VPAT Accessibility Conformance Report

(Based on ITI VPAT©)

Name of Product	**Engineering Village**
Date Last Updated	May 1, 2026
Completed by	**Madison Russell** (Elsevier Digital Accessibility Team)
Applicable Standards/Guidelines	This document rates Engineering Village according to the W3C WCAG 2.2 A and AA requirements.
Contact for More Information	Elsevier Digital Accessibility Team accessibility@elsevier.com
Testing Tools and Methods	• Hands-on keyboard operation • DevTools/Code inspection • Mozilla Firefox 131 and Chrome 129 on Windows 11 23H2 • NVDA screen reader 2024.2 • WAVE Browser Extension • Color Contrast Analyzer • W3C Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) Pages • Elsevier Accessibility Checklist
Document Sections	This review document includes all WCAG 2.2 A and AA checkpoints, organized into 7 logical sections: • Visuals • Keyboard • Headings and Structure • Labeling • Multimedia • Usability • Mobile User Experience
Pages Covered	Quick Search, Quick Search Results, Alerts and Saved Searches, Search History, My Preferences, Selected Records, Feedback Modal, Article Page, Compendex Overview, Engineering Research Profile, Engineering Village AI Search, Engineering Village AI Response, Affiliation Search Results, Conference Series
Terms	• **Supports**: The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criteria without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation. • **Partially supports**: Some functionality of the product does not meet the criteria. • **Does not support**: Majority of functionality of the product does not meet the criteria. • **Supports (N/A):** According to W3C on conformance, "If there is no content to which a success criterion applies, the success criterion is satisfied."
Notes/Terminology	• “AT” stands for Assistive Technology such as screen readers, voice input, etc.

Conformance Summary

WCAG 2.2 Success Criterion	Level	Evaluation
1.1.1: Non-text Content	A	Supports
1.2.1: Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	A	Supports (N/A)
1.2.2: Captions (Prerecorded)	A	Supports (N/A)
1.2.3: Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	A	Supports (N/A)
1.2.4: Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.2.5: Audio Description	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.3.1: Info and Relationships	A	Partially supports
1.3.2: Meaningful Sequence	A	Supports
1.3.3: Sensory Characteristics	A	Supports
1.3.4: Orientation (2.1)	AA	Supports
1.3.5: Identify Input Purpose (2.1)	AA	Partially supports
1.4.1: Use of Color	A	Partially supports
1.4.2: Audio Control	A	Supports (N/A)
1.4.3: Contrast (Minimum)	AA	Partially supports
1.4.4: Resize text	AA	Partially supports
1.4.5: Images of Text	AA	Partially supports
1.4.10: Reflow (2.1)	AA	Does not support
1.4.11: Non-Text Contrast (2.1)	AA	Partially supports
1.4.12: Text Spacing (2.1)	AA	Partially supports
1.4.13: Content on Hover or Focus (2.1)	AA	Supports
2.1.1: Keyboard	A	Partially supports
2.1.2: No Keyboard Trap	A	Supports
2.1.4: Character Key Shortcuts (2.1)	A	Supports (N/A)
2.2.1: Timing Adjustable	A	Supports
2.2.2: Pause, Stop, Hide	A	Supports (N/A)
2.3.1: Three Flashes or Below Threshold	A	Supports (N/A)
2.4.1: Bypass Blocks	A	Supports
2.4.2: Page Titled	A	Supports
2.4.3: Focus Order	A	Partially supports
2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context)	A	Partially supports
2.4.5: Multiple Ways	AA	Supports
2.4.6: Headings and Labels	AA	Supports
2.4.7: Focus Visible	AA	Partially supports
2.4.11: Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (2.2)	AA	Partially supports
2.5.1: Pointer Gestures (2.1)	A	Supports (N/A)
2.5.2: Pointer Cancellation (2.1)	A	Supports
2.5.3: Label in Name (2.1)	A	Partially supports
2.5.4: Motion Actuation (2.1)	A	Supports (N/A)
2.5.7: Dragging Movements (2.2)	AA	Partially supports

