



Comment from Avery, Chet

This is a Comment on the **Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (ATBCB) Proposed Rule: Information and Communication Technology Standards and Guidelines**

For related information, [Open Docket Folder](#) 

[Comment Now!](#)

Due May 28 2015, at 11:59 PM ET

Comment

Subject: Requiring a sound as an access feature when a computer or device is turned on and its shut down I am writing to you to enlist your support as a Title 508 expert familiar with the current access regulation development process to aid me as a blind computer user and thousands like me to make computers more accessible by adding sounds to make computers accessible as screen lighting provides access cues to sighted persons. as an access feature for blind persons, the Title 508 access regulations should require a sound as an accommodation provision for a blind person when a computer is turned on and off This accessibility feature would parallel the accessibility light that appears and is seen by sighted persons when a computer is turned on and that disappears when a computer is turned off. This sound provision is a routine accessibility feature on devices purchased from Blind product vendors. For example the Humanware Victor reader stream in all its versions has a beep when it is turned on and two beeps when it is turned off The booksense distributed by HIMS Inc. has a series of sound when it is turned on and off. This sound access provision informs and reassures the blind person of the devices activation-deactivation status. Additionally when the sound announcing the devices shutdown status is a power saving cue. A blind person using a current computer is now unsure that the computer is on and booting up until the sound of the later booting up process, which takes from 1 to 3 or more minutes to inform the blind computer user that the computer is on. Moreover, the blind computer user cannot tell if the computer is off or in a sleep or hibernation state without a sound cue indicating the computer's shut down status. As a computer user I have spent a lot of time and anxiety trying to learn if my computer is on or off. Too often, I have to interrupt my wife in another room to tell me if the computer screen is black, off, or is showing a light informing sighted persons that the computer is on. i AM FORTUNATE TO HAVE A WIFE WHO IS READILY AVAILABLE WHILE MANY BLIND PERSONS MAY NOT HAVE READY ACCESS TO SIGHTED ASSISTANCE. To establish sounds for turning computers on and off is a simple, inexpensive accessibility fix which would enable blind users to have computers to have a sound that they could hear as sighted users have lighted and unlighted screens to determine the computer's performance status.

ID: ATBCB-2015-0002-0020

Tracking Number: 1jz-8i72-31rg

Document Information

Date Posted:

Apr 9, 2015

RIN:

3014-AA37

[Show More Details](#) 

Submitter Information

Submitter Name:

Chet Avery

City:

Alexandria

Country:

United States

State or Province:

VA

Submitter's Representative:

Don Barrett

Category:

Individual

