

IBM Accessibility Facebook Expert Hour on HTML5 Accessibility Transcript 07/31/2012

[IBM Accessibility](#) Greetings everyone. Welcome to the July IBM Accessibility Expert Hour and thank you for joining us. Our topic today is "HTML5 Accessibility". And please welcome our experts:

* Rich Schwerdtfeger, CTO Accessibility IBM Software Group

* Steve Faulkner, Technical Director, The Paciello Group

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[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) Hello everyone.

[Steve Faulkner](#) hi all

[Tim Hinchcliffe](#) Greetings

[Puratchidasan Munusami](#) Hi All

[IBM Accessibility](#) If this is your first Facebook Expert Hour, here's how it works:

To participate in the real-time Q&A session, "Like" IBM Accessibility (the Like button is at the top of the page in the center). Then to ask a question, type it into the box on your screen that says, "Write something..." and press Enter. Our experts will answer your question as a Comment, and it will show up underneath your question.

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[Eunice Oliveira](#) This is my first time attending this type of session. where else can I find more information on this?

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) Which this? HTML5 accessibility?

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) Steve and I have CSUN presentation on HTML5 accessibility we gave in March in San Diego. Holly will post.

[Steve Faulkner](#) <http://www.html5accessibility.com/> has information about accessibility support for new HTML5 features

[IBM Accessibility](#) Here's the link to the CSUN presentation: http://www-03.ibm.com/able/education/downloads/HTML5_Accessibility_accessible_IBM.pdf

[Steve Faulkner](#) the same CSUN HTML5 accessibility presentation on slideshare <http://www.slideshare.net/stevefaulkner/html5-accessibility-csun-2012>

[Eunice Oliveira](#) Thanks for all the information posted on HTML5 Accessibility.. Will check it out.

[IBM Accessibility](#) Please remember to refresh occasionally -- sometimes Facebook has trouble keeping up with the pace of our Expert Hours.

[IBM Accessibility](#) If you're using a screenreader, we suggest using Facebook's HTML-only mode:

<http://m.facebook.com/home.php>

[Chris Schmechel](#) likes this.

[IBM Accessibility](#) Okay, let's open the wall for questions. :-)

[Marc Johlic](#) likes this.

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[Mithun Pillay](#) Accessibility features in html5 video (closed captioning, subtitles)- any suggestions on how to implement this ?

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[Steve Faulkner](#) There are a number of good resources out there for use of HTML5 video take a look at articles/books by silvia pfeiffer and Ian Devlin

[Mithun Pillay](#) oh thanks steve...i will check those..i also wanted to check on what is the progress on the <track> element and we can actually start using it?

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) HTML5 has tracks associated with these elements which reference time text formats such as WebVTT. You would need a tool that generates WebVTT and the file can be applied to a captioning track.

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) IE 10 supports both TTML and WebVTT timed text formats on the captioning track.

[T.m. Weissenberger](#) Do you have any sense of the keyboard support for video controls in HTML5? It feels like the deck gets less attention than the CC, but so many players deadend for the keyboard user.

[Steve Faulkner](#) there are a number of polyfills to support use of HTML5 video captions etc <https://github.com/Modernizr/Modernizr/wiki/HTML5-Cross-Browser-Polyfills>

[Mithun Pillay](#) thanks steve.. i did check ian's demo here <http://www.iandevlin.com/html5test/webvtt/html5-video-webvtt-sample.html> now i am on the right track :) ..yet to go through polyfills links...

[Mithun Pillay](#) Rich and Steve many thanks for the inputs!

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) you are most welcome.

[T.m. Weissenberger](#) I'm curious about the role of <h1>-<h6> structure in HTML5. If the <section>, <Aside>, <article> and other elements can each take an <h1>, then what happens to the heading structure often used by screen reader users to navigate a page?

[Steve Faulkner](#) If the outline algorithm is implemented in the user agent, then the heading structure will be based on the generated outline. Currently no browsers implement the outline algorithm so screen readers are not affected. It is unclear whether the algorithm will be implemented by browsers. One screen reader (JAWS) implements the outline algorithm so it takes account when working out heading levels. Note it does not take the effect of hgroup into account

[Steve Faulkner](#) details on issues <http://www.accessibleculture.org/articles/2011/10/jaws-ie-and-headings-in-html5/>

[1 person](#) likes this.

[T.m. Weissenberger](#) Great resource, Steve. I'll check it out.

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[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) I think page wide headings are a thing of the past. Heading navigation should be used withing specific document contexts such as <article>, ARIA landmark regions, and so on. Web pages are more aggregates of content from different sources today (e.g. Open Social) and consistent heanding navigation should be consistent only within semantic regional areas like <article>, <nav>, <footer>, and regional landmarks.

[1 person](#) likes this

[Brian Cragun](#) When and how should developers start using to HTML5?

[Marc Johlic](#) likes this.

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) I think it is still premature to use HTML5 unless you know your customers are going to be dependent on next generation desktop browsers or mobile devices. For example, browser accessibility API mapping is weak for HTML5 - in particular for IE even today. Also AT support is limited. On mobile devices the best support would be for IOS 6.

[Steve Faulkner](#) Developers can use the HTML5 doctype right now and I recommend they do as it means that they won't get unnecessary validation errors when using ARIA

[Steve Faulkner](#) and for some new HTML5 features they can be used in conjunction with ARIA to fill the support gaps

[Phill Jenkins](#) Is there a resource that tracks the HTML 5 feature support in browsers, especially mobile smart-phone browsers?