WCAG 2.2 Success Criterion	Level	Evaluation
2.5.8: Target Size (Minimum) (2.2)	AA	Supports
3.1.1: Language of Page	A	Supports
3.1.2: Language of Parts	AA	Partially supports
3.2.1: On Focus	A	Supports
3.2.2: On Input	A	Supports
3.2.3: Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports
3.2.4: Consistent Identification	AA	Supports
3.2.6: Consistent Help (2.2)	A	Supports
3.3.1: Error Identification	A	Supports
3.3.2: Labels or Instructions	A	Supports
3.3.3: Error Suggestion	AA	Supports
3.3.4: Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports (N/A)
3.3.7: Redundant Entry (2.2)	A	Supports
3.3.8: Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (2.2)	AA	Supports
4.1.1: Parsing	A	Supports
4.1.2: Name, Role, Value	A	Partially supports
4.1.3: Status Messages (2.1)	AA	Supports

WCAG 2.2 A and AA Success Criteria

Visuals

WCAG 2.2 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.1.1: Non-Text Content (A) Provide text alternatives for non-text content (e.g. images)	Supports	Content is largely text-based, with few instances of non-text content. The available non-text content has provided text alternatives or is decorative.
1.3.3: Sensory Characteristics (A) Do not rely on sensory characteristics of components such as shape, size, visual location, orientation, or sound	Supports	In all instances, instructions for operating or understanding content do not rely solely on sensory characteristics.
1.4.1: Use of Color (A) Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying info	Partially supports	In most instances, when color is used as a means of conveying information, another visual method is also used to convey the information without color. **Exceptions:** Engineering Research Profile: default institution star checkbox uses color alone to indicate if the institution is the default
1.4.3: Color Contrast (Minimum) (AA) Text has enough contrast with the background (4.5:1 for small text and 3:1 for large text)	Partially supports	Text has sufficient contrast with its corresponding background in many areas. **Exceptions:** Quick Search Results: “limit to” and “exclude” button text has a color contrast ratio of 3.2:1 Alerts and Saved Searches: “note” text has a color contrast ratio of 3.2:1 Search History: “note” text has a color contrast ratio of 3.2:1 Feedback Modal: link text has a color contrast ratio of 2.9:1 Article Page: terms text has a color contrast ratio of 4.3:1 Engineering Research Profile: View More modal selected view color has a color contrast ratio of 3.1:1
1.4.4: Resize Text (AA) Text can be enlarged up to 200% without loss of functionality.	Partially supports	Text may be enlarged to 200% while preserving functionality of content in many instances. **Exceptions:**

		Quick Search Results: “Full text” button text is partially obscured when text is resized to 200%, database name is obscured when text is resized to 200% Search History: table headings are partially obscured when text is resized to 200% Selected Records: full text option buttons are partially obscured when text is zoomed to 200%, record display options are partially obscured when text is zoomed to 200% Compendex Overview: some text is obscured when text is zoomed to 200%, data is obscured when text is zoomed to 200% Affiliation Search Results: “Limit to” and “exclude” buttons are partially obscured when text is zoomed to 200%, Display Results Per Page dropdown is obscured when text is zoomed to 200%
1.4.5: Images of Text (AA) Text is used rather than images of text, except where the presentation of text is essential, such as logos	Partially supports	Few images of text are used other than for logos or essential presentation. **Exceptions:** Quick Search Results: “check local full-text” button is an image of text Article Page: “check local full-text” button is an image of text
1.4.10: Reflow (AA) Content can be presented without loss of information or functionality, and without requiring scrolling in two dimensions for: • Vertical scrolling content at a width equivalent to 320 CSS pixels; • Horizontal scrolling content at a height equivalent to 256 CSS pixels.	Does not support	All pages and significant areas of content do not feature responsive views where content reflows into a single column. **Exceptions:** Global: pages require horizontal and vertical scrolling when zoomed to 400% browser zoom Quick Search Results: filters are obscured by articles when zoomed to 400% browser zoom Alerts and Saved Searches: active information dialog is obscured when zoomed to 400% browser zoom, alert information is partially obscured when zoomed to 400% browser zoom Search History: search history table is partially obscured when zoomed to 400% browser zoom, “Delete this item?” modal text is partially obscured when page is zoomed to 400% browser zoom Selected Records: record option buttons obscure record format options when page is zoomed to 400% browser zoom, article title and “results per page” text are obscured when page is zoomed to 400% browser zoom Engineering Research Profile: View More modal content is obscured when page is zoomed to 400% browser zoom

