Client Side Image Maps

Client Side Images (cont)

- Definition
  - Client-side image maps shall be provided instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape.

Client Side Images (cont)

- Description
  - An image map, where each "active region" in a picture can be assigned its own "link" (URL) that specifies what web page will be retrieved when that portion of the picture is selected. HTML allows each active region to have its own alternative text.

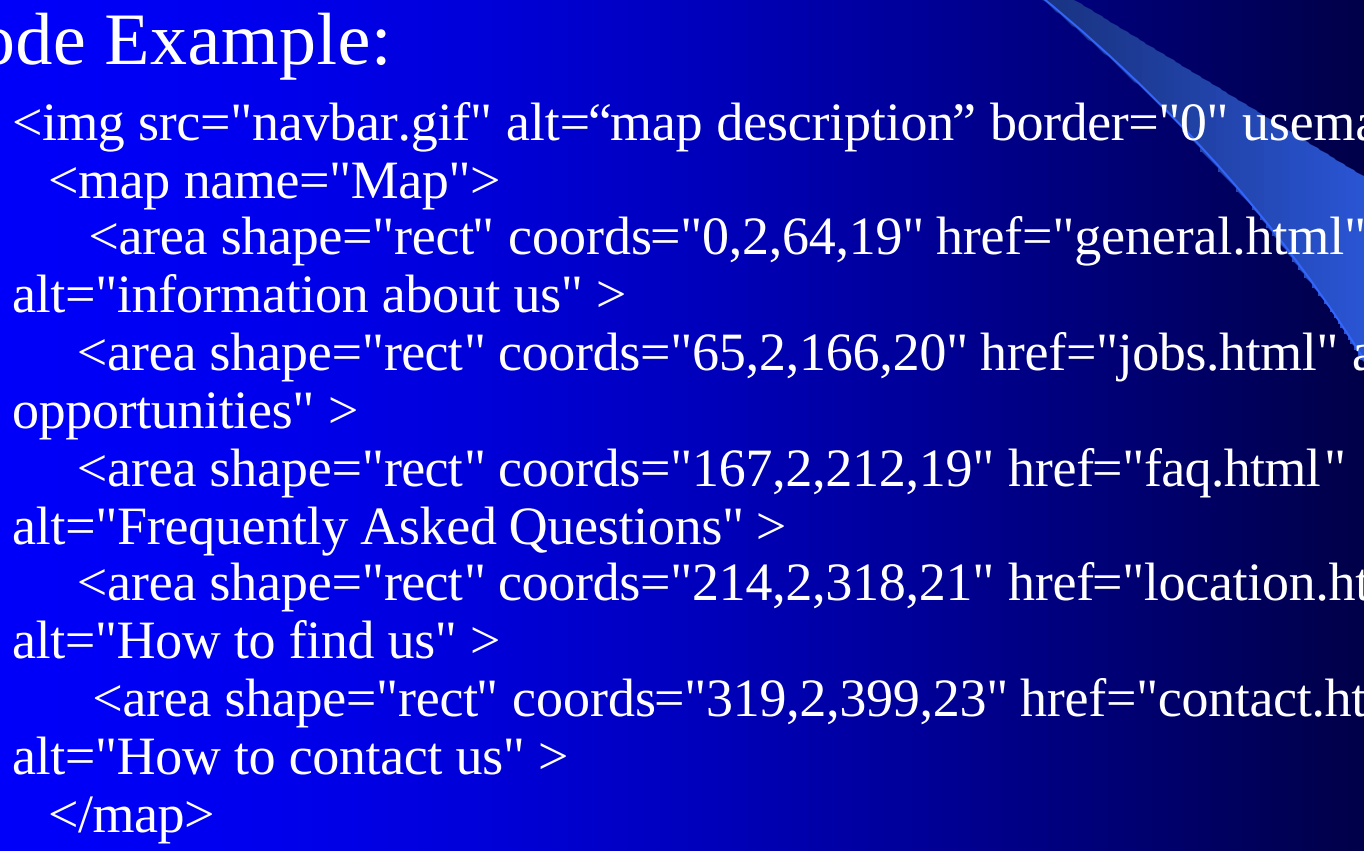
Client Side Images (cont)

- Issues
  - Textual information is not provided for separate active areas
  - Active areas have provided textual information in the image but the image map itself is missing an ALT attribute.

Client Side Images (cont)

- Solution
  - 4 step process
    - 1. Identify an image using the <img> tag. To identify it as a map, use the "usemap" attribute.
    - 2. The <MAP> tag is a container tag that includes various <AREA> tags that are used to identify specific portions of the image.
    - 3.Use the "ALT" attribute to provide a text description of the area inside each <AREA> tag.
    - 4. Check to make sure the ALT description reflects the map

