

Author-it Global Implementation Strategies



About SDI



- ▶ Founded in 1978
- ▶ U.S. offices in NJ (headquarters), NC, NH, MD, IN, and AR; new international offices in Hungary, India, and China
- ▶ Focus on *Making Information Perform!*
- ▶ Authorized Reseller and service provider for Author-it since 2003
- ▶ Two divisions:
 - SDI Global Solutions provides information technology solutions (including Author-it) for our clients; traditional documentation services: technical writing, graphics, editorial, course development, training and web design; DITA training; front office/back office services for global clients
 - SDI Government Solutions provides services for government and Department of Defense clients

About Author-it



- ▶ The Company:
 - Based in New Zealand
 - Founded in 1996
 - Current release: Author-it 5.0
- ▶ The Philosophy:
 - Manage content components for single sourcing
 - Make reuse easy
 - Fit the way real writers work
 - Publish automatically to multiple output formats
- ▶ The Technology:
 - Object-oriented libraries
 - Jet or SQL Server database

What We'll Cover

- ▶ Author-it's Global Development Strategy
- ▶ Traditional Author-it client-server configuration
- ▶ Issues for distributed content management
- ▶ Compact solution for offline authoring
- ▶ Application server configuration
- ▶ Language and locale issues
- ▶ Web-based authoring



Author-it's Global Development Strategy

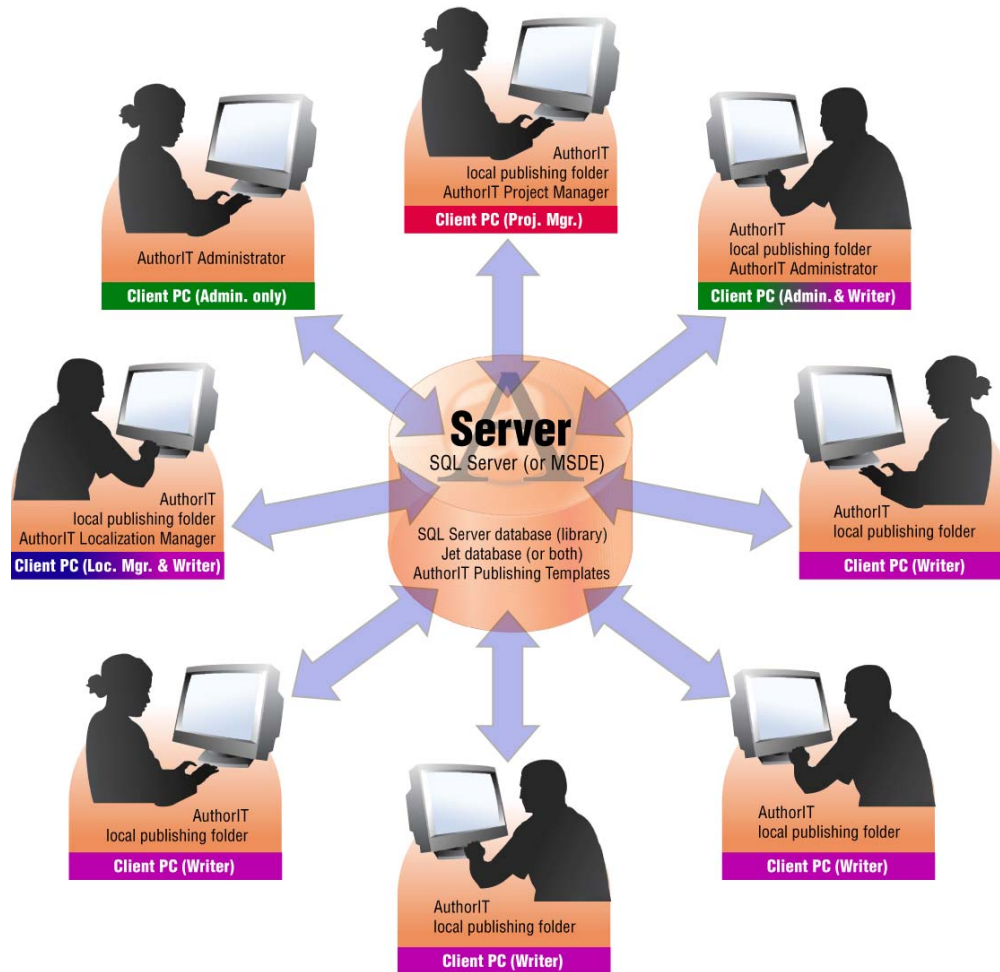


- ▶ Support global organizations:
 - Offices around the globe
 - Distributed workforce
 - Outsourced content development
 - Contractors
 - Telecommuter and traveller support
- ▶ Reduce requirements for administering the application
- ▶ Flexible licensing

