



Innovative Information Management

Documentation of Eclipse Applications with DITA

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Agenda

- Challenges in Software documentation
- Single-source documentation with DITA
- DITAworks as a tool option
- Software development and documentation hand in hand
- Demo
- Q&A
- More information

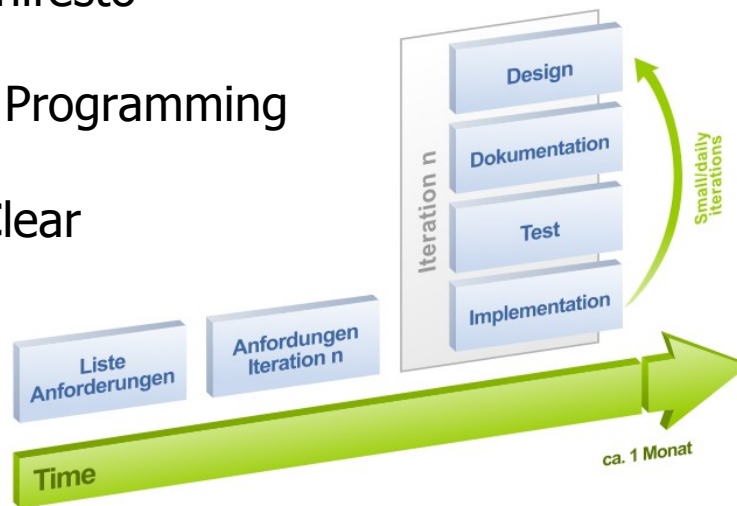
Challenges in Software Documentation

Agile Process Model

Changing market requirements



- Agile Manifesto
- Extreme Programming
- Crystal Clear



Project specifics

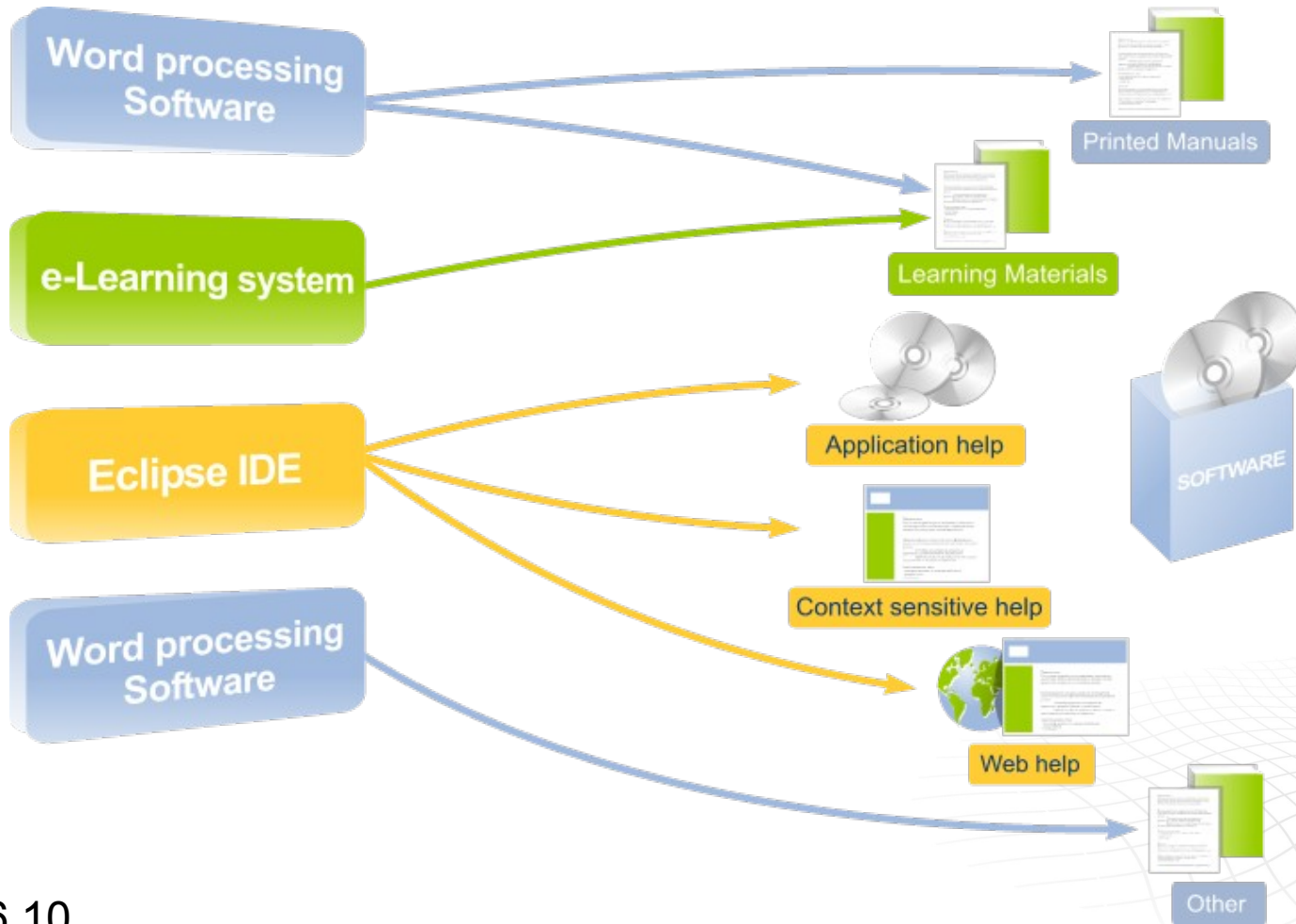
- changing requirements
- changing, incomplete targets
- small teams
- short release cycles
- more informal organisation
- flexibility, speed

