



Design + Engineering

# AUDIO DESCRIPTION COMMUNITY GROUP

W3C MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT IG

22 OCT 2018

## GOAL

To create an open standard exchange format to support audio description all the way from scripting to mixing.

## WHAT IS AUDIO DESCRIPTION?

An accessible description of the visual contents of video, usually delivered as audio, either pre-recorded or synthesised, but (until now) not delivered as accessible text...

# BASIS

TTML2 specifies timed text, so can be used for the scripting vectors already.

TTML2 introduces audio mixing and text to speech semantics (themselves based on Web Audio and Web Speech APIs).

We have a requirements document at <https://github.com/w3c/ttml2/wiki/Audio-Description-Requirements> which has had enough time and review to be considered valid at this point – comments are always welcome of course.

A short profile of TTML2 is likely to suffice as the format, alongside explainers.

The TTML2 test repository <http://github.com/w3c/ttml2-tests> includes several test

# TTML2 FEATURES

Required TTML2 features likely to be:

- #animation-version-2
- #audio
- #audio-description
- #audio-speech
- #chunk
- #content
- #core
- #data
- #embedded-audio
- #embedded-data
- #gain
- #pan
- #pitch
- #resources
- #source
- #speak
- #speech
- #structure
- #styling
- #styling-chained
- #styling-inheritance-content
- #styling-inline
- #styling-nested
- #styling-referential
- #timeBase-media
- #time-offset
- #timing

## CURRENT STATUS, AND FUTURE

### **Current Status:**

We have a CG (18 participants) including an Editor who is working on the first draft now.

<https://www.w3.org/community/audio-description/>

BBC has an implementation and has been able to create source data for a real programme.

Participation is welcome, especially interested in implementation feedback.

### **Future:**

if this goes well, hope to add this to the TTWG Charter and make it a Rec track document.