# Appendix B: Full, Itemized List of Evidence

### Table of Contents

allyable	3
Evidence from Website	3
Evidence from Twitter	4
accessiBe	9
Evidence from Website	9
Evidence from E-mail	11
Evidence from Twitter	12
Evidence from Facebook	13
Evidence from LinkedIn	18
Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com)	19
Evidence of other anti-competitive behavior	20
Evidence that accessiBe's solution does not live up to its promises	21
Accessus.ai	22
Evidence from Website	22
ActiveIntent	28
Evidence from Website	28
AudioEye	29
Evidence from Website	29
Evidence from Twitter	29
Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com)	30
EqualWeb	33
Evidence from Website	33
Evidence from Twitter	35
Evidence from Facebook	41
Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com)	42
Max Access (by Online ADA)	44

Evidence from Website	44
Evidence from Facebook	46
Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com)	47
Purple Lens	49
Evidence from Website	50
UserWay	51
Evidence from Website	51
Evidence from Email	55
Evidence from Twitter	56
Evidence from Facebook	57
Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com)	62
Evidence of other anti-competitive behavior	65

### allyable

"Allyable creates software to make digital accessibility easier and faster for site owners. Our award-winning technology reduces the cost and complexity typically associated with making websites compliant with accessibility laws and guidelines." (<u>https://www.facebook.com/allyablesoftware/</u>)

Address: 1410 N 31st St, Philadelphia, PA 19147 Website: <u>https://allyable.com</u>

### Evidence from Website

The company claims to "fix" accessibility violations in real time:

# A 360° DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY SOLUTION

## ALLYABLE OFFERS A FAST, EASY, AFFORDABLE APPROACH TO GLOBAL COMPLIANCE

- Automated, easy to install and low-code!
- Integrates seamlessly into your existing Agile workflow
- Monitors and fixes common ADA and WCAG 2.1+ violations in real time
- Innovative hybrid tool fills the gaps of accessibility development
- Complies with ISO 27001 and GDPR/CCPA



Figure 1: 360° Digital Accessibility Solution (Captured on October 21, 2021)

The company's FAQ claims that their product offers, "immediate remediation, continuous compliance, and built-in accessibility for existing digital content and assets in development,":

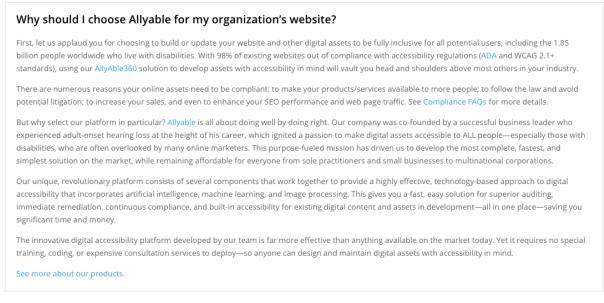


Figure 2:Why should I choose Allyable? (Captured on October 21, 2021)

Allyable claims to be trusted by some big-name clients such as KPMG and Microsoft, but no evidence of this partnership appears to exist on the alleged clients' web presence, or the company uses another widget (i.e., Olo).

← → C @ allyable.com ★ Bookmarks ♥ JIRA ₽ Tenon.lo ♥		Q 👫 💹 利 ຝ 🖈 ଲି 🥳 🗄
	DVERSEADILITY       MyHeritage       Contractions       Ceva         bank hapoalini       Ceva       ALDO       DEIN         accessably       Aglittech       Agent Image       Ceracions         Microsoft       Microsoft       O O OUALITEST	FREE SITE CHECKER

Figure 3: Trusted By (Captured on October 21, 2021)

Evidence from Twitter https://twitter.com/allyable On their Twitter profile, allyable claims it is, "[t]he fastest way to reach your digital accessibility goals." (<u>https://twitter.com/allyable</u>), which is an easy boast when you also claim that you are the "only digital accessibility provider that gives an end-to-end solution":

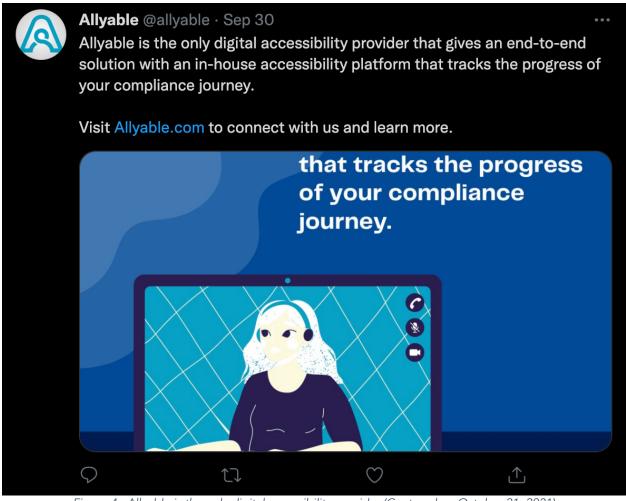


Figure 4 : Allyable is the only digital accessibility provider (Captured on October 21, 2021) <u>https://twitter.com/allyable/status/1443592062528413704</u>

The company promises the "easiest and fastest solution to make your digital assets ADA compliant":

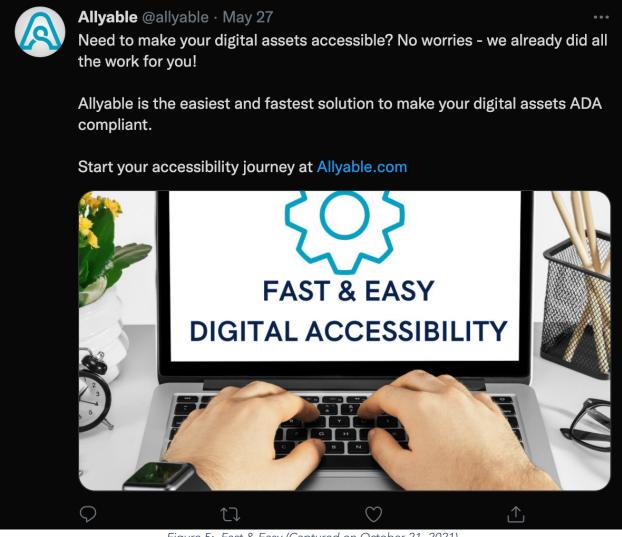


Figure 5: Fast & Easy (Captured on October 21, 2021) https://twitter.com/allyable/status/1397916050075701250?s=20 In this tweet, Allyable touts that its solution is "truly accessible" and "beyond just a toolbar":

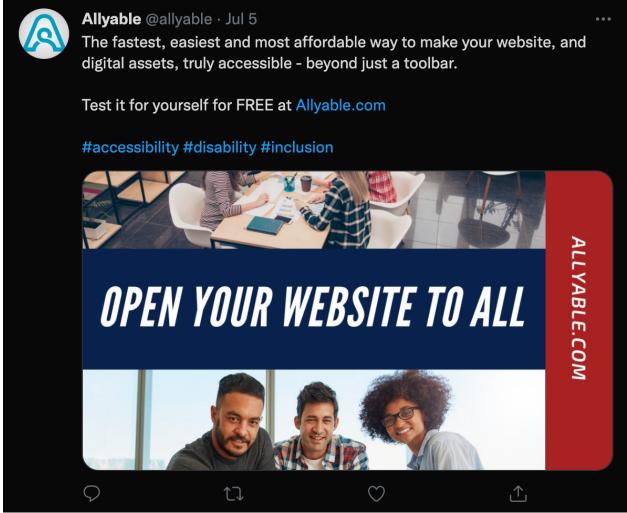


Figure 6: Open Your Website to All (Captured October 21, 2021) <u>https://twitter.com/allyable/status/1412090355277877259?s=20</u> Finally, the company promises that its AllyFix<sup>™</sup> product uses "advanced Al…to consistently correct most identified eros [sic] automatically":

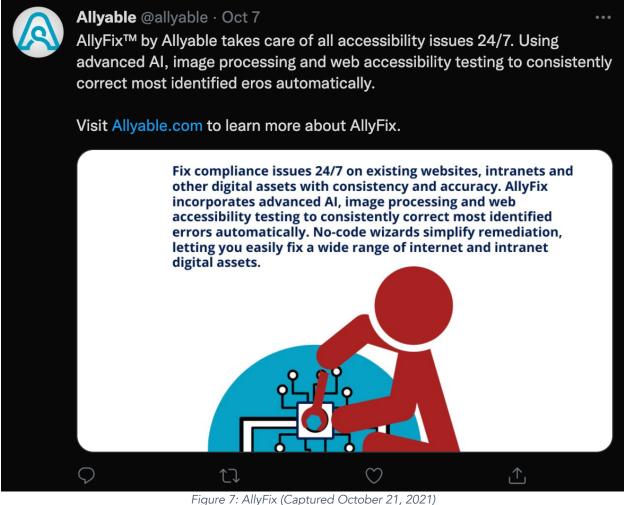


Figure /: AllyFix (Captured October 21, 2021) https://twitter.com/allyable/status/1446129081863471104?s=20

