



Comment from Welte, Frank

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

I am writing to request the prompt adoption of the revised 508/255 accessibility standards associated with docket number ATBCB-2015-0002.

Information processing and telecommunications technologies have become an essential element of economic and cultural life in the United States. In too many cases these technologies are implemented in a way that impose barriers to their use by people with disabilities that are every bit as restrictive as are barriers in the physical environment, such as the absence of wheelchair-accessible ramps and elevators.

The current 508/255 standards are inadequate to ensure the accessibility of information and communications technologies for people with disabilities, and they do not take into account the vast changes in these technologies that have occurred in the time since the existing standards were adopted.

Just as technology has advanced in recent years, the understanding of what makes information technology accessible to people with disabilities has also improved. The proposed new standards incorporate these improved accessibility principles. Their adoption will give product developers and manufacturers the guidance they need to create products that will be far more usable for all consumers, including people with disabilities.

Thank you for your consideration
Frank Welte
San Leandro, CA

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Submitter Information

Submitter Name:

Frank Welte

City:

San Leandro

Country:

United States

State or Province:

CA

Category:

Individual