

# Author-it in Practice

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## Agenda

- What is Author-it?
- Author-it demo
- Challenges
- Successes
- Questions

## What is Author-it?





## What is Author-it?

Single-source content management system and authoring tool

# What is Author-it?

Single-source content management system and authoring tool

Content stored in a relational database

Content created in small chunks for easy reuse

Layout controlled by templates

Publish to multiple outputs from one source

Automation using variables and publishing profiles

Multiple authors work in the system at the same time

User permissions and release states control access and workflow

Content versioning and variants

Localization management with extra module

Additional modules for reviewing, terminology management, prompted reuse

CLAUDIA – Briefly read these slides and explain that we will touch on this info during the demo.

# Author-it demo

Let's see what it looks like...



CLAUDIA

Go to open library and give brief overview of interface:

- Ribbon/tabs
- Library folder list
- Object list
- Preview pane
- Editor

While showing Editor window:

- Small chunks
- Topic object
- Size topics
- Best practice – small
  
- Styles – Templates control
- Standards
- Focus on writing
  
- Variables – show drop down
- Uses of

Go back to main window:

- Relational database
- Objects – everything is one
- Unique ID for each
- Move content – keep relationships
  
- Pub profiles - show choices
- Diff templates diff outputs
- Show example output from single source

Now back to Tricia for some of the more advanced things you can do with Author-It.

## Challenges



## Challenges

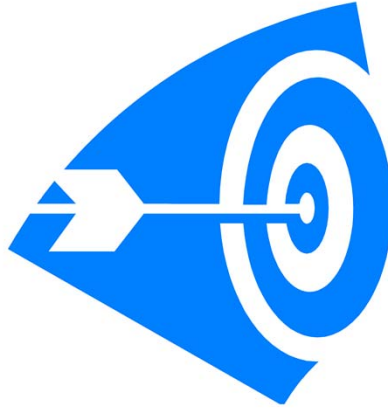
- Big learning curve for new users
- Out-of-box functionality very basic and customization is complex
- Print output based on Word
- Table formatting is problematic
- Complex relationships between objects can slow authoring
- Easy to make inappropriate changes in reused content

CLAUDIA – max. 5 minutes

Tricia comment briefly



## Successes



## Successes

- Return on investment
- Reduced authoring time
- Increased quality
- Easy compilation of new 'books'
- Reduced review time
- Reduced localization time
- Better customer experience: multiple outputs
- Control of content lifecycle
- Content reused across departments

### TRICIA

- Using Localization manager pays for itself after one use
- Reduced authoring time: Old method – create full Programming Guide (~700 pp.), then extract data to create Operator's Guide (~50 pp.). Took ~1 month to create Operator's Guide. With Author-it: create both simultaneously. Or if extracting Operator Guide information, takes ~1 hour to produce.

## Questions?

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