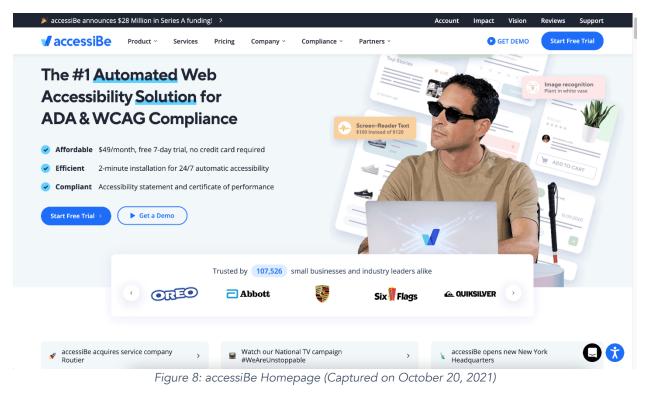
### accessiBe

Address: 6 Hachilazon, RAMAT GAN, 5252270 Israel Website: <u>http://accessibe.com</u>

> "By using AI and automation, we can make thousands of websites accessible in the amount of time it used to make just one - and at a fraction of the cost. Our AI is taught to go beyond basic requirements and create an exceptional digital experience for people with disabilities." (<u>https://accessibe.com/company</u>)

### Evidence from Website

The claims begin before the fold, so to speak, as one visits the accessiBe homepage, with claims of a "2-minute installation for 24/7 automatic accessibility":



The company's website makes strong claims that their product will almost magically make any website accessible with only "a single line of JavaScript code":



Figure 9: The effortless process (captured October 16, 2022)

### A NEW ACCESSIBLE REALITY

# Thanks to AI, the dream of an accessible web is finally attainable!

By levering machine-learning, we are revolutionizing the way websites are made accessible and have set out to make the entire Internet accessible by 2025.

accessiBe makes thousands of websites accessible in the time it used to take to make just one. The possibility of an accessible Internet is finally a practical reality.

More on Our Vision >

Figure 10: A New Accessible Reality (captured on October 16, 2021)

And (in our opinion), the most egregious claim is about using accessiBe can "stop any lawsuit in its tracks." :

 Accessibe
 Product ~
 Services
 Pricing
 Company ~
 Compliance ~
 Partners ~

 Home / Support / Legal & privacy /
 Does accessibe prevent lawsuits?
 Compliance ~
 Partners ~

### Does accessiBe prevent lawsuits?

Let's start with the fact that anyone can make a claim against anyone at any time for any reason. Of course, the fact that someone claimed something doesn't make them right. With accessiBe, your website is indeed accessible and compliant and in the rare case of such a claim, we will provide you with everything you need to prove compliance. **Here's how:** 

Once you have accessiBe installed, you will receive an accessibility statement. This statement outlines the adjustments accessiBe has made to your website, in terms of browser and assistive technology compatibility. It certifies that your website is compliant with the WCAG 2.1 AA guidelines which makes you compliant with all international accessibility standards!

In addition, accessiBe sends monthly compliance audit reports for each domain, which is another great asset to have to further prove that your website is fully accessible and compliant. We recommend downloading these monthly reports for proof of ongoing efforts to maintain compliance standards.

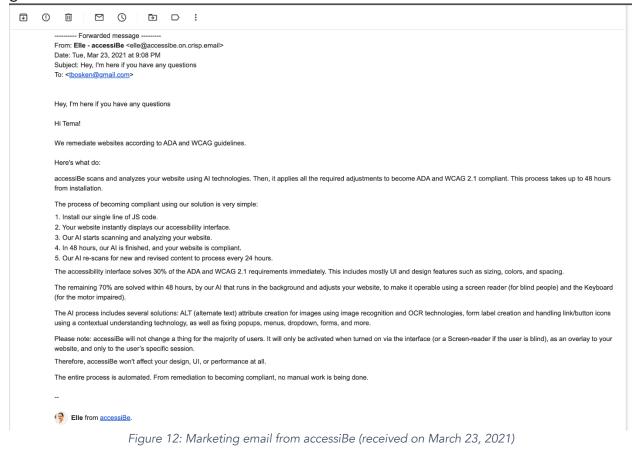
At this point, you should have enough to stop any lawsuit in its tracks. However, if the case still hasn't been dropped then accessiBe offers a Litigation Support Package which includes documentation and testing from our R&D team, suggested responses, and our ongoing support.

Figure 11: Does accessiBe prevent lawsuits? (Captured on October 18, 2021)

#### Evidence from E-mail

The following is a marketing email from accessiBe received on March 23, 2021, wherein they claim to "remediate websites according to ADA and WCAG

### guidelines...within 48 hours."



Evidence from Twitter https://twitter.com/accessibe The company's tweets often boast about how they can "make websites #ADA compliant":



https://twitter.com/AccessiBe/status/1309123843995377673

### Evidence from Facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/accessibe</u>

The company also actively uses Facebook as a marketing tool, often touting its ability to allow websites to "meet ADA compliance without spending an arm and a leg":



accessiBe Based in Israel · March 4, 2019 · 🕄

In the past, it used to cost thousands of dollars for web developers to put together accessible websites that met international regulations – but no more. With AccessiBe's AI, you'll be able to meet ADA compliance without spending an arm and a leg to get there.

Want to learn more about how it works? Head to our website today!



Figure 14: In the past... (https://www.facebook.com/accessibe/posts/1156399274547046)

The company also likes to publicize its how AI is "a better way" than manually fixing errors:

accessiBe Based in Israel · September 19, 2019 · 🚱

There was a time when manual labor was the only solution to make a website accessible. Developers worked for weeks, sweated a lot, checked every note in hundreds of web-pages, and collapsed on the bed at the end of every day. Today there's a better way – an Al way that can do all the work for you. I'ts relentless, it's accurate and it's affordable. The choice to web accessibility just became super easy.

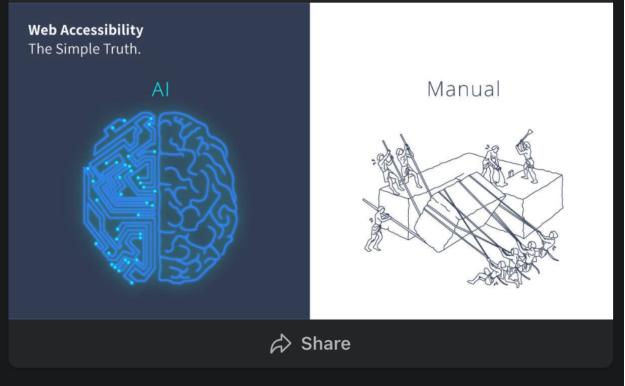


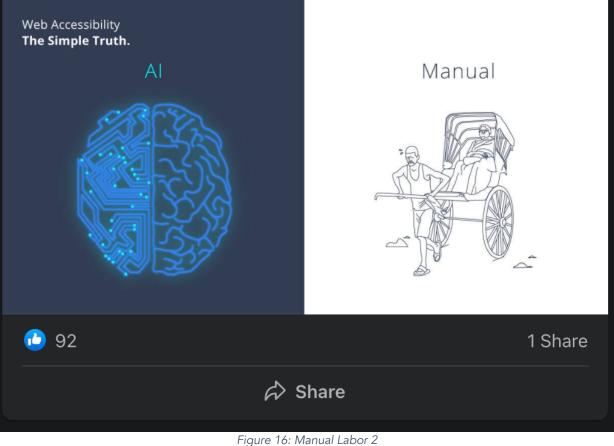
Figure 15: Manual Labor (https://www.facebook.com/accessibe/photos/a.1070584513128523/1314238058763166)



accessiBe Based in Israel · November 5, 2019 · 🚱

There was a time when manual labor was the only solution to make a website accessible. Today, there's a better way - an "AI" way that can do all the work for you. It's fast, it's accurate, and it's affordable. The choice for web accessibility solution just became super easy.

...



