

Available Cinema - Summary November 02, 2015

In June 2011, the government commissioned the Swedish Film Institute and the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority to develop a technical solution for transmitting recorded audio tracks for audio description and spoken subtitles synchronized with the film's sound to the cinema-goer via a suitable receiver system. By gathering market intelligence and evaluating proposals for technical solutions, the government assignment managed by the Swedish Film Institute under the name Tillgänglig Bio/Available Cinema has found and developed a solution based on audio recognition, a solution that does not require any installation in the cinema projection room.

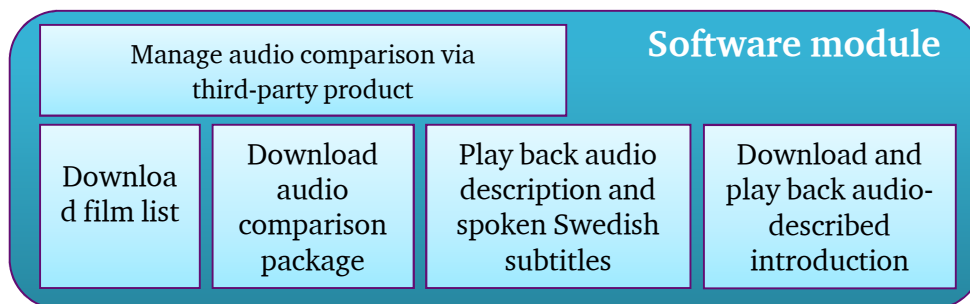
The software module in the technical solution is integrated into an application, so that cinema-goers can use their mobile device to benefit from the Available Cinema solution. Via the software module, the application can communicate with the Bioguiden database, and synchronize the playback of audio description and/or spoken subtitles with the film's sound using the audio recognition technology.

The software module is an encapsulated software component (an SDK or software developer's kit in technical terms) which can be used in applications on mobile devices with the iOS or Android operating system. The module and its interface specification (API specification) and examples of how the module can be called on in the application is available by logging into the Bioguiden box office, <https://boxoffice.bioguiden.se>.

[Login details \(username and password\) and an API key are supplied by the Swedish Film Institute.](#) The software module's functions can only be called on with a valid **API key** and username.

The software module comprises:

- A third-party product that compares the actual film sound to the film sound's audio comparison file and determines the current place in the film.
- A function/functions for downloading a list of films with audio description and/or spoken subtitles.
- A function/functions for downloading the audio comparison package for the selected film.
- A function/functions for playing back audio description and/or spoken subtitles synchronized with the film's sound.
- A function/functions for downloading a URL for and playing back the film's audio-described introduction.



The mobile device is the receiver unit that the viewer must have if they wish to experience a film with support for audio description and/or spoken subtitles. The device must be able to download and run applications that are developed for Available Cinema.

Recommended mobile devices are:

- Mobile phones running the iOS or Android operating system (iPhone, Samsung and other smartphones).
- Tablets running the iOS or Android operating system (e.g. iPad or Samsung Tab/Galaxy Note).

Other mobile devices that can be used are:

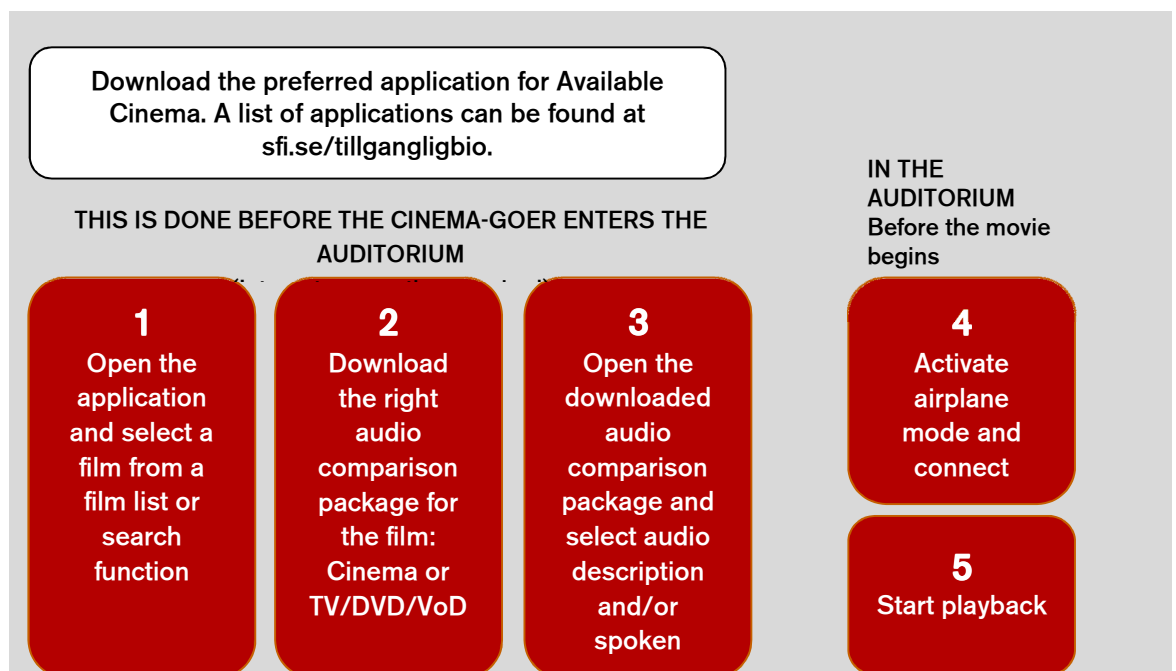
- PDAs/MP3 players running the iOS or Android operating system (e.g. iPod Touch).



The cinema-goer's activities

To ensure that the cinema-goer with visual impairment and/or reading and writing difficulties can experience the film with audio description and spoken subtitles, they must have access to a mobile device (such as a smartphone or tablet) running iOS or Android, with earphones or headphones.

Organizations with access to equipment for live audio description may ideally continue to arrange screenings for people WITHOUT access to their own mobile device. This is because this equipment can be connected to a (1) mobile device, which can then play back the audio description and/or spoken subtitles using the technical solution for Available Cinema to everybody who has the receiver system. Below is an outline of the cinema-goer's activities required to enable them to experience a film with support for audio description and/or spoken subtitles.



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