

Avoiding Version Aversion Managing Content in FrameMaker

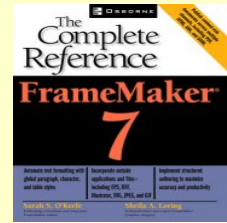
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Free to a good home

- 888 pages
- Companion workbooks available
- More than you ever wanted to know about FrameMaker



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Agenda

- About the presenter
- Versioning choices



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Versioning options

- Conditional text
- Text insets
- Multiple books
- Cross-references
- Variables
- Attributes
- XML



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About the presenter

- Single-sourcing consultant
- Coauthor, *FrameMaker 7: The Complete Reference*, *Technical Writing 101*, and other books
- Founder, Scriptorium Publishing



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Conditional text

- Multiple document versions
- Tagging for text, anchored frames, tables, and table rows
- Automatic repagination



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Conditional text issues

- Problems with multiple dimensions
- Granularity
 - Maintainability
 - Localization
- Structure
- Link management



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Adding conditional text and variables

- Provide for versioning/differentiation within the inset
- Management becomes complex



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Text insets

- Import file by reference
- Formatting by container or inset file
- Reuse modules



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Multiple books

- Versioning at the file level
- Files always start a new page



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Text inset issues

- No reporting
- Links
- Structure



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Cross-references

- Paragraph-level reuse only
- Reused paragraphs output as links



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Variables

- Word/phrase-level reuse
- Short text snippets
- Localization challenges



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XML

- Text insets in XML
- Must use structure to use XML fragments



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Attributes

- Provide metadata
- Multiple dimensions of content
- XSL transformation for filtering



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Content management software

- Expensive
- But maybe worth it?



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Attribute issues

- Show/hide not supported in FrameMaker



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Summary

- FrameMaker provides a good starting point
- Attributes/structure provides more
- Content management software needed for industrial-strength versioning



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Q & A



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More questions...

- Visit us at the exhibit tomorrow
 - Sarah O'Keefe
 - Sheila Loring
 - Matt Arnold
 - DocFrame demos
 - Calorie-laden bribes



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