ADOBE® TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION SUITE 3 & 3.5

Contents

Chapter 1: Getting started

Resources

Before you begin working with your software, take a few moments to read an overview of activation and the many resources available to you. You have access to instructional videos, plug-ins, templates, user communities, seminars, tutorials, RSS feeds, and much more.

Activation and registration

Help with installation

For more information on installation issues, see the Technical Communication Suite Help and Support page at www.adobe.com/go/learn_tcs_en.

Activate the software

During the installation process, your Adobe software contacts Adobe to complete the license activation process. No personal data is transmitted. For more information on product activation, visit the Adobe website at www.adobe.com/go/activation.

A single-user retail license activation supports two computers. For example, you can install the product on a desktop computer at work and on a laptop computer at home. If you want to install the software on a third computer, first deactivate it on one of the other two computers. Choose Help > Deactivate.

Note: If you installed the suite in trial mode, click Help > Activate to activate it. You are prompted for a serial number.

Register

Register your suite to receive complimentary installation support, notifications of updates, and other services. Register only once for Adobe Technical Communication Suite.

❖ To register, enter your Adobe ID when prompted when you install or launch the software.

If you choose to skip entering your Adobe ID during installation or launch, you can register within next 30 days by choosing Help > Product Registration. You can also set a reminder to register after a few days of software installation.

Adobe Product Improvement Program

You can participate in the Adobe Product Improvement Program. After you have used your Adobe software a few times, a dialog box appears, asking whether you want to participate in the program.

If you choose to participate, data about your use of Adobe software is sent to Adobe. No personal information is recorded or sent. The Adobe Product Improvement Program only collects information about the features and tools that you use in the software and how often you use them.

You can opt in to or opt out of the program at any time:

- To participate, choose Help > Product Improvement Program and click Yes, Participate.

- To stop participating, choose Help > Product Improvement Program and click No, Thank You.

Adobe provides more information about the Product Improvement Program in a frequently asked questions (FAQ) list on the Adobe website.

Services, downloads, and extras

You can enhance your product by integrating various services, plug-ins, and extensions in your product. You can also download samples and other assets to complete your work.

Adobe Exchange

Visit the Adobe Exchange at www.adobe.com/go/exchange to download samples as well as plug-ins and extensions from Adobe and third-party developers. Use these plug-ins and extensions to automate tasks, customize workflows, create specialized professional effects, and apply more creativity in work.

Adobe downloads

Visit www.adobe.com/go/downloads to find free updates, trials, and other useful software.

Adobe TV

Visit Adobe TV at http://tv.adobe.com/channel/technical-communication/to view instructional and inspirational videos on Technical Communication Suite.

Adobe Technical Communication Suite 3 overview

Adobe Technical Communication Suite software is an end-to-end solution for authoring, reviewing, managing, and publishing technical information and training content. You can use it to create and maintain technical documentation, user assistance systems, knowledgebases, simulations, software demonstrations, and other support information.
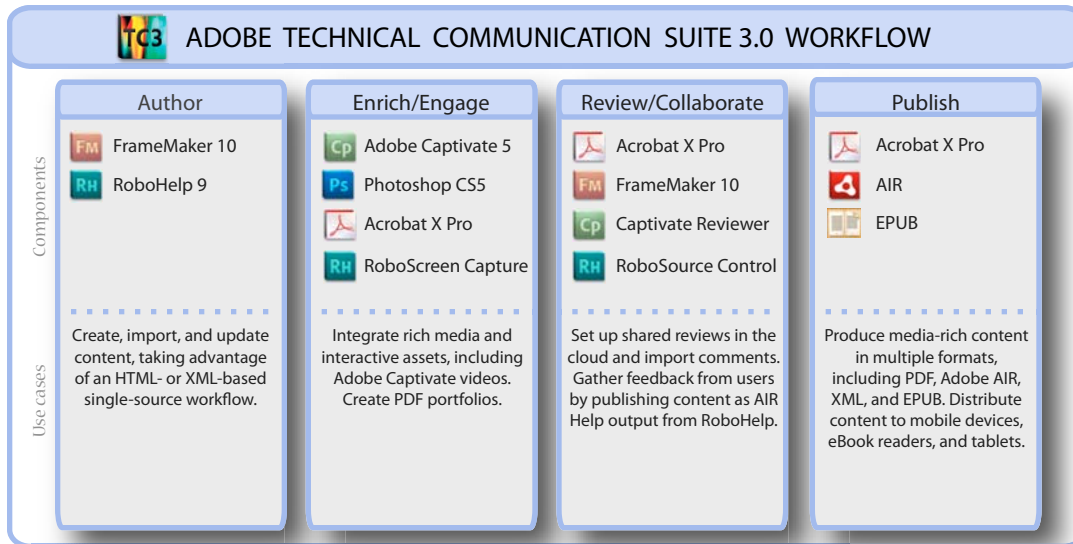
The tight integration of component products in the suite enables true single-source authoring. You can author content once and publish it in multiple formats and languages. For example, you can author content in Adobe FrameMaker and output it in multiple formats using Adobe RoboHelp.

