# Create EPUB publications from Word with a simple tool anyone can use

Webinar from the DAISY Consortium held on April 16, 2020

Full details and other resources are available at:
<https://daisy.org/news-events/articles/epub-publications-from-word-w/>

This is a Captioned transcript provided by CIDI to facilitate communication accessibility and is not a verbatim record of the session.

>> Dawn: Hello everyone. Thank you for joining us for today’s webinar on how to “Create EPUB publications from Word with a simple tool anyone can use”.

My name is Dawn Evans and I'm this week's guest host. I am the Coordinator for the AccessText Network where Disability Service Providers at post-secondary institutions in the U.S. and Canada can easily place requests to publishers for electronic files of college textbooks on behalf of students with disabilities. AccessText is happy to be an Associate Member of the DAISY Consortium as well.

Now I’ll hand the floor over to our speakers to introduce themselves.

>> Richard: Thank you, Dawn. I'm from the DAISY consortium.

>>Joseph: Hello, I'm the alternative media supervisor at UC Berkeley.

>> Erin: I'm from Microsoft.

>> Prashant: I'm an accessibility specialist at the DAISY Consortium.

>> Richard: Let's get into the session overview. We are going to talk about EPUB from Word. Why what and how. Then only a reckless fool would do a live demo of different bits of software in a webinar. So, we are going to spend time doing that. Then we will talk about use cases and I hope leave plenty of time for questions and answers. So, to the why of we are talking about this, this slide is beyond the publishers. Those who have attended webinars in this series before will know that EPUB is a digital publishing format for everybody. For people without and with print disabilities. We know that in the trade, academic and scholarly sectors, publishers have adopted EPUB in their droves. However, in addition to the published books and journals we need publications from public, commercial and governments. So, there are many cases for providing a workflow for accessible materials. Joseph, why don't you tell us about that.

>>Joseph: There's a need for a long time now that there be a simple to use EPUB creation tool. Many of the people that might be interested in such a tool is university professor who wishes to share documents, research, articles with the whole class using a universal recognized standard like an EPUB. So, an EPUB creation tool at a university setting would be highly desired. In addition to that, E book authors often will have a task of creating the task of creating the document in a Word processing application and then wish to supply an eBook version of that text to the publisher. So, having a simple to use tool to create an eBook from your Word processing document is also very highly desired.

In addition, there are institutions like a government department who perhaps would wish to create a universally recognized or flexible format like EPUB of their official documents and in developing countries and schools around the world there may be a desire to create educational materials using a format like EPUB that can be opened on a wide variety of platforms.

In addition to being able to create an EPUB in an easy way, it's very important that the EPUB that's created is an accessible EPUB. So, let's talk for a moment about what an accessible EPUB looks like.

An EPUB that is accessible needs to have reading order that is consistent with the original intention of the author. So, all of the text needs to be structured in a way where the reading the text on the page is read in the correct order. So, the main body text, the side bar text is all reading consistently so that the reader knows where he is. That also means that the structure of the book, namely the chapters, sections, units are all structured so a reader would be able to jump to a chapter if he wishes and find his place easily. The page numbers also are an essential aspect of a reading experience. Students who are using Assistive Technology or individuals who just wish to jump to another part of a portion of the text will need to jump quickly to that page number using the table of contents or go to page feature on an EPUB.

When you have table content where there are comp plex tables, complex data relationships, the EPUB needs to have proper markup of the table headers. If you have a column header or row header, these cells within a table need to be properly marked up so an individual navigating the table can know exactly which row or column they are in.

In addition, an EPUB that is accessible will be able to reflow on multiple devices so someone with a visual impairment or wishes at a given moment to resize the text and use a different font that is their preference is able to do so without the text being jumbled up and without the text losing its integrity and structure.

Many students, many readers of eBooks and alternative formats want the text read out loud. So, the text must be accessible to the technology they are using so they can hear the text read out loud. If there are images in the EPUB, if these are essential to the content of the publication of the text, they need to be described and these alternative text descriptions also need to be available and structured in the EPUB.

