

A Leader in Global Digital Accessibility Standards Across Publishing and Education

From the beginning, VitalSource has played a defining role in advancing and implementing digital accessibility standards. For more than three decades, our work has continued to operationalize accessibility across the global publishing and education ecosystem. These key moments define VitalSource's long-standing commitment to accessibility leadership through standards development, implementation excellence, platform conformance, and proactive regulatory readiness.

VitalSource Accessibility & Standards Leadership Milestones

- **1998** – Adopted the emerging XML standard, enabling structured, accessible content workflows across our platforms
- **2004** – Expanded support for PDF content and accessible structured markup, advancing cross-format accessibility
- **2007** – Contributed to the development of EPUB 2
- **2011** – Contributed to the development of EPUB 3
- **2013** – Achieved the first recorded 100% accessibility score on EPUBTest.org with VitalSource Bookshelf®
- **2017** – Contributed to the development of the EPUB Accessibility 1.0 specification
- **2019** – Launched the industry's first transparency initiative for content accessibility and recognized with the DAISY Consortium Award for Accessibility in Publishing
- **2020** – Achieved Aspire 100% accessibility ranking, establishing platform-wide conformance leadership
- **2023** – Contributed to EPUB 3.3 and EPUB Accessibility 1.1 specifications
- **2024** – Led platform and industry alignment efforts to support next-generation accessibility standards in response to the European Accessibility Act (EAA)
- **2025** – Earned Aspire 100% accessibility ranking for a second time, validating significant platform enhancements aligned with the EAA and ADA Title II requirements
- **2026** – Completed proactive alignment of platform accessibility practices with updated ADA Title II requirements ahead of enforcement timelines