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Scsi's "Perfect 10" Web Site Standard - Best Practice #3: Every Web page incorporates meaningful, descriptive 'balloon help' text for every hyperlink (both text- and graphics-based).



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Major Headings of Scsi's "Perfect 10" Web Site Standard - Best Practice #3: Every Web page incorporates meaningful, descriptive 'balloon help' text for every hyperlink (both text- and graphics-based).

- [What do you get when you expect the usual behavior regarding hyperlink information?](#) Answer, Zilch (unfortunately)!
- [What does Scsi's Best Practice #3 provide regarding hyperlink information?](#) Answer: What will making that selection do?
- [What hyperlink- and navigation-related questions should all Web Site Developers answer?](#)
- [What's the Bottom Line?](#) Answer: Always focus on meeting the needs of all Web site visitors
- [Besides Best Practice #3, which of Scsi's "Perfect 10" Best Practices would you like to read about next?](#)

NOTE: Relevant hyperlinks are included within the associated paragraphs to make your browsing session productive and all the more enjoyable.

What do you get when you expect the usual behavior regarding hyperlink information? Answer, Zilch (unfortunately)!

We're all accustomed to just seeing 'the usual finger pointing cursor' when the mouse cursor is placed over either graphics- or text-based hyperlinks. This 'accessibility factor' omission of meaningful descriptive information (also known as tool tips) forces the visitor to ponder over the obvious question, " What actually will occur if and when I do select that particular hyperlink?" Now, wouldn't you both prefer and expect to encounter -- instead of this dubious designer-based decision (read: an obvious accessibility oversight) -- a convenient, readable, and non-cryptic 'signpost' that would tell you EXACTLY what will occur and where you will be taken if and whenever you might be considering selection of any hyperlink on a given Web page?

What does Scsi's Best Practice #3 provide regarding hyperlink information? Answer: What will making that selection do?

Always providing an answer without forcing you to think (read: guess) what might happen if any given hyperlink on the Scsi P&KT Web site is hovered over is precisely what Best Practice #3 is all about. So, Scsi always provides 'balloon help' tool tips for every text- and graphics-based hyperlink -- on each and every Web page of this Web site -- period.

NOTE: Even though every text-based hyperlink and every hyperlinked graphic will always have a descriptive, instructional 'tool tip' text implemented, Scsi must point out that not all browsers support this convention. However, if whatever browser tool you happen to be using does include this capability, you will definitely be able to observe the associated descriptive text as a balloon help statement.

And, isn't it frustrating -- when you are on other Web sites -- to not have any idea where you will be taken or what will happen when you are about to select a text- or graphics-based hyperlink because there is either no description or a less than meaningful one?

What hyperlink- and navigation-related questions should all Web Site Developers answer?

Scsi feels that such oversights (read: stupid omissions or poorly implemented navigation support) are examples of disregard or negligence of a reasonable expectation -- to state where selection of that hyperlink will take you or to specify what action(s) will occur if you do make a particular hyperlink selection. After all, you are the visitor who has invested the time and effort to get to the site in the first place. You should always be able to remain in control and know where things will take you, right? It's your time and attention that must be kept in mind, and you can dump a site any time you choose if you are not getting what you want in the way of reasonable consideration and treatment by the Web site's designer.

What's the Bottom Line? Answer: Always focus on meeting the needs of all Web site visitors

Here is another way of stating the above: Wouldn't it be nice if all Web sites would always include a useful text description whenever the mouse cursor is placed over any given hyperlink? Think for a moment about what that would mean. You would become informed as to exactly what is supposed to occur if and only after you make that selection. Now, that's thinking of the visitor in its most basic sense, don't you agree? So, why do so many Web sites not do it?

Whatever your answer, it doesn't have to be that way, and Scsi has come up with a [100% accessibility solution](#) that remains focused on meeting the needs of all Web site visitors. After all, the very lifeblood for any Web site's continued existence and popularity is Y-O-U. This fundamental fact should never be overlooked at any stage of Web site design, implementation, and maintenance. Don't you agree?


