REPORT on NATIONAL WORKSHOP on WEB accessibility

Christ Nagar International School, Thiruvananthapuram
September 25-26, 2009

The Centre for Internet and Society (CIS) and *Society for Promotion of Alternative Computing and Employment* (SPACE) organized a workshop on web accessibility for web developers from the public and private sector on September 25 to 26, 2009. The workshop took place at **Christ Nagar International School**, Kowdiar, Thiruvananthapuram.

About the Host Organizations

The Centre for Internet and Society

The Centre for Internet and Society (CIS) is a Bangalore based non-profit, bringing together a team of practitioners, theoreticians, researchers and artists to work on the emerging field of Internet and Society in order to critically engage with concerns of digital pluralism, public accountability and pedagogic practices, with particular emphasis on South-South dialogues and exchange. We focus on areas such as Anonymity/Privacy, Censorship, Surveillance, Free and Open Source Software, Open Standards, Open Access, Family, Sexual practices, Addiction, Intellectual Property Rights and Trade, Piracy, ICT4D, Digital and Participation Divide and Digital Communities and Movements.

Society For Promotion of Alternative Computing and Employment

Society For Promotion of Alternative Computing and Employment (SPACE) is a registered society that has members from academia, the IT industry, professional societies such as IEEE and Computer Society of India, and the IT Administration of the Government of Kerala. The vision of SPACE is to promote the use of Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) in academics, governance, corporate and individual use, and to support the use FOSS for employment generation in Kerala. The primary thrust are of the intervention are:

- Promote the use of FOSS in the public, private, and governmental sectors as well as for personal/home use
- Develop a model for FOSS- based employment generation that is appropriate to Kerala's context, by identifying appropriate business opportunities and providing support services including training and micro business incubation
- Carry out R & D activities for the development of essential prototypes that bridge existing gaps in software, so as to enable widespread use of FLOSS
- Ensure that Kerala is able to develop sufficient numbers of high-quality human resources in the FLOSS domain

Kerala State IT Mission

Kerala State Information Technology Mission (KSITM) is a Society registered under the Travancore Cochin Literary Scientific & Charitable Societies Registration Act. It is an autonomous nodal IT implementation agency for Department of Information Technology, Government of Kerala which provides managerial support to various initiatives of the Department.

About the Resource Persons

Rahul Gonsalves

Rahul has been building accessible websites since 2005 (sample work at
http://rahulgonsalves.com/projects/ [1]). He has been actively involved in promoting web and
accessibility standards. He spoke at the first international accessibility and technology conference in
India, Techshare 2008, where he made out a case for accessibility and conducted a workshop on
retrofitting accessibility to existing websites, a concern for most large institutions with an existing
online presence (slides available at http://www.barrierbreak.com/events-
conference/techshare_presentations200... [2])

In September 2008, he presented a paper examining ways in which People with various impairments
- both physical and mental - engage with online content, and demonstrated practical ways in which
authors can make online content accessible at the National Conference on ICT for Differently Abled
People. He is a supporter of the push for having a national policy for governing electronic
accessibility in India.

Srinivasu Chakravartula

Srinivasu Chakravarthula - graduated in Computer Science and is certified in 'assistive
technologies'. He started his career as Head of the Braille Production Unit at National Association
for the Blind, Bangalore. He then moved on and taught Computer Science at the Manik Public
School, Bidar and also set up the Computer Training Centre at Hyderabad and Maniknagar, Bidar.

In the year 2005, he began to specialize in accessibility and started working for Net Systems
Informatics and its subsidiary - BarrierBreak Technologies, Mumbai. During his stint at Net
Systems, he was instrumental in setting up an accessibility process, imparting accessibility training
to Corporates, creating awareness about accessibility and assistive technologies. Srinivasu played an
innovative role in organizing Techshare India 2008 - India's 1st Accessibility and Assistive
Technologies Conference and Exhibition. He was also Program Coordinator for Magazine, a3 that
talked about Ability, Accessibility and Adaptability.

Srinivasu is currently working for Yahoo! India as Accessibility Manager and is responsible to lead
and evangelize accessibility and its initiatives across Yahoo! India and South East Asia. He is also a
member of the core committee for Yahoo! Employee Foundation India (YEFI). Srinivasu is
associated with the social sector through the National Association for the Blind, India; Enable India,
Shri Manik Prabhu Sikshan Samiti and Success World. His hobbies include blogging, tweeting,
listening to classical music, playing chess and swimming.

