



IBM User Technologies

Extending the DITA Open Toolkit

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Agenda

- What is the DITA Open Toolkit?
- What does the DITA-OT give you?
- What is missing from the DITA Open Toolkit?
- How do I get more?

What is the DITA Open Toolkit?

- If you are attending this presentation, you probably already know, but...
- From the Toolkit home page at SourceForge:

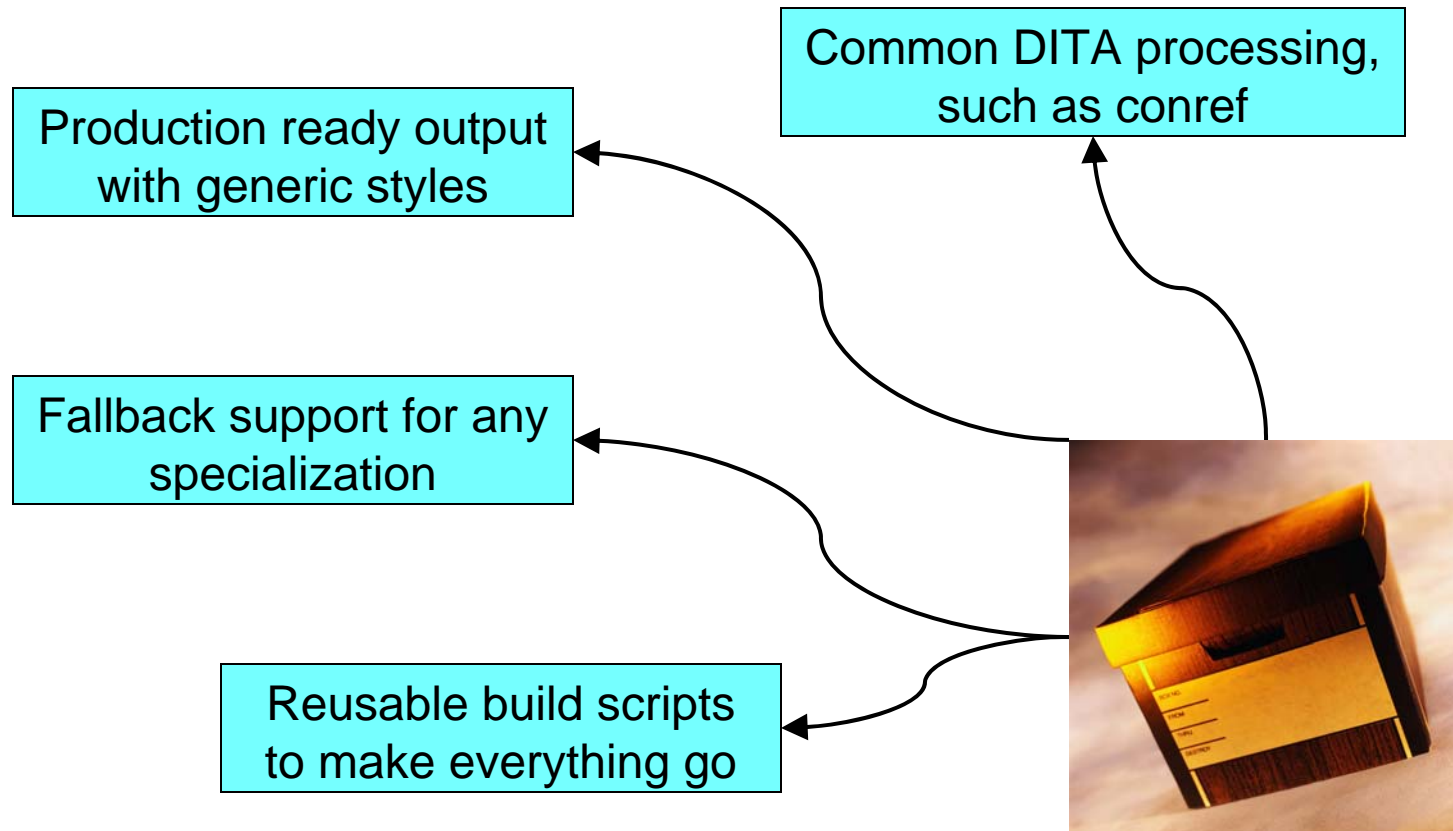
DITA Open Toolkit

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The DITA Open Toolkit is an implementation of the OASIS DITA Technical Committee's specification for Darwin Information Typing Architecture (DITA) DTDs and Schemas. The Toolkit transforms DITA content (maps and topics) into deliverable formats. [[Edit](#)]

