



## About the TEITAC and Its Report to the Board

### ***The U.S. Access Board***

The U.S. Access Board is a Federal agency that serves as a leading resource on accessible design. Through the development of guidelines and standards, the Board establishes what constitutes accessibility in the realms of architecture, transportation, and communication and information technologies. As part of its rulemaking process, the Board typically organizes an advisory committee so that interested parties and experts are afforded a substantive role in shaping guidelines and standards to be developed or updated.

### ***Telecommunications and Electronic and Information Technology Advisory Committee (TEITAC)***

The Access Board created the TEITAC in July 2006 to review and recommend updates to its standards for electronic and information technologies covered by section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and its guidelines for telecommunications products covered by section 255 of the Telecommunications Act. The TEITAC's 41 members comprised a broad cross-section of stakeholders, including representatives from industry, disability groups, standard-setting bodies in the U.S. and abroad, and government agencies, among others (over). The committee met regularly in person and by teleconference over the course of its charter. In their deliberations, committee members addressed a range of issues, including new or convergent technologies, market forces, compliance concerns, and international harmonization. Recommendations were adopted by consensus under procedures governing Federal advisory committees.

### ***TEITAC Report***

The TEITAC report details recommended changes to both the substance and the structure of the standards and guidelines which cover technologies used for communication, computing, storage, duplication, production and display. Access is addressed for all types of disabilities, including those that are sensory, physical, speech-related, or cognitive in nature. The report recommends functional performance criteria that describe access capabilities for products generally and supplemental technical specifications for hardware, user interfaces and electronic content, audio-visual players, displays, and content, real-time voice communication, and authoring tools. The report also addresses updates to defined terms and provisions covering documentation, support, and maintenance.

### ***Next Steps***

The Board will propose updates to the section 508 standards and telecommunications guidelines based on its review of the committee's report. The Board's proposal will be made available for public comment at a later date.

For further information, including a copy of the TEITAC report, visit the Board's website at [www.access-board.gov/sec508/update-index.htm](http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/update-index.htm), the TEITAC's website at <http://teitac.org/>, or contact Tim Creagan at [creagan@access-board.gov](mailto:creagan@access-board.gov), (202) 272-0016 (v), or (202) 272-0082 (TTY).

**UNITED STATES ACCESS BOARD**  
A FEDERAL AGENCY COMMITTED TO ACCESSIBLE DESIGN  
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## **Members of the Telecommunications and Electronic and Information Technology Advisory Committee (TEITAC)**

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- AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, Jenifer Simpson and Andrew Imparato
- AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND, Marlaina Lieberg and Melanie Brunson
- AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND, Bradley Hodges and Paul W. Schroeder
- AOL, LLC, Thomas Wlodkowski and Donald Evans
- APPLE, INC., Dave Michael and Mary Beth Janes
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- ASSOCIATION OF TECHNOLOGY ACT PROGRAMS, Deborah V. Buck and Brenda Dawes
- AT&T, Ellen Blackler and Susan Palmer Mazrui
- AVAYA, INC., Paul R. Michaelis
- CANON USA, INC., Aubrey Woolley
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- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY COUNCIL, Ken J. Salaets and Michael Takemura
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- NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND, Curtis Chong and James McCarthy
- NATIONAL NETWORK OF DISABILITY AND BUSINESS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS, Debbie Cook and Randy Dipner
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- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, Allen Hoffman and William Peterson
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- WGBH NATIONAL CENTER FOR ACCESSIBLE MEDIA, Larry Goldberg and Geoff Freed
- WORLD WIDE WEB CONSORTIUM — WEB ACCESSIBILITY INITIATIVE, Judy Brewer and James Allan