Finally, if there any mathematical content, this content needs to be structured in such a way that the individuals using screen readers or Assistive Technology can hear that text read out loud using the proper controls that they are used to in their Assistive Technology programs.

>> Richard: Joseph, if this slide looks familiar to people who attended last week's webinar it's the same considerations from some of the leading publishers and we are holding the EPUBs that come from a Word processor to the same standards. So, let's see what kind of EPUB we can get from a Word processor.

>>Joseph: Yes, there's a variety of methods for creating an EPUB. Some enterprise software or inhouse program has been developed to manage an XML program. Some use Adobe InDesign. Let's take a quick look on some popular ones.

In Google doc there's a download. This is helpful when you don't have mathematical content. The tool can create a table of contents that's based on the heading structure and retain the alternative text of your images. Google doc might be a good way for those getting started with EPUBs to start creating them on Mac OS you have apple pages. They have a table of contents that based on the heading structure. You can select a cover image. Some of the features that are lacking apple pages is robust meta data editor and marking up second language in the text. And final LibreOffice has a download as EPUB directly option from the file menu and a writer to EPUB extension which has the writer to EPUB extension has a meta data editor and you can select your cover image as well. While that tool has some promise, we haven't always been successful at using the tool since it does seem it requires to use a specific version of LibreOffice and also requires you to install other packages in LibreOffice that writer to EPUB requires. How about Microsoft Word, Richard?

>> Richard: Microsoft Word has lots of great capabilities for producing accessible documents. Sadly, it does not have an ability to produce EPUB from it directly. So, we were hearing that this is a challenge and is a need out there in the community. So we talked with Microsoft Word about that and they told us about their approach to these things which is to start with a hackathon the approach and build something quick and easy and see whether or not people like it and whether the concept flies. So, we built such a concept and we made progress very quickly and people were already starting to ask about being able to use that.

So actually, at Accessing Higher Ground we launched that in a beta format and people started to use it and make accessible books particularly in universities for special libraries for people with print disabilities and for schoolbooks. We got lots of great feedback and lots of test coverage, lots of feature rests. We had support from a number of different organizations including Wipro and Microsoft and now we feel we have a great solution for producing EPUB from Microsoft Word. Let's talk about why focus on Microsoft Word to build out a feature and we will hear from Erin from Microsoft.

>> Erin: There's a lot of great reasons to use Microsoft Word. A lot of people are switching over to EPUB documents from PDF because they are a little bit more flowable, more compatible, have better accessible. There's a question why someone would use an EPUB to PDF and I think that will be covered later in the document but in general there's a lot of accessibility wins for it and we are seeing a lot of universities and other customers ask to move to that format. Microsoft Word is the most widely used word processor on the planet luckily, so I still have a job right now which is nice.

We want to make sure that people using Microsoft Word would have the ability to create EPUBs as EPUBs become more popular. We have a built-in accessibility checker which does a great job of checking main accessibility errors that are common in publishing content which I will go over in the next slide. EPUB documents are used for accessible book production, and previously we had a save as DAISY feature and we wanted to make sure that we weren't deprecating that functionality that people had grown to love and use.

For the accessibility checker I want to touch base on that a little bit because a lot of people don't know about it. Since we have come up with Office 365 we have tried to build in accessibility, bake it in. And make it easier to create accessible content and make it look professional and polished. One way to do that is to make sure it's accessible. So, we built in this easy way to check for accessibility. So, the tool walks through the content and inspects it to identify potential issues. It could be missing headers or images without alt text, maybe a table layout that might create challenges. The accessibility checker only works on Office 2013 or 2016 or Office 365 created documents. If it says opening compatibility mode it won't be able to check that for accessibility. From 2013 and beyond we can check the accessibility of those documents.

It's on the ribbon and you run the accessibility checker. It will review the content and show you a list of accessibility errors found. You will see a list of those errors and warnings and tips and how-to recommendations to fix those and address them.