You can also enrich content through interactive 3D models, rich media, multilayered images, demonstrations, and embedded SWF movies. Using the cross-platform Adobe AIR Help format, you can push updates to your Help content even after you have delivered it.

This latest release of Adobe Technical Communication Suite includes the following components:

- Adobe® FrameMaker® 10: Author and publish technical content, with XML, DITA standards support, and excellent PDF publishing capabilities. Includes content management support such as EMC Documentum 6.5 SP1 and Microsoft SharePoint Server 2007 SP 2.

- Adobe® RoboHelp® 9: Author and publish procedural- or process-based online Help and knowledgebases. Also includes RoboScreenCapture for still image capturing, and RoboSource Control for managing project source files.

- Adobe® Captivate® 5: Rapidly create powerful and engaging simulations and interactive content. Author rich eLearning content that includes branching scenarios, Table of content, quizzes, and SCORM- and AICC-compliant multimedia content.

- Adobe® Acrobat® X Pro: Reliably create, combine, and control Adobe PDF documents for easy, secure distribution, collaboration, and forms data collection. Create stunning portfolios that combine several file types, such as image formats, FLV file, PDF, SWF file, and interactive 3D.

- Adobe® Photoshop® CS5: Edit and enhance images and screenshots before using them in your projects.

Adobe Technical Communication Suite includes support for Adobe® Illustrator® CS5. You can seamlessly edit Adobe® Illustrator® CS5 illustrations from within Adobe® FrameMaker® 10. For this, install Illustrator separately on same system as Technical Communication Suite.

If you want to capture some quick screenshots, you can use Adobe® RoboScreenCapture®, which is available with FrameMaker, RoboHelp and Technical Communication Suite.

Adobe RoboHelp also includes Adobe RoboSource Control, which lets you add Adobe FrameMaker or Adobe RoboHelp files to version control. RoboSource Control™ stores all your project files in a database, enabling other authors to access them. It also prevents more than one author from checking out a file at the same time.

Top features of Adobe Technical Communication Suite

Seamless content creation Create, review, manage, and publish technical information seamlessly. You can publish your content in XML, DITA, PDF or as printed manuals.

Create Rich PDF FrameMaker excels at creating richly formatted PDF output. Using FrameMaker, you can add 3D, graphics, audio, video, multimedia, and interactive content. Embed Adobe Captivate demos and simulations in online Help projects and PDF documents. For more information, see "Rich media" on page 6.

Single-sourcing (tighter FrameMaker and RoboHelp integration) You can create content once in FrameMaker and publish it for print/DVD world as XML, DITA, PDF file, or printed guides. You can single source the same content in RoboHelp and create online content as .chm, webhelp, AIR, or EPUB files. Further, you can directly generate online Help from FrameMaker. Single-sourcing reduces content creation time as duplication is prevented. Single-sourcing also reduces errors as reviews are singular, and saves localization costs as same content is being leveraged across mediums. For more information, see "Using FrameMaker with RoboHelp" on page 11.

Multi-device output Devices are in. Users now demand content to be displayed through smartphones or Internet-enabled devices, such as Kindle. With RoboHelp 9, you can now create EPUB-content that appears well across various devices.

