

Browser-Based Accessibility Testing Tool Comparison

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Overview

Reasons For The Transition

The original FireEyes tool used deprecated features of Firefox and ceased to operate on Firefox v. 44 and later. It also relied on the Firebug extension to operate. The new, second generation is no longer depended on deprecated or undocumented APIs. It runs directly within Firefox Developer Tools. It also employs Deque's new aXe-core rules, which have multiple advantages as noted in the Benefits section below.

Features Included In FireEyes II

- Re-written from the ground up to eliminate false positives
- Free and premium levels of rule & remediation help content in Deque University
- Verified add-on "signed" by Mozilla to meet important security guidelines (Firefox v38 and up are supported)
- No longer relies on the Firebug extension for operation
- No longer dependent on a browser's API to prevent version disabling
- Improved issue highlighting and inspection tool integration
- Improved Assistive Technology simulation support with SimulAT
- Ability to upload/download issues and scripts to/from WorldSpace Comply
- Ability to export issues as Comma-Separated Value (CSV) files
- Opens the opportunity to support additional browsers such as Chrome
- Three preset rules configurations (WCAG 2.0 Level AA, Section 508, DevMin)
- Support for custom rule set configuration
- Ability to select or deselect event options for script recording

Benefits Of The New aXe-Core Rules

- Lightweight and Fast
- A zero false positive rate
- Automatically determines which rules to run based on the evaluation context
- Rules themselves are tested automatically
- Integrated with premium Deque U rule info & remediation guidance
- Highly configurable

FireEyes vs. FireEyes II – Key Differentiators

Table 1: Major Differences Between Original FireEyes and FireEyes II

FireEyes	FireEyes II
No Custom Rule Support	Custom Rule Set Configuration
Potential False Positives	No False Positives
Less Secure: Uses deprecated Mozilla APIs	Highly Secure: Verified Firefox add-on signed by Mozilla to meet important security guidelines
Version Compatibility Issues: Requires the use of Extended Service Release version of the Firefox browser for standalone use	No Compatibility Issues: Works with any modern version of the Firefox browser, does not depend on browser API to prevent version disabling
Requires FireBug : Requires a separate, third-party extension for operation	No FireBug Required: Runs within Firefox Developer Tools
Dynamic Content Requires Complex Activation: Requires activation of dynamic or hidden features not in the DOM, analysis of dynamic content happened automatically	Dynamic Content Tested Automatically: Supports inclusion of hidden elements and iframes of infinite depth (however, you must stop and analyze the page at certain states)
Multiple URLs/Session: Allows multi-page analysis per session	Single Page/Session: Allows only a single page to be analyzed (current document only)
"Drillable" Issue Organization: Has Report tab that organizes issues by URL, allowing multiple page issue organization	Export Only : Does not have a Report tab displaying issues for all pages analyzed in a session, does not provide issue management
Scope Analysis Refinement: Allows application of scope definition to refine analysis	Scope Definition Only: Does not allow application of a scope definition to refine analysis, only for use in upload to Worldspace Comply to be made selectable for scans.

FireEyes	FireEyes II
Script + Scope Definition: Select a script to replay against only those elements in scope	Scripting for Entire Page Only: Scripts run against the entire page, can't be refined by scope
Special Analysis: Ability to refine analysis by color contrast, reading order, ARIA and focus indicator	No Analysis Refinement: Does not provide ability to perform special analysis by issue category
Manual Issue Addition: Ability to add manual issues to page being analyzed	Automated Issues Only: Does not provide a way to manually add issues to the page being analyzed
Issue Addition to SimulAT Results: Ability to manually add issues related to a selected element in SimulAT results	SimulAT Issue Display Only: No ability to manually add issues to a selected element in SimulAT results
User Agent Spoofing: Ability to select user agent spoofing to impersonate a browser or mobile device.	No User Agent Spoofing: No ability to select user agents to impersonate viewing by a browser or mobile device.
Issue Editing Within UI: Ability to edit issues (change status, enter remediation advice comments, assign)	Export Only : No ability to modify rule violation analysis results.
Issue Filtration: Ability to sort issues by severity, priority, elements, etc.	No Issue Filtration: Rule violation display cannot be limited by any criteria.
DOM Tree Element Inspection: Inspect button opens element location in Firebug DOM tree, a more accessible code inspector.	Firefox DevTools Native Inspection: Utilizes Firefox Developer Tools built-in element inspector, which is less accessible for screen reader users.

Missing Features of FireEyes II, Likelihood of Future Replacement

Although some of the features of FireEyes are not present in FireEyes II (as noted above), many are due to significant improvement in the underlying technologies in FireEyes II. FireEyes II is under active development, and the effort to introduce new features is ongoing. In order to meet and exceed the needs of original FireEyes users, the needs of both current and future clients, as well as to take full advantage of what evolving technologies enable, Deque welcomes your feature requests.

Contact Us

Your feedback is among the most valuable we receive. To submit feature requests or suggestions for improvement at any time, visit the <u>Contact Us</u> page.

For Tech Support

Contact <u>Email Support</u> with any product questions you have or issues you encounter. Our Deque Support team will respond within 1 working day of receiving your email.