# Guided XML Authoring Hints and Actions

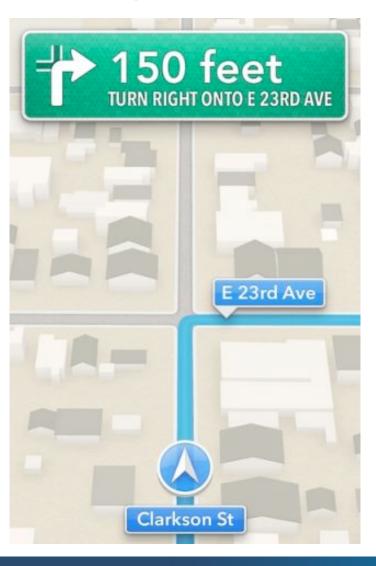
George Bina







#### Navigate to a complete document



Guided navigation:

Communicate with the driver
Whenever there is a wrong turn
The next move

Information added directly in the map
Hints showing street names
Actions the user should take



### **Guided XML Authoring**

#### Communicate with the author

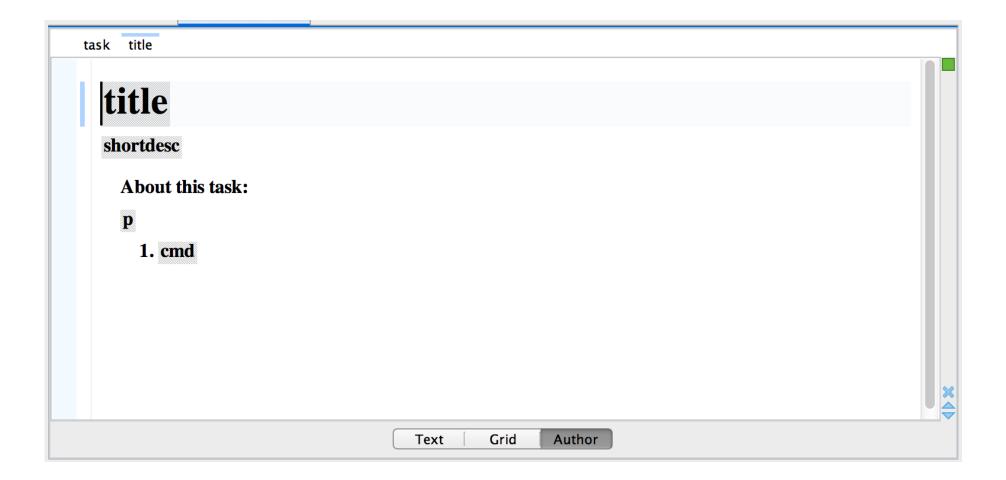
- Whenever there is a validation error
- Control messages with Schematron
- Offer quick fixes

#### Show in-document information

- Inline hints
- Inline actions



#### A new DITA task





#### Task with inline hints

A task topic tells users how to accomplish a task. Try to limit a task topic to a single procedure.

Use an imperative verb form for the task title to help users distinguish between topics that tell *how* to complete the task and other topics that might only provide conceptual information about the task.

#### Enter task title

The short description of a task should describe in a couple of sentences why the reader is performing the task.

#### **Enter short description**

The context section allows you to provide short background or high-level information about the task or its larger workflow. You can also mention here any warnings or general pitfalls with regard to the task.

#### About this task:

#### **Enter paragraph content**

Use a numbered step procedure (steps) to describe the actions that the user must perform in a specific order. Alternatively, use a bulleted step list (steps-unordered) to describe actions that the user can perform in any order.

Each step describes an action that a user must follow to accomplish a task. Enter the instructions as a direct command in the required cmd element. A step can also optionally contain different information, sub-steps, step example, choices or a step result.

1. Enter step action

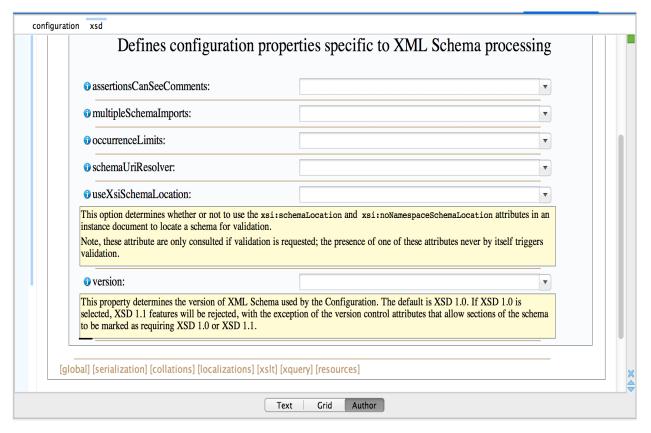


#### Task with inline actions

Title
[Title Alternatives] Short Description ×
[Prolog]
[Pre-requisites]
About this task:
p
X
[Step] [Step Section]
[Step]
1. [Note] or [Hazard Statement]
Command
[Choices] or [Choice Table] or [Information] or [Step Example] or [Substeps] or [Tutorial Information] [Step Result]
[Step]
[Step Section] [Step]



### Hints and actions - Saxon config file



<configuration edition="EE" xmlns="http://saxon.sf.net/ns/configuration">
 <xsd/>
</configuration>



#### Guided authoring implementation

Made possible by version 17 new additions:

- HTML content form control
- Define inline actions in CSS
- before(n) and after(n) pseudo-elements



#### HTML form control

Plain text static content before or after

```
element:before {content:"Hint information";}
```

To add formatting and links:

```
element:before {
    content : oxy_htmlContent(
        href , "hints.html" , id , "someID"
    );
}
```



#### Inline actions

```
content: oxy button(
    color, #B08A5D,
    action, oxy action(
      name, '[Title Alternatives]',
      description, 'Insert title alternatives',
      operation,
            'ro.sync.ecss.extensions.commons.operations.InsertFragmentOperation',
      arg-fragment, '<titlealts>${caret}</titlealts>',
      arg-insertLocation, '.',
      arg-insertPosition, 'Before',
      arg-schemaAware, false
    transparent, true,
    actionContext, element,
    showlcon, true
  );
```



# ::before(n) and ::after(n) layers

::before (6) block				
::before(5), inline			::before(2)	
::before ⇔ ::before(1) block				
Content				
::after⇔ ::after(1), block				
::after⇔ ::after(2), block				
::after⇔ ::after(n), block	,			

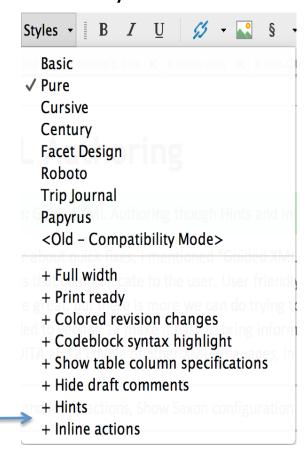


### **CSS** layers

- One main style
- Enable/disable alternate styles

Hints and inline actions as alternate styles

**DITA Styles** 



9 \* 2^8 = 2304 possibilities



### **Guided DITA Authoring**

- Hints (using LESS)
  - Placeholder content
  - HTML content
- Inline actions
  - Content models description
  - Generated CSS actions



# Saxon configuration editor

- Generate CSS actions and hints from the configuration file XML Schema
- Use custom pseudo-classes and inline actions to show/hide hints



#### Guided ISO StratML editor

 The same ideas and structure from the DITA framework applied to a different XML language



## Thank you!

Questions?

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