DITA Support and multi-channel publishing Author your DITA projects in FrameMaker and then leverage the power of RoboHelp to create online Help. You can create .chm file, webhelp, Flashhelp, Javahelp, Oraclehelp, Eclipsehelp, XHTML, EPUB, or AIR files. With FrameMaker 10, there is no need to convert DITA documents into books only for linking-purpose. You can directly link to DITA documents. For more information, see "Authoring and publishing workflow using FrameMaker and RoboHelp" on page 11.

Review and Collaboration Technical Communication Suite includes Acrobat that lets you collaborate on documents. Use Acrobat.com to share PDF files, set up and manage reviews through e-mails, and collaborate on PDF documents. Initiate reviews from within FrameMaker, RoboHelp, and Adobe Captivate, without having to exit authoring applications for setting up reviews. Generate PDFs that can be commented with Adobe Acrobat Reader. Document reviewers do not need to have Acrobat or Technical Communication Suite installed on their systems to comment documents using Acrobat Reader. For more information, see "Review and collaboration" on page 41.

Create Cross-platform output Deliver your Help projects in the cross-platform Adobe AIR format. You can push updates to your Adobe AIR Help projects even after you have delivered them.

Easy multimedia recording You can also record a new Adobe Captivate demonstration from within FrameMaker or RoboHelp. You can publish captivate output as SWF file, Zipped package, PDF, or Autorun movie on CD. For more information, see Publishing Projects. You can use Adobe Captivate Reviewer application to efficiently review and comment on Adobe Captivate projects.

Create secure PDFs and PDF Portfolios Reliably create, combine, and control Adobe PDF documents for easy, secure distribution, collaboration, and forms data collection. Create quality portfolios. For more information, see "Rich media" on page 6.

Effective copy-editing Use AuthorAssistant with FrameMaker to improve content consistency and translatability. For more information, see "Style and linguistic checks using SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 SP1" on page 48.

Automate manual tasks Use ExtendScript to automate daily mechanical tasks that require manipulation of simple or complex objects. You can use ExtensScript with FrameMaker, Photoshop, and RoboHelp. It allows robust automation of tasks across products. For more information, see "Working with ExtendScript" on page 43.

SCORM, AICC, and PENS support through Adobe Captivate 5 Adobe Captivate 5 supports most e-learning content creation standards for single-click publishing to learning management systems (LMS). SCORM (Shareable Content Object Reference Model) is a set of specifications used to produce reusable e-learning objects. It defines communication between a client (such as Adobe Captivate) and a host (usually an LMS). For more details, see Learning management system (LMS).

Enhanced image-editing Capture images and screenshots for your Help projects using RoboScreenCapture and use the powerful features in Photoshop CS5 to edit and enhance them. You can also animate the different layers of a Photoshop image in Adobe Captivate.

Chapter 2: Rich media

Adding rich media

You can create an engaging experience for your customers using the rich media capabilities of the Adobe Technical Communication Suite. The simplicity of authoring your content once, and publishing it for multiple channels and devices opens the floodgates to a multitude of possibilities. Never before, was it so simple to integrate 3D, graphics, audio, video, multimedia, and interactive content in your publishing workflows.

IMAGES FLASH
ILLUSTRATIONS
TABULAR DATA
HTML 3D VIDEO

PDF XML PRINT
AIR EPUB
ONLINE HELP
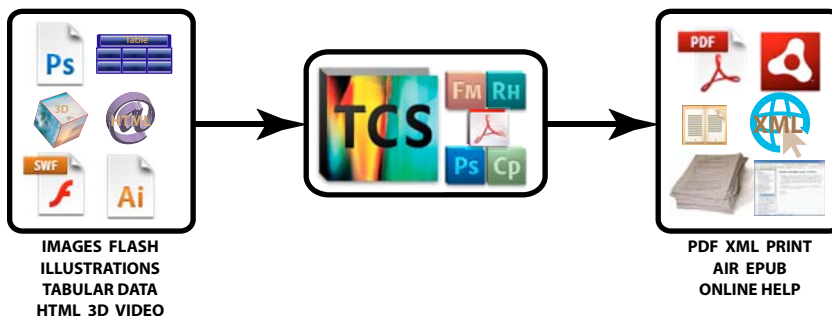
Rich media opens opportunities to provide various types of content within your documentation. You can even combine various media types to create documentation that users don't only just read, but watch, listen to, and interact with as well. For example, you could use a camcorder to record a narration and add the video to accompany a demo that you've added.