On that results pane if you click on a warning it will display that item in the document for you to go back and see it. This accessibility checker is also in outlook and in PowerPoint and a couple other things. So when I see alt text missing it helps to be able to go back to the slide where that alt text was.

As you correct the changes, the results pane updates that list automatically. So you will see your warnings and errors and tips decrease which is nice. You can leave the accessibility checker on while you are creating a document so you can always have this dynamic creation of content that's going to be accessible from the beginning.

For Microsoft technology like help us promote digital inclusion and helps us create professional content able to be consumed by everyone making everyone have a level ground and that's really important for us.

>> Richard: Thank you, Erin. I want to stress the importance of the accessibility checker here because the word to EPUB tool takes the Word document and converts to the format of EPUB but what it can't do is invent new accessibility such as heading structures or alt text or other features like that. So, it's really essential that we start with a good Word document for word to EPUB to produce a great EPUB. The accessibility checker is important part of that tool chain. Let's move to the design goals for this tool.

There are other ways of producing and converting file formats from one to another but we wanted to make sure it was really straight forward installation, it was an accessible install and interface for people who use Assistive Technology and we want its use to be as simple as making a print out or creating a PDF. We didn't want to take people through multiple steps and give them too many options if they didn't want to have that kind of control. It should create a valid and accessible EPUB and be capable of producing content in different languages. We have heard use cases in all parts of the world and EPUB is an international format and Word is a tool used globally as we heard earlier.

Then we wanted to make sure we built something with the idea of as we learn more and more about the features that people wanted supporting and as standards evolved and best practice evolve we are able to evolve the tool as well.

So really pleased to introduce you to WordtoEPUB and it is simple to install. It can be run within Word itself. I will demonstrate that working from the ribbon, desktop, and context menu. I will demo that in the demonstration section in a second. I want to thank Microsoft and many other organizations to take us on this journey. You can grab the tool from DAISYy.org/WordtoEPUB. There's a page with information about it, it's purpose and who it's for. A simple link will take the installer and it's a standard install that will put all the dependencies on your computer and you can take it from there.

So, this is the bit where we find out how this thing works. We are going to go to demo mode. I will get rid of the presentation and I'm on my desktop. I will demonstrate a few conversions for you. Let's start with something simple. Here's a Word document. This was sent to me from a colleague in India. It's definitions of persons with disabilities. We are starting with something very simple. A one pager. We have a heading a block quote and more headings and text in different languages. On my word ribbon on the top right I will click on that WordtoEPUB and up will come the tool.

And it has given me the opportunity to change the file name or move the place its saved in. I'm going to click okay to start the conversion. It gives me a progress bar here. It’s made the EPUB for me. I've got the option of viewing the EPUB, opening the fold it’s in or closing this tool. Let's go straight into view the EPUB. It's in an EPUB reader called thorium. I'm going to take the size down so we can see the whole thing in one go. Here is an EPUB. If we bring up the table of contents, we see its very simple. A title and four headings. Just to demonstrate how this would work with a screen reader I'm running NVDA. [Synchronized speech]so we hear a couple of things. We landed on a title. Then we move into a block quote. So, it picked up the semantics that I had a quote marked in my word style there. [Synchronized speech] or I can use an NVDA key to jump to the next item. [Synchronized speech] I want heading level two and that paragraph. [Synchronized speech]. I'm cursoring through. [Synchronized speech].

Finally [synchronized speech].

Okay. Let's come out of that. I have a link in this EPUB here and that's come through in the EPUB. If I click on that it will take me to whatever I linked in the document. That's a really simple demo of a really simple document. Let's look at something more complex. By the way, here's my EPUB in my folder that it created for me.