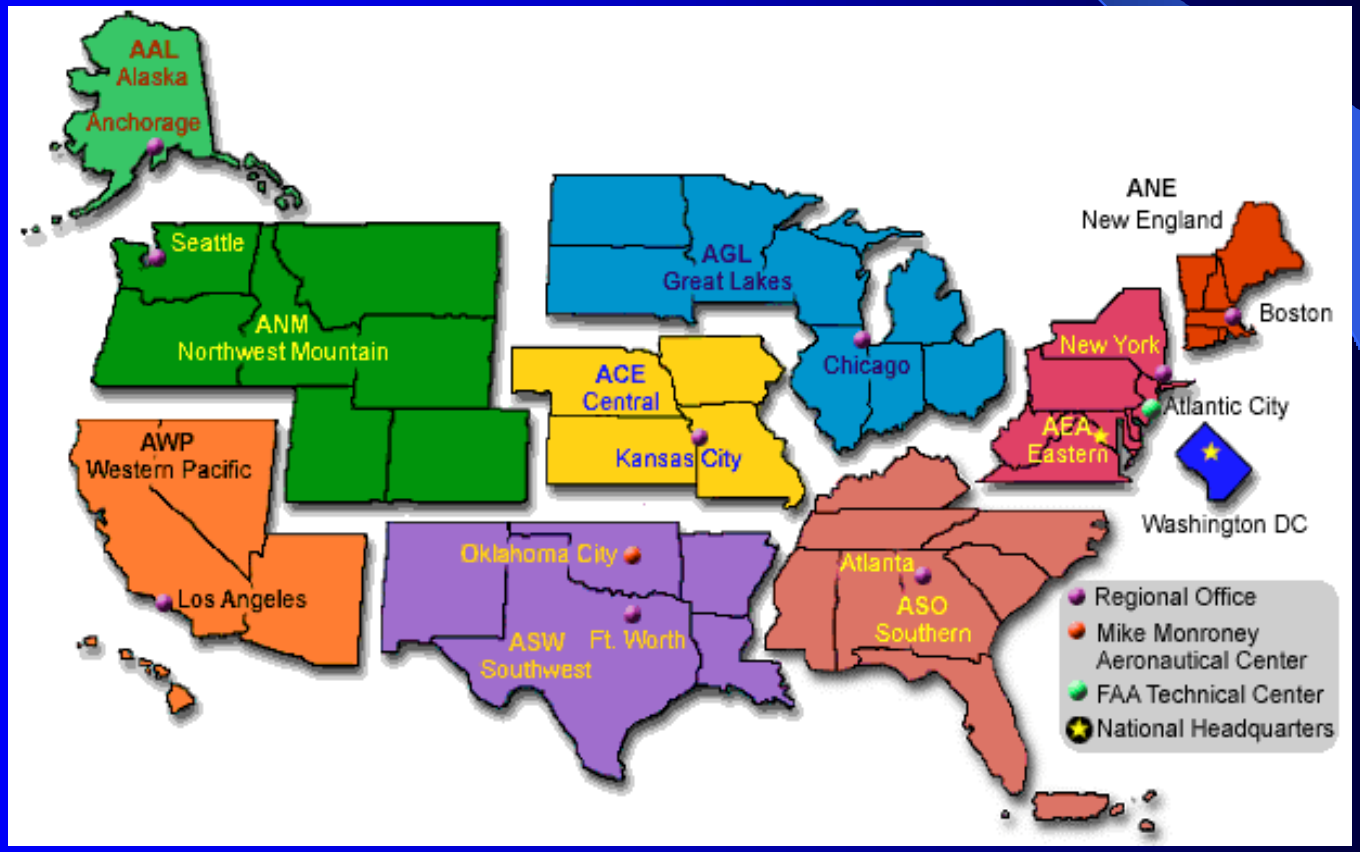
Client Side Images (cont)

- Code Example:
  - 

```
<img src="navbar.gif" alt="map description" border="0" usemap="#Map">
  <map name="Map">
     <area shape="rect" coords="0,2,64,19" href="general.html"
alt="information about us" >
    <area shape="rect" coords="65,2,166,20" href="jobs.html" alt="job
opportunities" >
    <area shape="rect" coords="167,2,212,19" href="faq.html"
alt="Frequently Asked Questions" >
    <area shape="rect" coords="214,2,318,21" href="location.html"
alt="How to find us" >
     <area shape="rect" coords="319,2,399,23" href="contact.html"
alt="How to contact us" >
  </map>
```

Client Side Images (cont)

– Example:



Client Side Images (cont)

- Web Page Example (cont)
  - This image meets the technical requirements of Section 508 1194.22(f).
  - ALT attributes all have the name of the region and the abbreviations of the state.

Client Side Images (cont)

- Question: What is the regional office for ASO (Southern) and where it is located?
  - The information in the ALT attributes is the name of the region and the states in that region.
  - As you can determine, the location of the regional office is not available.

Client Side Images (cont)

- Question: Is the web page with the map image Section 508 compliant?
  - You ran a Section 508 Checker and it says you are compliant
  - You mouse over the areas and the ALT attributes pop-up showing that they are visible
  - The rule says to provide an alternative description for Images and Active Areas, which you have done

Client Side Images (cont)

- Answer
  - Like a few things in Section 508 it is not that clear cut.
    - If the information about the regional office and location is somewhere on the web page then it is Section 508 compliant
    - If the information is not on the web page, then it is not compliant and must be corrected

Client Side Images (cont)

- Reason:
  - The web page is a non-text element. This means that all information must be conveyed in equivalent text on the web page.
  - The image might be unusable if all the information in the map is conveyed in the ALT attributes. The additional information could be placed on the web page below the image map.

Client Side Images (cont)

- Common Errors:
  - Forgetting to put the ALT attribute for the image when it is initially declared a “#usemap”
  - Not using the ALT attribute
  - Not providing enough information to make the map equivalent between a visual user and a user with assistive technology