		Affiliation Search Results: Display Results Per Page dropdown is obscured when page is zoomed to 400% browser zoom
1.4.11: Non-Text Contrast (AA) User interact components and graphical objects have a contrast ratio of at least 3:1 against adjacent color(s).	Partially supports	Many non-text UI components and graphical objects have at least a 3:1 contrast ratio against surrounding colors. **Exceptions:** Quick Search Results: checkboxes have a color contrast ratio of 1.8:1, Download Records modal radio buttons have a color contrast ratio of 2:1 Alerts and Saved Searches: checkboxes have a color contrast ratio of 2:1 Search History: checkboxes have a color contrast ratio of 2:1 Selected Records: Download Records modal radio buttons have a color contrast ratio of 2:1 Feedback Modal: close button has a color contrast ratio of 2.8:1 Engineering Research Profile: radio buttons have a color contrast ratio of 2:1 Affiliation Search Results: checkboxes have a color contrast ratio of 2.3:1
1.4.12: Text Spacing (AA) In content implemented using markup languages that support the following text style properties, no loss of content or functionality occurs by setting all the following and by changing no other style property: • Line height (line spacing) to at least 1.5 times the font size; • Spacing following paragraphs to at least 2 times the font size; • Letter spacing (tracking) to at least 0.12 times the font size;	Partially supports	Users may generally adjust the text spacing of content on pages to the minimum baseline properties without causing loss of content or functionality. **Exceptions:** Selected Records: “results per page” text is obscured when text spacing

• Word spacing to at least 0.16 times the font size.		
1.4.13: Content on Hover or Focus (AA) Where receiving and then removing pointer hover or keyboard focus triggers additional content to become visible and then hidden, the following are true: • Dismissible • Hoverable • Persistent	Supports	Content that appears on hover or focus is uncommonly encountered, and such content is dismissible, hoverable, or persistent according to the criteria.
2.3.1: Three Flashes or Below Threshold (A) No more than three flashes in a 1-second period, or the flashes are below the defined thresholds	Supports (N/A)	No flashing content exists.

Keyboard

WCAG 2.2 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.3.2: Meaningful Sequence (A) The correct reading sequence can be programmatically determined	Supports	The correct reading sequence is logical and programmatically determinable, with the DOM order according with the visual order.
2.1.1: Keyboard (A) All functionality is available from a keyboard, except for tasks such as drawing	Partially supports	Standard web page content and functionality is generally keyboard operable. **Exceptions**: Global: elements inside Support Center drop-down cannot be accessed using keyboard only Selected Records: keyboard skips “full text” and “Linda Hall Library…” links
2.1.2: No Keyboard Trap (A) The user can use the keyboard to move through page elements and is not trapped on a particular element	Supports	Pages do not have a keyboard trap.
2.1.4: Character Key Shortcuts (A)	Supports (N/A)	The site does not use any character key shortcuts.

