WORKING WITH DITA IN OXYGEN
BASIC PROFILING AND REUSE STRATEGIES
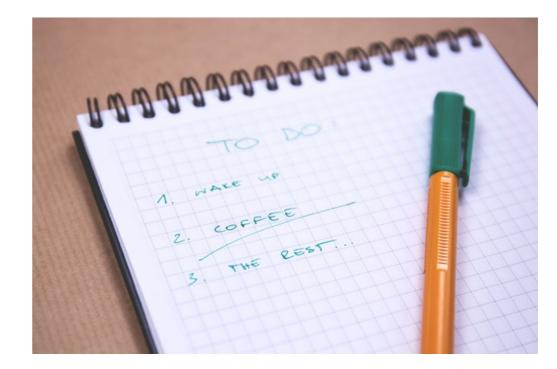
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Agenda

Profiling:

1. Profiling attributes
2. Profiling condition sets
3. Publishing profiled content
4. Profiling best practices

Content reuse:

5. Direct content references
6. Keys, keyrefs and indirect content references
7. Reuse best practices

1. Profiling attributes

The greatest wizard in fiction is Dumbledore. Audience [harry_potter_fans]

The greatest wizard in fiction is Gandalf. Audience [lotr_fans]

- **Profiling** means marking blocks of text meant to appear in some renditions of a document, but not in others.

- DITA offers support for conditionally profiling content by using **profiling attributes**.

- DITA default profiling attributes: @product, @platform, @audience, @rev, @props, and @otherprops. You can also create your own custom profiling attributes.

2. Profiling condition sets

- In Oxygen, a **profiling condition** = profiling attribute + value.

- Oxygen allows you to aggregate a set of profiling conditions as **condition sets** (or **filters**).

- Using profiling condition sets you can:
  - ➢ Preview which topics from a DITA map are included in the output.
  - ➢ Preview which text sections from a topic are included in the output.
  - ➢ Generate filtered output.

3. Publishing profiled content

- DITA-OT uses **DITAVAL** files to filter the content that is being published.

- A DITAVAL file is an XML file that corresponds to a condition set.

- When publishing, Oxygen automatically creates such files if they are not provided by the user, based on the applied profiling condition sets.

- DITAVAL files can also be used for importing profiling attributes, colors, styles and condition sets into Oxygen's preferences.

4. Profiling best practices

- Take care to limit the complexity of conditions that you apply to content. Context-agnostic writing is often a better approach.

- If a whole topic is to be excluded from the output, profile the topicref, but pay extra attention to its child references.

- Try to profile only block elements or at least whole sentences. Exception: untranslatable constructions such as product names.

- Use minimal styling.

- Use different styles for different attributes (e.g. foregrounds for @audience, backgrounds for @product).

5. Direct content references

- **Content references** are used to pull content from an element in a topic to an element in another topic. Usually the same DITA element is used on both sides of the reference.

- **Direct content references** are based on **file paths and element IDs** and are defined using the **@conref** attribute.

6. Keys, keyrefs and indirect content references

- **Key definitions** bind key names to resources. By saying just **key**, we usually mean the key name.

- A **key reference** is a reference to a key (using the key name). Key references are indirect references to resources.

- **Indirect content references** are based on **key names and element IDs,** and are defined using the **@conkeyref** attribute.

7. Reuse best practices

- Use warehouse topics for your reusable components.

- Organize your reusable content. For example, create separate warehouses for product names, images, etc.

- Use naming conventions for IDs, keys, filenames, etc.

- Whenever possible, reuse block elements.

- If you need to reuse content inline, reuse entire sentences only. Exception: untranslatable constructions such as product names.

THANK YOU!

Any questions?

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