[Download DITA Open Toolkit](#)

What do you get out of the box?



What would you add to the DITA-OT?

- Branded output: the Toolkit does not automatically add your company's header to each web page
- Extra style support for your specialization: you may need `<myElement>` to come out bold
- Additional output formats
 - We produce Eclipse help, HTML Help, and JavaHelp, but you may need another flavor of XHTML
 - You may need an entirely new output format

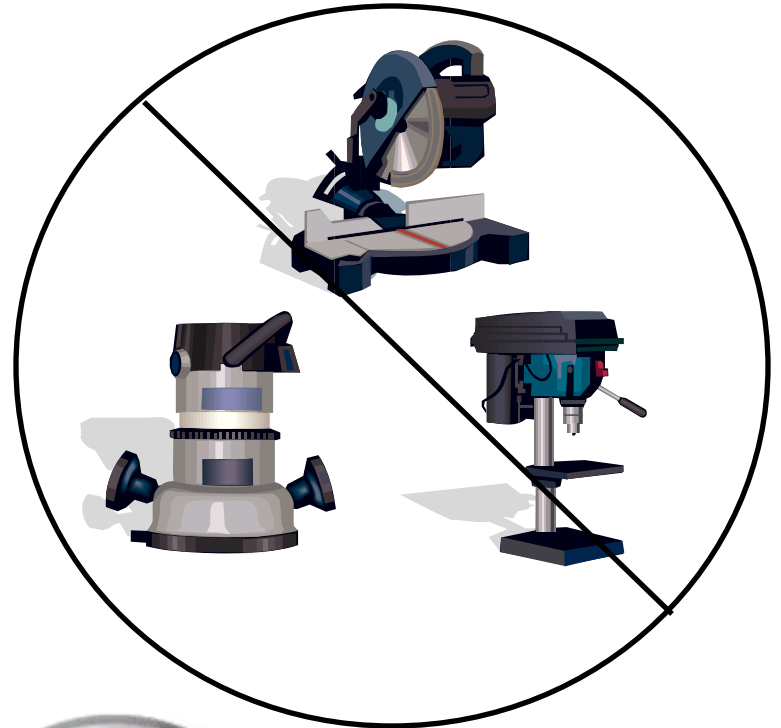
How do I enhance the DITA-OT?

- Plugging in to the Toolkit:
the best way to:
 - Brand your output
 - Style your specialization
 - Create new output formats
 - Modify processing



