

A short presentation of

# Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology



Hjälpmedelsinstitutet

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## Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology

The Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology, SIAT, is a national institute for assistive technology and accessibility for persons with disabilities.

We work for full participation and equality for persons with disabilities by ensuring access to high-quality and secure assistive technology, an effective provision of assistive devices and an accessible environment.

### **The activities of the Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology cover:**

- - testing and support to procurement of assistive devices
- - research and development
- - analyses of needs, knowledge and methodology development
- - training and capacity building
- - international cooperation
- - information and communication

The Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology is run by the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions.

## **International cooperation**

### **Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology, SIAT participates in international cooperation**

mainly within the fields of R&D, standardisation, dissemination of information, and accessibility.

**SIAT has a wide network**, mainly within the Nordic and European countries and cooperates with several international organisations.

## **Testing of assistive devices**

**SIAT tests assistive devices** within approximately 25 product categories. The institute is accredited for a few of these categories, e.g. wheelchairs. There are large advantages for county councils and municipalities with the coordination between testing and procurement. It is a cost-effective way to guarantee quality and prevent accidents.

### **SIAT participates in the development of**

**Hinfo**, a web-based data base of assistive devices in cooperation with suppliers and local authorities in Sweden. SIAT holds the secretariat for Hinfo.

## **Research and development**

**Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology, SIAT stimulates and supports the development of assistive devices and the service delivery system by:**

- development of methods and knowledge for assessment, usability and evaluation of assistive devices
- development of organisation and cooperation forms for municipalities and county councils
- cooperation with researchers, R&D institutions, companies, disability and users organisations and personnel within the service delivery system in Sweden
- financial support

**SIAT contributes to an increased research** on technology and disability.

**SIAT presents how ICT, information and communication technologies, can support daily living** in SmartLab, a demonstration apartment and meeting place for the development of a safe housing for people with disabilities and old people.

**SIAT works with standardisation** on national and international levels.

## **Analyses of needs, knowledge and methodology development**

**These activities are intended to:**

- - follow and analyse the development within the service delivery system
- - accomplish assignments for municipalities and county councils
- - compile statistics
- - carry out studies about the benefits and costs of assistive technology

## **Training and capacity building**

**SIAT gives courses and seminars.** We also produce training material, organise meetings for exchange of experiences and participate in or arrange conferences.

## **Accessibility**

**SIAT contributes to the development of accessibility** by promoting Design for All regarding ICT, information and communication technologies, products, services and environment.

# Information and Communication

## Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology, SIAT

**is a knowledge centre.** To spread information and increase knowledge is important in all our activities.

**SIAT produces** every year 40-60 reports, books, brochures and films in Swedish. A few of them are in English.

**SIAT participates in several fairs and exhibitions** and arranges yearly the ID-days (Information and Demonstration Days) where we receive 60 exhibitors, 1,600 visitors and 900 seminar participants.

**SIAT has the largest library** in the Nordic countries within the field of disability and assistive technology. There are 13,000 books, reports and films as well as 250 periodical journals and magazines. The library services are opened to residents in Sweden.

## **Welcome to [www.hi.se](http://www.hi.se) -**

**SIAT's web site has about 25,000 visitors** per month. You can search, order and borrow free of charge from our library via the library data base HICAT, [www.hi.se/bibliotek](http://www.hi.se/bibliotek), if you live in Sweden.

You can also order free information material and buy books, pamphlets, films within the field of disability, assistive technology and accessibility at [www.hi.se/publicerat](http://www.hi.se/publicerat).

**The web site of SIAT is a current and comprehensive resource to knowledge.** Read parts of our magazine "Allt om Hjälpmedel" (Assistive Technology News) at [www.hi.se/aoh](http://www.hi.se/aoh) to keep up-to-date with new developments in Swedish.

**At the web site of SIAT** you can also read about:

- assistive devices and service delivery
- testing of assistive devices
- R&D projects.

Most of the material is available only in Swedish. Look at the English links for information in English. -

# Hjälpmedelsinstitutet

## Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology

You are always welcome to visit us or to take contact with us at the Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology.



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