

1194.22 (b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.

What does this requirement mean?

Terms and Definitions

equivalent alternatives - captioning provided for audio information, audio description of visual information, or other alternative presentations of information that fulfills the same function or purpose upon presentation to the user.

multimedia presentation - any presentation of more than one type of media, typically both audio and visual information.

synchronized - having common timing and coordination of execution.

Assumptions

Assume multimedia rendering software applications are required to display synchronized equivalent alternatives, and that informed humans can reasonably consistently judge whether the equivalent alternatives are synchronized with the presentation within an acceptable time window.

How can I tell if this requirement is met?

Identify all uses of multimedia presentation.

1. Check each multimedia presentation for the synchronization of captioning and audio description.
 - a. Inspect to find synchronized text tracks in SMIL or Quicktime files.
2. Open captioning might be embedded into video stream, requiring human verification.

Note: Satisfying this requirement does not involve interoperability with assistive technology.

Where can I get additional information?

1. Guide to the Section 508 Standards for Electronic and Information Technology, Web-based Intranet and Internet Information and Applications (1194.22), Updated: June 21, 2001, [http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.22.htm#\(b\)](http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.22.htm#(b))
2. The W3C WAI Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 Checkpoint 1.4 provides further guidance and techniques for this requirement at <http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG10/#tech-synchronize-equivalents>
3. The W3C WAI maintains a listing of various tool and services available for evaluation and repair of web pages for web content accessibility, at <http://www.w3.org/WAI/ER/existingtools.html>
4. An example web page illustrating typical violations of this provision can be found at http://projects.accessibilityforum.org/demos/Rule_b.htm.

Source: Accessibility Forum's Quick Reference Guide to Section 508
http://www.accessibilityforum.org/paper_tool.html