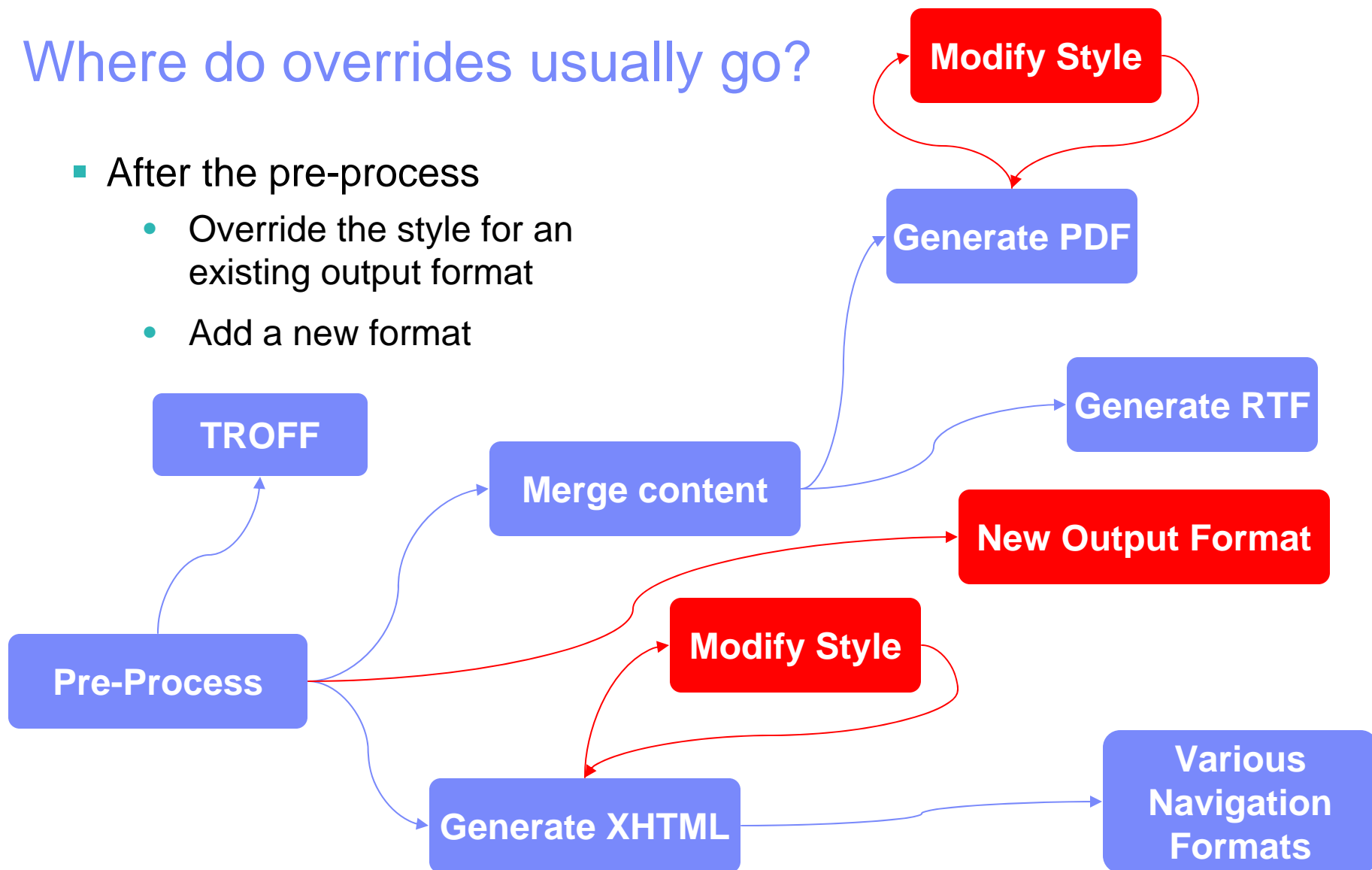
Why use plugins?

- Build new Toolkit functions without the need for heavy equipment
- Preserve your extensions through Toolkit upgrades
- Share your work – send a zip to your team, and one command will integrate the updates



Where do overrides usually go?