✓ Documentation to ensure next steps

✓ Development and documentation more synchronized

✓ „Functioning programs more important than detailed documentation „

Traditional Documentation Toolset



Typical SW documentation deliverables:

- ✓ Printed documentation materials (manuals, references etc.)
- ✓ Application help
- ✓ Context sensitive help
- ✓ Documentation materials that should be published online (Online help)
- ✓ Training materials
- ✓ Reference documentation (API docs and s.o.)
- ✓ ... other documents

Most of these documents have quite a high potential for partial content reuse.

Challenges we are Facing in this Scenario are:

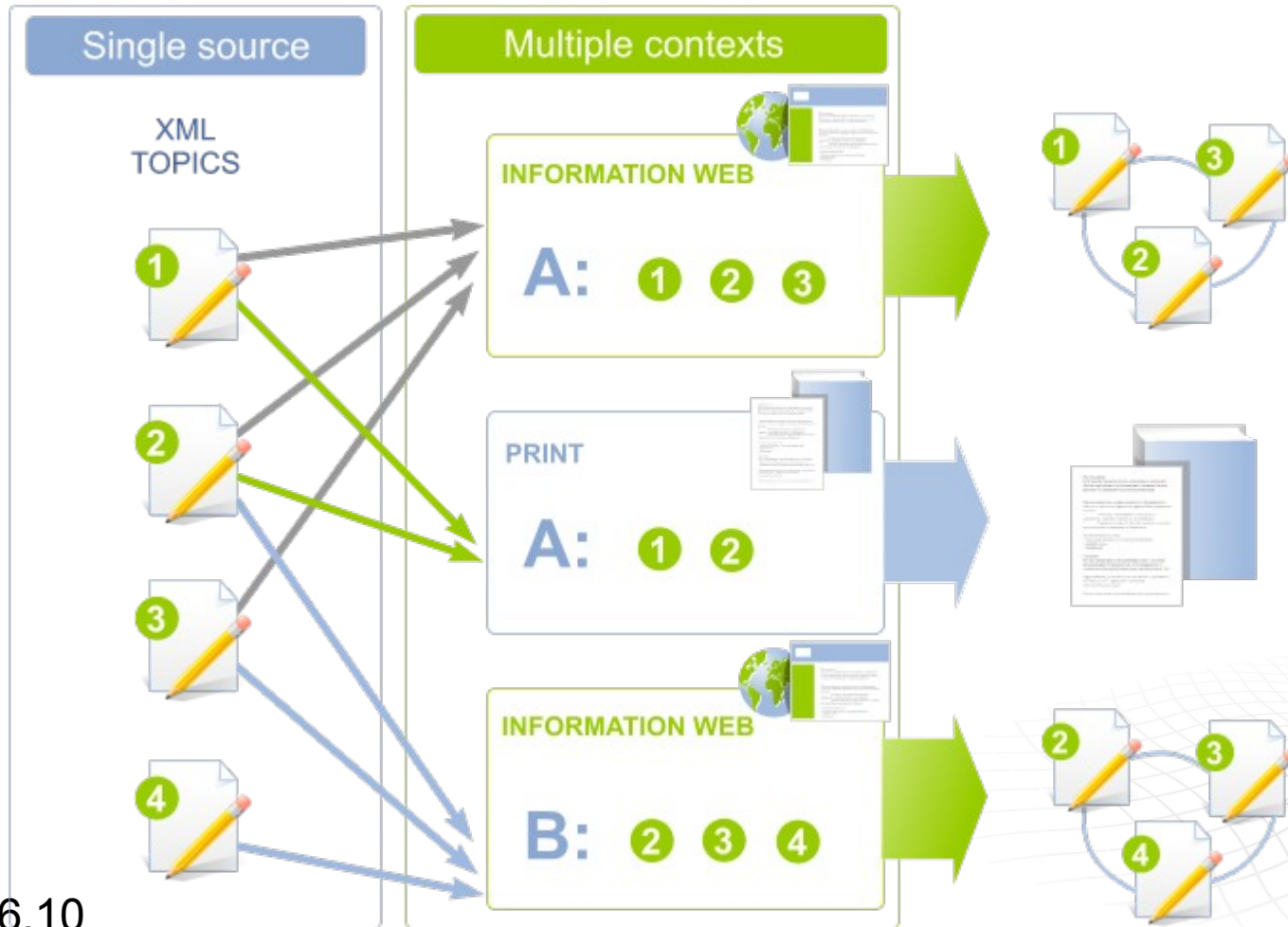
- ✓ Dealing with **different source formats** and **redundant content**
- ✓ Increasing **Complexity** of Documentation
- ✓ Globalization & Localization
- ✓ **High Quality** Expectations
- ✓ Different **Target Media**
- ✓ Need of **Integration**
- ✓ **Shortening** of Development Cycles
- ✓ Increasing Demand for **Documentation Variants**

Conclusion: Without **consistent documentation methodology** and appropriate **tool support** there is very less chance to manage all required deliverables efficiently

Solution: DITA

- ✓ **Single source publishing** as answer to these challenges.
- ✓ *Single sourcing allows:*
 - ✓ **same content** to be used in **different documents** or in **various formats**.
 - ✓ *labor-intensive and expensive work of editing only to be carried out once, on one source document.*
 - ✓ further **transformations to be performed mechanically**, by automated tools.
- ✓ One of the leading standards in XML single sourcing is **DITA**:
 - ✓ DITA stands for **Darwin Information Typing Architecture**
 - ✓ DITA was developed by IBM and donated to OASIS
 - ✓ DITA divides content into small, self-contained topics
 - ✓ DITA Topics can be reused in different deliverables.
 - ✓ Deliverables are modeled using special structure called **map**.