Schedule of the Workshop

Day I

Introductory Session

- Disability - 5 major types
- The W3C and the WCAG
- How people with disabilities use computers

Group Exercise/Discussion

- Split participants into small groups and give them questions/problems to talk about and solve
- Example: If your friend is deaf, how do you make sure that she/he understands what a video is about? OR How does someone who can't see or hear answer/check their email? OR X lost his hands in a car accident. How does he do a Google search?

Session 1 - Building an Accessible Website

- Laying Accessible Foundations
- Table-less layouts
- Well-structured markup
- Valid Code

Lecture/Demonstration of Accessibility Features under GNU/Linux by Arky

Lecture/Demonstration of NVDA Screen Reader

Lunch

Session 2 - Building an Accessible Website

- Removing Barriers
- Guideline 1 - Perception
- Non-text content
- Audio/Visual content
- Adaptability
- Contrast

Group Exercise: Guideline 1 - Translate a offline newspaper into an online one, and ensure that structure and information are retained when the content is adapted.

Wrap Session - Feedback and Clarifications

Day II

Lecture/Demonstration of ARIA features on selected websites

Session 3 - Guideline 2

- Operable
- Keyboard Access
- Enough Time
- Seizures
- Navigable

LUNCH

Session 4 - Guideline 3 and 4

- Understandable
- Natural Language
- Predictable
- Input Assistance
- Robust
- Compatible

Session 5 - Accessibility Testing

- Automated Testing + Tools
- Manual Testing

Wrap Session - Feedback and Clarifications

Participants List

1. *Mr. Vibeesh P*
Team Leader, Rainconcert

2. *Mr. Sunil S*
Computer Programmer, ANERT

3. *Mr. Vineet Pratap*
Parallel Programmer, NIIST

4. *Mr. Binsun N T*
Software Engineer, Keltron

5. *Mr. M.L. Antony*
Manager (Software/Web Services), Keltron

6. *Mr. Rojilal M. L*
Programmer, KSEB

7. *Ms. Dhanya Balakrishnan*
Graduate Apprentice, Kerala State IT Mission

8. *Ms. Indu Reghunath*
Developer, SPACE

9. *Mr. Jithin Babu B*
Web Programmer, Freelance

10. *Mr. Hareesh Mohan*
Developer, SPACE

11. *Mr. Sujith Sureshan*
Developer, SPACE

12. *Mr. Vinu C R*
Web Programmer, IT@School

13. *Mr. Cherian P Thomas*
Programmer, KSEB

14. *Mr. B Vijayakumar*
Programmer, KSEB

15. *Mr. Sunil Kumar*
Governement Employee, Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board

16. *Mr. Anil Kumar*
Akshaya, PA-MIS

17. *Mr. Shanavas Khan*
Programmer, Freelance

18. *Ms. Shatti Raj*
Scientist 'C', National Informatics Center

19. *Ms. Rameena M*
Developer, SPACE

20. *Ms. Gita Brajesh*
PSA, National Informatics Center

21. *Ms. Indusekhar M S*
System Analyst, National Informatics Center

22. *Ms. Somi P Thomas*
Scientist 'B', National Informatics Center

23. *Ms. Nissy George*
System Analyst, National Informatics Center

24. *Ms. Susy M*
Software Development, National Informatics Center

25. *Ms. Jisy V K*
Technical Apprentice, Kerala State IT Mission

26. *Ms. Sandhya Devi T*
Project Associate, IT@School

27. *Ms. Saritha D R*
Project Associate Executive, IT@School

28. *Mr. Shaik Mohamed*
System Analyst, National Informatics Center

29. *Mr. Shibin Shah K J*
Student, RSCS

30. *Mr. Aneesh Bhadran*
Student. RIT

31. *Mr. Thomas K S*
Assistant Manager, Camputec

32. *Mr. Anil S*
Member, SDS

33. *Mr. John Panicker*
Website Designer

34. *Ms. Teenamol L*
Information Kerala Mission

35. *Mr. Shine A R*
Information Kerala Mission

36. *Mr. Jayahari K V*

37. *Mr. Naveen P L*

38. *Mr. Jijo Mathew*

39. *Mr. Antony Rodrugues*

40. *Mr. Satheeh S*

41. *Mr. Sajeevan C*
Student, INSIGHT

Feedback

Session I

Title: **Building an Accessible Website**
Topics Covered*: Laying Accessible Foundations, Table-less layouts, Well-structured markup, Valid Code*

