

# The future of accessibility: COGA, WCAG 2.2, and Silver

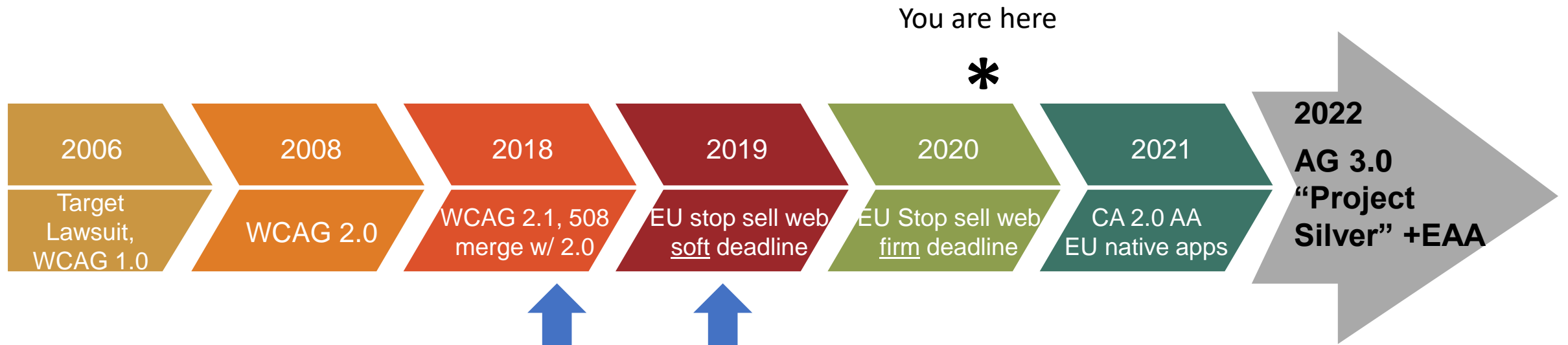
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# Agenda

- Accessibility Timeline
- General WP accessibility advice
- Guidelines being changed
- New Guidelines

# Accessibility Timeline

# Accessibility Timeline Details



4600 Lawsuits  
First Public, now Employees

# WP and Accessibility

# WP and Accessibility Details

- [WP accessible templates](#) (33 free / 10 premium) and more available on private sites
- [WP accessible plugins](#)
- Things commonly used with WP that are mostly accessible
  - Microsoft / Google Forms
  - Survey Monkey
  - MailChimp
  - Qualtrics
  - Survey Gizmo

Don't make your WP-based site accessible.  
Make your \*experience\* accessible

- [Surveys](#)
- Communications
  - Accessibility email address
- Accessibility statement
- Customer support
- Social Media posts

**DON'T use an accessible WP template and then partner with inaccessible vendors**

# COGA



# W3C Process

1. Task Force chartered
2. Volunteers solicited (Can join at any time – hint hint)
3. Meetings + Draft + Vote
4. Repeat 3 as many times as necessary
5. First Public Working Draft (FPWD)
6. Obtain comments from public, Loop back to #3
7. Second Public Working Draft (SPWD)
8. Obtain comments from public, Loop back to #3
9. Standard final
10. Gets incorporated into laws, lawsuits, and settlements



# COGA- COGnitive Accessibility

- The Cognitive and Learning Disabilities Accessibility Task Force (Cognitive A11Y TF) is a joint Task Force of the [Accessible Platform Architectures \(APA\) Working Group](#) and the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines Working Group \(AG WG\)](#).
- COGA-TF assists these Working Groups to produce techniques, understanding, and guidance documents, as well as updates to existing related W3C material that addresses the cognitive space.
- Current [publication](#)

# What disabilities does COGA focus on

- Neurodiverse conditions
  - Autism
  - Dyslexia, Dyscalculia
  - ADHD
- Memory Loss
- Dementia
- Intellectual and Developmental Delays (IDD)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Cognitive Issues
- Aphasia

# What types of guidelines will COGA bring us

- Plain language requirements
- Clear purpose requirements
- The need to be able to operate without good memory

# WCAG 2.2

## 2.4.11 Focus Appearance (Minimum) (AA)

This guideline is related to the other two guidelines pertaining to keyboard focus indicators (KFI) [2.4.7: Focus Visible](#) and [1.4.11: Non-text Contrast](#)