Author-it Client-Server Configuration



Typical Client-Server Configuration



Content Management in a Local Area Network



AuthorIt®

- ▶ Traditional Author-it client-server configuration in a local area network (LAN):
 - Content library and publishing templates reside on a shared server
 - Client software and publishing output folders reside on each user's PC
 - Users may also use optional client modules such as the Author-it Localization Manager
- ▶ This approach works well for a single office or for separate offices with direct high-speed connections

Issues for Distributed Content Management



How Author-it Operates in a Network



Author-it®

- ▶ Updates to the library (database) are made in real time, and are passed from the client to the library on the server
- ▶ Operations such as publishing or creating updates for a Localization Manager target library send a large volume of database calls over the network
- ▶ Response times in a LAN are good
- ▶ Long distance response times over a point-to-point connection or a virtual private network (VPN) may be acceptable (or not)
- ▶ Network traffic over a wide area network (WAN) may use convoluted routing, and response times are likely to be unacceptable
- ▶ Various solutions are possible!

Offline Authoring



How Offline Authoring Works

- ▶ Offline authoring is an optional license for Author-it
- ▶ How it works:
 - Mark content to be checked out of the main library
 - Mark content that should be available but not changeable
 - Authoring environment is reproduced automatically (permissions, templates, styles, etc.)
 - Creates a Jet offline library that can be copied or emailed
 - Checked out content is locked in main library
 - Upon return, new or changed content is checked back into the main library and unlocked
- ▶ Overview article on V4 Knowledge Center:
<http://www.author-it.com/kc4/10232.htm?>
- ▶ Documentation: <http://www.author-it.com/kc/3109.htm> or
<http://www.author-it.com/docs/pdf/authorit.pdf>

When Offline Authoring Is a Good Solution

- ▶ Low cost solution for telecommuters
- ▶ Intended for short term work away from the main office
- ▶ Requires good connectivity when creating or transferring an offline library
- ▶ *Not* intended for regular work over a wide area network



Application Server Configuration



What Is an Application Server?



- ▶ Requires an Author-it V4 Floating license or an Author-it 5 Base User License for each concurrent user
- ▶ In an application server configuration, Author-it client software runs on a server
- ▶ Library and publishing templates may be on the same server or on another server in the same LAN as the application server
- ▶ To access the server and run Author-it, users use a remote access method such as:
 - Remote Desktop/Terminal Services
 - Citrix
- ▶ A login script creates a work area for each user
- ▶ Documentation: <http://www.author-it.com/kc/14528.htm?> or <http://www.author-it.com/docs/pdf/gettingstarted.pdf>

Advantages of an Application Server



AuthorIt®

- ▶ Response times over a WAN are much faster; only keystrokes and screen updates travel over the network
- ▶ Simplified administration:
 - All software resides on the server; no software installation or updates needed for user PCs
 - Performance can be enhanced by upgrading the application server; no need to upgrade user PCs
 - Flexible support for offsite workers, including contractors
- ▶ Works with Base User Licenses - no additional licenses needed

Managing Locales and Languages



Managing Content in Different Languages



- ▶ Global organizations may need to manage content for translation
- ▶ Content may be created by writers around the globe
- ▶ Translated content may be distributed in many different output formats
- ▶ Author-it can automatically adjust to different paper sizes and other international output requirements

The Author-it Localization Manager



- ▶ Manages content for translation
- ▶ Content may be created in a source library (in English and in other languages)
- ▶ Content for each translation is managed in a target library
- ▶ XML translation jobs are generated from the Localization Manager and translated using standard translation memory applications
- ▶ Each content object is translated *once* for all documents and publishing formats
- ▶ Translated content is published from an Author-it target library (no need for translation vendors to work with formatted content)
- ▶ Updates from source to target libraries are managed based on release states or other workflow controls

Author-it Live!

