



XMetaL® Author 5.0

Build your content. Reduce your costs. Get to market faster.

From websites, catalogs and technical manuals to sales collateral, patent applications and financial reports, content forms your organization's front line—an invaluable asset that directly impacts your success in growing, managing and serving your customer base.

“As a team, we want to create the kind of high-value content that fuels customer-led innovation. By taking away the mundane and repetitive aspects of content creation, XMetaL leaves us free to focus on authoring content that's worth more to us and to our customers.”

Tim Lake

*Manager of Technology Transfer
Moldflow Corporation*

In today's information-rich global market, publishing consistently accurate, timely and high-value content is an immense task that requires unprecedented scaling-up of the creation process. Consider the pressures that most organizations face:

- Ambitious global sales targets with a need for simultaneous global shipment in multiple languages, versions, formats and channels
- Large, global workforces with widely distributed authors and information products
- Competitive markets where a customer experience and satisfaction are integral to growing a loyal customer base

Most executives see the discrepancy between the volume of information that needs to be published and available resources, time and budget to support these business goals. But many aren't aware of solutions that may help them reach these objectives by solving the challenges of traditional, inefficient and ineffective workflows.

XMetaL Author 5.0: Making Content Work for Information-Rich Global Markets

XMetaL helps businesses get to market faster with information products by bringing structure and automation to managing high volumes of valuable content. By enabling reuse of information and reducing redundancy, XMetaL accelerates production in one or many languages, in multiple different formats—whether for online or print delivery to customers.

Using XML (eXtensible Markup Language) standards such as the Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA), XMetaL enables authors and contributors to collaborate on structured content that can be reliably and cost-effectively repurposed

into the languages and formats your customers demand. It promotes the consistent sharing and reuse of content across the enterprise, while ensuring compliance with regulatory standards, and reducing publishing and content storage costs.

Used standalone or integrated with virtually any content management or publishing system, XMetaL helps even non-technical writers to create and collaborate on reusable XML content without needing to understand the background mechanics—to improve the quality and timeliness of content across the global enterprise.

Why should authoring be structured?

When authoring is unstructured, redundancy and inconsistency reign. In order to leverage reuse of content in your organization—people first have to be able to search for it. If content is unstructured, searching is difficult, translation can be costly, and the process of creating information products feels as though it's all over the place—because it literally is.

When authoring is structured, contributors follow a set of rules around information types and content hierarchy that govern what can be added to a document, and in what manner. Content is checked against a well-defined structure to ensure its validity, after which it can be properly cataloged and searched.

Structured authoring sets the stage for your organization to reuse repetitive content components in various documents or manuals; easily personalize documents for different types or groups of customers; speed up the translation process to enable you to reach more markets faster; and re-purpose the same information for print, online, knowledge bases and other formats.

“Using XMetaL DITA Edition for structuring our high volumes of content has allowed our team of writers to be more productive throughout the content lifecycle. In the competitive software market, time-to-market is critical, and we found that moving from a whole document approach to topic-based content authoring is helping us ensure that critical product documentation—whether in print, PDF, or online—is ready on time. With the deeper support for DITA in XMetaL Author 5.0, we will move from content creation to final delivery that much faster.”

Maria Brownstein

a Senior Engineer
Sybase Inc.

Why is XML and DITA the standard for simplified structured authoring?

XML is the technology that defines content structure as well as holds the underlying information. It’s a markup language that enables you to create content and describe its structure, while separating content from its look and feel.

DITA, the highly adopted topic-based XML standard, allows organizations to implement and maintain structured authoring and publishing in less time and with less cost.

Unlike book-oriented approaches that are based on chapters and pages, DITA uses topics—modular chunks of information—that can be easily reused across various deliverables. DITA standardizes a number of best practices for creating and leveraging structured content, including methods for content reuse, conditional processing, linking, and extensibility of document structures.

DITA’s ability to extend and specialize to your industry and application means you can evolve content types and structures without breaking compatibility with existing applications and processes, promoting interoperability and content sharing between organizations.

XMetaL Author enables writers to create structured content using XML and DITA standards, with an interface that facilitates writing and reuse without viewing all the complexities of the back-end mechanics and code.

Why is XMetaL the industry’s top choice for structured, XML and DITA-ready authoring?

