
Annual Report on SEC Website Modernization

Pursuant to Section 3(d) of the
21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act.



December 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	Introduction.....	Page 3
II.	Methodology Used.....	Page 4
III.	Website Modernization.....	Page 4
IV.	Modernization Schedule.....	Page 7

ANNUAL REPORT ON SEC WEBSITE MODERNIZATION

Pursuant to Section 3(d) of the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act

I. INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) is providing this report regarding existing SEC websites or digital services pursuant to Section 3(d) of the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act of 2018 (“Act”).

Section 3(a) of the Act provides that an executive agency that creates a website or digital service that is intended for use by the public, or conducts a redesign of an existing legacy website or digital service that is intended for use by the public, shall ensure to the greatest extent practicable that any new or redesigned website, web-based form, web-based application, or digital service:

(1) is accessible to individuals with disabilities in accordance with section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d);

(2) has a consistent appearance;

(3) does not overlap with or duplicate any legacy websites and, if applicable, ensure that legacy websites are regularly reviewed, eliminated, and consolidated;

(4) contains a search function that allows users to easily search content intended for public use;

(5) is provided through an industry standard secure connection;

(6) is designed around user needs with data-driven analysis influencing management and development decisions, using qualitative and quantitative data to determine user goals, needs, and behaviors, and continually test the website, web-based form, web-based application, or digital service to ensure that user needs are addressed;

(7) provides users of the new or redesigned website, web-based form, web-based application, or digital service with the option for a more customized digital experience that allows users to complete digital transactions in an efficient and accurate manner; and

(8) is fully functional and usable on common mobile devices.

Under Section 3(c), the head of each executive agency shall ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, that any Intranet established after the date of enactment of this Act conforms to the requirements described in subsection (a).

Section 3(e) provides that any website of an executive agency that is made available to the public after the date of enactment shall be in compliance with the website standards of the Technology Transformation Services of the General Services Administration.

Section 3(d) provides that the head of each executive agency shall, not later than one year after the date of enactment and every year thereafter for four years, report to the Director of OMB on the progress of the executive agency in implementing the requirements described in Section 3 for the previous year, and include that information in a publicly available report that is required under another provision of law.

II. METHODOLOGY USED

In 2019, the SEC’s Office of Information Technology conducted a cross-agency inventory of external public websites for purposes of compiling this report. For each website, the SEC identified those websites “most viewed or utilized by the public or otherwise important for public engagement” and assessed each website’s compliance with the requirements delineated in Section 3.

Our inventory identified 21 SEC-managed external public websites. Eight of those sites represent approximately 99.5% of the website traffic associated with the 21 sites. The top four websites from the perspective of usage – SEC.gov, XBRL.Sec.gov, Investor.gov, and EDGAR Full Text Search site – are already compliant with Section 3(a) of the Act. The remaining four high-usage websites are non-compliant with one or more requirement, and have been identified for modernization as outlined in the next section.

Of the low traffic external public websites, six are already compliant with Section 3(a) and the remaining seven are compliant with Section 3(a) in all respects, save their usability on mobile devices.

III. WEBSITE MODERNIZATION

The table below provides additional information regarding the four websites that have been identified for modernization updated for 2020. In short, the four websites identified for modernization are part of the SEC’s EDGAR electronic filing system, and provide a means for public companies, SEC registrants, and other filers to access EDGAR and submit required filings for agency and public review.

Website or Digital Services	Background	URL	FY20 Page Views	Final Ranking	Importance to Public Ranking	Usage Ranking
EDGAR Filer Login	The EDGAR Filing website is used to submit or complete a majority of forms via the EDGARLink Online Form Submission.	https://www.edgarfiling.sec.gov/Welcome/EDGARLogin.htm	640,540	1	1	1
EDGAR Online Forms Login	The Online Forms Management website is used to complete Ownership forms, Form D, transmit XML tagged submissions, retrieve submission information, or update company information.	https://www.onlineforms.edgarfiling.sec.gov/Welcome/EDGAROnlineFormsLogin.htm	179,511	2	2	4
EDGAR Filer Management	The EDGAR Filer Management website is used to apply for EDGAR access, update passphrase if password has expired, or generate a new set of access codes.	https://www.filermanagement.edgarfiling.sec.gov/Welcome/EDGARFilerMgmtMain.htm	249,170	3	3	3
EDGAR Company Database Search	The EDGAR company database is a subset of the data maintained by the EDGAR system and contains over 500,000 records. Filers may search for and view company information about various EDGAR filing entities.	https://www.edgarcompany.sec.gov/	441,434	4	4	2

The following is a mapping of the EDGAR websites against the criteria in section 3(a) of the Act. This information has been updated for 2020. Updates are shown in bold.

Section 3(a) Compliance Criteria (updated for 2020)	EDGAR Filer Login	EDGAR Online Forms Login	EDGAR Filer Management	EDGAR Company Database Search
508 Compliant	No	No	Yes	No
Has a consistent appearance (consistent across SEC external websites)	No	No	No	No
Does not overlap with or duplicate any legacy websites	Yes	No	No	Yes
Contains a search function that allows users to easily search content intended for public use	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Is provided through an industry standard secure connection	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Is designed around user needs with data-driven analysis influencing management and development decisions, using qualitative and quantitative data to determine user goals, needs, and behaviors, and continually test the website, web-based form, web-based application, or digital service to ensure that user needs are addressed	No	No	No	No
Provide users with the option for a more customized digital experience that allows users to complete digital transactions in an efficient and accurate manner	No	No	No	No
Is fully functional and usable on common mobile devices	No	No	No	No

In addition to the EDGAR modernization, the SEC is planning to upgrade their legacy content management platform to ensure the external public webpages have a consistent appearance, are accessible to individuals with disabilities, and are fully functional on mobile devices. About 1/6 of all SEC.gov traffic comes from mobile devices and the percentage is increasing every year.

This will enable SEC to be compliant with the Act as well as the General Service Administration’s new U.S. Web Design System version 2.0 (USWDS 2.0), while expanding their ability to share data, analyses, and other information with the public, market participants, academics, analysts and others. The SEC will leverage the newer technology and architectural design to increase the viewable space on SEC.gov pages to enhance the dissemination of their materials to the public and other market participants.

IV. MODERNIZATION SCHEDULE

Last year, the SEC reported that it was engaged in a multi-year, multi-phase effort to modernize the EDGAR system, including both internal and public-facing components. The most recent security and modernization enhancements were deployed in June 2020, focusing on technology upgrades internal to the system. An assessment was started in September 2020 to develop the requirements for modernizing the user experience associated with the EDGAR system, with front-end redesign work expected to be completed in FY 2022, subject to the availability of funding.

This project is being undertaken as part of the SEC's strategy for EDGAR modernization and would fulfill other important objectives, including improving the overall security posture for EDGAR. Consistent with agency policy, prior to commencing each upgrade phase, staff finalizes the project details and plans, including an estimated cost for approval at the agency level.

The SEC will be pursuing migration of its legacy content management platform in FY 2021, subject to the availability of funding.