The following table lists the media you can add to your documents while authoring in the various TCS applications.

	FrameMaker	RoboHelp	Adobe Captivate
3D	✔		
Graphic/Image	✔	✔	✔
Audio	✔	✔	✔
Video	✔	✔	✔
Interactive/SWF	✔	✔	✔

Rich media and FrameMaker

Adding rich media to FrameMaker documents

1 In FrameMaker, place the cursor at the place you want to insert the file.

2 Choose File > Import > File. The Import dialog box opens.

3 In the Import dialog box, do one of the following:

• Navigate to the file and click Import.

- Click Browse URL to navigate to a file

- Click Browse CMS, and navigate to the file on your configured shared repository.

4 If the file type is not recognized, an Unknown File Type dialog box displays, select the closest content type and click Convert.

5 In the Imported Graphic Scaling dialog box, select an option to fit the rich media object and click Set.

The rich media object is placed in your document, inside an anchored frame.

- Graphic and 3D objects are rendered and a representation is displayed.

- Audio and video objects display an icon.

- Interactive content displays the default poster image. If the SWF does not have a default poster image, a Play button is displayed instead.

Specify poster images for audio, videos, 3D, and SWF content

The poster image is the default image that displays unless the movie is played. By default, either standard icons or the first frame of the movie is used as it's poster image. The set poster command lets you specify an image to be displayed as a poster for the movie.

Right-click the movie or SWF content, and choose Set Poster, and browse to the image file to use as the poster.

Working with 3D models

You can add 3D models to your FrameMaker documents. When you publish the document to PDF, these models are interactive and users can move the objects around. For more information on using 3D and Acrobat see Interacting with 3D models.
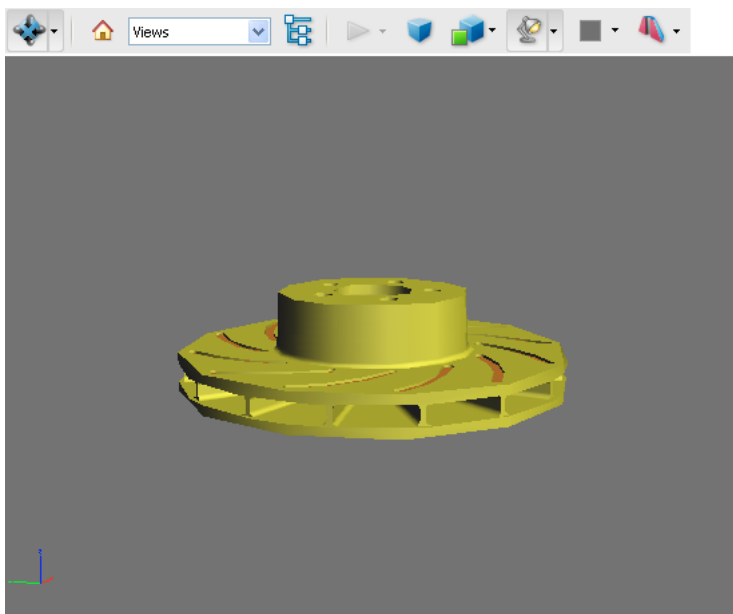
A 3D model inside a PDF.

3D models are supported only inside PDFs. You can view the PDF using Adobe Acrobat or Adobe Reader.

When you publish the FrameMaker files to HTML or other formats, the default view of the 3D model is rendered as an image. However, in RoboHelp you can specify the Preserve 3D Images option (Project Settings > FrameMaker Document > Edit > Image), 3D models are published as embedded PDF files that open when users navigate to that page.

You can also specify the basic 3D settings right inside FrameMaker. Access to the original 3D application is not required. Use the 3D options to change the background color, lighting, and render modes for the 3D model. Right-click and choose 3D to access these controls.

Setting multimedia preferences

In FrameMaker Preferences, specify if you want to embed multimedia objects in PDF.

