






IdXML – DITA to Adobe InDesign Publishing


IdXML is a DITA Open Toolkit plugin that converts structured DITA content into XML formatted for Adobe InDesign. It enables organizations to automate publishing workflows while maintaining the flexibility and creative power of professional layout tools. IdXML helps structured content teams and designers collaborate effectively — each working in their native environment — while producing high-quality, print-ready documents.


Key Benefits

 **Enterprise Flexibility:** Maintain structured DITA workflows while giving designers full creative control in InDesign

 **Reduce Manual Work:** Automate DITA-to-InDesign conversion, eliminating manual reformatting and copy-paste

 **Preserve Layout Investment:** Re-import updated DITA content into existing InDesign designs — no rework required

 **MathML Support:** Auto-convert equations to scalable SVG, preserving accuracy from source to output

 **Scalable Customization:** XSLT overrides and custom plugins adapt to any InDesign template or document type

Key Features

Seamless DITA to InDesign Integration

- Convert complex DITA maps and bookmaps into XML optimized for Adobe InDesign import
- Maintain structured content while leveraging InDesign’s full layout capabilities
- Paragraph and character styles apply automatically on import

Customizable Document Workflows

- Create custom plugins tailored to specific document types: user manuals, technical documentation, quick reference guides, and product documentation
- Define unique DITA-to-InDesign mappings per document type to match your InDesign templates

Automated MathML 2.0 Conversion

- Convert MathML equations to scalable SVG format for accurate rendering in InDesign
- Ensures complex formulas remain accurate from DITA source to final published output

Flexible Output and Packaging

- Package generated XML and associated images into a single zip file for easy InDesign import
- Fully configurable for workflows requiring direct access to raw output files

Advanced XSLT Customization

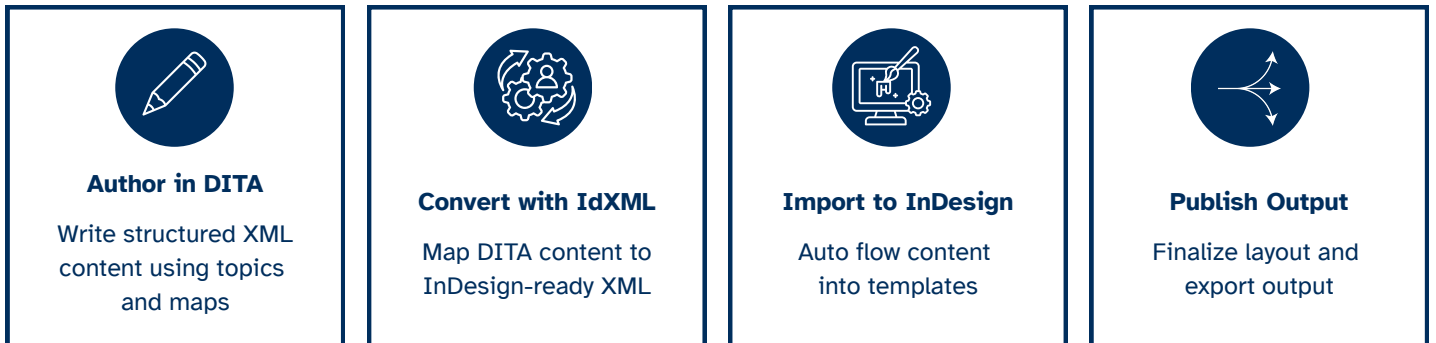
- Modify templates, variables, and post-processing behavior using XSLT overrides
- Meet specific branding, structural, and standards-based requirements

Professional Services

Contiem's Professional Services team supports IdXML implementations with:

- InDesign template design and DITA-to-style mapping
- Custom DITA-OT plugin development per document type
- XSLT customization for specialized content structures
- MathML conversion tuning and validation
- Workflow integration and team training

How IdXML Works



When source DITA changes, updated XML reimports into the existing design, preserving all layout decisions the designer has made.

Use Cases

IdXML is ideal for organizations using DITA-structured content and require design-intensive Adobe InDesign publishing. Common applications include:

- User manuals and product documentation
- Technical specifications and reference guides
- Regulatory and compliance documents
- Multi-volume publications and bookmaps
- Standards-based content (ATA, S1000D)

Part of the Contiem Publishing Ecosystem

IdXML complements Contiem's publishing solutions and structured content workflows with capabilities planned for integration into the TopLeaf publishing platform, further unifying the path from structured source to professional output.



Ready to streamline your structured content publishing?

For information or to schedule a demonstration, visit contiem.com or email info@contiem.com.