The next document is called going the extra mile. This is one of the inspirations for this tool. My wife is a university professor. She was writing a journal article and I asked her how she would create an accessible version of that. She said if she would do that it would need to be simple. I do a right click and then I convert to EPUB with WordtoEPUB. What I'm going to do here is if I click on advanced, I have extra options thrown to me. Joseph mentioned meta data. These are properties that describe the data and make it more discoverable. It picks these properties up from the Word file. What I'm going to do on this one is ask it to set the page numbers from headers and footers and I'm going to actually, I'm going to choose a different style. I'm going to choose low vision. What this does is it embeds a great new font in the EPUB from the blind foundation braille foundation, sorry. They produced a font optimized for people with low vision and this option will embed that within the EPUB. Here we are. It created it in my folder there. Why don't I go ahead and view that? Here comes the EPUB. And I can make the text much larger if I like. Here's that nice font. Of course, the properties of EPUBs are such that if I don't like that font then I can choose a different one. There we are. I can do something like change the theme to maybe a [inaudible] if that's something I prefer. Here in the table of contents this particular Word document has lots of different structure who it, so I have that great navigation there too. I've got the page navigation that we talked about as well. So, if I jump to page 10 it takes me to page 10 in the document. And that's the same as it was in the Word document too.

So, let's do a couple more demos of this. The next thing I'm going to create an EPUB from is a document that was produced by Joseph's organization at UC Berkeley. I will run the tool. It says I need to select a Word file. I can select a whole batch of them so it will convert 10, 15 or 100 all in one go. I'm going to pick this one here which is from Joseph's organization. I'm going to go into advance and choose a different cover image. I'm going to choose the UC Berkeley seal. I will pick the option. I will look at this using a different EPUB reader. I will use vital source bookshelf. It's completed in 16 seconds. I will close it. Let's try this again. I'm going to go to the EPUB I made and open with vital source bookshelf and there we are. It’s given us the cover image that I selected. I'll go into that. As I move, we notice that page 15 is the first page here. I guess this is because Joseph you created these documents for students on a chapter by chapter bases. So, this presents the original print page in the document. As I move through this, we would see that the page numbers are changing down here to reflect the page. So, if I were to go to page 25, it will take me to page 25 in that document.

So, one final conversion. We are going to get a little bit cheeky here. A colleague of mine is a math professor and he produces his materials using LaTeX. The output for that is PDF. So here we are. Here's an incredibly complicated math article that's written by my friend David.

If a student wanted to look at this and make use of something like reflow, they can have a go with that in this product. We would just select reflow and make it bigger. It's quite a lot of math stuff in here so it takes a while to process it. What happens is it struggles with this. We lost all the spaces with this. This makes it tricky to read with increase. Not only is it slow but it's unreadable. Wouldn't it be amazing if there's a way to convert this to an accessible EPUB?

Let's just wait for Adobe reader to finish processing and we will quit from it.

So here is the text file. This is the LaTeX file that David would have produced the PDF with. Here is an experimental feature that we are shipping now is convert the LATEC to a Word document. We are able to change the file name and folder. It will generate a Word document for me and open Word for me and here is that document. It's loaded up all this math as math objects which I can go in and edit if I need to.

Some of the things I should point out don't get converted. There's something like 6 diagrams in here that are not converted. So, I would go to the PDF, grab the images and put them here and describe them. Let's see if we can convert this to an EPUB.

I think I'm going to go with default settings. It's now converting this for me. The pagination takes a little bit longer. It's 24 pages. It's working through a complex document. It's now done that in 19 seconds. What you might be interested to note is it converted 992 math expressions. Let's look at that EPUB.

Here we are. It's using the same font from before. Let's jump to somewhere in here. The math is all in here converted for me. This is all navigable with a screen reader and there are different options for converting the math as well to images with LATEC should that be required.

We got through the demo without any crashes. Let's continue with the presentation. Joseph, could you talk us through the features.