If a keyboard shortcut is implemented in content using only letter (including upper- and lower-case letters), punctuation, number, or symbol characters, then at least one of the following is true: • Turn off • Remap • Active only on focus		
2.4.3: Focus Order (A) Users can tab through the elements of a page in a logical order	Partially supports	Tab order is largely logical across the site and preserves the meaning and operability of content in most instances. **Exceptions:** Feedback Modal: focus is not restricted inside the modal Engineering Research Profile: focus jumps to "search institution by name" after searching using filters
2.4.7: Focus Visible (AA) The page element with the current keyboard focus has a visible focus indicator	Partially supports	Most elements across the site feature visible focus indicators. **Exceptions:** Affiliation Search Results: Display and Sort By dropdowns are missing visible focus indicators, result checkboxes are missing visible focus indicators
2.4.11: Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (AA) When a user interface component receives keyboard focus, the component is not entirely hidden due to author-created content.	Partially supports	Components are typically not obscured by other content at the point when they receive focus. **Exceptions:** Engineering Village AI Response: focus is obscured by "ask a follow-up question" when focus is on citation links
3.2.1: On Focus (A) When a UI component receives focus, this does not trigger unexpected actions.	Supports	Focusable elements do not cause unexpected actions/changes of context when receiving focus.

Headings and Structure

WCAG 2.2 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.3.1: Information and Relationships (A)	Partially supports	Content is distinguishable via semantic structure and relationships to a moderate extent. A logical heading order reflecting page organization

Info, structure, and relationships can be programmatically determined		and content, although generally sparse, is programmatically determinable on some pages. **Exceptions:** Global: links inside header pop-ups are visually in a list but not semantically Quick Search: “Recently searched” is visually a heading but not semantically Quick Search Results: search links are visually in a list but not semantically, filters are visually in a list but not semantically, “Source” is a heading semantically but not visually and should have the heading tag removed Alerts and Saved Searches: saved alert list items are not contained within an or Search History: “# Searches” is visually a heading but not semantically, Saved Search links are visually in a list but not semantically Selected Records: list items in detailed article view are not contained within an or Article Page: record action buttons are visually in a list but not semantically Engineering Research Profile: “institutions and groups” is visually a heading but not semantically, chart action buttons are visually in a list but not semantically Engineering Village AI Search: search examples are visually in a list but not semantically Engineering Village AI Response: answer action buttons are visually in a list but not semantically, some information is visually in an ordered list but not semantically Affiliation Search Results: page is missing a level one heading
2.4.1: Bypass Blocks (A) Users can bypass repeated blocks of content.	Supports	On all pages, landmarks demarcating various content regions – and the presence of programmatically determinable headings – allow AT users to conveniently jump to different areas of content.
2.4.6: Headings and Labels (AA) Headings and labels are clear and consistent.	Supports	Headings and labels used are typically clear and descriptive. For example, most pages feature visually distinct (if not programmatically determinable) descriptive headings to help distinguish content.
3.1.1: Language of Page (A)	Supports	The default page language is appropriately defined as lang="en".

The language of the page is specified		
3.1.2: Language of Parts (AA) Specify the language of text passages that are in a different language than the default language of the page.	Partially supports	Sections or phrases of text may occasionally not match the default (i.e. selected) page language. **Exceptions:** Global: text that is in a language other than the default (such as titles of articles) do not indicate the section language Selected Records: some abstract text has an invalid lang attribute (such as lang="eng")
4.1.1: Parsing (A) Use valid, error-free HTML	Supports	WCAG 2.1 Errata notes: "This Success Criterion should be considered as always satisfied for any content using HTML or XML." Note: There may be other general HTML validation errors outside the scope of this criterion (see SC 1.3.1).

Labeling

WCAG 2.2 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.3.5: Identify Input Purpose (AA) The purpose of each input field collecting information about the user can be programmatically determined when: • The input field serves a purpose identified in the Input Purposes for User Interface Components section; and • The content is implemented using technologies with support for identifying the expected meaning for form input data.	Partially supports	The only pages featuring applicable form elements that collect such information about the user are Login (which an external method of authentication, if configured, would supplant) and Email Records modal. **Exceptions:** Selected Records: Email Records modal "Your Email" field is missing an autocomplete attribute
2.4.2: Page Titled (A) The page has a title describing its topic or purpose	Supports	Pages feature a descriptive page title that identifies content or purpose.
2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context) (A) The purpose of each link can be determined	Partially supports	An identifiable purpose may be deduced for many links from the link text or surrounding context. **Exceptions:**

