



# GSA IT Accessibility Program

## **Section 508 Web Testing: Trusted Tester and Automated Tools**

Michael Horton | January 22, 2020

# Agenda

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- **GSA IT Accessibility Program**
- **Trusted Tester**
- **ICT Testing Baseline**

# GSA IT Accessibility Program

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GSA's IT Accessibility Program provides technical assistance to federal agencies through development, deployment, and management of:

- Policies,
- Guidance,
- Tools,
- Websites,
- Training, and
- Resources.

**Goal:** Improve compliance and conformance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.

# Raise Awareness

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## *GSA IT Accessibility Program*



- Host Section508.gov, the federal government's primary portal for IT accessibility
- Offer resources such as the Technology Accessibility Playbook to help agencies implement Section 508
- Lead and coordinate training and professional development
- Convene industry and government to collaborate, network and explore new accessible technologies and best practices like Universal Design

# Support Revised 508 Standards

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## *GSA IT Accessibility Program*



- Offer tools and resources to help agencies ensure their websites are compliant with Revised 508 Standards
- Host guidance on processes and best practices for building accessible digital products

# Build Sustainable Programs

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## *GSA IT Accessibility Program*



- Provide information on how to review Section 508 procurement requirements
- Host guidance on acquisition regulations
- Manage the Accessibility Requirements Tool (ART)
- Provide simplified Section 508 documentation for solicitations through the creation of the Solicitation Requirements Tool (SRT)

# Support Accessibility Stakeholders

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## *GSA IT Accessibility Program*



- Agency Section 508 Program Managers
- Agency Employees
- Heads of Federal Agencies
- Agency Chief Information Officer (CIO)
- Agency Chief Acquisition Officer (CAO)
- Agency Senior Procurement Executive



# Trusted Tester

# Before Trusted Tester

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## *Different Approaches, Different Results*

- Inconsistent testing approaches
- Different test results for the same standard
- Users unable to share test results with other users
- Mixed messages for vendors and developers on the testing process and test results

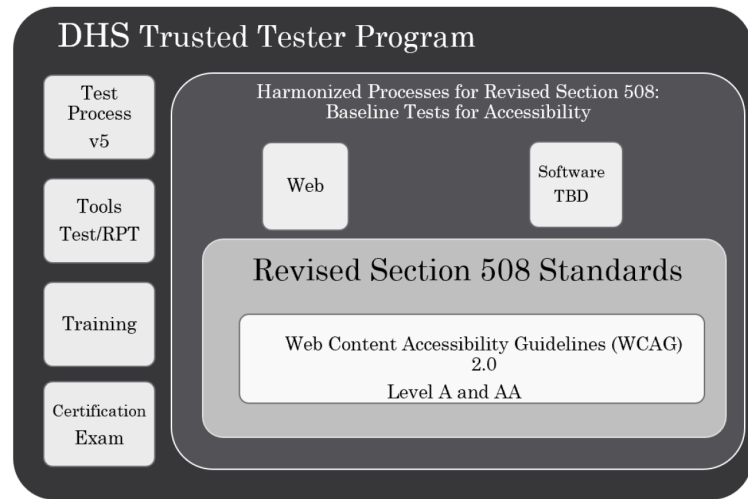


# Why DHS Trusted Tester?

- Repeatable test process
- Reliable test and reporting tools
- Scalable training
- Certification exam

## Benefits

- ✓ A documented test approach for Section 508
- ✓ Minimize subjectivity for 508 acceptance criteria
- ✓ Consistent test results
- ✓ Easy to use testing tools
- ✓ Able to share test results