>>Joseph: Sure. As we see from the demo the WordtoEPUB tool provides content creators with an easy tool. Some of the other creation tools a table of contents is created from the heading structure in the document. This tool lets users select a heading level where a division will occur which can make it easier for authors to create an EPUB with multiple chapters. One huge breakthrough I encountered was how easy it was to transfer the page numbers to the proper page number mark up in the EPUB. So navigating EPUB by page numbers is an essential part for our students and being able to add this mark up in the EPUB which normally takes a long time is now made very simple.

In addition to heading styles, WordtoEPUB also properly handles the list and block flows correctly which in the past with other work flows we have used would have required editing the HTML in an EPUB editor. So that's another aspect of the WordtoEPUB tool that significantly reduces the amount of time our team has to spend editing files. The tables that have a marked header row in Microsoft Word will have the proper HTML mark up in the EPUB for column headers. As we saw, hyperlinks in the document either internal or external the WordtoEPUB tool will handle these correctly and the foot note or end note references in the Microsoft Word document that have the links, internal links, will in the EPUB have a back link so the ROOTD reader can return to this place in the document.

Another breakthrough for accessibility with this tool was the proper markup of text where the main language switched. So in the demo if the content author has applied the correct language for secondary language text as we saw in Spanish or French, the WordtoEPUB tool just automatically will mark up that text in the EPUB such that a screen reader user or user of Assistive Technology will hear the language switch appropriately.

WordtoEPUB is the only creation tool that allows users to add EPUB accessibility meta data which is essential for EPUBs to have to pass an EPUB accessibility test. So, as we saw Richard showed in the EPUB tools menu in the WordtoEPUB tools menu you have a number of seals you can fill in given information about the accessibility of your EPUB.

Finally, the WordToEPUB supports exporting mathematical content from your Microsoft Word document into various types of accessible math. One of the standard methods for rendering math content is math ML and that's an option you have to have the math rendered as mathML. There's an option in the latest versions of this tool which allow you to export the math as an image of the math with LATEC text which may be preferable to users who do use LATEC. So, these are just some of the features that have been really revolutionary in our workflow for creating accessible EPUBs.

>> Richard: Thank you, Joseph. So now let's talk about some of the use cases. I want to mention PRCVI which is in British Columbia. They produce alternative format for students with perceptional disabilities. They are providing EPUBs to students and using this tool to convert Word files to EPUBs. They make Word files of the special books for production of braille and so on. So, they are able to extend that conversion.

The last count they created around 40 EPUB titles and producing them on request. They said they are using this tool because its user friendly and easy to install and use. Nancy said they need to remediate the files and create for the particular needs of the tool, but new features have been added on their feedback.

Joseph, could you tell us about how you are using the tool at UC Berkeley?

>>Joseph: Sure. Our general workflow consists of going to Microsoft Word from an optical character recognition tool. So we were typically using Microsoft Word and then running another program like pandock and we found many accessibility issues that would come up in the EPUBs we would create using this method that would require more editing of the EPUB directly and we found that the WordtoEPUB tool was a significant breakthrough since it integrates seamlessly in a Microsoft Word environment where we are creating the files in the first place and provides us with a simple click method for creating the EPUB rather than using a command line and also exports many of those accessibility features that we talked about that were really important which don't with this tool are not required for us to add later in an EPUB editor. So, it’s the fastest and accessible tool that we know of now to create EPUBs.

>> Richard: You mentioned pandock, they are the heart of this tool. We do a lot of pre and post editing. We rely on pan dock. Let me mention Jason from the government information services from the government of New Zealand. He said the WordtoEPUB tool is a real boom. They start in Word and end up as PDF. I deleted some comments about PDF. Add to that the usability and PDF on small screens and the case for EPUB is that much stronger. Now Prashant will share with us the use of this tool.

