Creating a new DITA.xml.org using DITA

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Chair DITA Adoption Technical Committee

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DITA Adoption Technical Committee

- Created the original dita.xml.org site in 2006
- Used the OASIS website environment
- Populated the site with the DITA Knowledgebase and created the structure
- Added regular articles and blogs thru 2010
- Published the Adoption Feature Articles
Vision for dita.xml.org

- Authoritative information
  - One-stop shop for DITA information
  - DITA Feature Articles
  - Member blogs
  - DITA events
  - DITA special interest groups
  - DITA local interest groups
  - Products supporting DITA
Focus group subcommittee

- Established a focus group subcommittee to manage the site
- Problems:
  - Too much spam--became impossible to control
  - Subcommittee members too busy
  - Site too difficult for many people to use
Needed a new solution
Mision

- To become the #1 web site that people go to for **high quality, curated** information about DITA
- Official communication channel for OASIS DITA-related TCs (DITA TC, DITA Adoption TC etc.)
Mision

- Clearing house for accurate, up-to-date information about:
  - DITA Specification
  - DITA Best Practices
  - DITA Events
  - DITA Products & Service
- Place for members to blog about DITA
Goals

- Build a site about DITA with DITA
  - Demonstrate what can be achieved
- Build an involved and energetic DITA community
- Accurate and up to date information
Curation Policies

- Ensure content is high quality
- Demonstrate applicability to DITA
- Events
  - Focus on DITA or have DITA tracks
- Products & Services
  - Have relevance to DITA
Background to change

- **2014**
  - Mekon started developing DITA.guru
  - Congility – discussions with OASIS
  - OASIS Invitation to vendors to provide a solution
- **2015**
  - Vendor presentation to OASIS
  - OASIS Decision to use DITAweb
  - Set up of dedicated focus group
Who’s Involved

- DITA Adoption TC
- Focus Group
  - Keith Schengli-Roberts
  - Don Day
  - Kris Eberlein
  - Mark Poston
- Developers
Initial prototype presented to OASIS

PROTOTYPE SCREENSHOTS
Contributions

Best Practices 2015
JoAnn Hackos - 20 Aug 2015
Best Practices is the premier annual conference for managers of information development, training, and support. From your colleagues, learn about the best ideas and innovations in the industry. Discover how managers in organizations like yours are pursuing scenario-focused information architecture and delivery of content to mobile devices, transforming publications organizations from product- to customer-focused, communicating effectively with project stakeholders about our new methods, and considering the challenge of measuring actions and results.
Read

Upcoming Events

Best Practices 2015
Sept 21
JoAnn Hackos

DITA.xml.org Presentation
May 12
Mark Poston

Following

Don Day
Guru

Kris Eberlein
Master
Does DITA need XML? Lightweight DITA and HTML5
Michael Priestley - 12 May 2015
Over the last year the lightweight DITA document types have been used to prototype content from a variety of different sources within IBM, including marketing, learning and training, technical articles, and internal policies/procedures. This presentation will introduce the lightweight DITA document types, demonstrate the feasibility of using a lightweight but still structured approach for integrating content across the enterprise content ecosystem, and show how lightweight DITA can be implemented using either XML or HTML5 as the base.
Read
Events

**DITA.xml.org Presentation**
Mark Poston - 12 May 2015
Presentation of DITAweb for DITA.xml.org website.
[Read](#)

**Best Practices 2015**
JoAnn Hackos - 20 Aug 2015
Best Practices is the premier annual conference for managers of information development, training, and support. From your colleagues, learn about the best ideas and innovations in the industry. Discover how managers in organizations like yours are pursuing scenario-focused information architecture and delivery of content to mobile devices, transforming publications organizations from product- to customer-focused, communicating effectively with project stakeholders about our new methods, and considering the challenge of measuring actions and results.
[Read](#)
DITA is used in a number of ways to drive the site

**USING DITA**
Metadata and Taxonomy

- Content Types
  - Events, News, Resources, Articles
- Audience
- Subject
- More?