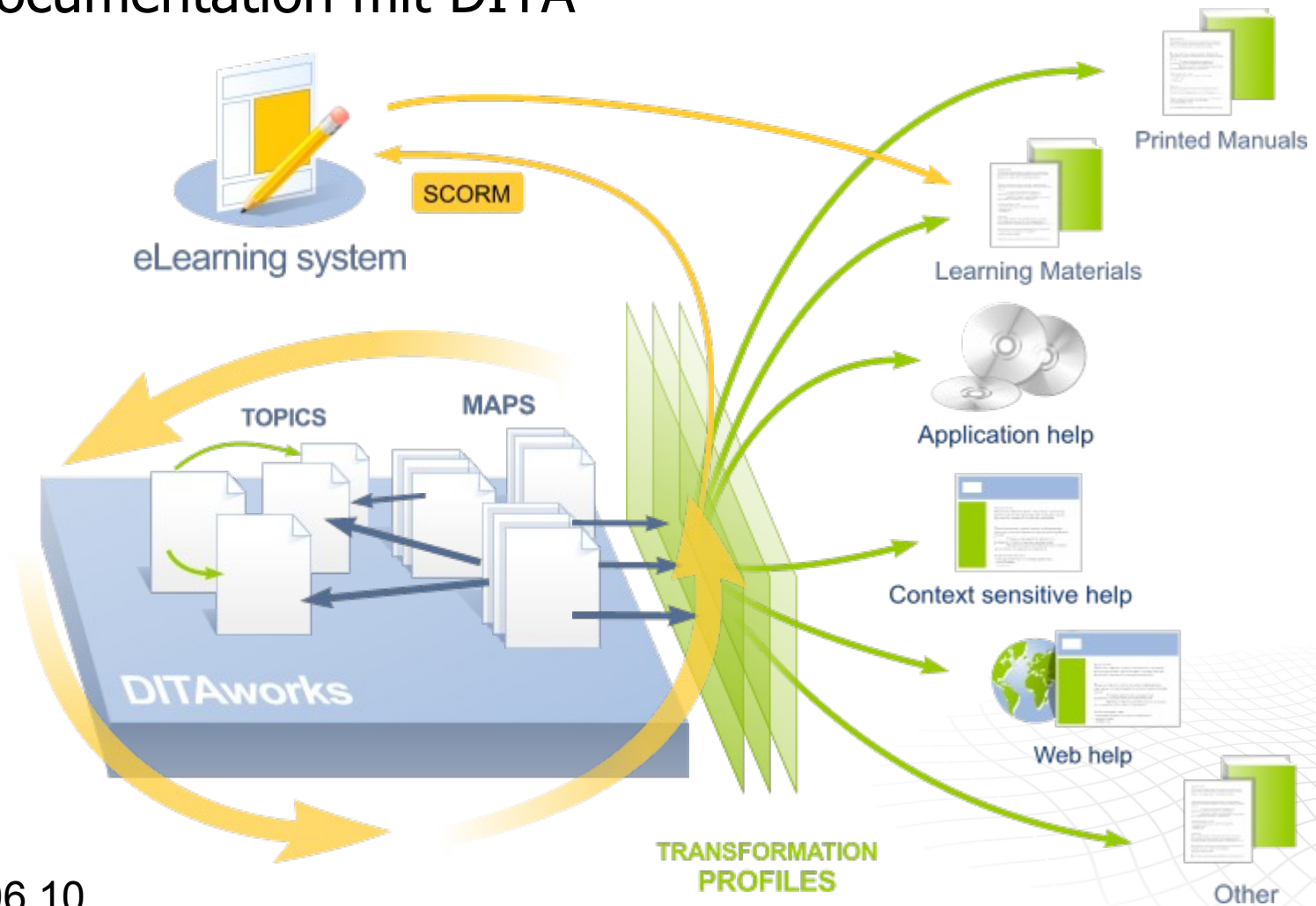
DITA Publication



DITA: Main features

- ✓ Topic-based DITA offers **flexibility in content organization**
- ✓ DITA is fairly **simple**. It uses about half as many tags as DocBook does
- ✓ DITA's modularity allows **reuse** (on **level of topic or single elements**)
- ✓ DITA allows **separation of content from presentation**
- ✓ DITA allows publishing into **different kinds of output formats**
- ✓ DITA enables use of **conditional content**
- ✓ DITA allows **process automation**
- ✓ DITA can be used **out-of-the-box**
- ✓ DITA allows you to **build on** solid base and saves time on:
 - ✓ New Infotype DTD/XML Schema development.
 - ✓ Style sheet development
- ✓ DITA is **extensible**. It enables new infotype development with backward compatibility to base DITA.

