

Simplifying PDF Accessibility with Automation: A Practical Guide

Presented by Polar Imaging

About Polar Imaging

Polar Imaging is a leader in document management and digitization services, proudly helping organizations across North America modernize how they manage, access, and secure their information. We're offering Accessibility on Demand (AoD) to support compliance with AODA and ACA standards - while saving organizations significant time and cost.

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1. Introduction: Why PDF Accessibility Matters

As we move toward a more inclusive digital world, ensuring that PDF documents are accessible to everyone - including individuals with visual or cognitive impairments - is no longer optional. With legislation like AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) and ACA (Accessible Canada Act), public-facing content must meet strict accessibility standards.

The December 31, 2025 deadline for AODA compliance is fast approaching. Many organizations are now seeking efficient, cost-effective ways to bring their documents into compliance without draining internal resources.

2. Understanding AODA & ACA Requirements

Under AODA and ACA, public-facing documents must:

- Be readable by screen readers
- Include proper tagging structure (headings, lists, tables, etc.)
- Provide alt-text for images
- Be navigable and searchable
- Avoid scanned images of text without OCR

Non-compliance can result in:

- Fines and penalties
 - Legal risk
 - Public backlash
 - Missed opportunities to serve your entire community
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3. Traditional PDF Remediation vs. Automation

Traditional Methods:

- Time-consuming and expensive
- Highly manual (tagging via Adobe Acrobat, etc.)
- Requires specialized training

Automated Approach (AoD):

- Remediates up to 100% of accessibility issues instantly
 - Significantly lower cost per page
 - Allows organizations to scale fast and meet deadlines
 - Human QA available for 100% compliance when needed
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4. What Is Accessibility on Demand (AoD)?

AoD is Polar Imaging's on-demand, credit-based platform that automates PDF remediation in minutes.

- No contracts or subscriptions
 - Pay only for what you use
 - Supports bulk uploads and large projects
 - Real-time remediation preview
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5. How AoD Works

1. Upload your PDF documents to the AoD platform
 2. AoD processes and remediates files automatically
 3. Download tagged, accessible, AODA/ACA-compliant files
 4. Optional: Add human QA review for critical documents
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6. Client Success Stories

"My mind is blown. I'm used to doing tags in Adobe – long and painful."

"Even if it's more than what we're spending now, we'll figure out how to get there."

"For years we've just wanted this issue to go away – your solution finally solves it."

"I'm really, really pleased to see that there's finally a tool available - municipalities have a really hard time with how to approach this effectively."

Municipalities, healthcare institutions, and educational organizations across Ontario are seeing real impact.

7. Getting Started with AoD

Interested in seeing AoD in action? We offer:

- Free demos using your own documents
- Complimentary website assessments to count your documents and pages
- Pilot programs to test before purchasing credits

Visit: polarimaging.ca/accessibility-on-demand

8. FAQs

Is AoD compliant with both AODA and ACA?

Yes. AoD remediates files to WCAG 2.1 AA and PDF/UA standards.

Can I still use AoD for scanned PDFs?

Absolutely. AoD uses OCR to process and tag image-based documents.

What if I need 100% compliance?

Choose our Level 3 human-reviewed service for critical documents like legal notices.

Do I need to install anything?

No. AoD is cloud-based and works from any browser.

9. Contact Polar Imaging

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Polar Imaging

Your trusted partner for document digitization, document management systems, automated AP systems, and PDF accessibility automation.