- Using DITA subject scheme
<subjectdef keys="content-categories" navtitle="Categories">
  <subjectdef keys="article" navtitle="Article"/>
  <subjectdef keys="website" navtitle="Web Site"/>
  <subjectdef keys="presentation" navtitle="Presentation"/>
  <subjectdef keys="video" navtitle="Video"/>
  <subjectdef keys="news" navtitle="News"/>
  <subjectdef keys="event" navtitle="Event"/>
    <subjectdef keys="conference" navtitle="Conference"/>
    <subjectdef keys="webinar" navtitle="Webinar"/>
    <subjectdef keys="meeting" navtitle="Meeting"/>
    <subjectdef keys="training" navtitle="Training"/>
    <subjectdef keys="other" navtitle="Other"/>
  </subjectdef>
  <subjectdef keys="product" navtitle="Product"/>
  <subjectdef keys="sample" navtitle="Sample"/>
</subjectdef>

<subjectdef keys="subjects" navtitle="Subjects">
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  <subjectdef keys="information-architecture" navtitle="Information Architecture"/>
</subjectdef>
<subjectdef keys="subjects" navtitle="Subjects">
  <subjectdef keys="content-strategy" navtitle="Content Strategy"/>
  <subjectdef keys="information-architecture" navtitle="Information Architecture"/>
  <subjectdef keys="content-analysis" navtitle="Content Analysis"/>
  <subjectdef keys="roi" navtitle="ROI"/>
</subjectdef>

<subjectdef keys="dita" navtitle="DITA">
  <subjectdef keys="specialization" navtitle="Specialization"/>
  <subjectdef keys="best-practice" navtitle="Best Practice"/>
  <subjectdef keys="dita-ot" navtitle="DITA Open Toolkit"/>
  <subjectdef keys="dita-lang" navtitle="DITA"/>
  <subjectdef keys="dita-11" navtitle="DITA 1.1"/>
  <subjectdef keys="dita-12" navtitle="DITA 1.2"/>
  <subjectdef keys="dita-13" navtitle="DITA 1.3"/>
  <subjectdef keys="dita-20" navtitle="DITA 2.0"/>
</subjectdef>

<subjectdef keys="content-management" navtitle="Content Management"/>
<subjectdef keys="xml" navtitle="XML"/>
<subjectdef keys="translation" navtitle="Translation"/>
<subjectdef keys="xliFF" navtitle="XLIFF"/>
</subjectdef>
<ol id="w1aab1a">
  <li id="w1aab1b1a">Detoxing Failing Content Management Projects Education</li>
  <li id="w1aab1b1ab3">Implemented DITA: bus. case, info model, CCMS, training</li>
  <li id="w1aab1b1ab5">Failures C-D: Catastrophes to Disappointments</li>
</ol>
You should attend if:
Events

- Capture metadata for an event
  - Support for http://schema.org/Event
- Avoid static list of previous events
- Encourage ways to create related content
  - “Did you attend this event? If so, write a review…”
- Add resource for a presentation
  - Slideshare, YouTube etc.
Uploading Content

- Three Methods
  - map-based content – uploaded as ZIP
  - Form-based editing for articles
    - Dependent on content type
  - SVN Upload
- Map-based content and SVN
  - OOB DITA, D4P
- Articles
  - Simplified DITA markup
  - Future use of Lightweight DITA
Improving the mobile learning experience using DITA

Short Description

DITA is already well equipped to create content suitable for mobile learning. Component content management systems provide the basis for managing the source content for learning materials. The current DITA publishing tools, however, do not meet the growing requirements for delivering a more advanced learning experience for the enterprise.

This presentation looks at how DITA can be used as the basis for a mobile learning architecture and how using a dynamic approach to delivery can enhance the experience for not only the learners, but the organisation as well. It will include demonstrations of what is possible when DITA, mobile devices and a dedicated content server are put together.

The presentation, an update to the one I provided at DITA NA 2014, will explore how DITA can fit into the context of a larger learning experience within an organisation, where existing systems, such as LMSs, are in place. It touches on the idea that learning does not just occur in formal settings and that tracking a user’s learning experience is an important aspect of a solution.
“Each `<xmlelement>map</xmlelement>` and `<xmlelement>topicref</xmlelement>` element supports the `<xmlatt>print</xmlatt>` and `<xmlatt>deliveryTarget</xmlatt>` attributes.”

“An exception is for topics with the `<synph>topicref</synph>` element's `<synph>print</synph>` attribute set to `no`; these topics will not be included in page layout outputs (such as PDF).”
Anatomy of a ditamap file

DITA maps files are primarily made up of `<topicref>`, `<topichead>`, `<topicgroup>` and `<topicmeta>` elements. DITA map files may also contain relationship tables, made up of rows and cells containing `<topicref>` elements.

The vocabulary of a ditamap file is quite simple. The principal element is the topic reference (`<topicref>`) which is simply a link to a topic to be included in the collection. The `<topicref>` elements can be nested, allowing you to build a hierarchy of links to topics.

Other elements which you can use to refine the hierarchy are:

- `<topichead>`
  - an unlinked heading (or group) in the hierarchy

- `<topicgroup>`
  - a way of grouping `<topicref>` elements together without affecting the hierarchy (used for applying characteristics to a group of topics at a time)

- `<topicmeta>`
  - metadata for the topic that applies specifically to the context of the publication defined by the ditamap

As well as linking to topics, `<topicref>` elements can link to other ditamaps, thus permitting the embedding and re-use of ditamaps.

