



AbleDocs

OctoberPDFfest

Why is Making a PDF/UA document accessible so Hard?

October 6th, 2020



Welcome to
October-PDF-fest



LÖWENBRÄU



What is PDF/UA and Why it Matters



- What is PDF/UA?
 - ISO 14289-1/2
- A globally recognized STANDARD for PDF accessibility
- All available testing tools test against PDF/UA...not WCAG...whether you knew it or not!

Let's set the record straight...





- Universal Accessibility
- PDF/UA is an ISO Standard (ISO 14289-1)
- A normative technical standard
- Provides consistent guidance for achieving accessibility within a PDF context
- It is an ADDITIVE SPECIFICATION for ISO 32000-1

PDF/UA...What Does It Mean?



- PDF IS NOT WEB CONTENT...
- Formats are not created equally
- PDF needed to address its unique capabilities to ensure equal access to content
- Authors...Authors...Authors...

Why Does PDF Need Its Own Spec?

A pair of red boxing gloves with white laces is hanging from a blue strap in the center of a boxing ring. The ring's blue ropes are visible in the background, and the scene is dimly lit with a spotlight effect on the gloves.

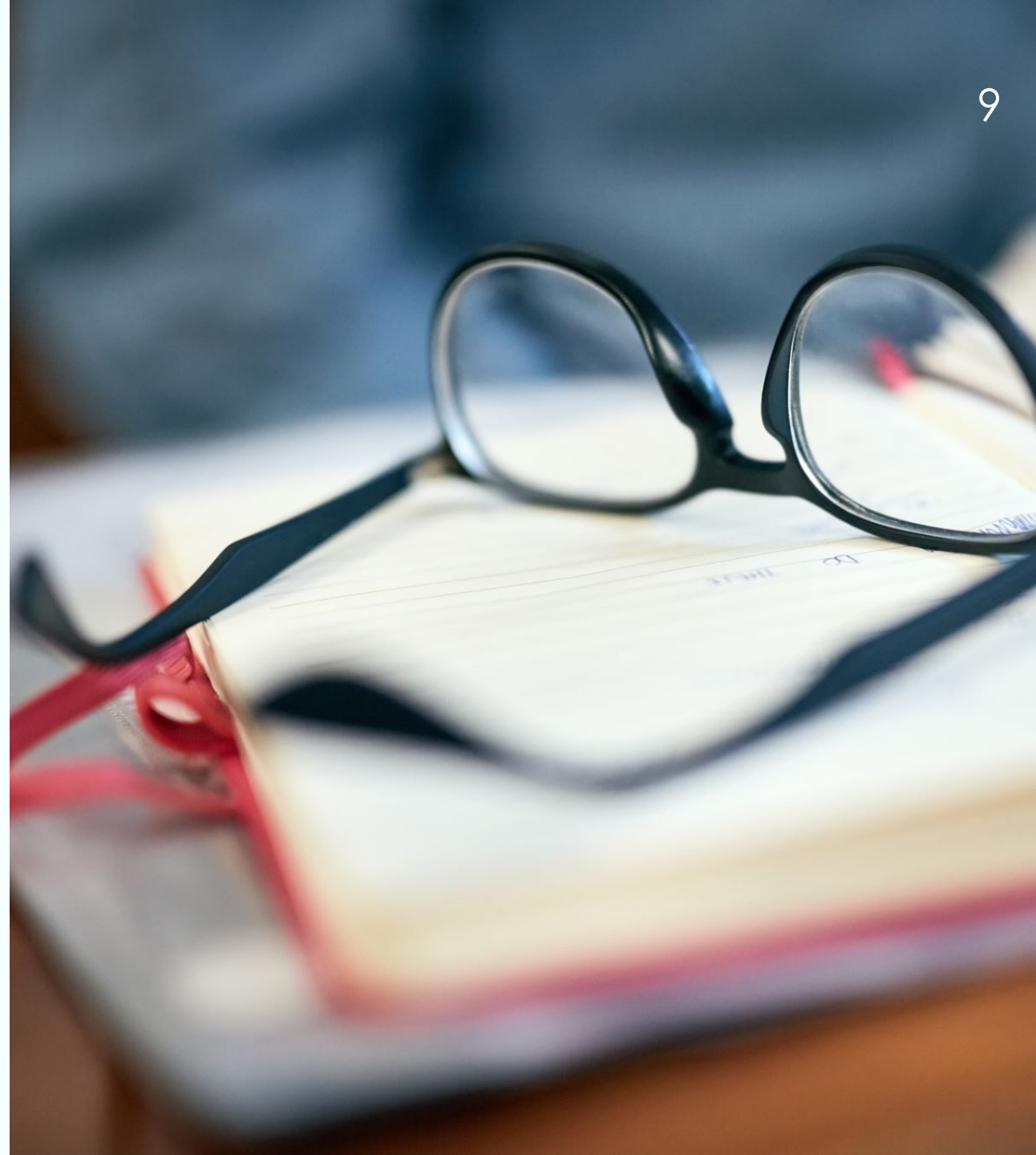
WCAG vs. PDF



**PDF/UA and
WCAG 2.1 HAVE
NO CONFLICTS...**

**THEY ARE
COMPLIMENTARTY**

WCAG vs. PDF





Why is it so hard?

**The right tool for the
job....**



EXPERIENCE

ABILITY

GROWTH

TRAINING

SKILL

LOADING...

LEARNING

**ADVANCED
TRAINING**

COMPETENCE



A man with short brown hair and sunglasses is holding up his right palm towards the camera. The palm is open, and the words "NOT MY PROBLEM" are written in black, hand-painted letters across the center. The background is a bright blue sky with some white clouds. The man is wearing a light blue t-shirt.

NOT MY
PROBLEM

"Good Enough"
is No Longer
Good Enough.





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