Documentation mit DITA



DITA works as a tool option

DITAworks Product Core Areas



Modeling

Provides meta information for all DITAworks tooling and enables efficient use of specialization.

- **Import** of existing specializations from **DTD** and **XML Schema**
- **Export** of managed specializations to **DTD** and **XML Schema**
- **Visual editors** for DITA base model: Specialization editing
- Model **validations**
- **Extended model:**
 - Settings for editorial tools
 - WYSIWYG Style sheets
 - Custom validation rules
 - Custom transformations
 - etc.
- **Model refactoring**



Documentation Process

Provides a set of integrated editorial model-driven tools for efficient content authoring.

- **Content Import**
- **Infrastructural project rules**
- **Visual editors** for DITA topics and maps
- **Link management**
- **Content validation**
- **Content refactoring** (e.g. rename, move, content extraction etc.)
- **Reuse block management**
- **Tag management**
- **Versioning**
- **Collaboration**

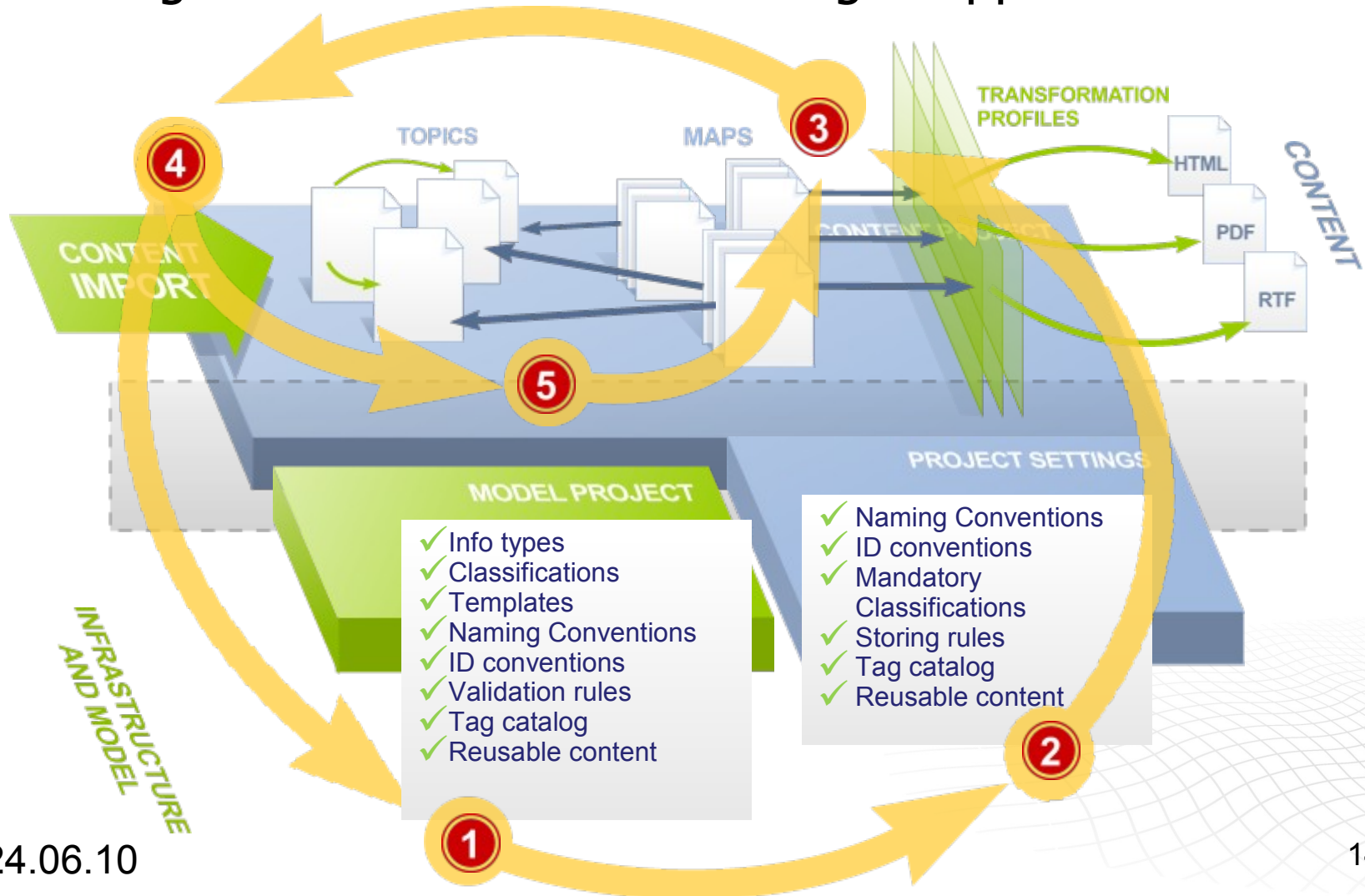


Publishing & Export

Provides means for delivery to end-user .

- **Integrated OT** with some important improvements.
- **Publishing configurations** including settings for variables, conditional processing etc.
- Extended support of **Eclipse help**
- **Export** of content (full or partial)
- **Publishing server** for running headless transformations.

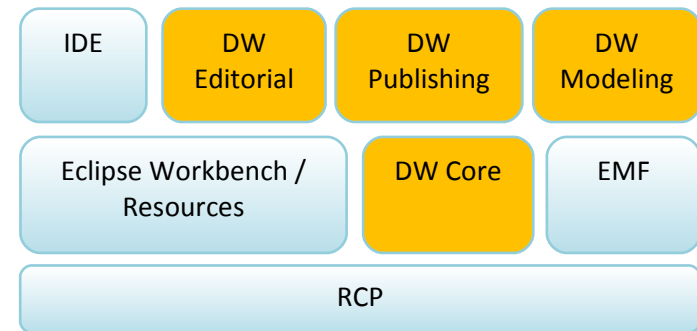
Getting Started with DITAworks: Agile Approach



DITAworks on Eclipse platform

Advantages:

- ✓ Easy integration with other Workspace-oriented tooling (e.g. SW development tools)
- ✓ Easy integration with other Eclipse projects and technologies (Example: version control, task management with Mylyn and s.o.)
- ✓ Functional blocks can be used independently

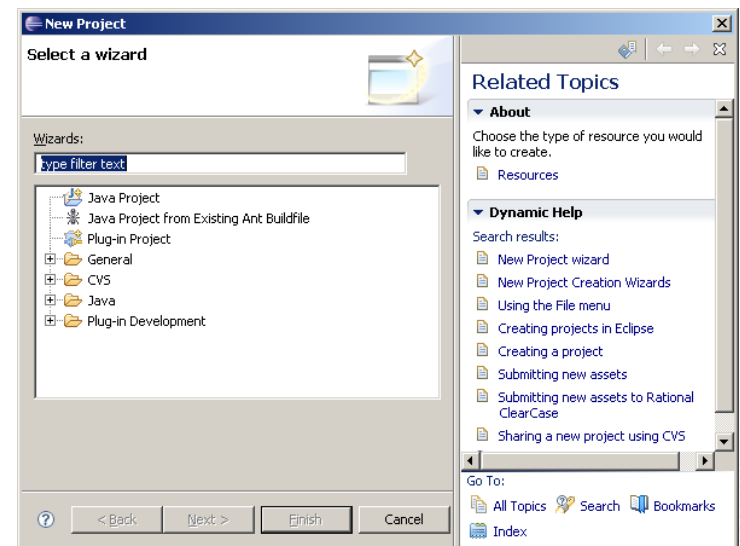


What does Eclipse offer in the area of documentation?