A ditamap file may also contain one or more `<relationship table (or reltable)>` sections. A `<reltable>` is made up of rows ( `<relrow>` elements) of cells ( `<relcell>` elements), usually with a header row ( `<relheader>` elements). Cells contain `<topicref>` elements that link to topics. The relationship between `<topicref>` elements within rows and cells determines how generated links will appear in the output.

**RELATED LINKS**

Purpose of ditamap files

DITA map files are used for defining the topics of a publication, specifying the topic sequence, and controlling linking between topics. Relationship tables

Relationship tables are used to store linking relationships between topics in a collection in the ditamap, rather than in individual topics. Linking relationships are defined in a table-like structure, with rows in the table determining which topics are linked to which. Sample ditamap file

A sample ditamap illustrates how `<topicref>` elements are nested to form a hierarchy of topics, and how a `<reltable>` section can define the linking relationship between topics. `<relcell>` element is a cell in the relationship table. The `<topicref>` elements it contains will be related to `<topicref>`s in other cells of the same row. By default, `<topicref>`s in the same cell are not related to each other, unless you change the `<relcell>`'s collection type.
Improved glossary and terminology handling in DITA

DITA 1.2 introduces significant improvements to the way in which terminology is handled. It provides a flexible semantic structure to store terminology information, and the new elements occurring in the content to be linked through a key reference or explained using a non-key reference. All key references are defined in a new specialisation of the topicref in the dita:terminology element.

Purpose of a glossary

The purpose of a glossary is to allow readers who encounter terms that they do not understand to look up a description of the term. Terms may be single words or longer phrases, they may be acronyms or specific jargon. In a printed publication, a glossary (usually referred to as a “Glossary” in the book content. In an online document, the glossary is often accessed from a link that displays in a separate window or frame from the document content proper. Many readers find it easier to access by hyperlinking terms in the content to the associated definitions in the glossary.

Purpose of the change to glossary-related elements in DITA 1.2

The new elements introduced in DITA 1.2 will make it easier for publishing tools to automatically recognize the glossary-related elements in the text with their respective definitions in the glossary (in online document output using a table of contents, for example). It will also be easier for users to semantically identify terms and their definitions through a new specialisation of the information type.

The glossentry is a specialisation of the concept information type.

A new glossref element has also been introduced to provide for the possibility of linking terms in the document content with the glossary definitions.

There are three distinct processes in setting up a glossary in DITA.

- Creating individual glossary topics (using the glossentry information type)
- Incorporating the glossary topics into a ditamap
- Linking terms in content topics to their glossary definitions.

Benefit to users

The new glossary-related elements will open up opportunities, through improvements in publishing tools, for the following features in output documents:

- Automated pop-up or expansion linking of terms in the content to definitions in the glossary.
Improved glossary and terminology handling in DITA

DITA 1.2 introduces significant improvements to the way in which terminology is handled. A new glossary entry element provides a flexible semantic structure to store terminology information, and the new indirect linking functionality allows terms occurring in the content to be linked through a key reference or transcluded using a new abbreviated-form element. Keys used for key referencing are defined in a new glossref DITA specialisation of topicref in the map.

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Some of the key features that dita.xml.org will offer

SITE FEATURES
Content Collections

- My Collections
  - My DXO Collection
    - Detoxing Failing Content Management Projects
    - DITA Europe 2015
      - Providing designers a flexible way to publish DITA content into Adobe InDesign
      - anchorref
  - Group Collections
    - dxo-users
Persona

- New to DITA
- Learning more about DITA
- Finding specific information about DITA
- User experience
Library

- Map-based content
  - Initial managed upload by administrators to ensure DITA compliance

- Content will include:
  - DITA Style Guide, Tony Self
  - OASIS DITA TC, Adoption TC
  - DITA Maturity Model
  - Migration of some existing content
Social Features

- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- Follow Contributors
Gamify DITA

- Incentive to use DITA.xml.org
- Kudos
  - Creating/Contributing content
  - Commenting
  - Rating
- Badges
- Giving contributors recognition
Roadmap

- 2016 Q1 – Initial content upload
- 2016 Q2 – Public Launch
  - Announcements and Webinars
- Beyond
  - Features added every quarter
DITAweb … a platform for the delivery, collaboration and integration of personalized DITA-based content
BUILDING THE COMMUNITY
Can you help?

- User Experience, UI design
- Content contributions
  - Early access
  - Map-based content
  - Articles
- Testing
- Ideas?
Talk to us

- Today at DITA Europe
- OASIS Adoption TC