

DITA 1.3 survey

Table 1:

	Branch filtering	Key scope	Troubleshoot	SVG	RNG specialization	Other	None
What DITA 1.3 feature are you currently using?	6	3	2	1	0	0	25
What DITA 1.3 feature would you like to use?	12	10	5	0	3	"orientation" attr - 1 "div" element - 1 "cascade" attr - 1	5

What are your general complaints about working with DITA and Oxygen?

no complaints, but porting plugins to RelaxNG and 1.3 needs to be clearly explained somewhere, which is more a fault of the DITA 1.3 documentation and not oXygen.

None from me personally, but it's a steep(ish) and time-consuming learning curve for engineers who want or need to contribute to the content occasionally (e.g. when the lone writer is on holiday). They prefer to use ASCIIDOC as the source. There is an ASCIIDOC to DocBook transform (which can then be transformed to DITA), but not the direct ASCIIDOC to DITA one. I wonder if anyone's considered that or thought it'd be a good idea?

Would be fine to have a DITA 2 LaTeX 2 PDF workflow or some more assistance tailoring the XSL-FO to generate "real-world-pdf".

I would like to have a better understanding about branch filtering, profiling attributes and keyscopes and the situations that would make one better than another. What are the best practices for each one?

Customizing outputs, especially PDFs is very difficult. We do not have dedicated developers to work on this and need a process that is more user friendly.

DITA-OT is not evolving fast enough both in features and bug fixes.

It is not clear how DITA relates to the information standards that I use. Btw, I use HL7 Clinical Document Architecture for health records & National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) for everything else. Does DITA complement those information architectures?