

The Inclusive Publishing initiative- practicalities of accessibility for the industry



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Google Impact Challenge | Disabilities



About the DAISY Consortium

- The DAISY Consortium is a global Consortium of organizations working towards equal access to information and knowledge regardless of disability
- Since 1996, more than 20 years experience of accessible publishing
- Around 150 organisations are part of our family, including government agencies, special libraries, disability groups, universities, technology companies
- Registered in Zurich, our team is based in Belgium, Canada, France, India, UK and USA



Working domains

- **Supporting the DAISY community:** provide expertise and technologies to support accessible reading services
- **Extending the DAISY community:** expand accessible reading services in developing and industrialized nations
- ✓ **Enabling accessible mainstream publishing:** support mainstream publishers and content developers to the era of born accessible publications

Libraries for Print Disabled people convert books for reading with eyes, ears & fingers



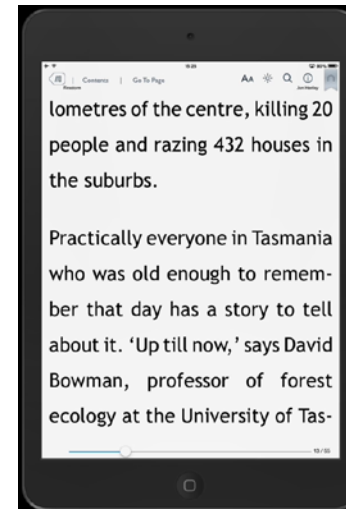
The “book famine”

- Despite the work of these libraries, according to the World Blind Union less than 10% of publications are in formats that are usable by people with blindness, low vision or other reading disabilities.
- Digital publishing provides a wonderful opportunity to close the gap
- Better files for braille production by specialists
- And especially by ensuring that regular ebooks are accessible

Accessible ebooks- changing fonts and colours

Helpful for people who:

- are Dyslexic or other specific learning disabilities
- or who have sight problems



Accessible ebooks- the book can read to you

Helpful for people who:

- * are Dyslexic or other specific learning disabilities
- * or who have sight problems



Accessible ebooks- with braille

Helpful for people who are blind

Instant availability

Portable

Searchable

Used together with
Synthetic speech



Accessible ebooks- via switches

Helpful for people:

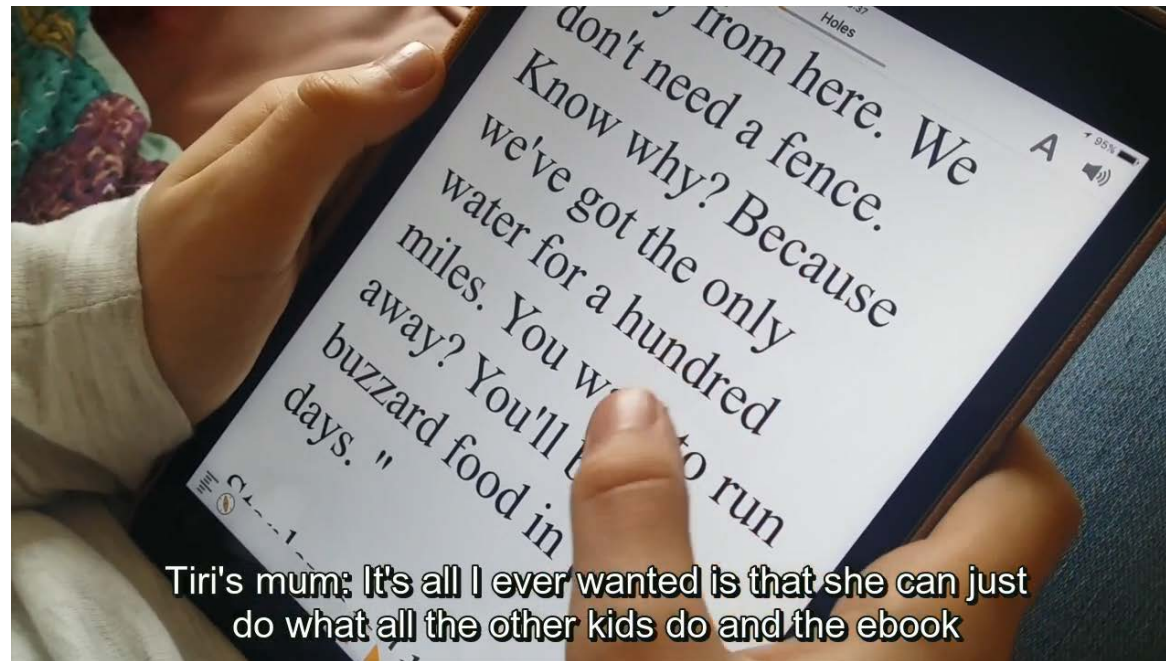
- with physical disabilities
- Switch access enables a person to open a book and navigate
- Or even search, choose and buy



