
Stage 3: #372 remove <data-about>

Remove the <data-about> element.

Champion

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Tracking information

Event	Date	Links
Stage 1 proposal accepted	1 Sept 2020	https://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/dita/202009/msg00021.html
Stage 2 proposal submitted	25 Sept 2020	https://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/dita/202009/msg00041.html ; DITA source: https://tools.oasis-open.org/version-control/svn/dita/trunk/DITA-2.0/stage-2/Issue372-Remove-data-about.dita
Stage 2 proposal discussed	29 Sept 2020	https://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/dita/202009/msg00050.html
Stage 2 proposal approved	6 Oct 2020	https://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/dita/202010/msg00016.html
Stage 3 proposal submitted to reviewers	9 Oct 2020	Carsten Brennecke, Deb Bissantz
Stage 3 proposal (this document) submitted to TC	15 Oct 2020	

Approved technical requirements

Remove the <data-about> element, which is no longer easily distinguishable from <data>.

Dependencies or interrelated proposals

N/A.

Modified grammar files

Exact changes to the grammar files can be seen here: <https://github.com/oasis-tcs/dita/pull/385/commits/cee6bd85f512f60c7aff123a0aa5f8e6256c9d4e>

Summary:

- Remove the DTD entity declaration from [doctypes/dtd/base/commonElements.ent](#)
- Remove the DTD element definition, and remove it from all content models in the common module: [doctypes/dtd/base/commonElements.mod](#), [doctypes/rng/base/commonElementsMod.rng](#)
- Remove a reference to the element from the hazard domain module: [doctypes/dtd/base/hazardstatementDomain.mod](#), [doctypes/rng/base/hazardstatementDomain.rng](#)

In addition, the technical content specification will require a few updates due to this proposal; those changes are summarized here: <https://github.com/oasis-tcs/dita-techcomm/pull/81/files>

Modified terminology

N/A

Modified specification documentation

Remove all mention of the element from the specification, as implemented here: <https://github.com/oasis-tcs/dita/pull/385/commits/cee6bd85f512f60c7aff123a0aa5f8e6256c9d4e#diff-49398dc44065d66c8f51e9642875bf7d>

Summary:

- Remove the element from a description of metadata cascading in [specification/archSpec/base/reconciling-topic-and-map-metadata.dita](#)
- Remove the element from coding examples: [specification/archSpec/base/relax-ng-coding-element-domains.dita](#), [specification/archSpec/base/specialization-including-non-dita-content.dita](#), [specification/non-normative/foreigngeneralization.dita](#)
- Remove other miscellaneous mentions of the element: [specification/common/reuse-w-lwdita/reuse-data.dita](#)
- Remove the topic from the language reference: [specification/langRef/base/data-about.dita](#), [specification/langRef/key-definitions-specialization-elements.ditamap](#), [specification/langRef/quick-reference/base-elements-a-to-z.dita](#), [specification/langRef/specialization-elements.ditamap](#)
- Remove from the list of recommendations for translators: [specification/non-normative/elementsMerged.dita](#)

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Migration plans for backwards incompatibilities

Recommendation is to migrate the <data-about> element to <data>; the exact migration will vary based on how <data-about> might have been used (or mis-used) in DITA 1.x documents.