Charter for a proposed OASIS DITA TC subcommittee: "DITA in Composite Environments (DiCE)"

Inspiration for DiCE

Many DITA users have expressed the desire to publish destination formats using content from both DITA and non-DITA data sources. Some users have implemented this functionality by relying on specialized processing; however, those solutions are often non-generic, coded to solve specific issue rather than a general class of the problem.

Goals of the SC

Define DITA's role in a composite data format environment
Establish best practices for integrating DITA in a composite environment.
Provide baseline processing architecture to enable DITA to participate in composite environments
Identify and recommend DITA architectural requirements to enable DITA participation in a composite environment
Determine the classification of source content types and define supporting DITA syntax to express the nature and restrictions of the relation

Benefits defining DITA in composite environments

Interoperability: implementations of known features increase the likelihood of being interoperable with systems used by a user's customers, partners, and suppliers
Tool support: it would be impossible for tool vendors to support undocumented usecases and requirements; the Mashup SC can provide a clear functional description for tool vendors to support
Data-driven meaning: when a data model is used to establish relationships, the meaning resides in the content; otherwise, the meaning of your content is derived from processing
Data provider support: defining how information should be represented upon extraction from a source data type increases the likelihood that a tools can support an export option that is compliant with DiCE recommendations.

Chartering members

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