- After the pre-process
 - Override the style for an existing output format
 - Add a new format



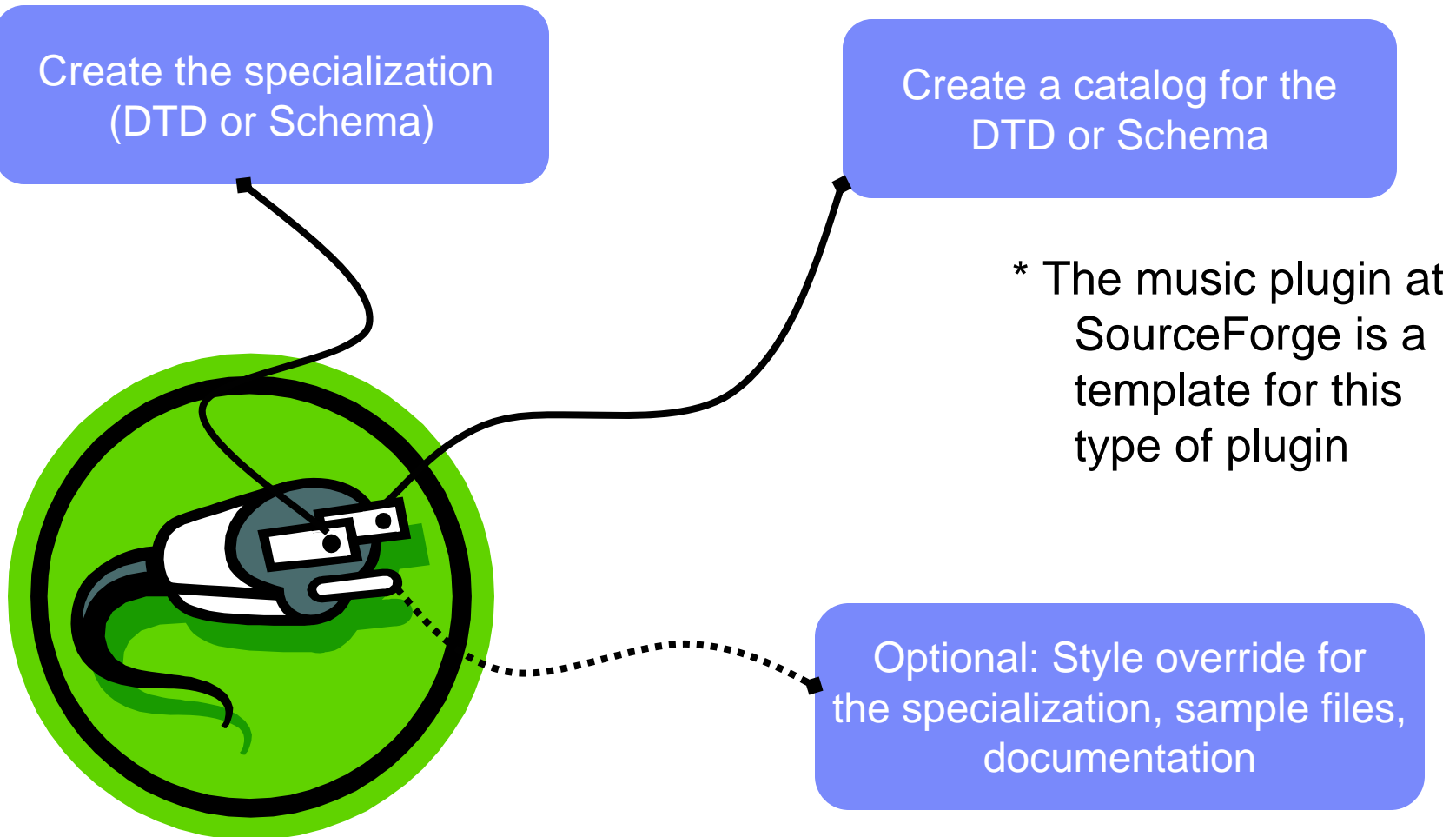
Branding XHTML output

- XSLT can use hooks in the base code, or override element rules
- A house style may be created in as little as 4 or 5 lines
- The two files below are a complete plugin that adds a company logo to every XHTML page

```
<?xml version="1.0" ?>  
- <xsl:stylesheet version="1.0" xmlns:xsl="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Transform">  
- <xsl:template name="gen-user-header">  
  - <div>  
      
  </div>  
</xsl:template>  
</xsl:stylesheet>
```