(https://www.facebook.com/accessibe/photos/a.1070584513128523/1364497460403892/?type=3)

Facebook is also a place where they post videos declaring how their solution "solves web accessibility issues on every website":

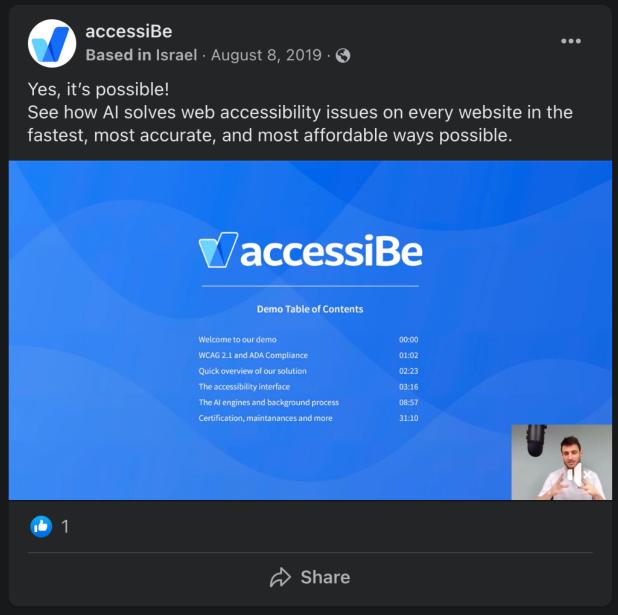


Figure 17: Yes, it's possible! video (<u>https://fb.watch/8U59pVdrlc/</u>)

Finally, we find this example to be the most gauche, as it preys on a fear of people with disabilities:



accessiBe Based in Israel · May 11 · 🚱

Hey business owners, is your website accessible to people with disabilities?

accessiBe is the leading web accessibility solution, using AI and automation to make sure your website is accessible and ADA compliant, from set up and throughout every update you make to it.

Schedule a demo now to learn how your business can be more inclusive with accessiBe > www.accessibe.com

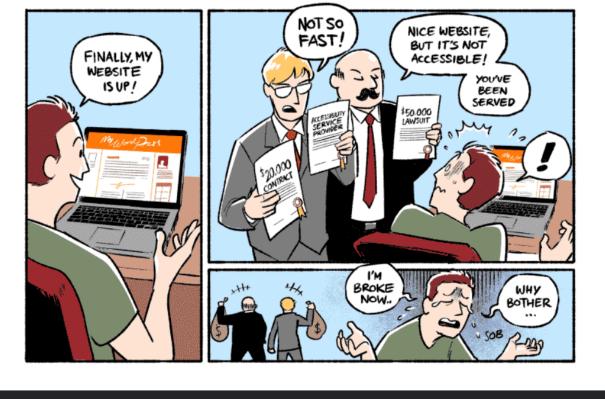


Figure 18: Hey Business Owners (https://www.facebook.com/accessibe/posts/1948500805336885)

### Evidence from LinkedIn

https://www.linkedin.com/company/accessibe/

In a comment on LinkedIn, CEO Shir Ekerling claimed that no company has ever been sued because of accessiBe. That may have been correct at the time of the post, but as we've shown, that's not true anymore:



Shir Ekerling • 2nd 5mo (edited) •••• CEO & Co-Founder at accessiBe | Forbes 30Under30

One note on your comment - You have never, not once, had encountered a company that got sued because of accessiBe. You have only seen companies that have joined accessiBe to be a solution to their already existing legal situation. ....see more

Figure 19: LinkedIn comment from Shir Ekerling

### Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com)

accessiBe spends an estimated \$16,531 on CPC ads per month. 40% of the accessiBe website traffic comes from CPC ads

The company's advertising on Google suggests one can avoid being sued by using their product:

Is Your Website ADA Compliant? | Avoid Lawsuits with accessiBe" Ad www.accessibe.com/

Comply with international legislation & standards: ADA, WCAG 2.1, Section 508 & EN 301549. The only automated web accessibility solution, trusted by industry-leading organizations. Image Recognition. Giant Tech Collaborations.

Pricing? Examples & Demo? Story & Vision? Technology

Figure 20: Is Your Website ADA Compliant Google Ad (captured January 1, 2020)

### Evidence of other anti-competitive behavior

When using an automated accessibility tool such as WAVE, accessiBe's overlay blocks a proper scan of the site:

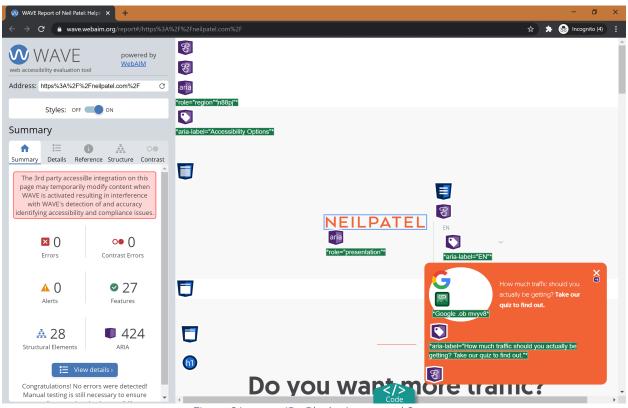
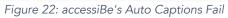


Figure 21: accessiBe Blocks Automated Scans

### Evidence that accessiBe's solution does not live up to its promises

The captions that accessiBe automatically generates are poor even by auto-caption standards. The audio for the below was, "...collaborated with lead developers from the JAWS team...":

Home	Products -	Software -	Services -	Support-	Downloads -	Find A Dealer	Shop Online			
Home » JA	WS®									
	JANES	JAWS			whose vi and Brai Internet, home.	ob Access With Spee sion loss prevents th le output for the mos	m from seeing scree popular computer ap id an email and creat	en content or navigat pplications on your P	ider, developed for computer users ing with a mouse. JAWS provides speech C. You will be able to navigate the n your office, remote desktop, or from	
colla jaws	borat them	ne w	vith hich	little is t	e upj :he w	oer fr vorld	om t wm speech, is the v S	world's most WS provides	SMA and Upgrade Pricing What's New in JAWS JAWS Headquarters	
#accessiBe #adacompliance accessiBe   30-min			emo							



### Accessus.ai

Address: 102 West Pennsylvania Avenue Suite 401, Towson, MD 21204, United States Website: https://accessus.ai/

"The Accessus.ai mission is to contribute towards making the entire internet completely accessible so that everyone, with or without disabilities, can enjoy the universe of content it has to offer.

In today's legal environment, ALL businesses are now challenged with meeting the current technical and compliance standards in addition to the potential threat of expensive litigation defense and settlement costs.

The Accessus.ai solution is designed with your complete technical and legal situation taken into consideration on a long-term basis." (https://accessus.ai/about)

### Evidence from Website

The company promises "Fully Automated WCAG 2.1 AA Compliance" in "less than 48 hours":

#### Accessus.ai Is Web Access Automated

### SaaS ~ Enterprise Level Web Accessibility And Fully Automated WCAG 2.1 AA Compliance

**No Risk:** Complimentary 7 Day Trial

- Easy Installation: Add a single line of code to your website for 24 /7 Automated Compliance
- Rapid Compliance: Receive your Accessibility Statement and Certificate of Performance in less than 48 hours.



Schedule A Demo

Start Free Trial

Figure 23: Accessus.ai is Web Access Automated (Captured October 27, 2021)

When one schedules a demo, they are told once again that compliance can be achieved in "less than 48 hours" using the company's "Artificial Intelligence":

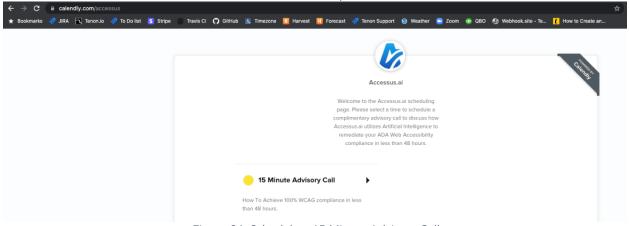
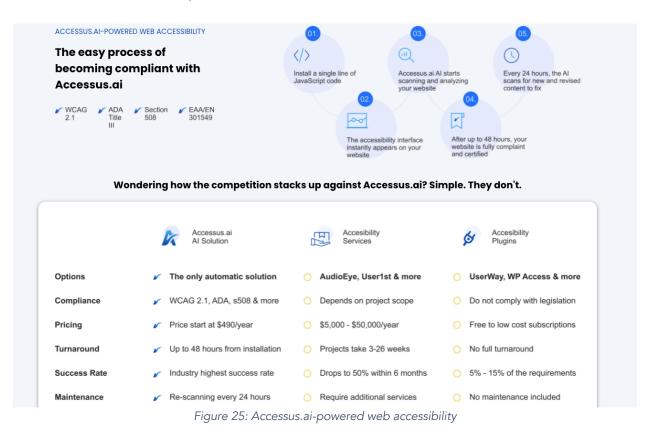


