High-level accessibility review – BTAA (Mergent Online - final version)

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High-level accessibility review – Mergent Online

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Mergent Online

Summary (top 3 problems for Mergent Online)

This assessment covers portions of the Mergent Online application. The assessment revealed significant problems with screen reader compatibility and keyboard-only navigation. Screen reader users are not provided with critical information needed for understanding forms. Keyboard-only users are not able to operate certain parts of the interface.

1. Form controls are not labeled – Visual form control labels are not programmatically associated with their inputs. This will cause significant hardship for people who use screen readers because the purpose of form controls is not obvious without the programmatic association.

2. Screen reader compatibility – Several parts of the application are incompatible with screen readers. Important information like roles, states, and properties of tabs and autocomplete components are not provided to screen readers. Many screen reader users will find this lack of information about the interface frustrating. Additionally, PDF documents are untagged, which will make it very difficult for screen reader users to use.

3. Color contrast not met – There are many instances throughout the application where minimum color contrast requirements are not met. This will make it difficult for people with low vision and/or color blindness to use the application.

Accessibility findings

Project wide issues

The issues presented in this section were identified in multiple pages and are recorded here to avoid repetition. These are applicable to each screen. Due to particularities, similar issues are reported on a page per page basis, where applicable.

Automated findings using Axe

- SC 1.1.1 – The image to expand “My Mergent Tools” must have alt text.
- SC 3.1.1 – The <html> element must have a lang attribute.
- SC 4.1.1 – ID attributes must be unique.

Issues found through automated testing come from the Axe plugin, an open source accessibility testing tool that is available for Firefox and Chrome. Details here: https://www.deque.com/products/axe/.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

- SC 1.4.3 – The selected navigation tab must have sufficient color contrast.
- SC 1.4.3 – All header links must have sufficient color contrast with background image.
- SC 2.1.1 – “My Mergent Tools” button must be usable by keyboard alone.
- SC 4.1.2 – “My Mergent Tools” button must communicate its change of state to assistive technologies.

1. Mergent Online landing page

Source: http://www.mergentonline.com/basicsearch.php
Test case: Test platform landing page, including tabs at the top, checkboxes, dropdowns, company search, etc.

Automated findings using Axe

- **SC 1.4.3** – Elements in the “corporate calendar” must have sufficient color contrast.
- **SC 3.3.2** – All form controls must have programmatic labels.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

- **SC 1.3.1** – Groups of checkboxes and radio buttons must be programmatically grouped with a fieldset and legend.
- **SC 1.3.1** – Groups of related form controls must be programmatically grouped with a fieldset and legend.
- **SC 1.3.1** – Visual headings “Corporate Calendar” and “Country Profile” must be marked up as headings.
- **SC 2.1.1** – “Corporate Calendar” must be usable by keyboard alone.
- **SC 2.4.1** – Pages must contain a skip link, proper heading structure, and/or landmarks
- **SC 3.3.2** – The industry code text input must have a visible label.
2. Company Search


Test case: Test the company search by searching for: Disney (should autofill/complete)

Automated findings using Axe

- **SC 1.3.1** – Company Search textbox must have a programmatic label

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

- **SC 1.1.1** – The tooltip images in autocomplete results must have alternative text.
- **SC 2.1.1** – Tooltips in autocomplete results must be usable by keyboard alone.
- **SC 4.1.2** – Tooltips on tabs and other links must be screen reader accessible.
- **SC 4.1.2** – Autocomplete must be marked up as an ARIA combobox with grid results to surface appropriate semantics such as role, state, and properties.
3. Search results page for Disney


Test case: Test search results page for Disney – how accessible is the text, tabs (and grey subtabs), graph(s), boxes that pop up over links (example under key executives) etc.

