

The Buy Accessible Wizard is a set of interrelated components comprising the Buy Accessible tools:

1. The Buy Accessible Wizard – for determining Section 508 relevance and identifying applicable provisions from the Access Board standard for E&IT products and services.

The Buy Accessible Wizard leads officials with requiring responsibility through a step by step process to document compliance with Section 508 effectively, consistently, and efficiently. The Data Summary Report produced by using the Wizard serves as a ‘compliance audit trail’ documenting decisions made concerning relevance, applicability, market research, and exceptions as a demonstration of due diligence for compliance.

2. The Buy Accessible Data Center – for vendors to provide information about the accessibility of their E&IT products and services that federal users can access using the Wizard as part of market research.

The Buy Accessible Data Center brings together information about companies that produce E&IT products or deliver E&IT-related services, accessibility features and functions of E&IT products, and accessibility considerations for E&IT-related services. Industry vendors can use the Data Center to register and maintain their own marketing information about company commitment to accessibility and Section 508 and product conformance to specific technical accessibility requirements.

Collectively, the Buy Accessible tools provide a unified resource—for the convenience of federal requiring officials—of information about the law, the Access Board standard, the FAR, the federal government acquisition process, and accessibility information for products and services registered by vendors in the Data Center.

Agencies can choose between two deployment options. Any federal agency can access these web-based applications hosted at GSA via the Internet. This option does not support any local user data storage functionality, and application use must be completed within a single user session. Data Summary Reports, however, can be saved by using the “save as” feature provided by the user’s browser. This option is available through GSA at <http://www.buyaccessible.gov>.

Alternatively, agencies can opt to install the Buy Accessible Wizard component as an intranet application. This option supports users save / pause / resume / review functionality for session data, user data sharing, and, as a result, agency Section 508 acquisition management reporting. This configuration is centrally distributed and supported via a Wizard support website. Additional information about this option is available at <http://buyaccessible.aticorp.org/index.html>.

The Buy Accessible tools make Section 508 compliance easier by producing consistent and complete compliance documentation, in a standard manner, to satisfy program and agency E&IT acquisition requirements. For more information about the Buy Accessible tools, contact forumstaff@aticorp.org.