Figure 24: Schedule a 15 Minute Advisory Call

In addition to the familiar claims of "a single line of JavaScript code" to achieve "fully compliant and certified" status, Accessus.ai takes the low road by throwing some of its named clients (e.g., AudioEye, User1st, UserWay, WP Access) under the proverbial bus, claiming they cannot deliver the same scope of compliance (e.g., WCAG 2.1, ADA, s508) in a similar 48-hour time frame. They also claim that their solution has the

"[i]ndustry highest success rate" while others only meet 5% to 50% of the requirements within 6 months without providing a source for this data:



Much like other overlay companies, Accessus claims that its product can "[p]rotect and defend" against "costlylitigation[sic]":

### <u>Protect and defend</u> your business from expensive lawsuits Open your website to invite new visitors

Jo

Protect from costlylitigation Comply with legislation 24/7 Make your website accessible to everyone Attract new potential customers



Improve your brand image and perception Show customers that you care

Figure 26: Protect and Defend

The company's answer to how they provide protection from litigation makes the same bold and spurious claims as many of its competitors, including offering a worthless "Certificate of Performance":



Figure 27: How Accessus provides protection from litigation

The company claims that their solution "provide[s] and maintain[s] 100% WCAG compliance standards."

	ssibility by replacing an expensive, time-consuming d, state-of-the-art AI technology
	Automatic Screen-Reader
Expanded Dropdown	adjustments Powered by Al
Sech Rel Dupped Allow T	Utilizing contextual understanding and image recognition, Accessus.ai scans and analyzes websites to understand and learn what elements and functionality they include, and adjusts them to vision impaired users screen-readers
ars BT	🖌 Alt Tag 🛛 🖌 State Controls 🖌 ARIA Attribut
rot Predshores rot Tor	V Icons & Buttons V Roles & Validations
unist Button	The Accessus.ai solution is designed to provide
	and maintain 100% WCAG compliance
Caroused Sides	standards while widgets and plugin's only provide a limited level of protection against frivolous lawsuits.

Figure 28: How does it work? (Captured October 27, 2021)

Relatively unique among their peers, Accessus.ai also claims that their solution can offer CCPA and GDPR Compliance:



Figure 29: CCPA & GDPR Compliance

The company claims that their product will protect their customers from accessibilityrelated litigation and that the product covers **all** (emphasis mine) WCAG 2.1 AA (and some AAA) guidelines:

# Does Accessus.ai protect my business from lawsuits?

Absolutely! Accessus.ai makes your inaccessible websites compliant with WCAG and ADA in less than 48 hours. In addition, Accessus.ai provides a Litigation Response Package in the event you need to prove your ADA website is compliant and guides you through the response process.

# Does Accessus.ai cover all required accessibility guidelines?

Yes! The Accessus.ai platform covers the WCAG (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) version 2.1 at the AA level and in certain areas level AAA is achieved which is a step beyond current legislation requirements.

Figure 30: Accessus.ai FAQ (Captured October 20, 2021)

### ActiveIntent

Website: https://theactiveintent.com/

Active Intent makes your website voice activated on mobile and desktop. Users can click on the generated microphone icon and start conversationally interacting with your website. (<u>https://theactiveintent.com/</u>)

### Evidence from Website

The company claims that voice activated websites, "ensure American with Disabilities Act compliance."

### Why Voice Activated Websites?

#### Increase conversions by 30%

- For eCommerce companies, integrating voice into the customer journey decreases friction and number of steps to purchase.
- For content companies, readers have access to content on audio straight from your website by clicking a speaker icon.

#### Expand your customer base

- Mobile users prefer using voice to navigate websites. Capture more of them
  to convert on your website instead of sending them to your app.
- 17 million Americans are blind or paralyzed in the USA.

#### American with Disabilities Act Compliance

• Ensure American with Disabilities Act compliance to reduce legal exposure and ensure every type of person can experience your brand.

Figure 31: Why Voice Activated Websites (captured on October 27, 2021)

### AudioEye

Address: 5210 E Williams Circle, Suite 750, Tucson, Arizona 85711, US Website: https://www.audioeye.com/

"AudioEye's industry-defining digital accessibility platform delivers website compliance efficiently and affordably for organizations of all sizes. Our platform leverages a decade of investment in advanced technology supported and informed by our team of dedicated IAAP-certified professionals to help deliver improved access to the web." (https://www.audioeye.com/about-us)

### Evidence from Website

AudioEye claims several high- profile customers, at least one of whom, WebMD does not reciprocate the claim on their respective websites:

🚺 audioeye 🛛 How It Wo	ks Pricing Compli	ance∽ Integrations∽	Partnerships ~	Company∽			Login	Start Free Trial
	NP digital	WebMD	FC		Center	UNI QLO		

Figure 32: Trusted by over 75k leading brands

Evidence from Twitter <u>https://twitter.com/audioeyeinc</u>

The company claims its product will, "get you compliant on day one."

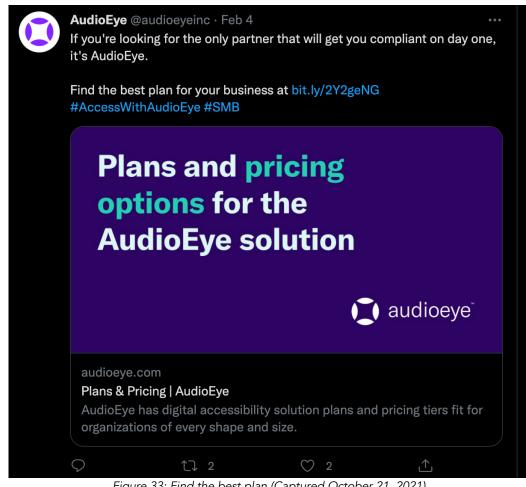


Figure 33: Find the best plan (Captured October 21, 2021) https://twitter.com/audioeyeinc/status/1357340661041623044?s=20



Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com) AudioEye spends an estimated \$24,786 on CPC ads per month. 62% of the AudioEye website traffic comes from CPC ads. The company Google Ads make promises of compliance with accessibility laws and standards "on Day 1."

### ADA Site Regulation Compliance | Is Your Website ADA Compliant?

Quick, Cost-Effective Solutions Compliant with ADA & WCAG Laws on Day 1 of Implementation. Make Your Website Accessible Fast - Get Started Now with a Free Accessibility Analysis. Avoid Legal Action. F

Ad Position: 2 Date: December 2019

Figure 35: ADA Site Regulation Compliance (Captured by Spyfu in December 2019)

### ADA & WCAG Digital Compliance | WCAG 2.1 Compliance Solutions

Make Your Website Accessible Fast. Get Started Now with a Free Analysis from an Expert. Quick, Cost-Effective Solutions Compliant with ADA & WCAG Laws on Day 1 of Implementation. Free Accessibility Au

Ad Position: 2 Date: May 2020 Figure 36: ADA & WCAG Digital Compliance

### #1 Accessibility Solution - ADA & WCAG Compliance

Remove accessibility barriers for more than 60 million US adults living with a disability. No need to redesign your website or change your source code. Get started in 2 minutes. Day 1 Protection. Cont

Ad Position: 1 Date: November 2020

Figure 37: ADA & WCAG Compliance

Some of the company's ads use the scare tactic of an impending lawsuit and suggest one not "wait to be served":

### Become Compliant With WCAG - Is Your Website ADA Compliant?

Quick, Cost-Effective Solutions Compliant with ADA & WCAG Laws on Day 1 of Implementation. Don't Wait to be Served - Make Your Website Accessible Today. Contact an Expert Now. Manual & Automatic Fixes

Ad Position: 6 Date: July 2020

Figure 38: Become Compliant with WCAG

AudioEye also offers "Certified ADA Compliance" even though such a certification does not exist:

WCAG Website Compliance - Website Accessibility Solved

Are You at Risk of a Lawsuit? Understand What ADA & WCAG Laws Mean For Your Business. Contact an Accessibility Expert for a Free Analysis & Get Certified ADA Compliance. Types: Accessibility Testing,

Ad Position: 1 Date: July 2021

Figure 39: Website Accessibility Solved

Finally, like many of its competitors, the company claims to be the only solution out there:

https://www.audioeye.com

AudioEye: Web Accessibility - ADA - WCAG 2.1 - Section 508

**AudioEye** is the only solution that meets ADA and WCAG 2.1 compliance guidelines through a combination of advanced automation technology and human touch, ...

