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| **Date:** | September 2009 |
| **Name of Product:** | Platform Update for Windows Vista® – Beta Release |
| **Contact for more Information:** | <http://www.microsoft.com/enable> |

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| **Platform Update for Windows Vista – Beta Release** |
| **Note:** This VPAT refers to the Beta Release of the Platform Update for Windows Vista.  The Platform Update for Windows Vista is a set of runtime libraries that makes it easy for developers to target both Windows 7 and Windows Vista:   * The Platform Update for Windows Vista helps developers target a wider customer base while providing users consistent feature experiences across operating system versions. * The Platform Update for Windows Vista enables developers to use updated Windows 7 APIs to access existing Windows Vista features. * The Platform Update for Windows Vista is widely deployed via Windows Update. * Microsoft is making the Platform Update for Windows Vista available to all Windows Vista customers at no cost.   Included capabilities:   * The Platform Update for Windows **Vista includes Windows Graphics, Imaging, and XPS Library** components for developers to leverage the latest advancements in modern graphics technologies for gaming, multimedia, imaging and printing applications. It includes updates to DirectX to support hardware acceleration for 2D, 3D and text based scenarios; DirectCompute for hardware accelerated parallel computing scenarios; and XPS Library for document printing scenarios. * The Platform Update for Windows Vista includes the latest **Windows Automation API**, which allows accessibility tools and test automations to access Windows user interface in a consistent way across operating system versions. * The Platform Update for Windows Vista includes **Windows Portable Devices Platform**, which supplies the infrastructure to standardize data transfers between an application and a portable device, such as a mobile phone, digital camera, or portable media player. * The Platform Update for Windows Vista includes **Windows Ribbon and Animation Manager Library**, which contains the Windows Ribbon API, a command framework that enables developers to quickly and easily create rich ribbon experiences in their applications, and the Windows Animation Manager API, an animation framework for managing the scheduling and execution of user interface element animations.   More details on the specific components included in the Platform Update for Windows Vista can be found at <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/971644>.  More details on the specific accessibility improvements in the Platform Update for Windows Vista are available in section 1194.21. |

**Summary Table**

**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template**

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| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and explanations** |
| Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems | Supported | The Platform Update for Windows Vista includes some specific improvements of the accessibility APIs and infrastructure which are targeted to Assistive Technology Vendors and developers:   * New Unmanaged / Native COM Client API (Native API for UI Automation clients) * New MSAA-to-UIA Proxy (Compatibility layer for MSAA based applications to be accessed by UIA clients) * New Win32 Proxies for Common and USER Controls (Win32 proxies are now featured in the native layer) * New Proxy Factory Interfaces (new proxy configuration interface for UIA Clients) * Updated Dynamic Annotation for UIA ( The property override method is now available for UIA properties) * New integration between MSAA and UIA (New UIA Control Patterns and the client API functions to enable interoperability between MSAA and UIA Client codes) * New Control Patterns, Events and Properties (Added interfaces and properties for harmonization of partner technologies and standards) * Updated UIA-to-MSAA Bridge (Compatibility layer for UIA based applications to be accessed by MSAA Clients)   More details on the Platform Update for Windows Vista can be found at <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/971644>  See section 1194.21 for more details. |
| Section 1194.22 Web-based internet information and applications | Not applicable |  |
| Section 1194.23 Telecommunications Products | Not applicable |  |
| Section 1194.24 Video and Multi-media Products | Not applicable |  |
| Section 1194.25 Self-Contained, Closed Products | Not applicable |  |
| Section 1194.26 Desktop and Portable Computers | Not applicable |  |
| Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria | Supported |  |
| Section 1194.41 (a) Information, Documentation and Support | Supported | See section 1194.21 for more details. |

**Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems - Detail   
Voluntary Product Accessibility Template**

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| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and explanations** |
| (a) When software is designed to run on a system that has a keyboard, product functions shall be executable from a keyboard where the function itself or the result of performing a function can be discerned textually. | Supported |  |
| (b) Applications shall not disrupt or disable activated features of other products that are identified as accessibility features, where those features are developed and documented according to industry standards. Applications also shall not disrupt or disable activated features of any operating system that are identified as accessibility features where the application programming interface for those accessibility features has been documented by the manufacturer of the operating system and is available to the product developer. | Supported | The Platform Update for Windows Vista does not disable accessibility features. |
| (c) A well-defined on-screen indication of the current focus shall be provided that moves among interactive interface elements as the input focus changes. The focus shall be programmatically exposed so that Assistive Technology can track focus and focus changes. | Supported |  |
| (d) Sufficient information about a user interface element including the identity, operation and state of the element shall be available to Assistive Technology. When an image represents a program element, the information conveyed by the image must also be available in text. | Supported |  |
| (e) When bitmap images are used to identify controls, status indicators, or other programmatic elements, the meaning assigned to those images shall be consistent throughout an application's performance. | Supported |  |
| (f) Textual information shall be provided through operating system functions for displaying text. The minimum information that shall be made available is text content, text input caret location, and text attributes. | Supported |  |
| (g) Applications shall not override user selected contrast and color selections and other individual display attributes. | Supported |  |
| (h) When animation is displayed, the information shall be displayable in at least one non-animated presentation mode at the option of the user. | Supported |  |
| (i) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element. | Supported |  |
| (j) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a variety of color selections capable of producing a range of contrast levels shall be provided. | Supported |  |
| (k) Software shall not use flashing or blinking text, objects, or other elements having a flash or blink frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz. | Supported |  |
| (l) When electronic forms are used, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues. | Supported |  |

**Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria - Detail   
Voluntary Product Accessibility Template**

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| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and explanations** |
| (a) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user vision shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided. | Supported |  |
| (b) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require visual acuity greater than 20/70 shall be provided in audio and enlarged print output working together or independently, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are visually impaired shall be provided. | Supported |  |
| (c) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user hearing shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are deaf or hard of hearing shall be provided | Supported |  |
| (d) Where audio information is important for the use of a product, at least one mode of operation and information retrieval shall be provided in an enhanced auditory fashion, or support for assistive hearing devices shall be provided. | Supported |  |
| (e) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user speech shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people with disabilities shall be provided. | Supported |  |
| (f) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous actions and that is operable with limited reach and strength shall be provided. | Not Applicable |  |

**Section 1194.41 Information, Documentation, and Support - Detail**

**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template**

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| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and explanations** |
| Section 1194.41 (a) Product Support Documentation provided to end-users shall be made available in alternate formats upon request, at no additional charge. | Supported | Documentation is provided in digital format for customers on the web at <http://www.microsoft.com>. |
| Section 1194.41 (b) Accessibility and Compatibility Features. End-users shall have access to a description of the accessibility and compatibility features of products in alternate formats or alternate methods upon request, at no additional charge. | Not applicable | The Platform Update for Windows Vista does not include end-user accessibility features. |
| 1194.41 (c) Support Services for products shall accommodate the communication needs of end-users with disabilities. | Supported | The Microsoft Product Support Services Help Desk is familiar with such features as keyboard access and other options important to people with disabilities.  Microsoft offers a teletypewriter (TTY) service for customers who are hearing impaired. For assistance in the United States, contact Microsoft Technical Support on a TTY at 1-800-892-5234. This service is available Monday through Friday 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. PST.  For information on additional support services, visit the Microsoft Accessibility Web site at <http://www.microsoft.com/enable/> |

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Revised August 2009 Microsoft regularly updates its websites and provides new information about the accessibility of products as that information becomes available.