Live question and answer session

Tuesday, 27 April 12-1:00 PM EDT



Contours of DITA 2.0

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Agenda

- 1. Who designed DITA 2.0
- 2. DITA 2.0 as a backwards incompatible release
- 3. What's in DITA 2.0
- 4. Getting ready for DITA 2.0

Who designed DITA 2.0?

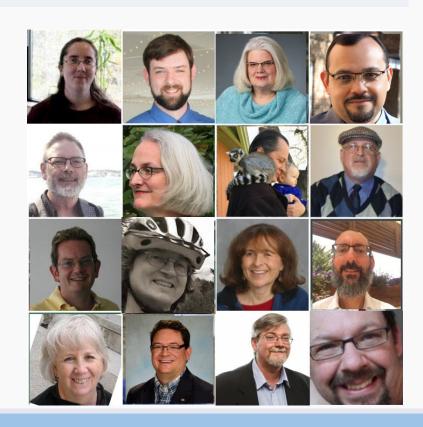
The DITA Technical Committee

16 voting members who meet weekly

Wide variety of professional roles:

- Information developers
- Information architects
- Content engineers
- Managers
- Professors
- Consultants
- Application developers

We represent the community!



Why a backwards-incompatible release?

Why is DITA 2.0 backwards incompatible?

A backwards-incompatible release lets us:

- Reduce technical debt
- Get rid of unnecessary baggage
- Fix design mistakes
- Clean house!



Eek! You'll break all my stuff!

- Yes, it's likely that there will be changes that you'll need to make to move to DITA 2.0.
- The DITA TC will provide migration documentation.
- Good opportunity to reassess your content, think about what you want to bring forward.



So, what's in DITA 2.0?

Overview: Contours of DITA 2.0

- Architectural changes
 - Improvements to key-based variable text
 - Redesign of chunking
 - Relaxation of specialization rules
- Improvements to:
 - Book map
 - DITAVAL
 - <example>
 - Glossary elements
 - Hazard statements
 - Indexing
 - <u>Simple table</u>
 - <steps>
 - <u>Troubleshooting topic</u>

- New elements
 - <include>
 - Multimedia elements
- New domains:
 - Alternate titles
 - Emphasis
 - Hardware
- Behind-the-scenes changes
- Removal of:
 - Deprecated items
 - Attributes, elements, and domains
 - Support for XSD, certain specializations

Improvements to how variable text is defined

Use case

As a content author, I want a simple way to define variable text.

As an application developer, I want rules for resolving variable text to be simpler.

Return to <u>overview</u>

Implementation

The following changes:

- Add a new element: <keytext>
- Establish new rules for resolving variable text defined using key references

ChampionKristen James Eberlein,
Eberlein Consulting LLC



Redesign of chunking

Use case

As a DITA map author, I want chunking to be easier to use.

As an application developer, I want chunking to be easier to implement.

Return to <u>overview</u>

Implementation

The following changes:

- Remove all previously-defined tokens for @chunk
- Replace with two new tokens: "combine" and "split"

ChampionRobert Anderson,
Oracle



Relaxation of specialization rules

Use case

As a DITA practitioner, I want to:

- Add a new specialized attributes
 ONLY to certain elements
- Add a new specialized element ONLY to a certain element

Return to <u>overview</u>

Implementation

The following changes:

- Enable attribute and element domain specializations to be more targeted
- Distinguish between document-type configuration and element configuration

ChampionChris Nitchie, Individual member

Implementation work by Kristen James Eberlein



Improvements to book map

Use case

As a map author, I want to:

- Apply a DITAVAL to the entire bookmap
- Specify resource-only objects (key definition, subject scheme maps, etc) in an intuitive location
- Specify that a list of updates should be auto-generated

Return to <u>overview</u>

Implementation

The following changes:

- Modification to content models of <bookmap> and <booklists>
- New element in map group domain: <mapresources>

Champion

Kristen James Eberlein, Eberlein Consulting LLC

Significant contributions by Eric Sirois, IXIASOFT



Enhancements to flagging using DITAVAL

Use case

As a content author, I want a CSS class added to HTML output:

- When the DITA source is tagged with a filtering/flagging attribute
- A flagging action is set in the DITAVAL



ChampionRobert Anderson,
Oracle

Implementation

The following changes:

- Add @outputclass to the <prop> or <revprop> elements in DITAVAL
- Specify that that the expected behavior is that @outputclass token gets passed through in the HTML output as a @class value.