Figure 40: AudioEye is the only solution

### EqualWeb

Address: 447 Broadway, 2nd FL #239 New York, NY 10013 Website: <u>https://www.equalweb.com/</u>

> "EqualWeb is a development company that specializes in accessibility and advanced internet applications.

With more than two decades of experience, working closely with the blind and disabled, we have gained the confidence and support of many global customers. Our inspired and highly-experienced team of IT, accessibility experts, designers, programmers, and marketing experts are committed to one common goal - effectively offering an accessibility solution for your websites via an extremely simple and cost-effective process." (<u>http://www.equalweb.com</u>)

(-)

### Evidence from Website

The company claims its widget "provides full ADA and WCAG 2.1 compliance" with, "no code changes required."

### To what extent does EqualWeb comply with the ADA?

EqualWeb's Accessibility Widget provides full ADA and WCAG 2.1 compliance, powered by AI, and costs only \$39/month. Our AI-powered web accessibility widget dramatically reduces the cost of complying with ADA and WCAG regulations by integrating into your existing site architecture, meaning no code changes are required.

Figure 41: To what extent does EqualWeb comply with the ADA? (Captured October 24, 2021)

EqualWeb claims its solution is "over 100 million web pages" and that they provide their clients with "1,00,000\$ [sic] in digital accessibility warranty":

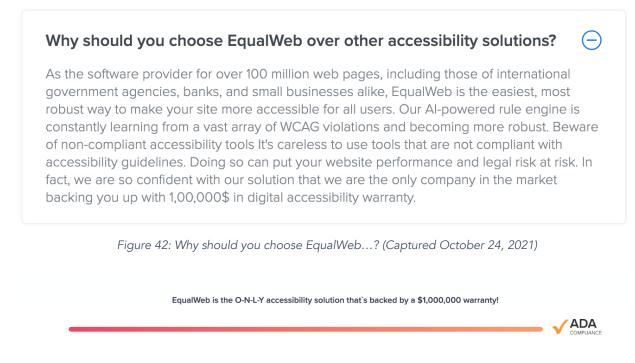


Figure 43: \$1,000,000 warranty (Captured October 24, 2021)

Instead of providing names of its marquee clients, the company claims that their solution is installed on over 100 million web pages in a bogus attempt to conflate pages with clients and confuse prospective customers about its market penetration:



Figure 44: Currently installed on 100,543,679 web pages (Captured on October 24, 2021)

EqualWeb maintains that, aside from it's supposed unique \$1,000,000 warranty, it also uniquely provides compliance with accessibility standards while "all others" only promise a portion of that compliance goal and that "all others" do not offer on-going maintenance:

### What Makes us Different from Others?

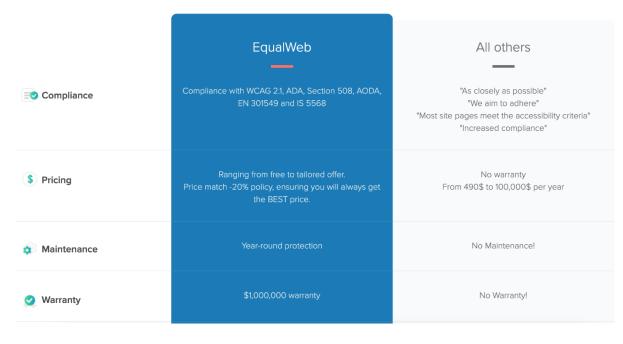


Figure 45: What Makes EqualWeb Different (Captured on October 24, 2021)

### Evidence from Twitter

Out of the proverbial gate, EqualWeb touts its solution as "instantly applicable" that meets "International Accessibility Standards":



### EqualWeb @EqualWebDotCom · Nov 19, 2019

At EqualWeb we have developed cutting edge technology that offers an instantly applicable, easy-to-use accessibility solution that meets the International Accessibility Standards 4.

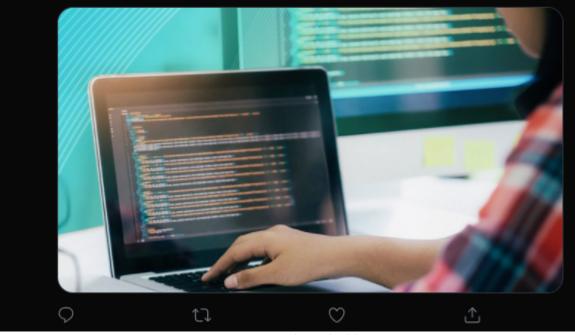


Figure 46: Instantly Applicable <u>https://twitter.com/EqualWebDotCom/status/1196812164964724737</u>

EqualWeb claims that its widget will "automatically adjust" a website to fix keyboard navigation issues:



## EqualWeb @EqualWebDotCom · Jul 15

Our AI-powered widget automatically adjusts your website providing the elderly or people with motor impairments to do anything using only their keys to #navigate. Get your #digital #accessibility today, it's FREE! hubs.ly/HOSmGlb0

...

#accessibilityforall #disabilityawareness 🇞

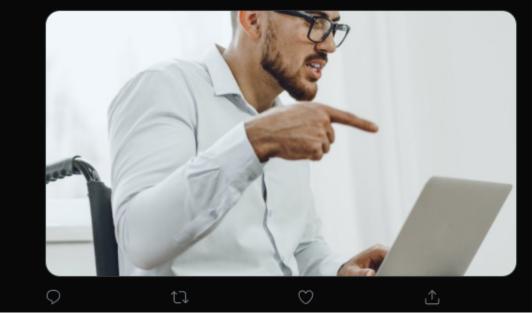


Figure 47: Only Their Keys to #navigate

In this tweet, the company makes the claim that 20 years of experience specializing in web accessibility has allowed them to offer a "simple and cost-effective solution," suggesting that they've been offering an overlay widget for that length of time:



Figure 48: Two Decades of Experience <u>https://twitter.com/EqualWebDotCom/status/1189888468534616064</u>

By way of promising increased traffic to one's website, EqualWeb claims to offer "100% ADA WCAG 2.1 AA" compliance. Curiously, they do not give a link in this tweet but instruct the user to go all the way back to the bio on their Twitter account to access a link:



#### EqualWeb @EqualWebDotCom · Oct 16, 2019

By making your website more accessible, you will be increasing revenue and exposure.

EqualWeb offers a 100% ADA WCAG 2.1 AA compliant solution that will make your website accessible by all.

Click the link in bio and start today.

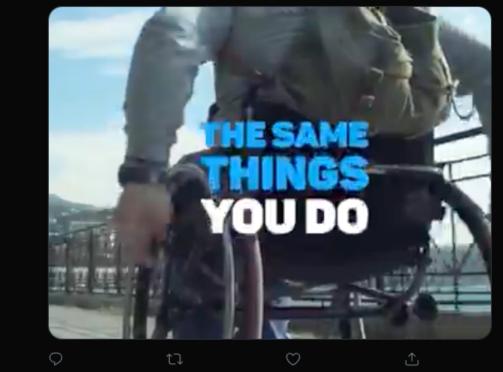


Figure 49: Increase Revenue and Exposure <u>https://twitter.com/EqualWebDotCom/status/1184555355885522951</u>

The company claims that its "Al-powered accessibility solution" will assist in gaining brand recognition:

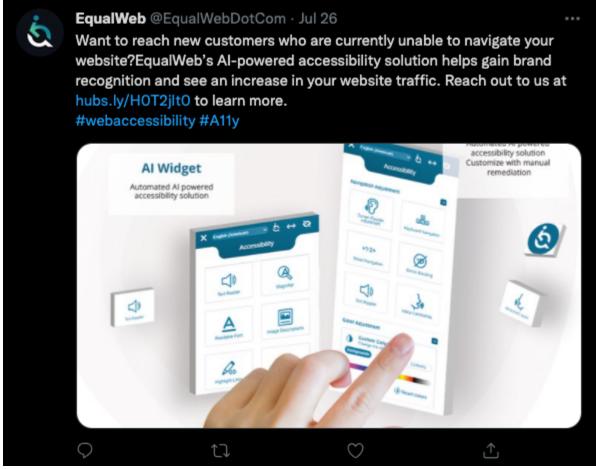


Figure 50: Brand Recognition <u>https://twitter.com/EqualWebDotCom/status/1419618973860171781</u>

In this tweet, the company talks up its "premium #accessibility solution" that offers a "fully compliant" website as way to bring up its alleged \$1 million warranty:



Figure 51: Hybrid Approach <u>https://twitter.com/EqualWebDotCom/status/1431943453169045504</u>

Evidence from Facebook https://www.facebook.com/EqualWebDotCom

In the About section of their Facebook page, EqualWeb claims it provides "digital accessibility solutions making websites 100% compliant":



EqualWeb Place · Software Company

EqualWeb is a world leader and pioneer in web accessibility, we provide businesses digital accessibility solutions making websites 100% complaint.

