Engineer Advisory

Passed 106 of 106 PDF/UA-1 profile checks

Recorded PDF/UA-1 validation across nine documents with 106 of 106 configured accessibility-profile checks passing, while the archival variant failed one of 146 rules.

August 2026

106

configured PDF/UA checks passed, out of 106

Situation. A PDF that looks correct on screen tells you nothing about whether a screen reader can read it, whether its headings form a structure, whether its language is declared, or whether it will still open in twenty years. Accessible-PDF and archival-PDF conformance are both machine-checkable standards, and a document that has never been run through the validator is a document making an unverified claim.

Task. The generated documents had to be measured against both standards, with the result recorded as a number rather than as an intention.

Action. Nine documents — the CV in its variants, the reference sheet, the portfolio and the cover letter, across languages — were run through an independent validator for the accessibility profile and the archival profile separately. The accessibility profile passes at 106 of 106 rules, which required tagged structure, declared document language, alternative text on every non-decorative graphic, a real title in the metadata, and an explicit reading order rather than the one the layout happens to produce. The archival profile is the more interesting result: it fails exactly one rule of 146. That is the shape of result that is easy to misreport. One hundred and forty-five passes reads like conformance in a summary, and it is not conformance; it is a document that will be rejected by a system enforcing the standard. The failing rule is recorded with what it is and why it has not been closed, rather than rounded away.

Result. All configured accessibility-profile checks passed. The archival claim is stated honestly as a near-miss with the specific gap named. The limit worth being direct about is that both numbers come from one validator; another implementation may disagree, and a rule that passes is only evidence that this checker had nothing to say about it.

Bring this experience to your project

Use “Passed 106 of 106 PDF/UA-1 profile checks” as a starting point for a similar challenge in your organisation. The services behind this work are available for your project. Handovers, runbooks and manuals that let your own staff operate the system without ringing whoever built it.

Explore our services Get in touch →

Look behind the result

Read the situation, decisions and result in this example. We can discuss which parts transfer to your constraints and which need another approach. Passed 106 of 106 PDF/UA-1 profile checks — 106 configured PDF/UA checks passed, out of 106

Explore our services Get in touch →

Are your PDFs readable by a screen reader?

Talk through your project with the engineer responsible for delivery. We agree the scope, price basis and handover in writing before work begins.

Role context: Accessibility Specialist. It draws on Web Development, Automation & CI/CD, Testing & QA, Python, UX / UI Design and Documentation. And while you are here, we are rather good at Website Development & CMS, UI/UX Design & Design Systems and Technical Documentation.

Get in touch Explore our services

One piece of **a longer record** — and it is all on this site.

Every entry is written the same way: the situation, the task, what we did and what changed.

See the whole record

Define the improvement you need

Bring the decision, the people affected and the options already considered. We can make the tradeoffs explicit and leave a documented recommendation.

See what it costs Get in touch →

Are your PDFs readable by a screen reader?

Ask about the decisions behind “Passed 106 of 106 PDF/UA-1 profile checks”. You will speak with the people who can explain the work and assess your own project.

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Contact card

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