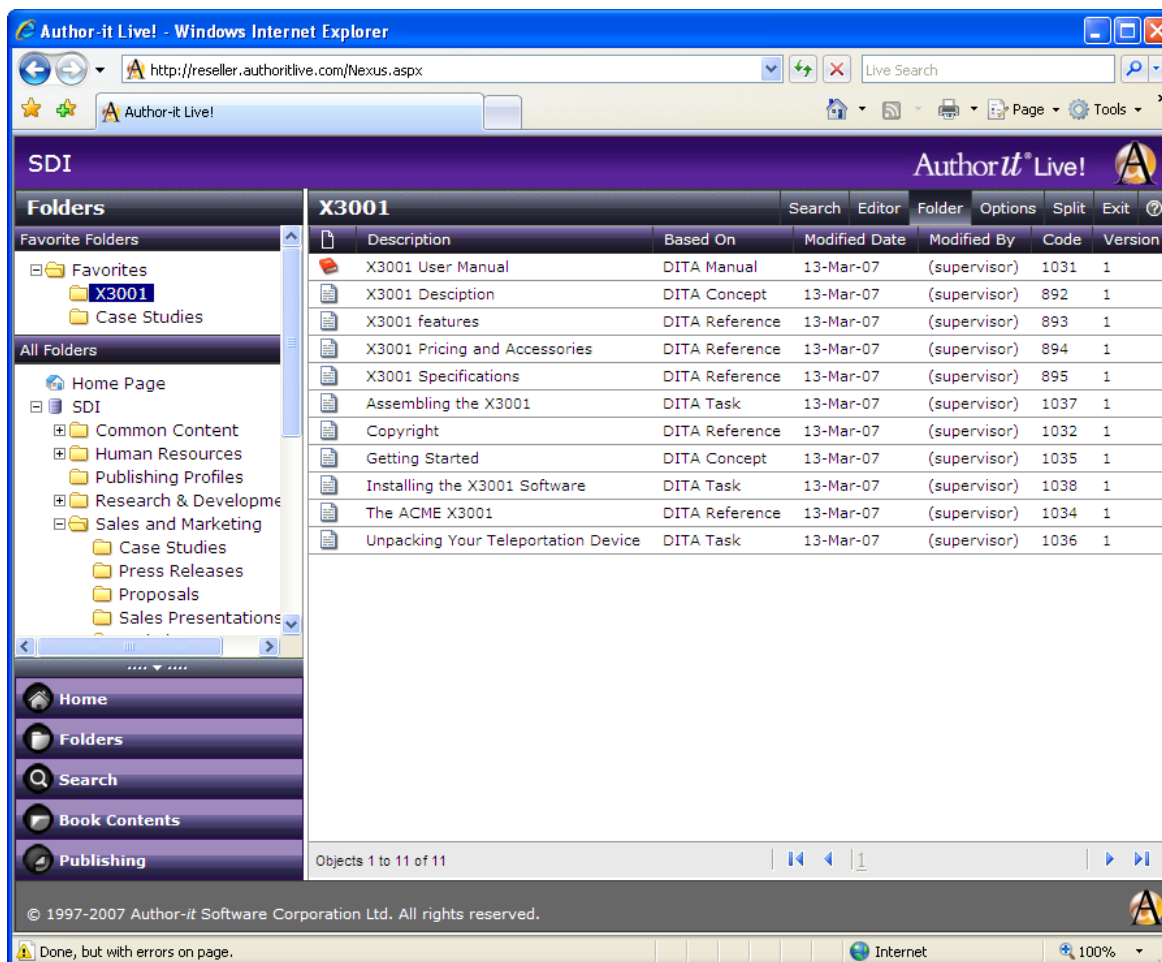


Web-Based Authoring



- ▶ Author-it Live! provides a web interface for Author-it
- ▶ Web 2.0 implementation using AJAX
- ▶ Users only need a web browser (currently IE6 or IE7)
- ▶ Includes all of the functions of the client software except imports, template design, XML, and structured authoring
- ▶ The interface is very similar to the client software interface
- ▶ Permissions are managed through Author-it Administrator client software
- ▶ Enhanced web functions include a home page, "e-mail to" function, and favorites section

The Author-it Live! Interface

Description	Based On	Modified Date	Modified By	Code	Version
X3001 User Manual	DITA Manual	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	1031	1
X3001 Description	DITA Concept	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	892	1
X3001 features	DITA Reference	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	893	1
X3001 Pricing and Accessories	DITA Reference	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	894	1
X3001 Specifications	DITA Reference	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	895	1
Assembling the X3001	DITA Task	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	1037	1
Copyright	DITA Reference	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	1032	1
Getting Started	DITA Concept	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	1035	1
Installing the X3001 Software	DITA Task	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	1038	1
The ACME X3001	DITA Reference	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	1034	1
Unpacking Your Teleportation Device	DITA Task	13-Mar-07	(supervisor)	1036	1

Advantages of Author-it Live!



- ▶ Response times are similar to a LAN implementation
- ▶ Rapid, easy deployment
- ▶ Simplified administration:
 - All software resides on the Author-it Live! server
 - No software installation or updates needed for user PCs
 - Performance can be enhanced by upgrading the Author-it Live! server; no need to upgrade user PCs
 - Flexible support for offsite workers, including contractors, telecommuters, occasional contributors
- ▶ Access to content from anywhere with web access

Application Components for Author-it Live

- ▶ Author-it Web Editor
- ▶ Author-it Publishing Server (optional)
- ▶ FAQs: <http://www.author-it.com/index.php?page=faqs>



Questions and Discussion



Followup



- ▶ Request evaluation licenses for Author-it (including optional modules).
- ▶ Schedule a call to discuss your requirements and get license and service information.
- ▶ Information about upcoming webinars, training, and other Author-it services is available at <http://www.sdicorp.com/authorit>.
- ▶ Also check our website for PDF and recording of this webinar.

Check for Future Events!



- ▶ **SDI's AuthorIT web pages** (<http://www.sdicorp.com/authorit>) -AuthorIT® check out the Free Webinars and Music sections.
- ▶ We welcome your suggestions for additional webinars!
- ▶ Send comments or suggestions to **John Hawkins** (<mailto:jhawkins@sdicorp.com>).