Content

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Covered Useful Materials	11	12	0	1
Practical to my needs and interest	9	11	3	1
Well Organized	12	9	1	2
Presented at the right level	14	9	0	1
Use Visual Aids	12	10	0	2

Presentation

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Instructor's Knowledge	20	3	0	1
Instructor's Presentation Style	16	7	0	1
Instructor Covered Materials Clearly	12	11	0	1
Instructor Responded Well to questions	18	5	0	1

Title*: Lecture/Demonstration of Accessibility Features under GNU/Linux by Arky*

Content

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Covered Useful Materials	12	8	1	3
Practical to my needs and interest	7	13	2	2
Well Organized	12	10	0	2
Presented at the right level	11	11	0	2
Use Visual Aids	9	11	1	3

Presentation

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Instructor's Knowledge	13	10	0	1
Instructor's Presentation Style	9	14	0	1
Instructor Covered Materials Clearly	9	14	0	1
Instructor Responded Well to questions	13	10	0	1

Title *: Lecture/Demonstration of NVDA Screen Reader*

Content

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Covered Useful Materials	7	14	1	2
Practical to my needs and interest	7	10	3	4
Well Organized	8	11	2	3
Presented at the right level	8	10	3	3
Use Visual Aids	7	12	3	2

Presentation

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Instructor's Knowledge	10	12	0	2
Instructor's Presentation Style	9	11	1	3
Instructor Covered Materials Clearly	7	14	1	2
Instructor Responded Well to questions	11	10	0	3

Session II

Title : Building an Accessible Website
Topics Covered : *Removing Barriers, Guideline 1 - Perception, Non-text content, Audio/Visual content, Adaptability, Contrast*

Content

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Covered Useful Materials	12	10	1	1
Practical to my needs and interest	11	11	1	1
Well Organized	12	9	2	1
Presented at the right level	15	8	0	1
Use Visual Aids	12	10	1	1

Presentation

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Instructor's Knowledge	15	7	0	2
Instructor's Presentation Style	11	11	0	2
Instructor Covered Materials Clearly	11	11	0	2
Instructor Responded Well to questions	13	9	0	2

Session III

Title :Guideline 2
Topics Covered*: Operable, Keyboard Access, Enough Time, Seizures, Navigable*

Content

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Covered Useful Materials	11	10	0	3
Practical to my needs and interest	10	11	0	3
Well Organized	9	12	0	3
Presented at the right level	8	12	1	3
Use Visual Aids	9	11	1	3

Presentation

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Instructor's Knowledge	12	9	0	3
Instructor's Presentation Style	10	11	0	3
Instructor Covered Materials Clearly	9	11	1	3
Instructor Responded Well to questions	11	10	0	3

Session IV

Title : Guideline 3 and 4
Topics Covered : *Understandable, Natural Language, Predictable, Input Assistance, Robust, Compatible*

Content

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Covered Useful Materials	10	11	2	1
Practical to my needs and interest	9	13	0	2
Well Organized	12	11	0	1
Presented at the right level	14	8	0	2
Use Visual Aids	12	10	1	1

Presentation

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Instructor's Knowledge	13	8	0	3
Instructor's Presentation Style	11	10	0	3
Instructor Covered Materials Clearly	12	9	0	3
Instructor Responded Well to questions	13	8	0	3

Session V

Title *:Accessibility Testing*
Topics Covered*: Automated Testing + Tools, Manual Testing*

Content

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Covered Useful Materials	15	9	0	0
Practical to my needs and interest	14	9	1	0
Well Organized	13	11	0	0
Presented at the right level	13	11	0	0
Use Visual Aids	14	9	1	0

Presentation

	Excellent	Good	Need Improvement	Not Applicable
Instructor's Knowledge	17	7	0	3
Instructor's Presentation Style	14	10	0	3
Instructor Covered Materials Clearly	14	9	0	1
Instructor Responded Well to questions	16	7	1	3

Workshop Organizers

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Consolidated Expenses of Web Accessibility Workshop, Trivandrum

Budget Head	Amount (Rs.)
Rent of lab and set up	15200
Accomodation	4963
Stationery	10285
Communication	507
Food	7535
Travel	6235
Coordination	10000
Total	**54725**