Figure 52: EqualWeb Facebook (Captured on October 27, 2021)

#### Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com)

EqualWeb spends an estimated \$4239 on CPC ads per month. 22% of the EqualWeb website traffic comes from CPC ads

As with many of their peers, EqualWeb uses scare tactics in their marketing by saying that their solution will help their customers "avoid lawsuits":

### 

The Only 100% Web Accessibility Solution Comply with International Legislation! No. 1 accessibility solution in the world with more than 10,000 Installations. insert one-line-of-code. and we will do t

Ad Position: 4 Date: June 2021

Figure 53: Avoid Lawsuits with EqualWeb™

# Is Your Website ADA Compliant?

Ittp://equalweb.com/

The Only 100% Web Accessibility Solution Comply with International Legislation! No. 1 accessibility solution in the...

Ad Position: 4 Date: August 2021

Figure 53: Is Your Website ADA Compliant?

## Avoid Lawsuits With Equalweb<sup>™</sup> - ADA Compliance With Warranty <sup>™</sup> http://equalweb.com/

The Only 100% Web Accessibility Solution Comply with International Legislation! WCAG 2.1, ADA title 3, Section 508 and EN 301549 compliance with warranty, Equalweb<sup>™</sup>. and we will do the rest! insert on

Ad Position: 3 Date: September 2021

Figure 54: ADA Compliance With Warranty

The company also uses Google Ads to claim it is the "Only 100% Web Accessibility Solution" with "more than 10,000 installations":

# 

The Only 100% Web Accessibility Solution Comply with International Legislation! No. 1 accessibility solution in the world with more than 10,000 Installations. insert one-line-of-code. and we will do t

Ad Position: 3 Date: September 2021

Figure 55: Free ADA Consulting

# 

The Only 100% Web Accessibility Solution Comply with International Legislation! No. 1 accessibility solution in the world with more than 10,000 Installations. insert one-line-of-code. and we will do t

Ad Position: 3 Date: September 2021 Figure 56: Full Compliance With Warranty

# Max Access (by Online ADA)

Address: 207 E 5th Ave. Ste 240, Eugene, OR 97401 Website: <u>https://maxaccess.io/</u>

> "Since 2014 Online ADA has been the leading innovator in digital accessibility, providing the highest quality tools for developers to make the internet accessible to everyone.

After years of constant innovation and development we bring you the most elegant and robust solution for digital accessibility.

– Max Access – "
(https://maxaccess.io/story-vision/)

#### Evidence from Website

On their website, Max Access claims it can get a website "accessible in minutes and...will stay accessible even as you add new content":

Request a Live Demo

# Max Access Scans and Automotically Fixes Your Accessibility Compliance Issues

**Max Access works with any website platform or CMS.** Once you set up Max Access on your website (with just one line of code), it immediately scans your site, analyzes it for compliance issues, and automatically fixes many of the issues it finds. Max Access will scan and remediate new content on your site every 24 hours.

This means you can get your website accessible in minutes and it will stay accessible even as you add new content.

**Max Access features 3 core components.** The AI, the Toolbar, and the Dashboard & Reports. These 3 core components work together to provide the most complete AI-driven accessibility solution available.

Figure 57: Max Access Scans and Automatically Fixes Your Accessibility Compliance Issues (Captured October 25, 2021)

The company's website offers "automatic code fixes" and a "WCAG/AODA/ADA/Section 508 Compliant" solution:

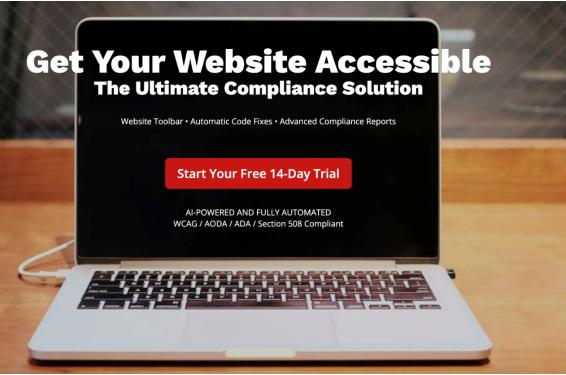


Figure 58: Get Your Website Accessible (Captured October 21, 2021)

The company's website also engages in some scare tactics claiming that their product can help a client avoid lawsuits and "Maintain the Highest Level of Compliance 24/7":



Figure 59: Be Compliant & Avoid Lawsuits (Captured on October 25, 2021)

Like most of their peers, MaxAccess promises that by installing "just 1 single line of code" your website can be made compliant and stay compliant due to the product re-

scanning for new content every 24 hours:



Evidence from Facebook https://www.facebook.com/digitalaccessibilityonline/ The company claims that "Certification is the Only Accessibility Solution You'll Ever Need," although there is no recognized certification standard:

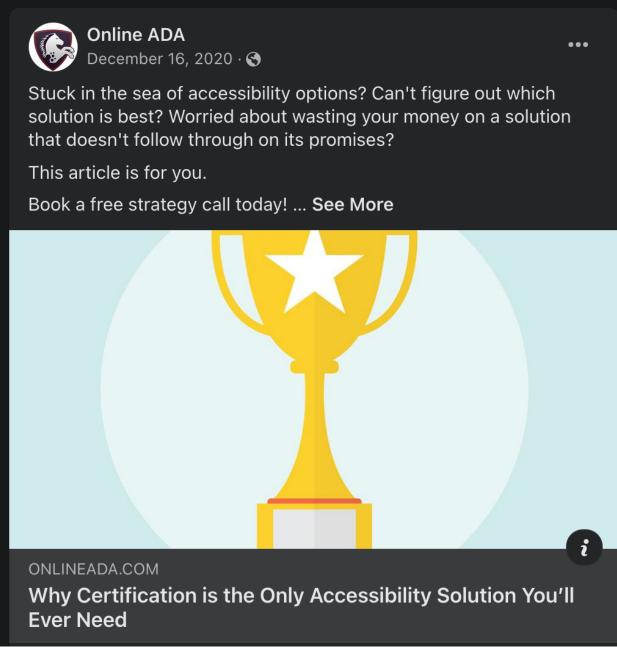


Figure 61: Why Certification is the Only Accessibility Solution You'll Ever Need (Captured October 25, 2021) https://www.facebook.com/digitalaccessibilityonline/posts/1974843319324858

Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com)

OnlineADA/ MaxAccess spends an estimated \$2736 on CPC ads per month. 86% of the MaxAccess.io website traffic comes from CPC ads The company's Google ads claim that their product offers, "Accessibility in 1 Click," and can get your website, "Accessible in Minutes":

Be Compliant & Avoid Lawsuits . World Leading Al-Powered Web Accessibility Solution. Accessibility in 1 Click. Detailed Reporting. Ongoing Compliance Mgmt. Get Accessible in Minutes.

Ad Position: 3 Date: October 2020 Figure 62: Get Your Website Accessible (Captured October 24, 2021)

MaxAccess uses the familiar lawsuit scare tactics in its ads:

Get Your Website Accessible - Fully Automated Solution

Be Compliant & Avoid Lawsuits . World Leading AI-Powered Web Accessibility...

Ad Position: 3 Date: July 2020

Figure 63: Fully Automated Solution

# 

World Leading Al-Powered Web Accessibility Solution. Accessibility in 1 Click. 14-Day Free Trial. Ongoing Compliance Mgmt. Detailed Reporting. Expert Team.

Ad Position: 4 Date: May 2020

Figure 64: Be Compliant & Avoid Lawsuits

In addition to using the now all-too-familiar tactic of "protect[ing] your business from lawsuits," this particular ad demonstrates the company's unfamiliarity with actual accessibility by using the incorrect term "Alt-Tag":

Ad · https://www.maxaccess.io/

# The #1 Fully Automated - maxaccess.io

Web Accessibility Solution. Protect your business from lawsuits. Open your website to the world! 14-Day Free Trial. Detailed Reporting. Get Accessible in Minutes. Avoid Litigation. Alt-Tag Manager. Al-Powered. Get Accessible. AODA / ACA. Ongoing Compliance Mgmt.