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Make <example> available in more places

Use case

As a content author, I want to semantically tag content as an example where ever it occurs.

Return to <u>overview</u>

Implementation

We made the following changes:

- Made <example> available in more places
- Now available within sections, between paragraphs, in definition lists, figures, and more

ChampionScott Hudson,
ServiceNow



Addition of <sub> and <sup> to glossary elements

Use case

As a content author, I want to be able to use subscripts and superscripts when I create glossary entries.

Return to <u>overview</u>

Implementation

The following changes:

- Allow <ph> within the content models of the relevant glossary elements
- Enables the use of the highlight domain

ChampionScott Hudson, Service
Now



Improvements to hazard statements

Use case

As a content author, I want to:

- Use ordered and unordered lists when specifying how to avoid a hazard
- Avoid @outputclass

As an information architect or manager, I want to ensure that our hazard statements meet industry requirements.

Return to overview

Implementation

Redesign of the hazard statement domain, including:

- Alignment with ANSI X 535.6
- Enable use of multiple hazard symbols
- Improvement to the specification

ChampionKristen James Eberlein,
Eberlein Consulting LLC



Improvements to indexing

Use case

As a content author, I want:

- To stop inadvertently inserting <index-base> elements
- More reliable, consistent indexing support from processors
- Less complexity, more simplicity!

Return to <u>overview</u>

Implementation

The following changes:

- Removal of the indexing domain
- Addition of <index-see> and <indexsee-also> to the base
- Removal of <index-base> and <indexsort-as>
- Improved specification content

ChampionKristen James Eberlein,
Eberlein Consulting LLC



Enhancements to simple table

Use cases

As a content author, I want to:

- Span rows and columns in a simple table
- Add a title to a simple table

As a DITA practitioner, I want a useful base from which to specialize table types.

And the DITA TC wants to enable Lightweight DITA!

Return to overview

Implementation

The following changes:

- Add title to <simpletable>
- Enable column- and row spanning in simple tables

ChampionCarlos Evia, Virginia Tech



Improvements to <steps>

Use case

Return to overview

As a content author, I want to:

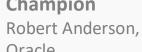
- Easily reuse <steps> and <step> elements
- Have more than two levels of steps
- Have unordered steps as a 2nd (or 3rd or 4th) level of steps

Implementation

We made the following changes:

- Enable <steps> to nest
- Remove <substeps> and <substep>

Champion Oracle







Diagnostic information in troubleshooting topic

Use case

As a content author, I want to add diagnostic information to troubleshooting topics in a semantic place.

Implementation

Three new elements:

- <diagnostics>
- <diagnostics-general>
- <diagnostics-steps>

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ChampionDawn Stevens,
Comtech Services, Inc.



New <include> element

Use cases

As a content author, I want to better handle the inclusion of code or text in my content.

As a DITA practitioner, I want a more appropriate specialization basis for transclusion elements.

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Implementation

The following changes:

- Addition of <include> element
- Changing the specialization basis of <coderef>, <svgref>, and <mathmlref> to <include>

ChampionChris Nitchie,
Individual member



New multimedia elements

Use case

As a content author, I want to easily add audio and video to my DITA topics

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Implementation

The following changes:

- <audio> and <video> elements
- Three sub-elements for controls

Champion

Kristen James Eberlein, Eberlein Consulting LLC

Built on work completed by Chris Nitchie, Individual member



New alternate titles domain

Use cases

As a DITA practitioner, I want to specialize elements for titles: book sub-titles, window titles, etc.

As a content or map author, I want to stop being confused about when a navigation title will be rendered.



ChampionChris Nitchie,
Individual member

Implementation

The following changes:

- Make <titlealts> available in maps
- New <titlealt> element available within <titlealts>
- Use <titlealt> as new specialization base for <searchtitle>, <navtitle>, and <linktitle>
- Remove @locktitle

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New emphasis domain

Use case

As a DITA practitioner, I want a more semantic alternative to the highlighting domain.