Besides Best Practice #3, which of Scsi's "Perfect 10" Best Practices would you like to read about next?

- [Best Practice #1](#): Every Web page is [fast loading](#).
- [Best Practice #2](#): Every Web page is [viewable with any type of browser](#).
- [Best Practice #3](#): Every Web page incorporates meaningful, descriptive 'balloon help' text for every hyperlink (both text- and graphics-based).
- [Best Practice #4](#): Every Web page's navigation always remains under user control, thereby allowing use of any combination of keyboard, mouse, or other pointing devices as hyperlink selection tools.
- [Best Practice #5](#): Every Web page incorporates an integral and effective dual-domain search window.
- [Best Practice #6](#): Every Web page's text viewing size selections remain under user control at all times -- according to the particular browser tool's available selections.
- [Best Practice #7](#): Every Web page's contents will always automatically resize widthwise to fill the entire browser window -- no matter what screen resolution settings or window sizes are in effect at any time.
- [Best Practice #8](#): Every 'Print this page' operation automatically results in an intelligently word wrapped, truncation-free, black-on-white printout of that Web page's main body contents -- regardless of the page orientation and user-specified text size selection in effect at that time.
- [Best Practice #9](#): Every Web page incorporates readily accessible contact information.
- [Best Practice #10](#): Every Web page [validates](#) against the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) specifications for Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), and Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) Content Guidelines (WCAG).

Web Page Validation and Contact Information

This Scsi's "Perfect 10" Web Site Standard - Best Practice #3: Every Web page incorporates meaningful, descriptive 'balloon help' text for every hyperlink ... Page was last updated, validated -- to assure full conformance to W3C's [XHTML 1.0 Strict](#), screen medium cascading style sheet ([CSS](#)), and [WCAG Accessibility](#) (Priorities 1, 2, and 3, inclusive) recommendations -- and uploaded on Tuesday, June 28, 2011 at 12:05 p.m. ET by [Raymond Sonoff](#), President of Sonoff Consulting Services, Inc., 271 Saxony Drive, Crestview Hills, KY 41017-2294 USA: Telephone: (859) 261-5908.

Remember: If you have some questions to ask, wish to request additional information about specific topics, or want to send a request for proposal, Scsi always welcomes inquiries and will respond promptly (often the very

same day) once you select either of these hyperlinks -- [e-mail](#) or  -- then compose and send your message to us.

Major Navigation Hyperlinks for Scsi's "Perfect 10" Web Standard -- Best Practice #3: Every Web page incorporates meaningful, descriptive 'balloon help' text for every hyperlink

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Shortcut Text	Internet Address
Raymond Sonoff	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/scsi_corp/rsonoff_scsi_profile.html
Sonoff Consulting Services, Inc.	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/scsi_corp/scsi_corp.html
MAIN HEADING	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10.html#SkipToHeading2
view or download	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10_with_hyperlinks.pdf
BOTTOM	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10.html#bottompage
Portal	http://sonoffconsulting.com/portal.html
Home	http://sonoffconsulting.com/home.html
Expanded Home	http://sonoffconsulting.com/index_expanded.html
Graphics-based Home	http://sonoffconsulting.com/index_graphics_mapped_version_3.html
Site Map	http://sonoffconsulting.com/site_map/site_map.html
Productivity	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/productivity.html
Scsi's WebKISS™ Guides	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_pkt_webkiss_guides_page.html
Other Web Sites	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/url_links/url_links.html
Contact Us	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/contact_us/contact_us.html
Scsi's Access Keys	http://sonoffconsulting.com/access_keys.html
	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_wkg_11_total_access_so_what.html
e-mail	mailto:info@sonoffconsulting.com
	http://search.yahoo.com/
NAVIGATION	http://sonoffconsulting.com/scsi_pkt_navigation.html
What does Sonoff Consulting Services, Inc. do -- exactly?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/what_scsi_pkt_does.html
Focusing on Productivity	http://sonoffconsulting.com/scsi_focus_on_productivity.html
"Your WebKISS™ Guide Resource" Page	http://sonoffconsulting.com/your_webkiss_guide_resource_tagline.html
Proof that this is a "World Class level" Web site	http://sonoffconsulting.com/scsi_proof_of_world_class_level.html
Need Professional Assistance?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/need_professional_assistance.html
Scsi's "Perfect 10" Web Site Standard	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features.html
Part 1	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_part1.html
Part 2	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_part2.html
Part 3	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_part3.html
Scsi's Best Practices	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_part2.html#h3_3
#1	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_1_of_10.html
#2	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_2_of_10.html
#4	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_4_of_10.html
#5	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_5_of_10.html
#6	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_6_of_10.html
#7	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_7_of_10.html
#8	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_8_of_10.html