Figure 63: The #1 Fully Automated

# Purple Lens

Address: Tel Aviv, Israel Website: <u>https://purple-lens.com</u>

> "We are a team of entrepreneurs, web-developers, UX/UI designers and physicians based in Israel. We are dedicated to finding a solution that makes websites more usable for 20% of online users in order to create equal opportunities.

For years, web accessibility has been an issue for almost any type of online business that struggled to gain new visitors and customers. A majority of sites work on WordPress and since the Israeli legal requirements for website inclusivity are particularly strict, we set a goal to make all WordPress sites accessible, whatever it takes.

We invested a huge amount of time and energy, eventually creating today's most advanced solution. Our assistive technology has been implemented in numerous projects for the Israeli Government and multiple local businesses. Today, thousands of Israeli websites use our assistive technology and now we are ready to go global."

(https://purple-lens.com)

### Evidence from Website

The company claims that its product will allow a personalized UX for "EVERY user" (emphasis theirs) and promises "AA accessibility compliance":

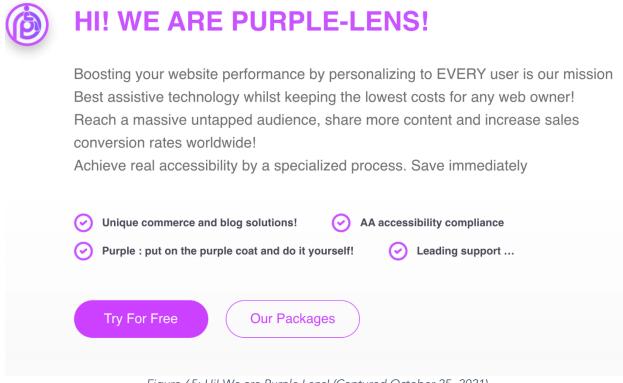


Figure 65: Hi! We are Purple Lens! (Captured October 25, 2021)

For less than \$16 per month, Purple-Lens claims that their product can "Achieve 100% AA Compliance":



Figure 66: Follow Our Roadmap (Captured October 25, 2021)

# **UserWay**

Address: 1007 North Orange St. 10th Floor Wilmington, DE, 1980, USA Website: <u>https://userway.org/</u>

"UserWay creates advanced website accessibility solutions that help ensure ADA compliance without refactoring your website's existing code.

With UserWay's RaaS<sup>™</sup> (Remediation as a Service<sup>™</sup>) technology you can effortlessly increase compliance with WCAG 2.1, ADA, ATAG 2.0, EN 301-549, and Section 508 regulations as required by US & international governmental & regulatory bodies."

(https://userway.org/about/)

#### Evidence from Website

On its website, UserWay claims its solutions "provide full WCAG & ADA compliance from day one" and protects its clients from "accessibility-related lawsuits":

#### WCAG & ADA Compliance

UserWay's solutions provide full WCAG & ADA compliance from day one, and every single day thereafter.

#### Mitigate Legal Risk

Protect your website from accessibility-related lawsuits with the world's strongest automated solution for accessibility.

#### Enhanced Usability & UI/UX

Accessibility sets your website apart and showcases your commitment to inclusion - all while boosting SEO, search rankings, conversions and your bottom line.

# UserWay Makes Accessibility Easy

Watch our demo to learn how.



Start Free Trial

Figure 67: UserWay Makes Accessibility Easy (Captured October 24, 2021)

# WCAG & ADA Compliance

UserWay's solutions provide full WCAG & ADA compliance from day one, and every single day thereafter.

# **Mitigate Legal Risk**

Protect your website from accessibility-related lawsuits with the world's strongest automated solution for accessibility.

# Enhanced Usability & UI/UX

Accessibility sets your website apart and showcases your commitment to inclusion - all while boosting SEO, search rankings, conversions and your bottom line.

Figure 68: WCAG & ADA Compliance (Captured October 24, 2021)

The company claims its customers can "avoid lawsuits with only a single line of code" and that their solution is "[t]rusted by more than 1,421,130 websites" and is backed by a \$1 million guarantee:

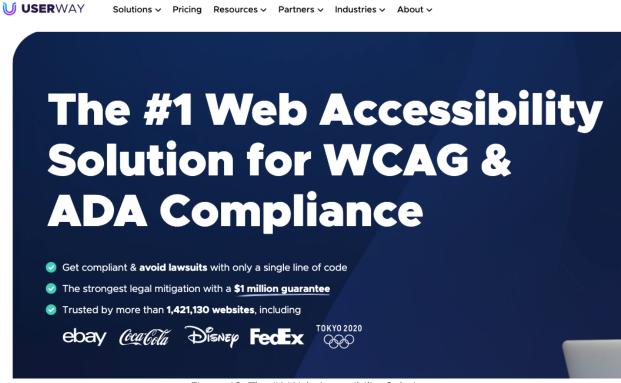


Figure 69: The #1 Web Accessibility Solution

UserWay's website also uses the familiar legal scare tactics:

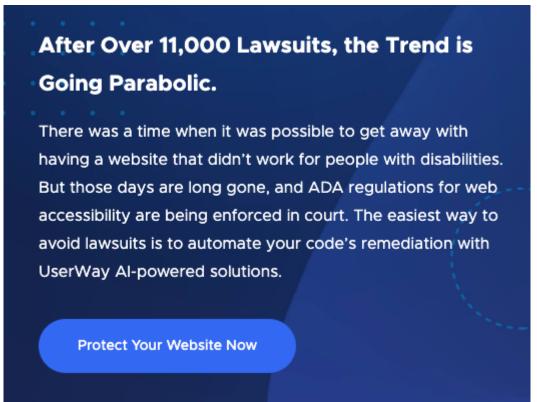


Figure 70: The Trend is Going Parabolic

The FAQ section of the website also claims the product "provides full ADA and WCAG 2.1 compliance":

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

Get your FAQs answered below or contact us for a deep dive today

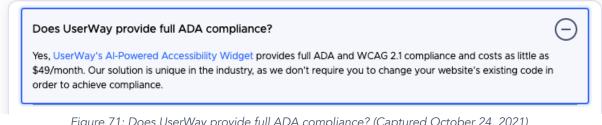


Figure 71: Does UserWay provide full ADA compliance? (Captured October 24, 2021)

The FAQ also claims that using UserWay's widget, a client will "luckily" not need their assistance with demand letters or lawsuits (which itself seems to undermine its claims to protect against them), but in the case a client does receive such a legal challenge, UserWay will provide what we consider a legally useless "Statement of Compliance" as proof of a site's accessibility:

Does UserWay provide assistance with demand letters or lawsuits?

Yes. Luckily, you won't need it when running UserWay's Al-Powered Accessibility Widget. The process, however, is as follows: after receiving a demand letter, claim or lawsuit, UserWay provides an assessment of the claim's validity, a Statement of Compliance as proof that your site was accessible with UserWay's Al-Powered Accessibility Widget and, if required, an expert opinion as part of your official response to the claimant. In the event that you receive a demand letter or lawsuit, contact us as soon as possible.

Figure 72: Does UserWay provide assistance with demand letters or lawsuits? (Captured October 24, 2021)

### Evidence from Email

In their direct marketing emails, UserWay promises that their widget gives "**full** (emphasis theirs) WCAG coverage" and can make a site "completely ADA-compliant":

# We're counting down the days to Black Friday, one of our favorite times of the year!

# C. L. ,

There's no better time to get your site completely ADAcompliant and way more accessible while saving a nice chunk of change.

Adding UserWay's comprehensive AI-Powered Widget to your website gets you **full** WCAG coverage.

This Black Friday, you're guaranteed to save at least \$147.

ADA compliance is the law. Don't miss out on this deal!