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Implementation

The following changes:

- Addition of an emphasis domain
- By default, added to all technicalcontent topic types

ChampionKeith Schengili-Roberts,
Precision Content



New hardware domain

Use case

As a content author, I want to:

- Have markup for hardware
- Stop using @outputclass to distinguish between different types of controls

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Implementation

The following changes:

- Addition of a hardware domain with two elements: <hwcontrol> and <partno>
- Integrated into all technical content topics

ChampionZoe Lawson,
Individual member



"Behind-the-scenes" changes

- Made @outputclass a universal attribute
- (Re)created @audience, @platform, @product, and @otherprops as specializations of @props
- Resolved inconsistent @class attribute values for <shortdesc>, ktext>, and <searchtitle>
- Changed specialization basis for some elements, including <imagemap>
- Removed @xtrf and @xtrc attributes
- Split syntax and programming domain
- Removed @domains attribute; replaced with @specializations attribute



ChampionRobert Anderson, Oracle



ChampionEliot Kimber, Individual member



ChampionKris Eberlein, Eberlein Consulting LLC

Remove all deprecated items

Use cases

As the DITA TC, we want to:

- Reduce our technical debt
- Remove cruft from the standard
- Start with a fresh(er) slate
- Generally, clean house!

Return to overview

Implementation

Remove anything characterized as:

- Deprecated
- Reserved for future use
- Added by mistake and retained to ensure backwards compatibility

ChampionKristen James Eberlein,
Eberlein Consulting LLC



Remove certain attributes, elements, and domains

- Remove the @copy-to and @lockmeta attributes
- Remove delayed conref domain
- Remove <topicset> and <topicsetref> elements
- Remove "fastpath" token from note/@type

Return to overview



ChampionAlan Houser, Individual member



ChampionEliot Kimber,
Individual member



ChampionBill Burns,
Healthwise



ChampionKeith Schengili-Roberts,
Precision Content

Remove support for XSD, certain specializations

- Will not ship XSD for DITA 2.0
- Specializations removed from DITA 2.0
 - Learning and training
 - Machinery task
 - Task prerequisites domain
 - These specializations will be updated for DITA 2.0 and located in OASIS Open GitHub repositories

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Getting ready for DITA 2.0

Getting ready for DITA 2.0: The big picture

There are lots of moving pieces in a DITA implementation; a backwards-incompatible DITA release potentially effects all of them:

- 1. Current DITA source
- 2. Information model
- 3. Document-type shells, specializations, constraints
- 4. Stylesheets
- 5. Tool stack

Assessing your DITA source

- Start with looking for (the most common) deprecated items
 - @alt attribute
 - @navtitle attribute
 - @title on <map>
 - @print attribute
- For a complete list, see the DITA 2.0 stage two proposal, <u>#36 "Remove deprecated items."</u>
- **Tip:** Use Oxygen XML Editor's DITA map metric report.

Assessing your DITA source

- Look for (non-deprecated) elements and attributes removed in DITA 2.0
 - <index-base>
 - <index-sort-as>
 - <substeps>
 - <substep>
 - <topicset> and <topicsetref>

- @copy-to
- @lock-title
- @xtrf and @xtrc
- Current tokens for @chunk

- Look for elements used in processing that are changing
 - Do you use <keyword> to define variable text referenced by keys?
- Look for whether your content uses elements or domains that have been redesigned, such as hazard statement

Assessing source: My advice

- 1. Get rid of deprecated items NOW.
- 2. Put guard rails in place to prevent content authors from reintroducing them
- 3. If an element is being removed in DITA 2.0, and a replacement element currently exists Change your source to use the replacement element.
- 4. Consider appointing a DITA 2.0 captain, to build expertise and knowledge.
- 5. Start considering whether you'll want to take advantage of DITA 2.0 enhancements, for example:
 - Ability to use <example> in more places
 - If you use troubleshooting topics, new <diagnostic> element

Attend the live conversation!

Tuesday, 27 April 2021 12-1:00 PM EDT Everest

And if you are looking at a PDF of this presentation, here is my contact information:

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