self-sustained and an active contributor to global development.”* On the CSR front, Octaware Technologies have done some commendable works towards bringing positive change in the society. This strong determination of contributing towards global development can be sensed with the achievement of CSR awards it has achieved over the years.

One of the focus areas of Octaware has been on creating job opportunities in IT industry for people with disabilities. To achieve this objective, Octaware partnered with **the National Association for the Blind Education and Training (NABET)** to work for its clients on Web accessibility testing projects designed and developed so that people with disabilities can use them. Octaware played a key role by training visually impaired people for professional work.

Senior QA consultants of Octaware developed courseware for Accessibility testing and conducted training program *“Train the Trainer”*. Octaware trained NABET’s QA trainer’s, who in turn trained visually impaired professionals at Manesar Centre, where Octaware in-house product *“PowerERM”* was tested for US Section 508 Compliance by trained visually impaired people for hands-on experience before taking on other industry projects.

The first accessibility testing project was undertaken from Adobe, that enabled trained visually impaired people to be part of QA team. The accessibility testing project was implemented in Adobe Acrobat 11.0.06 & Acrobat Reader.

Challenges

The Goal was to identify the readiness of Adobe Acrobat Reader, to be used by people with disabilities, and test it for Section 508 Compliance. More specifically, so that disable people can: perceive, understand, navigate, and interact with Adobe products. The project successfully enabled to complete testing and highlight problems faced by such people in working with Adobe Acrobat.

Accessibility testing was carried out for web application issues related to navigation for people with disabilities. The team worked on several issues of the application related to Page title, Images, ALT text, Heading, Contrasting ratio, Resizing text, Keyboard access and others to make the application accessible to people with disabilities.

Technology Requirement

Octaware/NABET team are well versed and comfortable with various tools and technologies required for various kinds of products & assessment testing following are few to mention:

- Windows, iOS, Mac, Android experience
- Experience using apps across Microsoft
- Experience using Jaws, Windows Eyes, NVDA, Opera IBM PageReader, WAVE, Narrator & Custom developed Section 508 Automated Test Tools

Web Accessibility

Web accessibility means that websites, tools, and technologies are designed and developed so that people with disabilities can use them.

Web accessibility encompasses all disabilities that affect access to the Web, including hearing, intellectual, neurological, physical, speech and visual.

Web accessibility also benefits people without disabilities, for example people using mobile phones, smart watches, smart TVs, and other devices with small screens, older people with changing abilities due to ageing, people with “temporary disabilities” such as a broken arm or lost glasses, people with “situational limitations” such as in bright sunlight or in an environment where they cannot listen to audio, people using a slow Internet connection, or who have limited or expensive bandwidth

Highlights

Accessibility testing started and included a detailed review of potential 508 compliance issues. Advanced software was used to identify instances that fail to meet one or more of the 16 compliance standards.

- Plug-in for screen reader emulation was used to assist in identifying potential screen reader issues.
- Full screen reader testing using Jaws was done as part of the accessibility review to check the accuracy and quality of the content and navigation.
- Accessibility techniques, such as providing methods for skipping repetitive navigation, avoiding non-distinct link labels and using mark-up properly (header tags, alternative text, table headers), was reviewed throughout the site.
- All reported instances that fail validation was reviewed again. This process was repeated until no instances were reported.
- When pages utilize scripting languages to display content, or to create interface elements, the information provided by the script was identified with functional text that can be read by assistive technology.
- Pages are usable when scripts, applets, or other programmatic objects are turned off or not supported. If this was not possible, equivalent information was provided on an alternative accessible page.
- Links in the footer for all plug-ins used on the site was provided. Electronic forms designed to be completed online, the form allowed people using assistive technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.

Key Takeaways

- The bugs identified by the team were reported to Adobe and corrections were implemented.
- Adobe Acrobat Reader & Acrobat were successfully tested to be blind friendly.
- All suggestions for improvement /modification were incorporated in Adobe Acrobat Reader & Acrobat.
- Helped gain new skill sets and avenues for employment of disabled people.

About Octaware Technologies

Octaware Technologies, an SEI-CMMI Level 3, ISO 9001:2008 & IEC 27001:20013 certified company, is a highly experienced software development, enterprise solution and consulting firm with its offices in India, and presence in USA, Singapore, UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Croatia, and Zimbabwe. The company has been serving Fortune 500 corporates across the globe since 2005.

Octaware Technologies was founded as an information technology company specializing in Microsoft technologies stack, focusing on Healthcare, Finance and e-Government sectors. Since then, the company has grown into a multifaceted business that offers a diverse line of services and solutions for clients ranging from small businesses to large Fortune 500 corporations.

Depending on the ever-changing requirements, we come up with the essential and up-to-date tools and skills to enhance the clients' confidence in us.

Contact details:

Phone: +91 22 28293949 / +91 22 28293959

Email: sales@octaware.com

Address: 002/003, Tower II, SEEPZ++ Building, SEEPZ SEZ, Andheri – East, Mumbai - 400096, India.