

Statement regarding Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act

Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities

Klas is committed to providing high-quality products and services that are both useful and accessible to all potential users, including individuals with disabilities. As such, we proudly support the goals of the U.S. government in implementing the new Federal regulations directed at broadening the availability of electronically delivered information.

Section 508 refers to a portion of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. 794d) that requires Federal agencies to meet specific accessibility standards when buying, developing, maintaining, or using information technology. This law was enacted to eliminate barriers in the provision of electronic information for people with disabilities and to encourage development of technologies that will help achieve these goals.

The accessibility standards associated with Section 508 are designed to ensure that electronically delivered information is available to as many people as possible. The practical application of this goal most frequently applies to information that is presented to the general public, consumers of software-based services, and end-users of software-based services via Intranet or Internet. Components provided strictly for background operation, back-end connectivity, system monitoring, and other behind-the-scenes usage generally do not apply to the accessibility standards.

Klas products are compliant to the extent to which the design and implementation of the available IT systems makes assistive technology available. Individuals with disabilities may require specific, accessibility-related software or peripheral devices as an accommodation to use Klas products.

The degree of compliance of Klas products with the standards can only be determined within the context of the specific IT systems in which they are to be incorporated. Clarification of the standards by procuring agencies to define the specific accessibility requirements for the agency's software developers would be required to determine additional, if any, specific compatibility of Klas products.