invites you to

Workshop - DITA Authoring Best Practices
by Tony Self

Date and time: Monday 15 October 9:30am – 4:00pm
Location: TD Rail & Industry, Prästgårdsgatan 1, 172 32 Sundbyberg

Workshop Description: As more companies implement DITA to streamline the development of documentation and user assistance, best practices for DITA authoring are being established. While the OASIS DITA standard provides rules for the use of elements and attributes, it does not provide clear guidelines for how to practically apply the mark-up, and how to create consistency so that DITA documents can be more readily interchanged. DITA has the potential to change habits of composition, expression and presentation for a broad range of writers and in so doing enhance productivity across a number of industries and occupations.

Adopting best practices will enable authors to maximise their productivity. In traditional authoring, best practices are often captured in a style guide, providing real-world examples and clear recommendations. However, existing style guides are written for style-based authoring, and not for DITA’s semantic mark-up approach. Tony Self has analysed the way in which DITA has been used, and has developed a DITA Style Guide to fill the gap between the DITA standard and traditional style manuals. In this workshop, Tony describes what constitutes best practice in DITA, explains the rationale behind the commonly used DITA elements and structures, and works through practical examples of best practice decisions.

The workshop will also cover the basics of DITA authoring. It is aimed at authors new to DITA and experienced authors wanting to improve their practices.
Tony Self

Based in Melbourne, Australia, Dr Tony Self has over 30 years of experience as a technical communicator. For over 20 years, Tony has worked in the areas of online help systems, computer-based training, and electronic documents. In 1993, he founded HyperWrite, a company providing training and consultancy in structured authoring, Help systems, DITA, and technology strategy. Tony completed his PhD in semantic mark-up languages in 2011, and his book “The DITA Style Guide” was published in the same year. He is a member of the OASIS DITA Technical Committee (and chair of the DITA Help Subcommittee), and is an adjunct teaching fellow at Swinburne University. Tony won the ISTC Horace Hockley award in 2011.

Price: 1600 SEK (excl. VAT). In the price, morning/afternoon coffee and lunch are included.

Registration: Email to anmalan@teknikinformatoren.se before the 17th September. Write “DITA workshop”, your name and contact details. A confirmation mail and an invoice will be sent to you. The workshop might be cancelled if there are less than 8 registrations.

If you have any questions, please contact Katarina Bovin
e-mail: katarina@teknikinformatoren.se | phone: 0737 52 24 24

We also wish to thank TD Rail & Industry, who is kindly sponsoring and hosting this workshop.

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