# Why DHS Trusted Tester v5?

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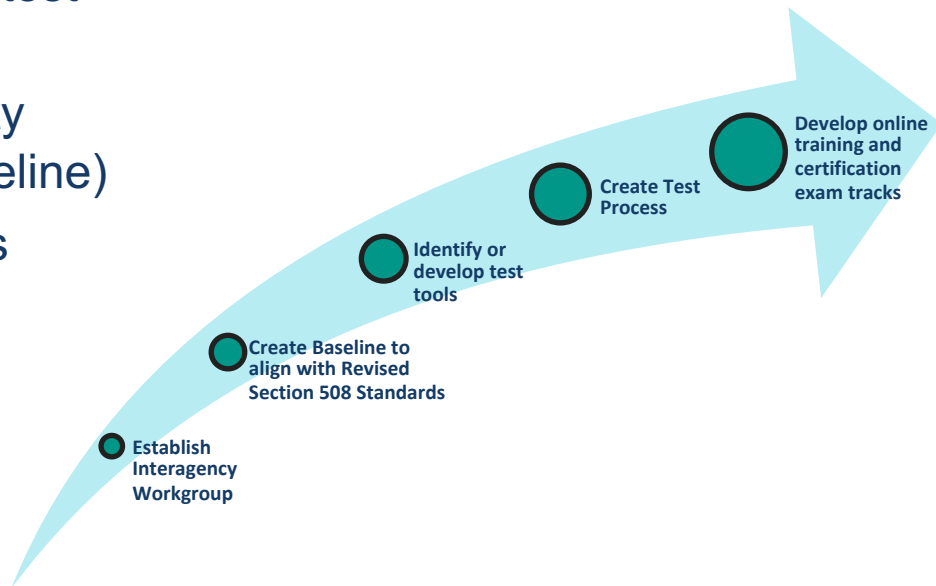
- Section 508 Standards Refresh in Jan 2017, by the US Access Board (USAB)
- Growing preference for broader range of operating environments
- Growing need for collaboration and growth of open-source tools
- HTML5 and ARIA advancements



# Roadmap to Trusted Tester v5

## Goals

- Breakout Web and Software components to create separate test processes
- Create tool-agnostic accessibility requirements (Harmonized Baseline)
- Create tool-specific test process (Trusted Tester)
- Determine Comprehensive requirements test coverage
- Enable unambiguous test result determinations



# Trusted Tester for Web on Windows Course Track

## Key Training Points

- The entire training is online
- Students self-register for an account
- Students self-enroll in the track
- Incremental delivery – review questions present only missed concepts
- Must score 90% on Practice Exam to advance to the Certification Exam



# ICT Testing Baseline

# ICT Testing Baseline for Web

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- The testing baseline is an interagency effort
- It is the documented understanding of Revised Section 508 Web requirements
- Determines what to test in multiple situations, including:
  - Where evaluation guidance exists for test results
  - For development of test processes, or
  - When no testing tools have yet been identified
- Baseline draft status can be found at:
  - <https://section508coordinators.github.io/ICTTestingBaseline/>



# What's in the Testing Baseline?

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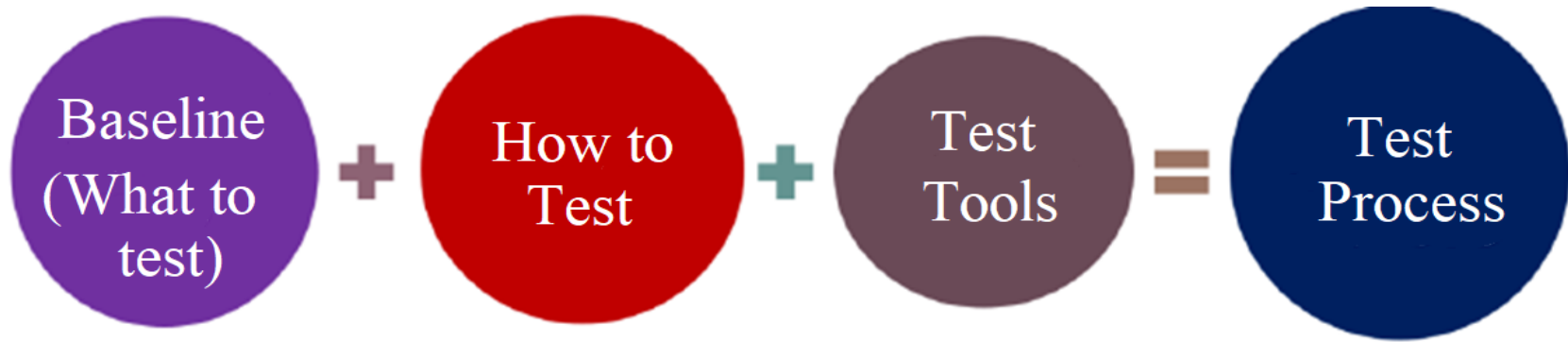
# Baseline Tests