![Search results page for Disney](image)

Automated findings using Axe

- **SC 1.1.1** – The company logo must have alternative text.
- **SC 1.1.1** – Images to expand/collapse content must have alternative text.
- **SC 1.1.1** – All graphs must have alternative text.
- **SC 1.1.1** – Download and print images must have alternative text.
- **SC 1.3.1** – All form controls must have programmatic labels.
- **SC 1.4.3** – “Change Company” label must have sufficient color contrast.
- **SC 1.4.3** – Source and date text under “Company News” must have sufficient color contrast.
- **SC 2.4.2** – All frames must have a title attribute.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

- **SC 1.3.1** – The visual heading “Disney (Walt) Co...” must be marked up as a heading.
- **SC 1.3.1** – All four data tables must have proper column and row headers.
- **SC 1.4.1** – Color alone must not be used to indicate the current tab (under main tabs)
- **SC 1.4.3** – Blue text in the company summary must have sufficient color contrast.
- **SC 2.1.1** – Tooltips on tabs and other links must be usable by keyboard alone.
- **SC 2.1.1** – Data points on the “web volume” chart must be usable by keyboard alone.
- **SC 4.1.2** – Tooltips on tabs and other links must be screen reader accessible.
- **SC 4.1.2** – “company news” and “corporate events” tabs must have tab semantics (name, role, value, etc).
- **SC 4.1.2** – Buttons to expand/collapse content must communicate their change of state to assistive technologies.
- **SC 4.2.1** – Data points on the “web volume” must have name and role to be screen reader accessible.
4. Test PDFs


Test case: From the search results page, test one of the PDFs you can download from the Executive tabs. Is it accessible? What about PDFs under the Reports tab (have to click one of the links)?

Specific findings about the PDF download using NVDA screen reader

The PDF documents under the Executive tabs and the Reports tab are untagged PDF documents, with very limited capabilities in terms of accessibility. Some of the issues found in the PDF documents include:

- The documents are not tagged and contain no tagging structure
- The documents do not have any headings to help make sense of the content structure
- No semantics are provided to help screen reader users navigate through the PDFs
- Images are not marked up and provided with appropriate alt text
- Screen readers struggle reading through the content as it currently is presented
- The documents show their filename instead of the document title by default
- The primary language of the documents is not identified as being English
- The documents are not assigned a meaningful descriptive title
- The documents do not offer a list of bookmarks to navigate through the content
- Etc.
5. Company financials tab


**Test case:** From the Company financials tab, is the table accessible?

Automated findings using Axe

- **SC 1.1.1** – The tooltip images must have alternative text.
- **SC 1.3.1** – All form controls must have programmatic labels.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

- **SC 1.3.1** – Cells reserved for tooltips must have a column header.
- **SC 1.3.1** – Rows 2-5 must not be marked up as column headers.
- **SC 1.3.1** – First column of each row should be marked up as a row header.
- **SC 2.1.1** – Tooltips must be usable by keyboard alone.
- **SC 4.1.2** – Tooltips must be screen reader accessible.
6. Test the advanced search tab/interface.


Test case: Test the advanced search tab/interface. Are the checkboxes accessible? Are the plus sign icons/options under “corporate information” accessible, etc? (You don’t need to do an actual search, the search results page for Disney from the advanced search would be the same as a basic search.

Automated findings using Axe

- SC 1.3.1 – All checkboxes must have programmatic labels.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

- SC 1.3.1 – Group of checkboxes under “Select Target Universe” must be programmatically grouped with a fieldset and legend.
- SC 1.3.1 – All form controls for search parameters must have programmatic labels.
- SC 1.4.3 – Links to add search parameters must have sufficient color contrast.
- SC 2.1.1 – Search tabs must be keyboard accessible.
- SC 3.3.2 – All form controls for search parameters must have visible labels.
- SC 2.4.4 – “+” links to add search parameters must have labels that describe their purpose.
- SC 2.4.7 – Links to add search parameters must provide a visual focus indicator.
- SC 4.1.2 – Search tabs must have tab semantics (name, role, value, etc).
- SC 4.1.2 – “Select All Criteria” and “Reset” links must have an href attribute to convey link semantics.