[Brian Cragun](#) Phill, desktop browser implementation: <http://www.html5accessibility.com/>

[Steve Faulkner](#) <http://caniuse.com/> is a good place to start for general feature support across browsers

[Debi Horvath](#) Do you have an assistive technology assessment tool you can share? I work with adults returning from medical leaves and/or requesting job accommodations. We do utilize our location ergonomist, however they are not trained in disability and assistive tech. Can you make any recommendations?

[Fran Hayden](#) likes this.

[Alex Jurgensen](#) I'm not sure if I can jump in here, but I have been involved with a project to create such a tool.

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) Thank you Alex for weighing in. It is an open discussion.

[IBM Accessibility](#) IBM has an enterprise level technology: http://www-03.ibm.com/able/accessibility_research_projects/AWCsolution.html

[Alex Jurgensen](#) Thank you for the clarification. I hesitate to suggest my own project, because it is in the early stages of development, but keep an eye on <http://outofthedarkness.vipbc.org/> for announcements on this project if said project gets funded.

[Debi Horvath](#) It's good to hear projects are addressing it. Typically I've found AT assessments for students but not adults. There is an old UNUM decision tree

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<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/business/identifytech.aspx> and also the CAP program has an internal tool that I really like, <http://cap.mil/Request/Request.aspx> however no updated general tool that all employers could use. I'll save your links and keep checking back. Thanks

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) so, when you say AT assessment are you referring to simulation of an AT response in accessibility test tools?

[Debi Horvath](#) No. I'm not referring to the development of a tool. I'm look for a tool to assess the user's need and appropriate device, software, product.

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) I see. I am not familiar with any. I would hope the AT resellers would have such a tool.

[Debi Horvath](#) Thank you for your time and assistance. :)

[Alex Jurgensen](#) I'm the author of the Vanilla Caramel SDK. I am trying to build a framework for native-looking UIs on various platforms. I'm using WAI-ARIA for defining the elements. Do you think this is this approach something that will become a standard over time? For instance, I'm adding CSS on elements like: `<div role="button">Title</div>` See: <https://github.com/asinnovations/Vanilla-Caramel-SDK>

[Steve Faulkner](#) OK so many HTML elements already have the roles states and properties mapped by the browsers so there is no need to use ARIA in these cases, For newer HTML5 features ARIA may be used to add semantics that are not yet implemented in the browser. In the example of button there is no need to use role=button as I noted previously refer to Using ARIA in HTML

[Alex Jurgensen](#) Okay, thanks.

[Alex Jurgensen](#) I'm adding WAI-ARIA support to a Adobe CQ installation. Does anyone here have advice on adding WAI-ARIA to template based wiswig editors

[Rich Schwerdtfeger](#) Well, I know of none that fully do this but the property dialogs should support ARIA attributes and restrict attributes applied based on roles. Also, role usage in the properties dialogs should be restricted based on ARIA required children structure. This is a lengthy discussion but essentially the authoring tools should enforce the ARIA spec. You can also make use of the ARIA rule sets developed on the Open Ajax Alliance to help in developing the enforcement restrictions in ARIA application in the authoring tool. Authoring tools should also include reusable, pre-enabled widgets that can be used from a palette with only small implementation work by authors. For example, one could include accessible Dojo Dijit widgets in the palette or accessible jQuery widgets in the palette. Some work has been done on Maqetta: <http://maqetta.org/>

[IBM Accessibility](#) Be sure to check out Rich's article on the www.ibm.com/able website too. [2 people](#) like this.

[T.m. Weissenberger](#) Will this will be available as a transcript later?

[IBM Accessibility](#) Yes, T.m. it will be available on <http://www-03.ibm.com/able/education/index.html> by early next week.

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[Alex Jurgensen](#) Using mediagroups, is there a way to offset the volume of one track, relative to another. Say, the main video track is 20% louder than the descriptive track because they come from different sources. Or, I want to duck the audio in the video track to play another descriptive track.

[Steve Faulkner](#) Alex, we cannot answer that question I would suggest asking multimedia bods such as <https://twitter.com/#!/search/ian%20devlin>

[Alex Jurgensen](#) To clarify, I meant <video mediagroup="dvs" src="video.mp4"> <audio mediagroup="dvs" src="audio.mp3">

[IBM Accessibility](#) We are now at the end of our time. What a great session -- I want to thank our experts for joining us today. :-)

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[Alex Jurgensen](#) Yes, thank you for your time.

[Steve Faulkner](#) For developers interested in being involved in the standardization of HTML5 here are details on How YOU can join the W3C HTML5 Working Group in 4 easy steps

<http://www.paciellogroup.com/blog/2011/12/how-you-can-join-the-w3c-html5-working-group-in-4-easy-steps/>

[Steve Faulkner](#) For developers interested in how to provide alt text in HTML5/HTML I have been working on a specification <http://dev.w3.org/html5/alt-techniques/> feedback welcome

[IBM Accessibility](#) and [Alex Jurgensen](#) like this.

[IBM Accessibility](#) The session will remain on the Facebook wall, and there will be a transcript available on the ibm.com/able website soon.

Have a wonderful day/evening! :-)

[2 people](#) like this.