



Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)



How AODA compliance helps investors *and* investment companies

WHAT IS AODA?	<p>The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005 (AODA) is a statute enacted in 2005 by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Canada, and states that “All public-sector organizations (including government, municipalities, and educational institutions) and all private organizations with 50 or more employees (including businesses, nonprofits, and private educational institutions) are required to be Web Content Accessibility Guidelines—WCAG 2.0 AA accessible (excluding live captioning and audio descriptions) by January 1, 2021.”</p>
WHY IS AODA SO IMPORTANT?	<p>As background, approximately 3.5% of the world’s population is visually impaired (International Council of Ophthalmology, 2015), and content accessibility is more important now than ever. As the investor population ages, there has been a dramatic increase in blind, partially sighted and cognitively disabled individuals.</p>
WHAT IS THE ORGANIZATIONAL IMPACT?	<p>AODA represents a broad-reaching set of regulations that is intended to elevate the inclusion of all Ontarians, regardless of disability, in their daily lives.</p> <p>One particular area of the regulation related to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines—WCAG 2.0 AA seeks to ensure that content is perceivable, operable and robust, and will demand that all content has the correct attributes applied to client-facing websites and hosted documents.</p> <p>Failure to reach compliance by January 1, 2021, may result in penalties and fines ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per day.</p> <p><i>(Continue to next page)</i></p>

WHAT IS THE ORGANIZATIONAL IMPACT?

(Continued)

In summary, this means that by January 1, 2021, the entire range of regulatory documents—including MRFPs, financial statements, quarterly reports, prospectuses, fund fact sheets and any other documents or content viewable by the general public and/or investors—will require the following attributes:

- The application of WCAG-compliant metadata tagging to all documents and content
- Elimination of color contrast within style and content and/or the use of color alone to denote meaning
- Screen reader compatibility to enable “read out loud” capability via industry standard tools such as JAWS, NVDA and other screen readers

HOW CAN DFIN HELP?

DFIN’s industry-leading AODA tagging process ensures complete AODA compliance across all document types. Through this process, DFIN will:



Ingest

We ingest your documents and content in multiple languages.



Analyze

We undertake analysis of your documents and content for WCAG compliance; provide advice, guidance and feedback on style and format; and create a master set of guidelines.



Tag

We tag underlying metadata to the master set of guidelines.



Verify

We perform quality assurance across all documents and content and carry out 16 independent structural checks and content integrity checks to ensure total compliance prior to delivery.



Deliver

We deliver tagged documents back to you with an accompanying accessibility report.

BENEFITS

Companies that are AODA compliant can realize benefits as a result, and working with DFIN provides additional advantages:

1. Being AODA compliant **removes barriers** to a broader and more extensive investor base.
 2. Access to a broader investor base ultimately leads to a positive **economic outcome** for compliant companies.
 3. DFIN's AODA process can be implemented in a matter of days, ensuring **speed to market** and **speed to compliance**.
 4. DFIN provides unparalleled capacity to **handle the high volume** that AODA tagging will demand.
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WHY DFIN?

With 2,900 employees in 13 countries, DFIN is a leader in risk and compliance solutions, providing insightful technology, industry expertise and data insights to clients across the globe.

Our trusted software and solutions are used every day by the world's leading Asset Managers to deliver consistent, timely and compliant output.

Note: This document has been tagged using the DFIN AODA process and is 100% AODA compliant.

About Donnelley Financial Solutions (DFIN)

DFIN is a leading global risk and compliance company.

We're here to help you make smarter decisions with insightful technology, industry expertise and data insights at every stage of your business and investment lifecycles.

As markets fluctuate, regulations evolve and technology advances, we're there. And through it all, we deliver confidence with the right solutions in moments that matter.

Learn about DFIN's end-to-end risk and compliance solutions.

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