from the link text or surrounding context.		Alerts and Saved Searches: skip nav link has no discernible text, “Edit Alert” link does not contain accessible text, “Delete Alert” link does not contain accessible text, “Share Alert” link does not contain accessible text Search History: skip nav link has no discernible text Selected Records: skip nav link has no discernible text, author email link has no discernible text Article Page: author email link has no discernible text Compendex Overview: skip nav link has no discernible text Engineering Research Profile: skip nav link has no discernible text
2.5.3: Label in Name (A) For user interface components with labels that include text or images of text, the name contains the text that is presented visually.	Partially supports	Most user interface components that have visible text contain that text consistently within the accessible name. **Exceptions:** Global: “User Menu” label name does not contain the visible label (the user’s initials) Quick Search: “Add date range” label name does not match the visible label “Add Year Range”, “search input row 1” label name does not match the visible label “Search Documents” Article Page: “View At Publisher (opens in a new window)” label name does not match the visible label “Full Text”, “View Scopus Authors” label name does not match the visible label “5” Engineering Research Profile: View More modal “View More” label name does not match the visible label “max”
3.2.4: Consistent Identification (AA) UI components used across the web site are identified consistently on every page.	Supports	Components are typically consistent across the site, and identified consistently where they perform the same function across pages.
3.3.1: Error Identification (A) Input errors are clearly marked and described to the user.	Supports	Errors are identified visually and may be validated before (dynamically) or after form submission.
3.3.2: Labels or Instructions (A) Items requiring user input are clearly labeled or have clear instructions.	Supports	Clear labels or instructions are provided for form elements.
3.3.3: Error Suggestion (AA)	Supports	Relevant helpful suggestions are occasionally provided in text via various mechanisms.

When the user makes an input error, give suggestions for valid input.		
4.1.2: Name, Role, Value (A) For all UI components, the name, value, and role can be programmatically determined.	Partially supports	Most UI components communicate their state programmatically and have accessible names that are appropriately defined. **Exceptions:** Global: Support Center drop-down buttons are missing accessible names, Support Center drop-down buttons are missing roles and are currently contained in unlabeled elements Quick Search Results: Preprint articles alert close button uses aria-hidden with no accessible name, Download Records modal Format Excel checkbox is missing an accessible label Alerts and Saved Searches: active information button is missing accessible name, recent publication status checkbox is missing an accessible label Search History: Send Email modal message textarea is missing an accessible name Selected Records: Download Records modal Format Excel checkbox is missing an accessible label Feedback Modal: text area is missing an accessible name Compendex Overview: chart context menu is not an actual button and is missing a role Engineering Research Profile: “remove all” button is missing an accessible name, chart context menus are not actual buttons and are missing roles, pie/bar button is not an actual button and is missing a role, default institution star checkbox is missing checkbox role Affiliation Search Results: City and Country/Region accordion arrows should be buttons rather than links and do not have accessible names, affiliations selected information button is missing an accessible name
4.1.3: Status Messages (AA) In content implemented using markup languages, status messages can be programmatically determined through role or properties such that they can be presented to the user by assistive	Supports	Status messages are uncommonly encountered.

technologies without receiving focus.		

Multimedia

WCAG 2.2 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.2.1: Audio-only or Video-only (Prerecorded) (A) Provide alternatives for pre-recorded audio-only or video-only content.	Supports (N/A)	There is no pre-recorded audio-only or video-only content.
1.2.2: Captions (Prerecorded) (A) Provide captions for pre-recorded audio	Supports (N/A)	No captions are provided for audiovisual content.
1.2.3: Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (A) Provide alternatives for pre-recorded synchronized audio/video	Supports (N/A)	There is no synchronized audio/video content.
1.2.4: Captions (Live) (AA) Provide captions for live audio in synchronized audio/video.	Supports (N/A)	There is no synchronized audio/video content nor live audio.
1.2.5: Audio Description (Prerecorded) (AA) Provide an audio description of pre-recorded video.	Supports (N/A)	There is no pre-recorded video.
1.4.2: Audio Control (A) Audio can be paused and stopped, or the audio volume can be changed.	Supports (N/A)	No pages feature audio that plays automatically.
2.2.2: Pause, Stop, Hide (A) Users can stop, pause, or hide moving, blinking, scrolling, or auto-updating information.	Supports (N/A)	There is no moving, scrolling, or auto-updating information for which the criterion is applicable.