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- Useful for developing a test process
- Grouped requirements:
  - Element categories (where possible)
  - Identify applicable requirements
  - What to check (Sufficient Techniques) for each applicable requirement
- Example: Baseline Test for Forms (8 WCAG SCs)
  - Accessible Name and Description
  - Visual label that it is descriptive
  - Error Handling (identification and suggestions)
  - Minimize and Prevent Errors

# Flow from Baseline to Test Process

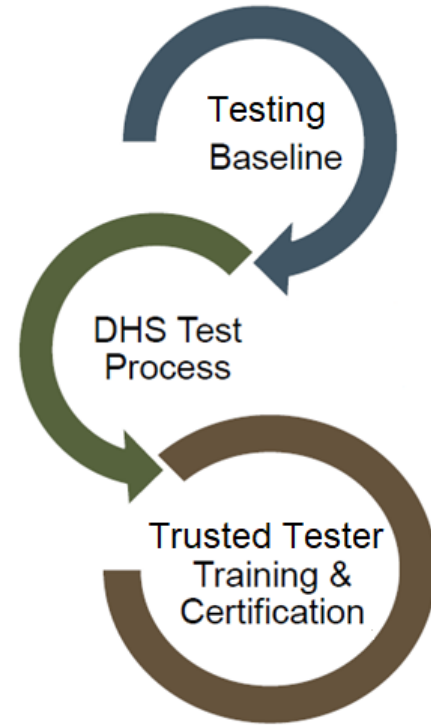
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# Baseline-aligned Test Processes

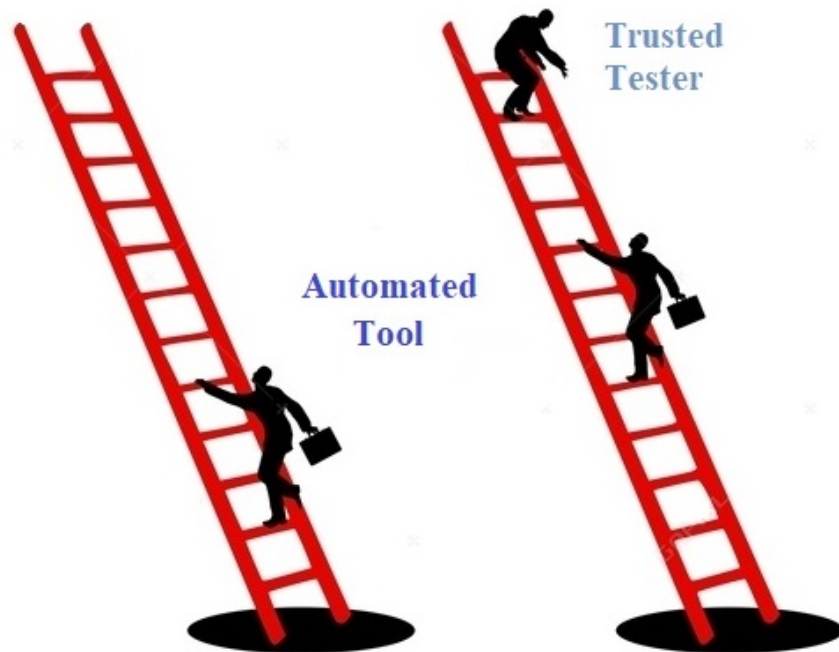
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- Enable consistency across test processes
  - Must cover all 508 requirements
  - Should yield the same test results for all requirements
- Validate with Baseline test cases (in progress)
- Verify automated scan tool processes are possible
  - Identify which tests are automated
  - Include manual evaluation procedures where needed