Eclipse Help Subsystem:

Eclipse Plug-ins for helps integrated in Eclipse / RCP

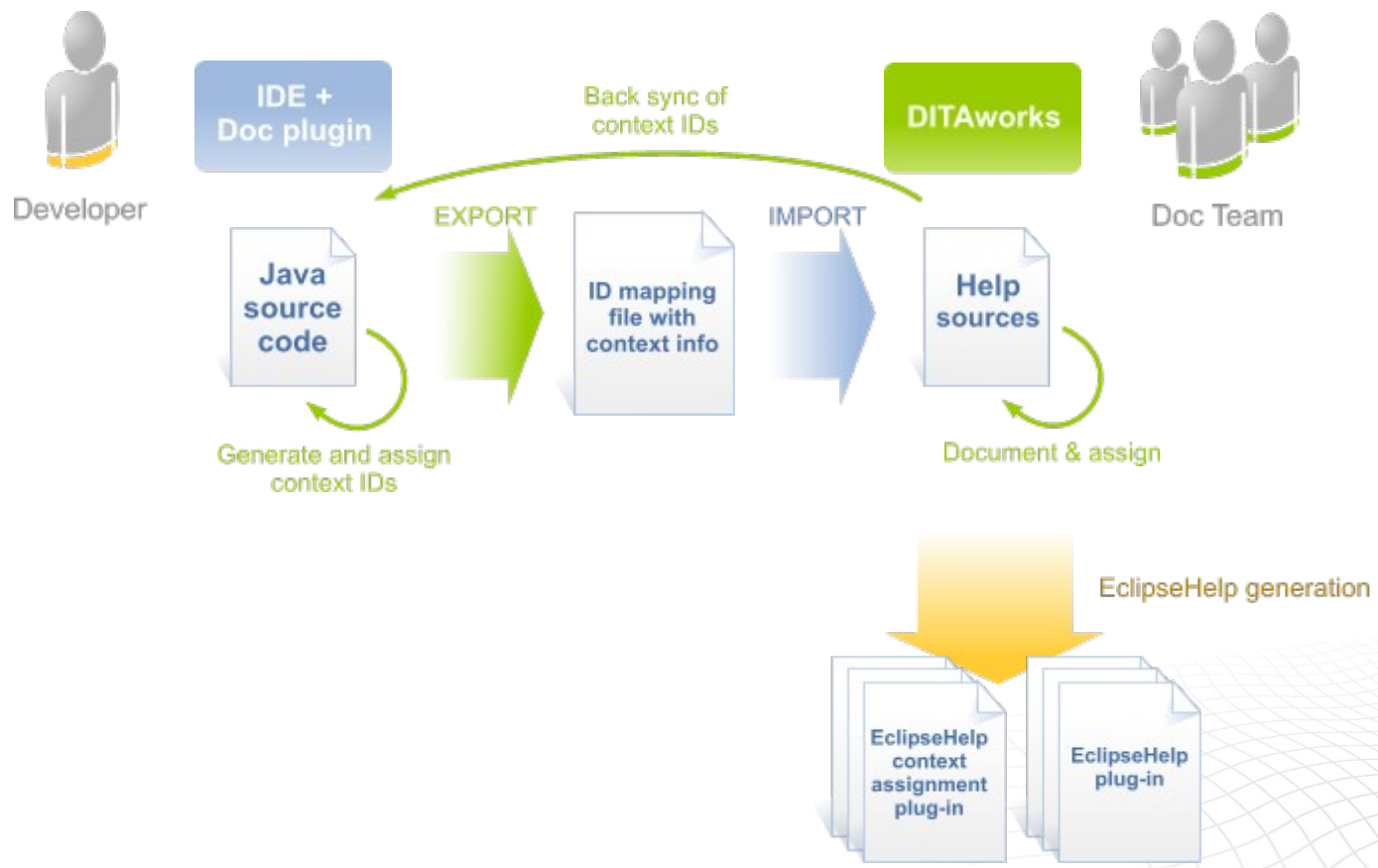
- Eclipse Help can be used for:
 - Application help
 - Context sensitive help
 - Web/Online help (Infocenter)
- Eclipse Help Format is based on an XML toc that is referring to HTML files
- Eclipse IDE contains Plug-ins supporting authoring processes