First, XMetaL’s **extensibility** means it integrates with content management and publishing systems to create an end-to-end solution—from authoring to reviewing, publishing, translation, and management. Its **flexibility** allows you to customize it to create a comfortable working environment that hides various levels of complexity of structured content and ensures the validity of your XML—whether from desktop software, embedded in another application or inside a web browser.

Second, XMetaL is the only **collaborative** XML content system available¹. When teams work more seamlessly together—contributing and reviewing with high visibility and easy-to-follow change tracking—content quality improves.

Third, our **industry-leading experts** bring years of experience to our clients to help you understand and plan your content strategy and processes, and pass on best practices so you see a high return on your investment.

XMetaL is a **leading pioneer** in the art and science of structured authoring. We’ve helped define today’s most important XML standards as members of W3C and OASIS. Our drive for continued excellence keeps you well-equipped to extract and deliver the greatest possible value from content for today’s information-hungry economy.

XMetaL Author 5.0: Key Features

Available in several different editions to suit the needs of varying organizations, XMetaL Author is the award-winning software for structured authoring and content collaboration designed for organizations that require a rigorous and automated process for creating and publishing content.

Using industry standards including DITA, XMetaL enables content creators to efficiently create and collaborate on structured content that can be effectively reused, consistently translated and reliably published into various customer-facing formats.

Used standalone or integrated with any content management system, publishing engine or globalization management system, XMetaL can be used by authors and reviewers with virtually no technical or XML background. The resulting productivity and widespread content reuse gets information products published faster, while improving quality and accuracy enterprise-wide.

Create Structured Content as Easily as Working in a Word Processor

XMetaL Author ensures the validity of XML documents and keeps authors focused on creating value-add content. Its flexible interface and multiple views allows authors to work in a simplified, word-processor-like environment, while providing power users access to all aspects of a document’s structure and code.

- Give users contextual access to both high-level and detailed views of an information product and its components, attributes and elements
- Choose optional WYSIWYG ‘tags on’ or ‘tags off’ views to support both technical and non-technical authors in a simplified word-processing environment
- Guide authors through the creation process with customizable templates and intuitive editing behaviors that ensure they are producing valid XML
- Maximize author productivity with hierarchical structure views for navigating quickly to relevant document sections
- Allow authors to preview or publish final customer-facing output of documents directly from their desktops
- Author in over thirty languages including Cyrillic, Asian and Middle Eastern languages (with bi-directional support)

Leverage Best Practices in Topic-Based Authoring (DITA & Enterprise Editions)

XMetaL Author was the first authoring software to fully support the DITA standard for topic-oriented content creation. With support for DITA topics, maps, specializations and the DITA Open Toolkit for publishing your XML content, XMetaL continues its unparalleled support for this popular standard.

- Minimize author training time with menus and toolbars designed specifically for efficient authoring of DITA content
- Help authors write with reuse in mind with a familiar, topic-oriented user interface
- Navigate quickly through complex maps with a split-screen interface that lists topic references in a tree view in one side, and open topic content on the other
- Leverage the full power of DITA maps with visualization and advanced editing capabilities to better control the flow and presentation of content in your deliverables
- Minimize development and maintenance costs by automatically generating authoring configurations for DITA specializations

Promote Content Reuse for Greater Quality and Consistency

XMetaL helps authors to locate, reference and reuse content, improving the consistency and quality of your deliverables while reducing translation costs.

- Visualize reusable content in the editing interface to ensure it is used correctly
- Help authors navigate file systems and content repositories for reusable resources
- Make it easy for authors to identify and manage commonly used fragments as 'reusable components'
- Minimize the number of topics to be managed by applying conditions and filtering content to generate different versions of a document from a single source file

Publish to Various Outputs Directly from the Desktop

XMetaL provides several different publishing options to suit your specific needs, using an extensible publishing framework as a scalable, low-cost alternative to proprietary publishing systems.