>> Prashant: The DAISY consortium is involved in many capacity building projects across the world. The organizations in developing countries who have responsibility of creating accessible books are managing with very low and basic resources. Mostly they don't have people who have STML or XML knowledge. They were struggling to create accessible EPUBs. Their production process was slow. They had to use 2 or 3 authoring tools. Even then the EPUB they created didn't contain the required meta data and print page numbers which is in high demand. Ever since WordtoEPUB has arrived, these groups have quickly adopted it. They are happy using it because they are able to use Microsoft Word to create the EPUB and accessibility EPUB with all the features they want and create braille books. So, across Africa, India, South East Asia and many organizations are using it. The production has increased. They are now able to create more EPUB files. The paragraph you see on the screen is from a training program in Nigeria. We introduced it there and that group is very happily using WordtoEPUB.

>> Richard: Thank you, Prashant. So not everyone who is using WordtoEPUB has English as their first language. So, the interface has been localized to also French, Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, Italian and more in the works. I believe Hindi and Japanese are coming soon. We have a team effort. Benetech in India and U.S. Dedicon... [Reading from PowerPoint]. And individuals who are blind and other print disabilities are helping us with the tool as well. I want to shout out to Spain.

I want to talk about take aways. With Microsoft Word we can produce accessible documents. Once you have accessible Word documents you can use the accessibility checker to learn about common pit falls and spot issues you overlooked. Once you have an accessible Word document you can make great EPUB using this tool. We feel now that Word and WordtoEPUB is now the best workflow for producing EPUB from word processors. That concludes the presentation session and we are ready to go into Q&A if there are any questions. Dawn, back to you.

>>Dawn: There are a lot of questions. We will see what we can get through and what we can combine. To start off I think I'm going to combine 4 questions in one. It's about the formats. Dueling between the formats. Why use EPUB instead of PDF or doc and asking you all to contrast use cases like why EPUB verses webpages? Finally, one person said what is the best app for reading EPUBs for a screen reader user because he found the latest version of vital source isn't accessible. That's why we prefers PDF over EPUB because what you are doing can be exported. Opening it up for discussion.

>> Richard: Joseph, you are creating titles for students and Prashant is a user of Assistive Technology.

>> Prashant: So EPUB is accessible. Microsoft Word document is also accessible and is like a favorite for Assistive Technology users. We can't distribute books in [inaudible]. If you need to upload books on a book distribution platform then EPUB is the best. It is very much accessible because screen reader and other Assistive Technology. We have accessible reading tools on all platforms. On windows and android and IOS. I think we will discuss them soon I think.

>>Joseph: Under the hood of EPUB is HTML. With many of the documents that we are creating at UK Berkeley there's a lot of complexity in files converting and sometimes we will have multiple languages and complex tables and mathematical content. When working with some of the other formats it's possible to create accessible versions in other formats, it's sometimes harder or takes longer to edit those files for accessibility. Regarding PDFs, we do still have students who do get PDFs but for some students that use Assistive Technology and need to access complex like math, we found that using HTML and rendering the math as math ML is much more accessible experience for them in EPUB. In addition, the page number navigation is a really important aspect for many of our students. EPUB being a true e book format helps the students navigate quickly like they are nondisabled peers have when thumbing through a textbook.

>> Richard: Thank you for the question though. It sounds like a subject of a webinar in itself.

>>Dawn: Absolutely. There's a lot of questions about what can you create the math in? Can it be math type? Math ML? In order for it to export properly to that EPUB?

>> Richard: In the experimental feature that I demonstrated I went from LATEC document to Word. That puts the equations in there using Word's OOML format. So, you can either go that route or create equations using the built-in equation editor. We are in discussions currently and have had really positive comments back from the folks at [inaudible] around math type. So, it's on our road map to have a wide variety of different ways those math equations can be created. So, watch this space on that particular one. It's not in the tool right now.

>>Dawn: All right. In what versions of Microsoft Word, online verses office 365 can the WordtoEPUB tool be used as well as can it be used with Mac?

>> Richard: This is probably the most common question we get. We hear you that a Mac version is highly desired. Right now we are using some functionality that's only available on the windows platform. Any new features we are building in and as we explore we are trying to make it cross platform. We test it from Word 2010 upwards. We keep an old computer and makes sure the latest have the best accessibility feature and wide supported features in it.

