The Standard Tags for Accessible PDFs

Container/Grouping Tags

< **Document** >   — At the top of the tag tree; contains everything in the PDF file.

< **Part** >   — Contains a large major section of the document, such as a chapter of a book.

< **Art** >   — An article or distinct portion of the PDF.

< **Sect** >   — A small section of a larger article or part, such as a sidebar, pull quote, or boxed text.

< **Div** >   — Not recommended, is not in use.

Heading Tags

< **H1** >   — Heading 1 is used to label the title of the document or a major section. Avoid using for subheads.

< **H2** > – < H6 >   — Lower-level headings, subheads.

< **H** >   — Not recommended, is not in use.

Text Tags (Block-Level Paragraphs)

< **P** >   — The most often-used tag, for body text.

< **BlockQuote** >   — Used to label a full paragraph as an extract or quote attributed to someone else or another publication.

< **Caption** >   — Used for figure and table captions.

< **Index** >   — Identifies an entry in an index.

< **L** >   — (List) A combination of tags that label and identify the individual parts of a list. Includes: < L >, < LI >, < Lbl >, and < LBody >.

< **Note** >   — The text of a footnote, endnote, or source note.

< **TOC** >   — (Table of Contents) A combination of tags that identify a TOC and its individual elements. Includes: < TOC > and < TOCI >.

Text Tags (Inline Character-Level)

< **BibEntry** >   — An entry in a bibliography.

< **Code** >   — Text that represents computer program text or coding.

< **Formula** >   — A mathematical formula.

< **Link** >   — A combination of tags that surrounds an active, clickable hyperlink. Includes: < Link > and < Link-OBJR >.

< **Quote** >   — Short quoted material within a sentence, usually surrounded by "quote marks."

< **Reference** >   — A citation to text or a figure that appears elsewhere in the document; a cross-reference; or a superscript footnote number.

< **Span** >   — Used by software to designate visual formatting, discretionary hyphens, etc.

Table Tags

< **Table** >   — A combination of tags labeling the entire table and its individual components. Includes: < Table >, < TR >, < TH >, and < TD >. The < THead >, < TBody >, and < TFoot > tags are optional at this time.

Special Elements

< **Form** >   — An individual form field that is interactive.

< **Figure** >   — Any graphic element, such as an illustration, photograph, graphical chart, logo, or other element that is not text.