- Publish XML content directly from author's desktops to a variety of customer-facing output formats using the DITA Open Toolkit, the embedded RenderX FO engine, or virtually any other publishing engine
- Publish to a variety of outputs demanded by your customers, including PDF, HTML, online help systems and more, including single-click previewing of content before publishing
- Automatically generate accurate indexes and tables of contents
- Ease administration with a streamlined process of creating, managing, and deploying Toolkit configurations
- Accelerate the learning curve by hiding the complexity of publishing operations from non-technical users and with easy-to-understand menus and dialog boxes

Collaborate and Speed up Cycle Times

When used with XMetaL Author, XMetaL Reviewer the only proven solution for XML content collaboration, provides a web-based collaborative space for multiple authors and contributors to edit, discuss, and approve content.

- Improve both productivity and regulatory compliance by capturing document evolution, tracking the change and approval process
- Eliminate the complications that arise from traditional reviewing and editing procedures and speed up cycle times for content review and approval
- Quickly integrate comments, act on suggested changes and respond to questions from reviewers
- Improve productivity and encourage collaboration among team members with a simple web-based interface

Configure and Extend

Optimize the entire user experience and ensure high adoption by configuring XMetaL Author to meet the specific needs of content creators and your unique workflow.

- Increase productivity with task-specific interfaces that simplify the execution of complex tasks and automate repetitive work
- Ensure accuracy by pulling dynamic data into your content directly from enterprise applications (for instance, add prices, product specs, or availability to a datasheet)
- For developers customizing XMetaL, speed development with standards-based technologies

Integrate with Content Management Systems & Repositories to Share and Reuse Content

By supporting virtually any type of repository, source control or content management system, XMetaL Author 5.0 lets you choose the right repository for your organization—or realize the cost and time advantages of using repositories and file systems already in place.

- Integrate with whichever file systems, source control systems, databases, XML repositories or content management systems that best suit your organization
- Simplify authors' workflow with smooth, drag-and-drop interaction between the authoring interface and content repositories
- Promote content reuse with sophisticated reference browsing, contextual filtering and automatic component creation
- Reduce development and maintenance costs with a single repository connector for multiple XML vocabularies, and repository independence that enables you to easily connect to one or more repositories or change connections quickly

- Accelerate custom integrations with high-level APIs and out-of-the-box connectors that support both open-source and commercial systems
- Allow authors to preview work-in-progress (checked-out content in the local cache) alongside related or referenced content stored in the repository

Manage Configurations to Ensure High Productivity

Typically deployed in work groups and teams of content creators, XMetaL provides a number of features for developing authoring applications and managing the deployment of the authoring environment by the IT team.

- Manage configurations to ensure that the entire team is working consistently
- Enable rapid development of your authoring applications with debugging, and configuration packaging, versioning, and backup
- Leverage industry standard interfaces for interoperability between the authoring environment and other enterprise applications

Built to Last on Open Standards

XMetaL Author offers unparalleled support for industry standards and interoperability with enterprise applications. Ensure a familiar work environment and avoid costly, locked-in proprietary technologies by taking advantage of standard programming languages, development environments, style sheets, access protocols and all major XML specifications:

- DITA
- Docbook
- SVG
- XPATH
- CALS Table Editing and Rendering
- MathML (3)
- Namespaces
- W3C Schema
- W3C DTD
- SGML
- DOM
- Unicode
- Scripting (Jscript, VBScript, Perl, Python)
- Development Languages (Java, C++, C#)
- XSL
- CSS
- OASIS Catalogs

XMetaL Author Edition Comparison

Feature	5.0		
	Author Enterprise Edition	Author DITA Edition	Author
Structured Authoring			
Templates to guide structured authoring	✓	✓	✓
On-the-fly XML validation	✓	✓	✓
Smart Insert	✓	✓	*
Document-type specific menus, toolbars, and editing behaviors	✓	✓	*
Views: WYSIWYG, tags-on/off, source code	✓	✓	✓
Search & Replace	✓	✓	✓
Copy/Paste from Microsoft® Office (Word & Excel)	✓	✓	✓
Languages supported: spell-checker	30	30	30
Languages supported: thesaurus	10	10	10
Language support: bi-directional (for Middle Eastern languages)	New	New	New
DITA Support			
Support for DITA authoring	✓	✓	
Support for DITA publishing (DITA Open Toolkit)	✓	✓	
Automatic generation of topic & element IDs	✓	✓	
DITA map editing: visual	✓	✓	
DITA map editing: XML	New	New	
Relationship table editing interface	New	New	
Automatic DITA specialization configurations	New	New	
DITA specialization inherited behaviors in authoring interface	New	New	
Consistent DITA specialization packaging with standardized overrides	New	New	
DITA compliant conditional text	✓	✓	*
Content Reuse			
Entity references	✓	✓	✓
Reusable components	✓	✓	*
DITA Content References	✓	✓	*
UI for Topic-to-topic content references	New	New	

* Items marked with * indicated some configuration required.

