Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Version 1.3 Part 0: Overview

30 August 2016

Specification URIs

This version:

- http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/v1.3/errata01/csprd01/complete/part0-overview/dita-v1.3-errata01-csprd01-part0-overview-complete.html (Authoritative version)
- http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/v1.3/errata01/csprd01/complete/part0-overview/dita-v1.3-errata01-csprd01-part0-overview-complete.pdf

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- http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/v1.3/errata01/dita-v1.3-errata01-part0-overview-complete.html (Authoritative version)
- http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/v1.3/errata01/dita-v1.3-errata01-part0-overview-complete.pdf

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Additional artifacts:

This prose specification is one component of a work product that also includes:

- Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Version 1.3 Errata 01. http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/v1.3/errata01/csd01/dita-v1.3-errata01-csd01.html
- Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Part 0: Overview (this document). http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/v1.3/errata01/csprd01/complete/part0-overview/dita-v1.3-errata01-csprd01-part0-overview-complete.html
complete.html. This edition contains topic and map; it is designed for implementers and users who need only the most fundamental pieces of the DITA framework.

- **Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Part 2: Technical Content Edition.** [http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/dita/v1.3/errata01/csprd01/complete/part2-tech-content/dita-v1.3-errata01-csprd01-part2-tech-content-complete.html](http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/dita/v1.3/errata01/csprd01/complete/part2-tech-content/dita-v1.3-errata01-csprd01-part2-tech-content-complete.html). This edition contains the base architecture plus the technical-content specializations; it is designed for authors who use information typing and document complex applications and devices.

- **Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Part 3: All-Inclusive Edition.** [http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/dita/v1.3/errata01/csprd01/complete/part3-all-inclusive/dita-v1.3-errata01-csprd01-part3-all-inclusive-complete.html](http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/dita/v1.3/errata01/csprd01/complete/part3-all-inclusive/dita-v1.3-errata01-csprd01-part3-all-inclusive-complete.html). This edition contains the base architecture, technical content, and the learning and training specializations. It is designed for implementers who want all OASIS-approved specializations, as well as users who develop learning and training materials.

- ZIP file that contains the DITA source for this part. [http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/dita/v1.3/errata01/csprd01/complete/part0-overview/dita-v1.3-errata01-csprd01-part0-overview-complete-dita.zip](http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/dita/v1.3/errata01/csprd01/complete/part0-overview/dita-v1.3-errata01-csprd01-part0-overview-complete-dita.zip)

For more information about the editions and what they contain, see [Editions](#) (6).

**Related work:**

This Errata supersedes **Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Version 1.3**, a multi-part OASIS Standard that includes:

- **Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Version 1.3 Part 0: Overview** [http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/dita/v1.3/os/part0-overview/dita-v1.3-os-part0-overview.html](http://docs.oasis-open.org/dita/dita/v1.3/os/part0-overview/dita-v1.3-os-part0-overview.html)


**Abstract:**

This document incorporates Errata for **Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Version 1.3 Part 0: Overview**.

**Status:**

This document was last revised or approved by the OASIS Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) TC on the above date. The level of approval is also listed above. Check the “Latest version” location noted above for possible later revisions of this document. Any other numbered Versions and other technical work produced by the Technical Committee (TC) are listed at [https://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=dita#technical](https://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=dita#technical).

TC members should send comments on this specification to the TC’s email list. Others should send comments to the TC’s public comment list, after subscribing to it by following the instructions at the “Send A Comment” button on the TC’s web page at [https://www.oasis-open.org/committees/comments/index.php?wg_abbrev=dita](https://www.oasis-open.org/committees/comments/index.php?wg_abbrev=dita).

For information on whether any patents have been disclosed that may be essential to implementing this specification, and any offers of patent licensing terms, please refer to the Intellectual Property Rights section of the TC’s web page ([https://www.oasis-open.org/committees/dita/ipr.php](https://www.oasis-open.org/committees/dita/ipr.php)).

**Citation format:**

When referencing this specification the following citation format should be used:

[DITA-v1.3-part0-errata01]

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1 Introduction to DITA 1.3

The Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) specification defines a set of document types for authoring and organizing topic-oriented information, as well as a set of mechanisms for combining, extending, and constraining document types.

1.1 About the DITA specification: Overview

The DITA specification is delivered in three editions that are optimized for different audiences. Each edition consists of a written specification, XML grammar files, and DITA source.

Editions

The DITA specification is delivered in three editions.

- **Base edition**: The base edition contains topic, map, and subject scheme map. It is the smallest edition; it is designed for application developers and users who need only the most fundamental pieces of the DITA framework.

- **Technical content edition**: The technical content edition includes the base architecture and the specializations usually used by technical communicators: concept, task, reference; book map; glossary; classification map; machine industry; troubleshooting. It is the medium-sized edition; it is designed for authors who use information typing and document complex applications and devices, such as software, hardware, medical devices, machinery, and more.

- **All-inclusive edition**: The all-inclusive edition contains the base architecture, the technical content pieces, and the learning and training specializations. It is the largest edition; it is designed for implementers who want all OASIS-approved specializations, as well as users who develop learning and training materials.