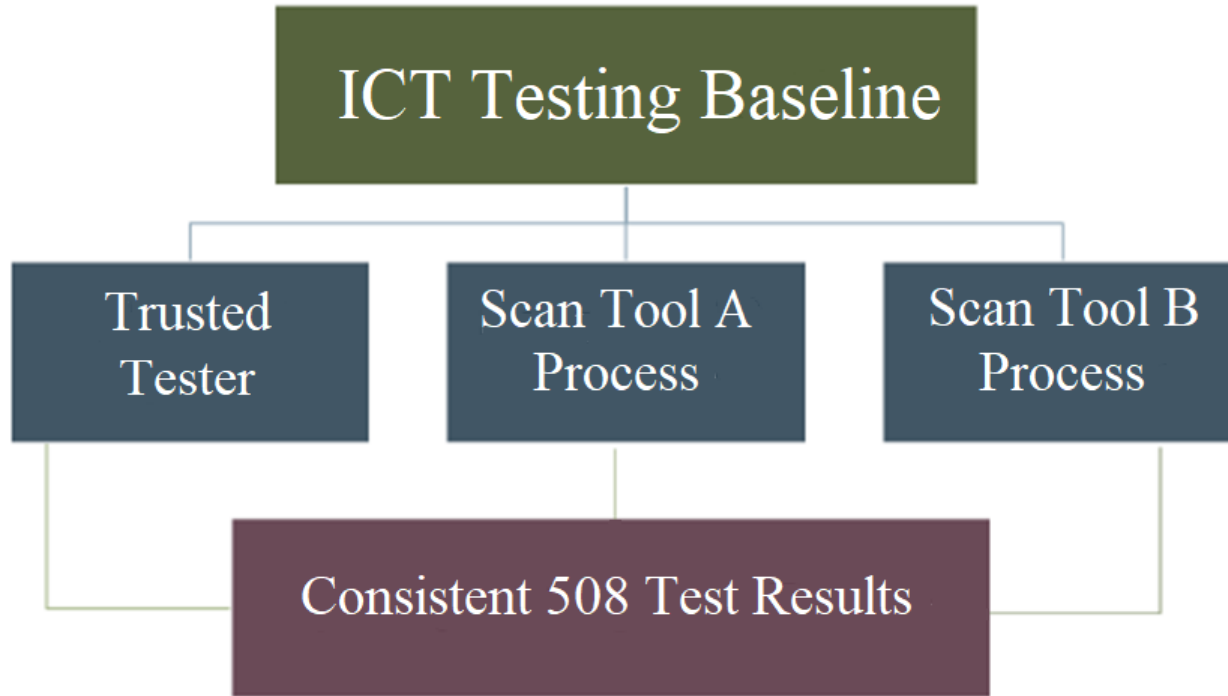
# Using Automated Tools in a Baseline-aligned Test Process

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# Baseline-aligned Test Process Results

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# Contacts & Resources

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- DHS Online Training site (Self-Register/Enroll)
  - Website: <https://training.section508testing.net/>
- Office of Accessible Systems and Technology (OAST)
  - Email: [accessibility@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:accessibility@hq.dhs.gov)
  - Website: <https://www.dhs.gov/accessibility>
- U.S. Access Board – Section 508 Standards
  - Email: [508@access-board.gov](mailto:508@access-board.gov)
  - Website: <https://www.access-board.gov>
- GSA Government-wide IT Accessibility Program
  - Email: [Section.508@gsa.gov](mailto:Section.508@gsa.gov)
  - Website: <https://www.section508.gov>

**Thank You!**