Eclipse Help Enhancements

- New specialized maps for modeling of Eclipse Help specifics like **contexts, indexes, cheat sheets** etc.
- **Import** of existing Eclipse Help Plug-ins
- **Tools for integration with development process** (Context IDs Management between development- and documentation teams)
 - Plug-in for Eclipse IDE
 - Wizards for ID Synchronizaton
- Support of dynamic **Context ID Mappings**
- Special **Validation** for Eclipse Help

Documentation Process for Eclipse Help



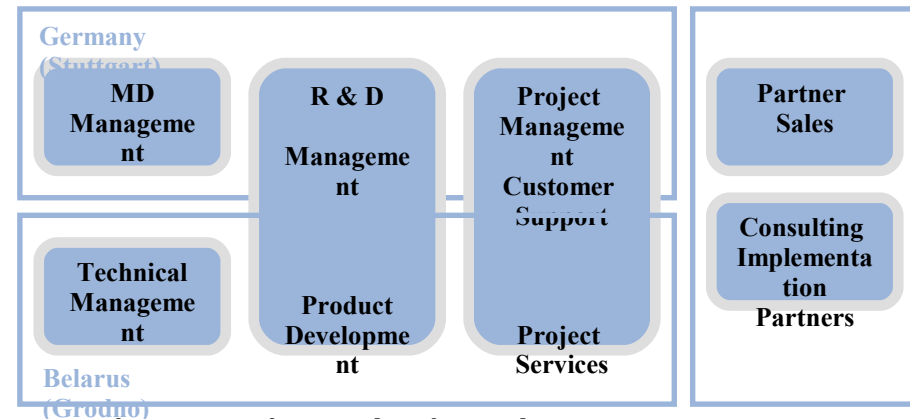
Summary

- ✓ DITAworks **addresses most of the challenges in the area of RCP application documentation** as a ready out-of-the-box product
- ✓ DITAworks **enables single-source approach** to the development of documentation under Eclipse
- ✓ DITAworks **can be easily integrated** with other Eclipse based tools
- ✓ DITAworks provides **IDE tooling to optimize collaboration**
- ✓ DITAworks pays special attention to **support of Eclipse help format**
- ✓ DITAworks is also a **good starting point for custom solutions** dealing with structured document generation

Demo

About *instinctools

- *instinctools GmbH delivers Information Management solutions on Java technology since 2001, on Eclipse since 2007
 - Eclipse Application Design and Implementation Services
 - Eclipse Application Maintenance and Support
 - Tools for Technical Documentation (single source strategies)
- Management Team in Germany, Software Lab near shore (Belarus)
- Successfully serving premium customers like Daimler, Hubert Burda Media, Garant, EnBW and SMEs
- Proven management processes and reliable project delivery infrastructure
- Member of tekomp, Eclipse Foundation



More Information

- Informationen about DITAworks
- Product videos on DITAworks Product Site
- Details on documenting Eclipse DITAworks Service Site and a Case Study on our Homepage
- You want to try it?
Request a free of cost Evaluationlicense .

New Ideas in Information Management

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