Shortcut Text	Internet Address
#9	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_9_of_10.html
#10	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_10_of_10.html
Scsi's Test Criteria Evaluation Worksheet (STCEW) Tool	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_part3.html#stcew
Use Any Browser -- by Design!	http://sonoffconsulting.com/any_browser.html
Tips and Notes	http://sonoffconsulting.com/tips.html
Scsi's Privacy Policy	http://sonoffconsulting.com/w3c/scsi_pkt_p3p.html
Clients	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/scsi_corp/clients/client_list.html
Desktop	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/desktop_tools/desktop_tools.html
Editors and Viewers	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/editors_and_viewers/editors_and_viewers.html
eLearning and Web-based Collaboration	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/elearning_and_collaboration/elearning_and_collaboration.html
High-end Technology	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/high-end_technology/high-end_technology.html
Mail Programs	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/mail_programs/mail_programs.html
System Utilities	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/system_utilities/system_utilities.html
Web Usability	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/web_usability/web_usability.html
Miscellaneous	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/miscellaneous/miscellaneous.html
Recommended Reading	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/productivity/gotm_resources/gotm_books.html
#1: Why Validate a Web Site's Pages?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_pkt_why_val_web_site.html
#2: Why 100% Accessibility?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_pkt_why_100_accessibility.html
#3: Why use more than one Web browser?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_pkt_why_use_more_than_one_browser.html
#4: What could Management learn?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_pkt_what_could_management_learn.html
#5: How does Adherence to Web Standards Save Both Time and Money?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_wkg_5_how_web_stds_save_time_and_money.html
#6: What's the Return-On-Investment Rationale for adopting Scsi's World Class Level Best Practices?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_wkg_6_what_is_roi_rationale_for_adopting_scsi_best_practices.html
#7: What are the strengths and weaknesses of search tools and engines? Page	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_wkg_7_search_tools_and_engines.html
#8: Want to Increase Your Search Engine Rankings?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_wkg_8_increase_search_engine_rankings.html
#9: How Productivity-	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_wkg_9_how_productivity-focused_is_your_web_site.html

Shortcut Text	Internet Address
focused is your Web Site?	
#10: Want a Free STCEW Tool-based Evaluation of Your Web Site's Pages?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_wkg_10_want_a_free_stcew_tool-based_evaluation_of_your_web_site_pages.html
#12: What Does Your Company Web Site Convey About Customer-Centric Focus?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/filters/web_kiss_guides/scsi_wkg_12_what_does_your_company_web_site_convey_about_customer-centric_focus.html
What do you get when you expect the usual behavior regarding hyperlink information?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10.html#h2_1
What does Scsi's Best Practice #3 provide regarding hyperlink information?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10.html#h2_2
What hyperlink- and navigation-related questions should all Web Site Developers answer?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10.html#h2_3
What's the Bottom Line?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10.html#h2_4
Besides Best Practice #3, which of Scsi's "Perfect 10" Best Practices would you like to read about next?	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10.html#h2_5
TOP	http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10.html#toppage
XHTML 1.0 Strict	http://validator.w3.org/check?uri=http://sonoffconsulting.com/unique_features_3_of_10.html
CSS	http://jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator/validator?uri=http://sonoffconsulting.com/code/scsi-style2011a_scrn.css
WCAG Accessibility	http://www.contentquality.com/Default.asp