Figure 73: Black Friday Deal (received and captured November 19, 2021)

# Evidence from Twitter

UserWay makes the bold claim that its screen reader is better than "standard screen readers" because it "is engineered specifically for websites":

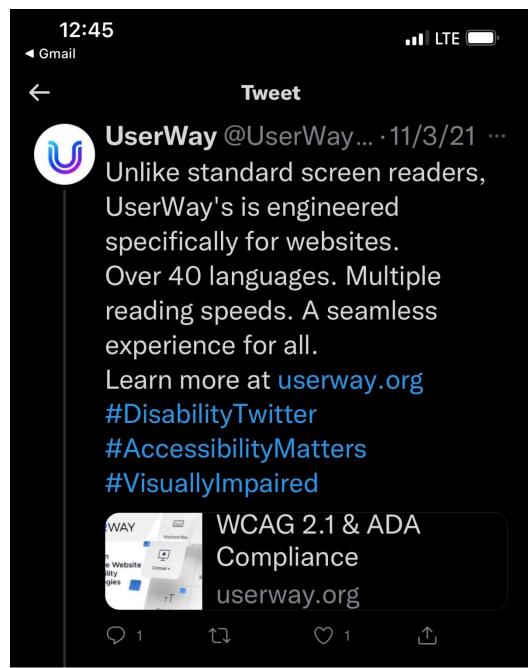
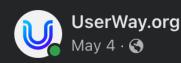


Figure 74: UserWay's Screen Reader (Captured on November 3, 2021)

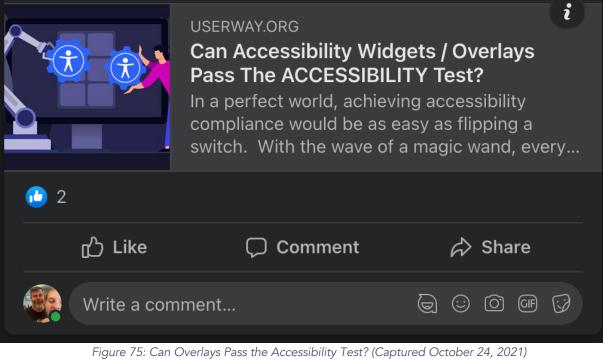
Evidence from Facebook https://www.facebook.com/UserWay

On Facebook, the company claims that it can magically make all sites compliant "in a flash":



What if we told you that we can do magic, and in a flash, all sites would suddenly be compliant? Would you say ney or yey? Read this blog post first, and leave a comment below:

...



https://www.facebook.com/UserWay/posts/2906487569592368

UserWay continues to push the "one line of code" solution as a viable one:



The Accessible Canada Act (ACA) may seem scary for website owners, but the current standards are easy to meet. And once you know where your site excels (or possibly fails) regarding accessibility, making a plan to improve it can be as simple as one line of code.

•••

#ACA #accessibility

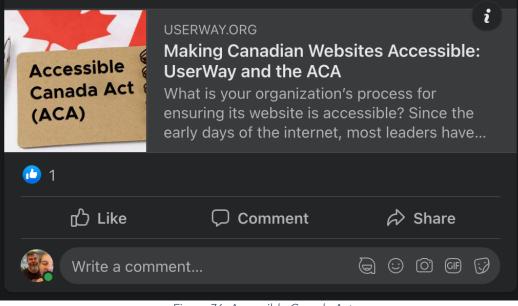


Figure 76: Accessible Canada Act <u>https://www.facebook.com/UserWay/posts/2942545285986596</u>

For e-commerce platforms, the company claims that its product will make their sale prices "automatically...accessible". Ironically, the linked video does not have an audio description so is, itself, inaccessible to screen reader users:

...



UserWay.org October 14 at 11:04 AM · 🚱

When websites post sale prices for their products, screen readers often have problems interpreting them for people who are blind. But with UserWay, your sale prices are automatically made accessible. Make your website accessible today to drive more sales. Link in the first comment.

#UserWay #accessibility #ecommerce

# Without UserWay these prices are INACCESSIBLE to blind people

Figure 77: Sale Prices <u>https://www.facebook.com/UserWay/videos/295124915776001/</u> The company claims its product will make "all the [color contrast] customization options" with one click:



UserWay.org October 21 at 10:05 AM · 🚱

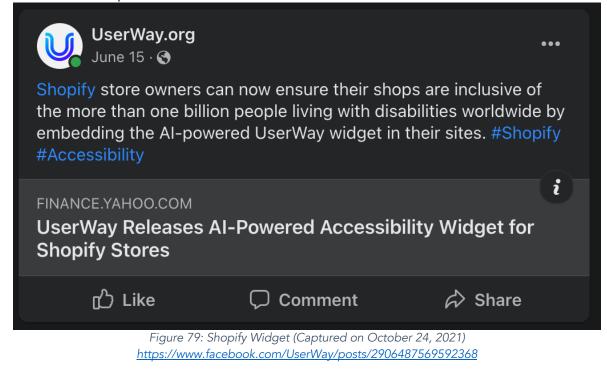
People who are visually-impaired often require color-contrast adjustments on websites to have the best experience. With UserWay, you can give them all the customization options they need with just the press of a button. Learn more at https://userway.org #userway #webaccessibility #web\_design #web\_development

...

# **USERWAY** Accessibility by UserWay.org

Figure 78: Color Contrast Adjustments <u>https://www.facebook.com/UserWay/videos/3034451863468844/</u>

The company also claims its product can be beneficial to Shopify store owners and "ensure their shops are inclusive":



# Evidence from Google Ads (source: SpyFu.com)

UserWay spends an estimated \$6057 on CPC ads per month. 15% of the UserWay website traffic comes from CPC ads

On its Google Ads, UserWay claims that "ADA & WCAG 2.1 Compliance" can be achieved with "No Changes to Your Website's Code."



No Changes to Your Website's Code. Fully-Automated. Protect Your Business From Lawsuits. No Changes to Your Website's Code. Supported by The Top Website Creation Platforms. ADA & WCAG 2.1 Compliance.

Ad Position: 4 Date: September 2021 Figure 80: Google ad (Captured September 2, 2021) These ads continue peddles the lie that "ADA & WCAG compliance" can be achieved with "[n]o changes to your website's code":

# ADA Compliance - Website Accessibility - userway.org

No Changes to Your Website's Code. Automated Solution. Protect Your Business From Lawsuit. The World's Leading Automated Website Accessibility Solution for ADA & WCAG Compliance. View Pricing. Request

Ad Position: 1 Date: March 2021 Figure 81: ADA Compliance - Website Accessibility (Captured September 2, 2021)

# ADA & WCAG Compliance - Make Your Website Accessible

The World's Leading Automated Website Accessibility Solution for ADA & WCAG Compliance. No Changes to Your Website's Code. Supported by The Top Website Creation Platforms. Trusted by Over 60M Users. I

Ad Position: 1 Date: August 2021 Figure 82: ADA & WCAG Compliance (Captured September 2, 2021)

The company also touts that its "powerful AI" can fix inaccessible sites automatically:

# 

From governments to leading brands, over 740k sites trust UserWay for their accessibility. UserWay's powerful AI identifies and resolves inaccessible content automatically. Request A Demo. View Team.

Ad Position: 2 Date: March 2021

Figure 83: ADA, WCAG 2.1 & Section 508 (Captured September 2, 2021)

UserWay claims its solution can protect its clients' "business from lawsuit[sic]" make a website "Lawsuit-Free" with the familiar "no changes to your website's code" line:

#### 

The World's Leading Automated Website Accessibility Solution for ADA & WCAG Compliance. No Changes to Your Website's Code. Automated Solution. Protect... Pricing - Start 10-Day Free Trial - Accessibil

Ad Position: 3 Date: April 2021

Figure 84: Lawsuit-Free (Captured September 2, 2021)

# 

No Changes to Your Website's Code. Automated Solution. Protect Your Business From Lawsuit. Join 1,000,000 Websites Already Using UserWay & Make Your Website Accessible to Everyone. View Pricing. Get A

Ad Position: 2 Date: May 2021 Figure 85: #1 Website Accessibility (Captured September 2, 2021)

# Automated Web Accessibility - World's Leading Solution

Join 1,000,000 Websites Already Using UserWay & Protect Your Website from Lawsuits. No Changes to Your Website's Code. Supported by The Top Website Creation Platforms. Installed on 1M Websites.

Ad Position: 1 Date: July 2021 Figure 86: Automated Web Accessibility

## Evidence of other anti-competitive behavior

UserWay's widget interferes with automated web accessibility tools such as WAVE, even pointing the user to using the company's own "UserWay Inspector" instead of whichever tool the user chooses:

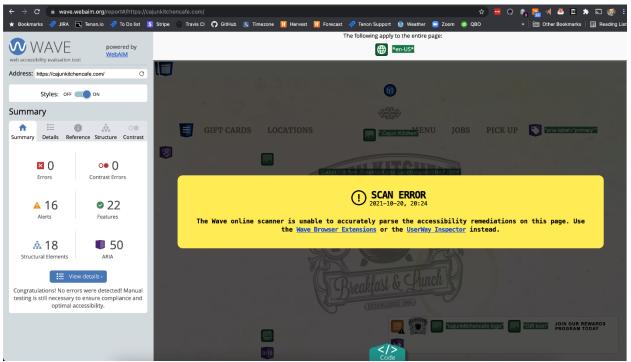


Figure 87: UserWay - WAVE Scan Error (Captured October 20, 2021)