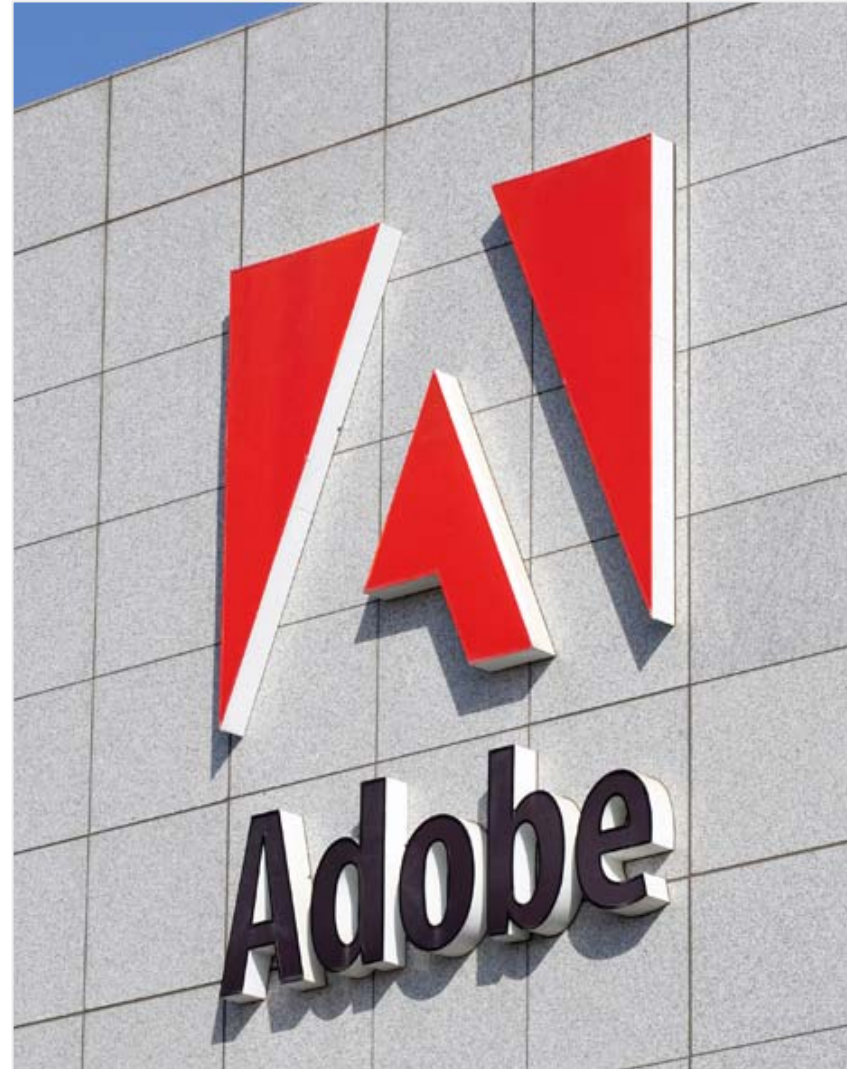


# An IT Application Developer's View of AT Interoperability

Andrew Kirkpatrick

Adobe Systems

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# The Big Picture

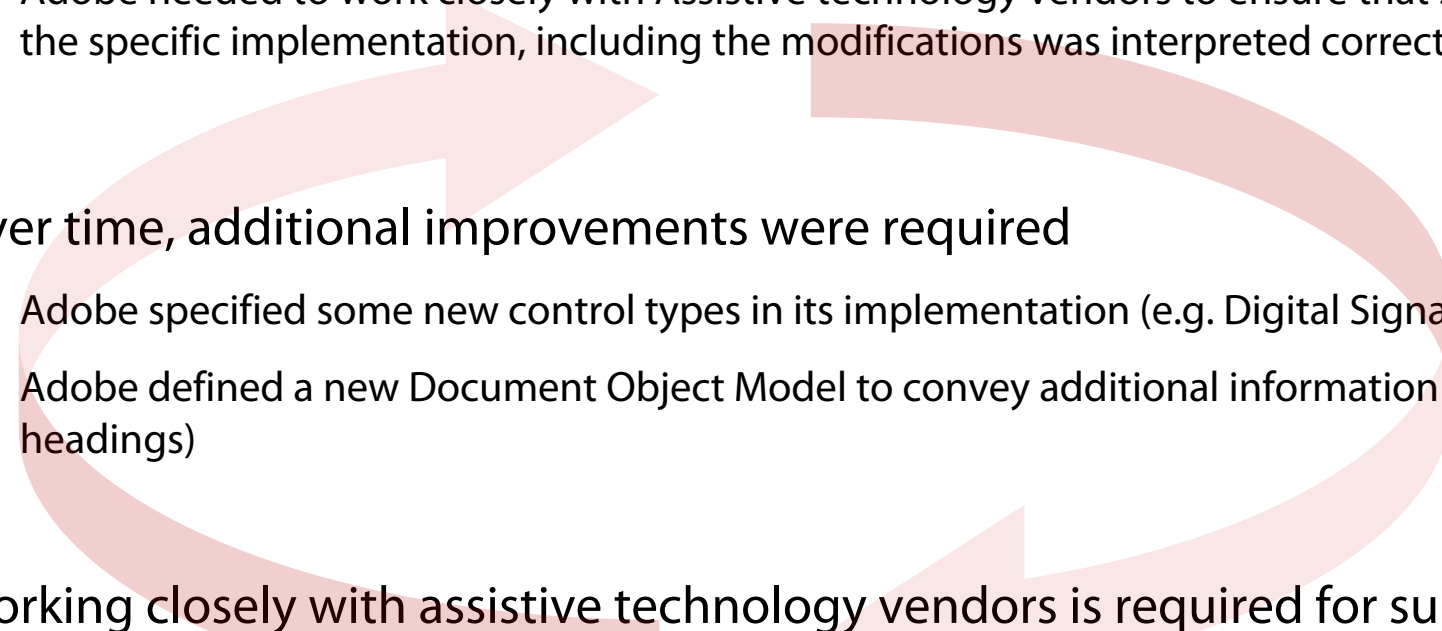
- Adobe wants to do the right thing for users
- Adobe wants implementing the right thing to be easier to accomplish

# Adobe Reader and PDF

- Pre-1998: inaccessible to AT
- Need to convey rich document information to users
  - Headings
  - Tables
  - Digital Signatures
  - Comments
- Implemented MSAA on Windows to deliver information to AT



# Accessibility Implementation

- MSAA did not have everything that was needed
    - Adobe needed to augment the API in minor ways
    - Adobe needed to work closely with Assistive technology vendors to ensure that support for the specific implementation, including the modifications was interpreted correctly
  - Over time, additional improvements were required
    - Adobe specified some new control types in its implementation (e.g. Digital Signature)
    - Adobe defined a new Document Object Model to convey additional information (e.g. headings)
  - Working closely with assistive technology vendors is required for support.
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# What we need

- The ideal accessibility API would allow developers to have a reasonable expectation that AT support would be simplified.
- Support for additional platforms would be simplified
- Every addition to an API or new API adds demands on resources for AT support
  - ...for every AT to be supported
  - IT has a limited capacity to work with AT

The more comprehensive the API, the lower the investment for IT and AT.

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