The summation of the KFI related guidelines now are:

- 1) You must have a KFI (2.4.7, which moves from AA to A)
- 2) The KFI must have a contrast of 3.0:1 at all times (1.4.11)
- 3) [The focus indication area](#) is greater than or equal to a 1 [CSS pixel](#) border of the focused control, or has a thickness of at least 8 CSS pixels along the shortest side of the element (2.4.11)
- 4) The KFI can never be blocked by user content. (2.4.11)

## 2.4.13 Fixed Reference Points (A)

- When someone magnifies something (need: vision loss) or uses additional spacing (need: dyslexia) it modifies the page numbering
- If a TOC tells you something is on page 37, you need to be able to get to where that information is, even if it is currently on page 53.

## 2.5.7 Dragging (AA)

- All drag and drop operations need to be accessible from the keyboard
- I felt this was a “miss” in previous versions of WCAG.
  - Inaccessible drag-and-drop had to be flagged as a keyboard violation and a pillar violation that something wasn’t “operable” by people using assistive technology
- Salesforce Lightning open source design system has good accessible drag and drop patterns, read [this article](#) for more details.



## 3.2.7 Hidden Controls (AA)

- This is another keyboard violation and a pillar violation that something wasn't "operable" by people using assistive technology guideline codification.
- Controls needed to progress or complete a process are visible at the time they are needed without requiring pointer hover or keyboard focus, or a mechanism is available to make them persistently visible.
- Most common locations for this to show up?
  - Swipe left to delete in a native app
  - Advancing controls for a manual slide carousel

## 2.5.8 Pointer Target Spacing (AA)

- W3C started to address “inadvertent activation” issues in WCAG 2.1 with minimum touch target sizing
  - However, it was an AAA requirement which means that most people don’t follow it
- This new WCAG 2.2 proposed requirement expands on this requirement while making it AA.

# New COGA guidelines

[3.2.6 Findable Help \(A\)](#)

[3.3.7 Accessible Authentication \(A\)](#)

[3.3.8 Redundant Entry \(A\)](#)

## 3.2.6 Findable Help (A)

- One or more of the following (in the same order every time when more than one is used) has to be available on every page
  - Human contact details;
  - Human contact mechanism;
  - Self-help option;
  - A fully automated contact mechanism.

## 3.3.7 Accessible Authentication (A)

- If an authentication process relies on a [cognitive function test](#), at least one other method must also be available that does not rely on a cognitive function test.
- Most memory (i.e. remembering a password) is considered a cognitive function test
- Known device or biometrics would have to be available in addition to password.

## 3.3.8 Redundant Entry (A)

How many times has this happened to you?

- You try to login
- The login fails
- You press “forgot password”
- You are forced to type your login in again, even though they had it from when you tried to login
- The new “redundant entry” guideline is intended to reduce the amount of typing required by a user
- Using auto-population where available is also part of this guideline

# When is WCAG 2.2 coming

- SPWD is out
- Anticipated to be final next summer

# Silver



# What is Silver?

- The next evolution in W3C / WCAG Guidelines
- Originally the plan was to drop the “WC” and just call the next major version Accessibility Guidelines
  - AG is the periodic table symbol for Silver
  - Hence, Project Silver
- Since then, a vote was taken and the decision was to leave in the WC, so Silver is WCAG 3.0

# What will Silver have in it?

- More of a focus on functional need, less of a focus on “guidelines”
  - For example, 3 different heading guidelines are grouped into “Content Structure”
- Scoring
  - Less focus on absolutes, more focus on substantively conformant
- New areas of coverage
  - VR/XR
  - Maturity Modeling

# Resource Summary

[2.4.11 Focus Appearance \(Minimum\) \(AA\)](#)

[2.4.12 Focus Appearance \(Enhanced\) \(AAA\)](#)

[2.4.13 Fixed Reference Points \(A\)](#)

[2.5.7 Dragging \(AA\)](#)

[2.5.8 Pointer Target Spacing \(AA\)](#)

[3.2.6 Findable Help \(A\)](#)

[3.2.7 Hidden Controls \(AA\)](#)

[3.3.7 Accessible Authentication \(A\)](#)

[3.3.8 Redundant Entry \(A\)](#)

Existing guideline [2.4.7 Focus Visible moved from AA to A](#)

Questions?

Thank You

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