Usability

WCAG 2.2 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
2.2.1: Timing Adjustable (A) Users are warned of time limits shorter than 20 hours and time limits can be turned off or extended	Supports	Pages are not subject to session time limits or timeouts for user inactivity shorter than 20 hours.
2.4.5: Multiple Ways (AA) More than one way is available to navigate to other web pages.	Supports	All pages (except steps/results of a process) may typically be located and accessed in multiple ways.
3.2.2: On Input (A) Changing the setting of a checkbox, radio button, or other UI component does not trigger unexpected changes in context.	Supports	User input, such as changing the values of form elements, does not initiate unexpected actions or changes in context.
3.2.3: Consistent Navigation (AA) Navigation menus are in the same location and order on every web page.	Supports	Navigation menus are consistent across pages.
3.2.6: Consistent Help (A) Help mechanisms such as contact details or self-help options are in the same relative order across multiple web pages, unless the user changes them.	Supports	Available help mechanisms (i.e. “Help & Support” menu button in global header) are consistent across pages, always occurring in the same order relative to other page content.
3.3.7: Redundant Entry (A) Previously entered information is either auto-populated or selectable for the user in the same process, except when re-entry is essential, needed for security, or the information is outdated.	Supports	There are no instances where previously entered/provided information is required to be entered again.
3.3.8: Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (AA)	Supports	Login is a simple form that poses no cognitive function tests beyond remembering a site-specific password, and does not impede conventional copy-and-paste functionality.

A cognitive function test (such as remembering a password or solving a puzzle) is not required for any step in an authentication process unless that step provides at least one of the following: • Alternative • Mechanism • Object Recognition • Personal Content		
3.3.4: Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (AA) For web pages with legal or financial commitments, input can be reviewed and corrected before final submission, and submissions can be reverted.	Supports (N/A)	There are no submissions which require legal or financial commitments.

Mobile User Experience

WCAG 2.2 Checkpoint	Conformance Level	Remarks
1.3.4: Orientation (AA) Content does not restrict its view and operation to a single display orientation, such as portrait or landscape, unless a specific display orientation is essential.	Supports	Pages do not restrict view and operation of content to a single orientation.
2.5.1: Pointer Gestures (A) All functionality that uses multipoint or path-based gestures for operation can be operated with a single pointer without a path-based gesture, unless a multipoint or path-based gesture is essential.	Supports (N/A)	Pages do not utilize or require multipoint or path-based gestures for any functionality.
2.5.2: Pointer Cancellation (A)	Supports	All interactive content functions through the Up-Event, allowing users to potentially move their pointer off the component to cancel.

For functionality that can be operated using a single pointer, at least one of the following is true: • No Down-Event • Abort or Undo • Up Reversal • Essential		
2.5.4: Motion Actuation (A) Functionality that can be operated by device motion or user motion can also be operated by user interface components and responding to the motion can be disabled to prevent accidental actuation, except when: • Supported Interface • Essential	Supports (N/A)	There is no content that utilizes device or user motion.
2.5.7: Dragging Movements (AA) All functionality that uses a dragging movement for operation can be achieved by a single pointer without dragging, unless dragging is essential or the functionality is determined by the user agent and not modified by the author.	Partially supports	Functionality that utilizes dragging movements is uncommonly encountered. When it is encountered, a keyboard-only option is available. **Exceptions:** My Preferences: research profile favorite institutions cannot be reordered using a single pointer without dragging
2.5.8: Target Size (Minimum) (AA) The size of the target for pointer inputs is at least 24 by 24 CSS pixels, with certain exceptions involving: • Spacing • Equivalent • Inline • User agent control • Essential	Supports	Targets for pointer inputs either exceed the minimum size defined by the criterion or qualify under the spacing exception.