Visual impairment simulator for auditing and design

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ABSTRACT

Individuals within the visually impaired community often have difficulty navigating environments due to the different ways in which they view the world, with even apparently simplistic locations frequently being challenging to traverse. It is therefore important when designing architecture or environments, to take into account the perspectives of people with visual impairments in order to ensure that design outcomes are inclusive and accessible for all. Although there is documentation regarding guidance and procedures for design of inclusive spaces; architects, designers, and accessibility auditors often find it hard to empathize with visually impaired people. This project aims to make the process of inclusive design easier through the development of a mobile app, VISAD (Visual Impairment Simulator for Auditing and Design), which enables users to capture images or import CAD designs and apply image distortion techniques in order to replicate different visual impairments.

Full papers will be published in the Conference Proceedings and will be freely available to delegates at the conference and online on September 20, 2016.