Niche Technology Inc.

Accessibility Statement

Date of review	Version of NicheRMS	Date of next scheduled review
1 February 2024	RMS 6.03.02.12	1 February 2025
31 January 2025	RMS 7.01.03rb.UK	31 January 2026

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Full title: Niche Technology Accessibility Statement

Date: February 01 2025

Introduction

The accessibility regulations (Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018) came into force in the UK for public sector bodies on 23 September 2018. These require websites or mobile apps to be made more accessible by making them 'perceivable, operable, understandable and robust'.

The Regulations include Intranet and extranet websites which disabled employees working in or with the public sector may use. Public sector mobile apps which are developed for use by the public are covered also but specific defined groups such as employees are not covered by these Regulations.

The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (known as WCAG) are an internationally recognised set of recommendations for improving web accessibility. By meeting level AA of the WCAG, digital services will meet standard accessibility requirements.

NicheRMS Universal Application version RMS 7.01.03rb.UK has been tested against the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.2 AA standard and Revised Section 508 standards published January 18, 2017, and corrected January 22, 2018, with a goal of WCAG 2.2 Level AA conformance.

Preparation of this Accessibility Statement

Niche Technology has evaluated the accessibility of NicheRMS Universal Application using the following approaches:

Self-evaluation: Testing was based on general product knowledge and the manual use of assistive technologies such as Microsoft Windows accessibility tools, Narrator, Jaws 2021, Colour Contrast Analyzer, Text Help Read and Write. The Microsoft Word and HTML versions of the support documents were used in conjunction with assistive technologies to evaluate the document accessibility.

Accessibility statement

NicheRMS is developed by Niche Technology Inc. for use across the globe. Configuration of NicheRMS in local installations is managed by individual forces (or consortiums of forces). Local configuration of NicheRMS can also assist users to improve their user experience. Niche Technology is committed to making our Record Management System accessible, for all users regardless of abilities or disabilities.

Niche Technology welcomes feedback and details of how to contact us are set out in section 4 below.

1.1 Review

This accessibility statement will be reviewed when a new version of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines has been published; new accessibility enhancements have been developed for use by NicheRMS users by Niche Technology; or at every 12-month period whichever is the earlier.

1.1 Compliance Status

The NicheRMS Universal Application is partially compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 AA standard with a goal of WCAG 2.2 Level AA conformance. Since the previous report, the following have been done to remediate non-compliance issues outlined February 1, 2024.

1. The Use of Asterisk * in addition to the existing yellow highlight in mandatory fields
2. Created a new Accessible colour scheme that can be used as an alternative to the default colour scheme which passes WCAG Contrast minimum requirements
3. Developed a mechanism by which each force can define additional colour, configuration to meet specific accessibility needs
4. Optional Large font settings are available for selection by users, these settings can be modified by users/administrators
5. All Icons in NicheRMS now have alt text. All fields with labels have alt text that matches the label. These alt text replaces generic named icons and labels for the purpose of read aloud by assistive technology.
6. Where applicable, alt-text will also provide the user with the data status in read aloud, this resolves the issue of only using coloured dots as an indicator of data status.
7. Links no longer use generic names which allows assistive technology to correctly read aloud
8. All combo, edit and text boxes now have an accurate name attribute which facilitate the proper identification of the control by assistive technology.

1.2 Non-compliance with the Accessibility Regulations

NicheRMS does not fully meet the Success Criterion of WCAG 2.2 in the following areas:

1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A) **Also applies to: Revised 508 Standards** • **602 (Support Docs)**	**Support Docs:** Support docs include embedded images as a way of describing application behaviour however these embedded images typically do not include Alt text for the embedded images/icons being used.
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA) **Also applies to: Revised 508 Standards** • **602 (Support Docs)**	• **Support Docs**: No OCR (Optical Character Recognition)text is provided for scanned images.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA) **Also applies to: Revised 508 Standards** • **501 (Software)** • **602 (Support Docs)**	**Software**: Error messages do suggest proper response to errors; however, the messages are not always provided in an accessible manner and not always identify fields with a succinct identifier. When Errors occur in Niche RMS, specifically Business rule validation, the messages will typically only point to the field names with no suggestions on remediation.

1.3 NicheRMS Desktop Application

NicheRMS Desktop is based on a legacy platform with insufficient support for contemporary accessibility features. NicheRMS Desktop remains a supported application, but use is dwindling and it is past active development lifetime. NicheRMS Universal, which this accessibility statement reflects, is the intended successor to NicheRMS Desktop, and is in increasing production use across the UK and globally.

Pursuing further accessibility conformance in NicheRMS Desktop would create a disproportionate burden to meet all the accessibility requirements by utilising a significant amount of resource and decrease our capacity to do other work. Most importantly, such investment would not significantly improve accessibility for disabled users. Niche Technology is opting not to pursue further conformance in the NicheRMS Desktop application due to the age of the application and the availability of newer technology in NicheRMS Universal application. Our Universal Application provides an enhanced experience for users with accessibility needs.

1.4 Feedback and contact information

We welcome your feedback on the accessibility of NicheRMS. Please let us know if you encounter accessibility barriers:

Colin Stanger, Business Support Director

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