XML grammar files

The DITA markup for DITA vocabulary modules and DITA document types is available in several XML languages: RELAX NG (RNG), XML Document-Type Definitions (DTD), and W3C XML Schema (XSD).

While the files should define the same DITA elements, the RELAX NG grammars are normative if there is a discrepancy.
DITA written specification

The specification is written for implementers of the DITA standard, including tool developers and XML architects who develop specializations. The documentation contains several parts:

- Introduction
- Architectural specification
- Language reference
- Conformance statement
- Appendices

The DITA written specification is available in the following formats; the XHTML version is authoritative:

- XHTML (available from the OASIS Web site)
- CHM
- PDF
- DITA source
- ZIP of XHTML (optimized for local use)

1.2 Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMEND", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC 2119].

MUST

This word, or the terms "REQUIRED" or "SHALL", mean that the definition is an absolute requirement of the specification.

MUST NOT

This phrase, or the phrase "SHALL NOT", means that the definition is an absolute prohibition of the specification.

SHOULD

This word, or the adjective "RECOMMENDED", means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular item, but the full implications must be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.

SHOULD NOT

This phrase, or the phrase "NOT RECOMMENDED", means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the particular behavior is acceptable or even useful, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighed before implementing any behavior described with this label.

MAY

This word, or the adjective "OPTIONAL", means that an item is truly optional. One vendor may choose to include the item because a particular marketplace requires it or because the vendor feels that it enhances the product while another vendor may omit the same item. An implementation which does not include a particular option must be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does include the option, though perhaps with reduced functionality. In the same vein an implementation which does include a particular option must be prepared to interoperate with another implementation which does not include the option (except, of course, for the feature the option provides).

1.3 Normative references

[RFC 2119]

1.4 Non-normative references

Non-normative references are references to external documents or resources that implementers of DITA might find useful.

[cq-v3.0]
OASIS Committee Specification 02, Customer Information Quality Specifications Version 3.0. Name (xNL), Address (xAL), Name and Address (xNAL) and Party (xPIL), http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/download.php/29877/OASIS%20CIQ%20V3.0%20CS02.zip, 20 September 2008.

[ISO 8601]

[ISO/IEC 19757-3]

[MathML 3.0]

[Namespaces in XML 1.0]

[Namespaces in XML 1.1]

[OASIS Table Model]

[RELAX NG]

[RELAX NG Compact Syntax]
[RELAX NG DTD Compatibility]

[SVG 1.1]

[XHTML 1.0]

[XHTML 1.1]

[XPointer 1.0]

[XML Catalogs 1.1]

[xml:tm 1.0]

[XSD 1.0 Structures]

[XSD 1.0 Datatypes]

[XSL 1.0]

[XSL 1.1]

[XSLT 2.0]

[XTM 1.0]
1.5 Formatting conventions in the XHTML version of the specification

Given the size and complexity of the specification, it is not generated as a single XHTML file. Instead, each DITA topic is rendered as a separate XHTML file. The XHTML version of the specification uses certain formatting conventions to aid readers in navigating through the specification and locating material easily: Link previews and navigation links.

Link previews

The DITA specification uses the content of the DITA `<shortdesc>` element to provide link previews for its readers. These link previews are visually highlighted by a border and a colored background. The link previews are not normative; they contain the content of the `<shortdesc>` element for the child topic, which is rendered in a normative context as the first paragraph of the topic; the content is identical in both renditions. The link previews serve as enhanced navigation aids, enabling readers to more easily locate content. This usability enhancement is one of the ways in which the specification illustrates the capabilities of DITA and exemplifies DITA best practices.

The following screen capture illustrates how link previews are displayed in the XHTML version of the specification:

![Figure 1: Link previews](image)

Navigation links

To ease readers in navigating from one topic to another, each XHTML file generated by a DITA topic contains the following navigation links at the bottom:

- **Parent topic**
  Takes readers to the parent topic, which the topic referenced by the closest topic in the containment hierarchy

- **Previous topic**
  Takes readers to the previous topic in the reading sequence

- **Next topic**
  Takes readers to the next topic in the reading sequence

- **Return to main page**
  Takes readers to the place in the table of contents for the current topic in the reading sequence
The following screen capture illustrates how navigation links are displayed in the XHTML version of the specification:

![Navigation Links](image)

### Figure 2: Navigation links

When readers hover over the navigation links, the short description of the DITA topic also is displayed.

►

#### 1.6 Formatting conventions in the Errata 01 version of the specification

Content that has been modified in the Errata 01 version of the written specification is indicated with visual cues.

**Added or modified text**

The following conventions are used to indicate new topics or text that has been added or modified:

- Red text
- Red glyphs (sidewise triangles) that surround the modified text

For example, the following screen capture illustrates how a new sentence is displayed:

![New Sentence](image)

Note that new topics are not marked with red text or glyphs in the table of contents (TOC).

**Deleted text**

Content that has been deleted is not displayed. The locations where text has been deleted are not marked with visual indicators. See the *Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Version 1.3 Errata 01* document for a complete listing of changes, including deletions.

**Related links**

New entries for related links are not displayed with red text or glyphs. See the *Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) Version 1.3 Errata 01* document for a complete listing of changes, including the additional related links.

►