The Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) OASIS Standard defines an XML architecture for designing, writing, managing, and publishing technical documentation in print and on the Web.

Topic-Oriented Authoring

Focusing on a common topic model as a conceptual unit of authoring, DITA provides a core set of topic types derived from concept, task, and reference. DITA defines a specialization mechanism for extending markup to represent either new topic types or new domains of markup common across sets of topic types. DITA maps can combine topics into various kinds of deliverables. Content can be shared among maps or topics. Class-based processing ensures new specializations can be supported with existing tools, speeding the testing and adoption of new designs.

With DITA, all content is inherently reusable. That's because DITA's strength lies in a unified content reuse mechanism that enables an element to replace itself with the content of a like element, either in the current topic or in a separate topic that shares the same content models.

Supporting Multiple Deliverables and Publishing Channels

DITA enables organizations to deliver content as closely as possible to the point-of-use, making it ideal for applications such as integrated help systems, web sites, and how-to instruction pages. DITA's topic-oriented content can be used to exploit new features or delivery channels as they become available.

> **"The emergence of DITA as a horizontal, extensible architecture for information development is significant for the broader marketplace."**
> *Bill Trippe*
> *Senior Consultant, Gilbane, Inc.*

DITA enables highly automatable processes, consistent authoring, and enhanced applicability to specific industries. Content owners benefit from industry support, interoperability, and reuse of community contributions. At the same time, content owners address the specific needs of their business or industry.

DITA can be used to...

- Enable effective information management
- Improve information authoring models
- Reuse content in different combinations for a variety of deliverables
- Create online information systems, such as User Assistance (help) and learning modules (training)
- Design minimalist books for easier authoring and use

Get Involved

OASIS DITA Technical Committee members include representatives of:
-Adobe
-BMC Software
-Boeing
-IBM
-Innodata Isogen
-Intel
-Nokia
-Oracle
-PTC
-SiberLogic
-Sun Microsystems
-US Department of Defense
and other vendors, consultants, and users. Participation remains open to all organizations and individuals.

Learn, share, and collaborate at **http://dita.xml.org**, the online community gathering place and information resource hosted by OASIS.

For more information:
www.oasis-open.org/committees/dita

◧ OASIS Membership
One Organization, Many Opportunities

As a member of OASIS, you gain the power to influence the standards that shape our industry, whether you represent a:

-**user** seeking to ensure your business requirements are met;

-**government agency** wanting to minimize overlap of standards and reduce the risk in recommending new technology;

-**software provider** driving industry cooperation through standards; or

-**industry group** coordinating domain efforts with foundational work.

Benefits of membership:

- Participate in as many OASIS Committees as you choose
- Initiate new Committees to address identified market needs
- Influence the direction of existing Committees by contributing technical work and articulating preferences
- Gain access to early drafts of new specifications
- Identify partners and develop joint solutions
- Liaise with related efforts at OASIS to address convergence and interoperability issues at the development stage
- Protect development efforts from single-vendor bias
- Expand visibility through participation in interoperability events
- Work alongside the industry's most influential experts
- Learn and adopt best practices
- Foster a greater variety of competitive solutions
- Lower the cost of implementation
- Contribute to work respected as the product of the OASIS open process

> OASIS is an international consortium dedicated to the development, convergence, and adoption of e-business standards. OASIS Standards are developed through an open process, one that provides for fairness, transparency, and full participation from the entire community.

Organization type / size	Annual Dues (USD)		
	Foundational	*Sponsor*	*Contributor*
Company employing more than 500 people	50,000	16,000	8,000
Company employing 100-500 people	48,000	14,000	7,500
Company employing 10-99 people	46,000	12,000	6,600
Company employing fewer than 10 employees	46,000	12,000	3,200
Academic Institution or Association	44,000	10,000	1,100
National government agency (OECD member country)	44,000	10,000	*
National government agency (non-OECD member country)	44,000	10,000	1,100
Local government agency	44,000	10,000	1,100

* Contributor-level dues for national government agencies from OECD member countries are based on the number of employees and correspond to the dues categories for companies (i.e., 8,000, 7,500, 6,600, or 3,200 USD).
Individual-level membership is also available for those unable to join through their employers.

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