Feature	5.0		
	Author Enterprise Edition	Author DITA Edition	Author
Content Reuse <i>cont.</i>			
Visualization of compound documents	✓	✓	*
Display referenced content inline	✓	✓	*
User-controlled styling of conditional text	✓	✓	*
Collaboration			
Integrated collaborative reviewing ¹	✓		
Single-click change merging from reviewers	✓		
Publishing			
Support for DITA publishing (DITA Open Toolkit)	✓	✓	*
Graphical interface to DITA Open Toolkit	New	New	
Single-click preview of final output	✓	✓	✓
Publish to PDF	✓	✓	*
Publish to HTML	✓	✓	*
Publish Eclipse content or Help	New	New	*
Publish to Help, Online User Assistance formats (various, including HTML Help/CHM, Java)	New	New	*
Generate table of contents, index	✓	✓	*
Output formats and publishing engines	New		
Embedded RenderX FO engine	New		
Integrate with other publishing engines	✓		
Content Repository or Management System (CMS) Integration			
Documentum integration out-of-the-box	✓ ²		
XMetaL Connector	New		
CMS interaction inside XMetaL Author interface	✓	*	*
Integration with multiple CMSs through one interface	New		
Support for various types: file systems, databases, XML repositories, source control systems, CMS	New	*	*
Smart synchronization: preview work-in-progress	New		
Data import wizard (ODBC data source)	✓	✓	✓
Extensibility			
Configurable interface	✓	✓	✓
Macros for repeatable tasks	✓	✓	✓
Smart stylesheet and customization generator	✓	✓	✓
Extensive set of APIs: COM, Java	✓	✓	✓
Standards Support			
DITA	✓	✓	*
Docbook	*	*	*
SVG	✓ ³	✓ ³	✓ ³
XPATH	✓	✓	✓
CALS Table Editing and Rendering	✓	✓	✓
MathML	✓ ³	✓ ³	✓ ³
Namespaces	✓	✓	✓
W3C Schema	✓	✓	✓
W3C DTD	✓	✓	✓
SGML	✓	✓	✓
DOM	✓	✓	✓
Unicode	✓	✓	✓
Scripting (Jscript, VBScript, Perl, Python)	✓	✓	✓
XSL	✓	✓	✓
CSS	✓	✓	✓
OASIS Catalogs	✓	✓	✓

* Items marked with * indicated some configuration required.
² Requires XMetaL Author Enterprise Edition for Documentum Webtop
³ Requires third-party plug-in

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

XMetaL Author (Author, DITA Edition, Enterprise Edition):

- Operating System: Windows® 2000 or Windows XP
- Processor: Pentium® 133 MHz processor or similar
- Memory: 246 MB RAM minimum (512 MB RAM recommended)
- Hard disk space: 300 MB* minimum (400 MB recommended)
- Microsoft® Internet Explorer 6.x

** Does not include hard disk space required for installation of Internet Explorer 6.x if not present.*

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About JustSystems, Inc.

JustSystems is a leading global software provider with a 27-year history of successful innovation in office productivity, information management, and consumer and enterprise software. With over 2,400 customers worldwide and annual revenues over \$110M, the company is continuing a global expansion strategy that includes the launch of its new enterprise software offering xfy (pronounced 'x-fie'), and the acquisition of XMetaL, XML-based content lifecycle solutions. JustSystems has worldwide office locations including headquarters in Tokyo, Japan; Palo Alto, California, Vancouver, Canada and London, England. The company currently employs over 1,000 people. Major strategic partnerships include IBM, Oracle and EMC.

Global, content-rich organizations that rely on XMetaL solutions include Cisco, DaimlerChrysler, HP, Kodak, Microsoft, Philips, RIM, Southwest Airlines, Sybase, Symantec, Texas Instruments and USA Today.

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