Accessible ebooks- for people

Film:

- Jerry - speech
- Scott - braille
- Tiri – large text



Is my ebook accessible?

- EPUB 3 by design is more accessible than other e-publishing formats
- However, its flexibility also allows the creation of inaccessible titles
- Publishers are themselves are not accessibility experts, therefore they are asking for the minimum accessibility criteria for making publications accessible
- Accessible reading can only be ensured if the complete supply chain from publishers to the readers supports inclusion
- There are practicalities of accessibility that need to be addressed

Inclusive Publishing Initiative - Objective



To collaboratively create an industry wide specification that defines the minimum criteria (baseline) for an accessible publication, and to create the infrastructure to facilitate its implementation in the supply chain, from producer through to the consumer.

Google.org inclusive publishing initiative- 4 Strands

- EPUB accessibility principles and specifications
- Accessibility checking tool and conformance testing
- Reading systems accessibility evaluation
<http://epubtest.org/>
- An inclusive publishing information hub
<http://inclusivepublishing.org/>



EPUB accessibility specifications

- EPUB 3.1 is an approved recommendation released in January 2017
<http://www.idpf.org/epub/31/spec/epub-spec.html>
- Included is EPUB Accessibility 1.0 which establishes the baseline
<http://www.idpf.org/epub/a11y/accessibility.html>
- DAISY members around the world will promote the global adoption of the accessibility baseline
- A core competence of DAISY, so will continue to support this
- You will hear more from Bill McCoy on the latest version of the EPUB standard





A11y checking tool and conformance testing



- DAISY is developing an EPUB Accessibility Checker Tool that will assist with validating file accessibility
- The Tool can be used independently and can also be integrated with production workflow
- Some manual checks will be required to assure conformance
- Functionality coming in in stages, public beta around end 2017
- Supports clear and consistent accessibility metadata
- To provide greater assurance some DAISY members are building up consultancy and certification services

Reading systems accessibility evaluation

- Both the EPUB and the Reading System must be accessible
- A perfectly accessible EPUB can be let down by the Reading System
- We are evaluating the accessibility features implemented in a wide range of mainstream reading systems.
- This helps reading systems developers to understand the gaps
- And customers can choose companies that have considered the needs of everyone.
- Vital Source- finalist in LBF International Excellence Awards
- <http://www.epubtest.org/testsuite/accessibility/>

The logo consists of a stylized blue 'i' and 'h' icon to the left of the text 'Inclusive Publishing Hub' in a blue sans-serif font.

Inclusive Publishing Hub

Intended to be a definitive resource for publishers, developers, educators and consumers


- case studies, videos and tutorials
- accessibility guidelines, update on the checker tool and reading systems tests
- news, upcoming events, and event reports
- content welcome!

Visit inclusivepublishing.org and sign up for updates

Summary

- We have a standard and techniques
- We are developing tools to help with conformance
- We are helping developers to address accessibility of reading systems
- We are creating a hub as a resource for helpful information and definitive guidance

... addressing [practicalities of accessibility](#), so that millions of people with print disabilities can read millions of titles, confident that they are created with accessibility built in



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