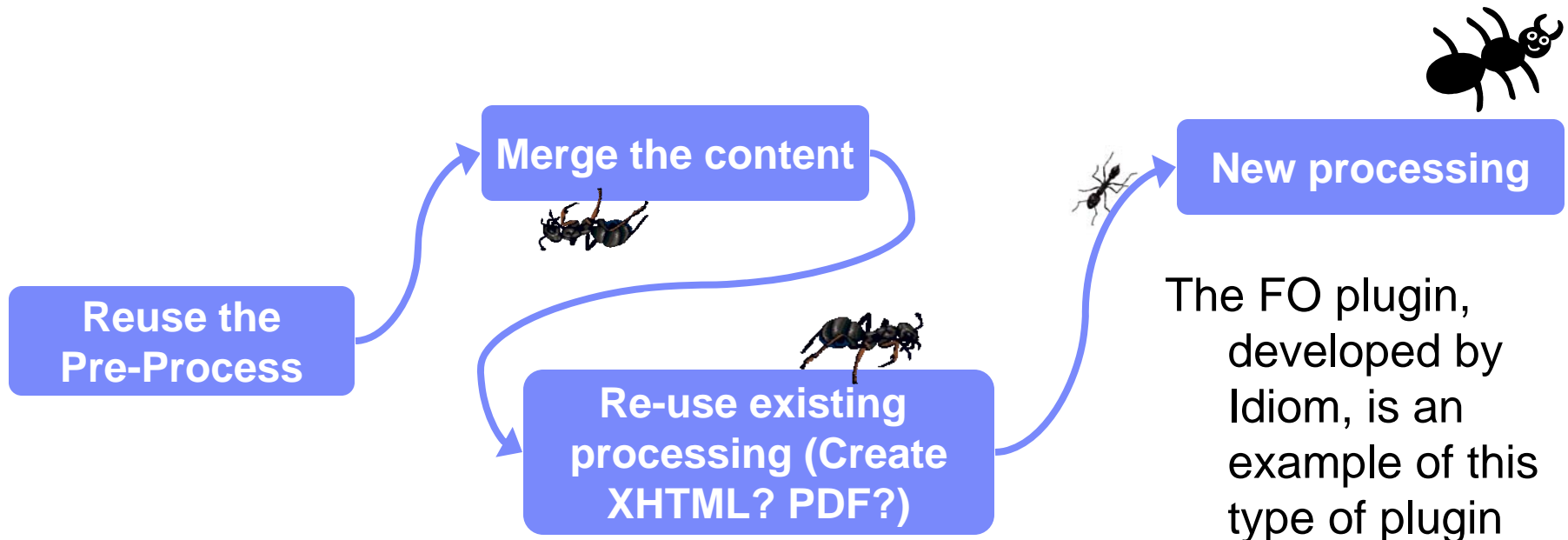
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>  
- <plugin id="org.dita.brandheader">  
  <feature extension="dita.xsl.xhtml" value="xsl/header.xsl" type="file" />  
</plugin>
```

Specialization plug-ins



Creating new output formats

- The plugin.xml file declares the new transform type
- An ANT build file defines the processing
- Typical processing path follows some or all of these steps:



Resources

- DITA-OT project page:
<http://sourceforge.net/projects/dita-ot/>
- Scroll down the download page to find a variety of plugins
 - Music plugin: sample specialization and processing override
 - FO plugin: sample new transform type
- Toolkit developer mailing list
<http://sourceforge.net/mail/?groupid=132728>
- (Slightly) Updated presentation and demo materials will be posted at
<http://www.metadita.org>



Demo: Creating a Plugin

- Specialization – facing the music
- Branding – own your own content
- New formats – get exactly what you need, even if nobody else needs it
- Share your work with others