>>Dawn: This question is for Erin. Is there possible consideration for integrating the WordtoEPUB into Microsoft for a save as EPUB?

>> Erin: So right now I have zero updates on integrating the tool better than it has previously. We have had a great working relationship with the DAISY consortium. We are trying to increase the amount of work that we can partner together and do. Just to be completely transparent, a lot of things we have planned for the next calendar year have been derailed as things get related to decreased resources because people are working from home and schooling from home and reducing hours. So I think everything is up in the air. I would love to see integration. I need commitment from a lot of different people to do that. Right now I can't answer any of those questions. Sorry. That's a terrible answer.

>>Dawn: That's fine. Let me get caught up. There's so many good questions here. Do you all ever work with publishing companies to make their textbooks more accessible. I think that can be answered quickly.

>> Richard: Yes. I would refer you to last week's webinar which is on our webinars webpage. There's an hour of really good content where publishers have dueling their different approaches and textbooks are taken apart in terms of accessibility features. If you have further questions we can follow up, but we work with publishers extensively.

>>Dawn: Can this tool convert from left to right languages like Hebrew?

>> Richard: We have not tested with Hebrew. We have a partner in Egypt for the production of Arabic books.

>>Dawn: When you use Microsoft Word insert page numbers will those convert?

>> Richard: There are various options for the mark up of pages if you use the header and footer you can set things like Roman numerals or start from a different number. That formatting is picked up and inserted into the EPUB.

>>Dawn: Thank you. Can you navigate character by character as a result of these exports or is that relate today the reader/screen reader the user is using?

>> Prashant: The exported text is accessible with the screen reader or refreshable braille. You can use the Assistive Technology keystrokes to navigate as you want word by word or character by character or line by line. It's totally accessible.

>>Dawn: All right. I'm not sure how to interpret this one but perhaps it will spark for you. Could this replace things like blackboard for courses online?

>>Joseph: Blackboard or content management system is used by professors to deliver content either synchronously or asynchronously in a distance learning environment. The way EPUB fits into that learning experience is just providing a student with a different kind of format that they can download of the book or materials the professor wishes to share with the class. It integrates with that whether or not it could take the place of a content management system a decision the professor would have to make of whether all the content could be delivered through the EPUB rather than having all the rich features of the content management system like chat and PowerPoint presentations or streaming video available through the CMS. I see this EPUB tool as being a way for authors professors in this case to create more accessible learning objects for students in their online and face to face classes.

>> Richard: We hear this tool has really great potential for OER materials. So they are actually produced and uploaded in accessible EPUB. Those open educational resources.

>>Joseph: Yes, certainly. Professors are always seeking for a quick way to create the most accessible document that they can. Whatever the process is that creates the fewest steps possible is what they want. So this tool since many professors are using Microsoft Word, it's a very common program that they are using, it provides a very intuitive easy to use method and with OER content becoming more popular, a lot of OER content being an EPUB already this format I think also for professors is an easily grasped form at that they would want to produce their own materials in.

>>Dawn: Great. Thank you. All right. We are coming to the end of this session. Thank you to everyone who joined us for today’s webinar. Erin, Richard, Joseph, Prashant - thank you for sharing your insight and expertise.

If you have any additional questions or would like to connect directly with our speakers then you can reach out directly using the contact information they have provided.

Coming up in the next few weeks we have the following webinar topics:

April 22, 2020 will be “Making Math Accessible, One Step at a Time”

April 29, 2020 will be “Telling Your Story: Creating Better Accessibility Statements with ASPIRE”

May 6, 2020 will be “Publishing, accessibility, W3C standards – where are we and how did we get here? “

Make sure you are signed up to the webinar announcement mailing list to learn about new sessions as we add them. If you would like to suggest a subject, or if you would like to collaborate in a webinar, then please email us at webinars@daisy.org

Thank you for your time and have a wonderful rest of your day. Goodbye.