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Website Accessibility Introduction

Who	This course is designed for both technical and non-technical staff responsible for over-seeing or managing websites.
Why	Making your website accessible to all, regardless of technical limitations or disability has become a major issue for web designers. Websites designed without taking accessibility into consideration exclude certain sectors of the population, limit your customer base and may ultimately be illegal. The Disability Discrimination Act applies to internet content as much as to other media. As such it is now important for companies to be aware that they should be complying with guidelines. Our course shows you the added company benefits that will improve your website and its features.
Length	1 day

Web Accessibility

- The origin of Accessibility
- Legislation
- Accessibility for all; defining the clientele
- Checking your own sites for compliance
- Overview of technologies used by people with disabilities

Available Resources

- Tools used to audit a site
- Online and offline resources and references
- Keeping up with the standards

Why compliance is necessary

- Understanding why we need to comply
- A technical and practical perspective
- Why accessibility provides a marketing advantage

The rules

- Rationale for dividing guidelines into different degrees of priority
- Review of priority one two and three guidelines
- User-centred and technology-driven solutions
- An in-depth look at some of the rules that sites must follow

Problem Areas

- Frames and table layouts
- JavaScript and Java Applets
- Flash and other media
- Scrollable text

Practical Design Strategies

- Designing for the visually impaired
- Advantages of using style sheets
- Careful use of colour
- Structuring your content
- Using ALT and LONGDESC attributes
- Navigation issues and context sensitive links
- Using forms

Upon completing this course you will have gleaned an important insight into the realistic workings of Accessibility. This will inspire you to evaluate our own systems and bring them in line. Follow up courses are available on a one-to-one basis focusing on specific issues.