1 Choose File > Preferences > General.

2 Check the following as required:

- Embed Adobe Flash files in PDF

- Embed 3D objects in PDF

- Embed multimedia objects in PDF

Rich media and RoboHelp

Inserting graphics

1 In RoboHelp, place your cursor at the location to insert the file.

2 Choose Insert > Image. The Image dialog box opens.

3 In the Image Name field, specify the file to import or use the browse button and navigate to the file.

4 Optionally, specify the Size, Margins, and Borders.

5 Click OK to add the graphic.

Adding multimedia content

You can add multimedia content to your documents you author in RoboHelp.

1 In RoboHelp, place your cursor at the location to insert the file.

2 Choose Insert > Multimedia/Demo. The Multimedia dialog box opens.

3 In the Multimedia Name field specify the file to import or use the browse button and navigate to the file.

4 Optionally, specify the Size, Margins, and Borders.

5 Click OK to add the content.

The selected file is added to the RoboHelp topic.

Insert Photoshop images

You can insert native Adobe Photoshop images to your projects. On publishing, the PSD files are rasterized and attributes such as Photoshop filters, layer visibility are maintained. To insert a Photoshop file:

FrameMaker Choose File > Import, and then browse to the PSD file.

Adobe Captivate Choose File > Import > Photoshop File.

Adobe Captivate lets you select individual layers to import, or flatten the layers to import. If you import individual layers, each layer is treated as a separate image in Adobe Captivate.

Editing Photoshop and Illustrator graphics

You can import native Adobe Photoshop (PSD) and Adobe Illustrator (AI) files into your FrameMaker documents. And you can open these graphics for editing from within FrameMaker. FrameMaker supports layers, and you can import graphics with multiple layers into your document.

To edit the graphic:

1 Click the imported graphic to select it.

2 Right-click and choose one of the following:

• Edit with Illustrator

• Edit with Photoshop

3 The graphic opens in the selected application. Edit the graphic and save it.

The graphic is updated in your document.

Note: Although, Illustrator is not part of the Technical Communication Suite, you can import native Illustrator files to your document. To edit them you need Illustrator on your computer. The Edit with Illustrator option only displays is you have Illustrator installed.

Insert Adobe Captivate demo

You can include Adobe Captivate demos into your documents to create truly rich and engaging content. You can insert Adobe Captivate demos in FrameMaker and RoboHelp. Publish an existing Adobe Captivate project as a SWF file, and then import the SWF file into your document. You can also specify poster images for the multimedia demos.

FrameMaker Choose File > Adobe Captivate > Insert Adobe Captivate Demo, and then browse to the location where you want to save the SWF file. Enter a SWF filename and click Save. Adobe Captivate is launched and a new Adobe Captivate project is created and the SWF content is placed in your document.

RoboHelp Choose Insert > Adobe Captivate Demo, and then browse to the SWF file.

SWF file within the documentation.

More Help topics

"Specify poster images for audio, videos, 3D, and SWF content" on page 7

Using PDF Portfolios

PDF Portfolios let you package several documents into a single PDF file. Portfolios provide unified navigation, search, and seamless transition between documents. You can also add a cover page to introduce your users to the portfolio and reinforce your brand by adding images, logos, and other messaging information.

Portfolios provide you a mechanism to package disparate media, into a single PDF package. Your customers can view the portfolio using the free Adobe Reader: no special software is required.

You can collect PDF files, native MS Office documents, images, videos, SWFs, and even online videos, such as YouTube videos, in your portfolio.

Collect your files and then use Acrobat to create your portfolio.

Chapter 3: Using FrameMaker with RoboHelp

Authoring and publishing workflow using FrameMaker and RoboHelp

If your authoring and publishing environment includes these two tools, you have multiple options of incorporating their strengths into your workflow.

You can map FrameMaker formats directly to RoboHelp styles in a standard CSS that ensures consistency in appearance and behavior across the entire project. In addition, within FrameMaker, you can use markers to denote context-sensitive topics, which you can directly reuse in RoboHelp to create a context-sensitive Help system.

FrameMaker and RoboHelp as independent products   If you have FrameMaker and RoboHelp as independent products, you can retain your authoring workflow. In this workflow, you author content in FrameMaker for print and PDF output. Then you use RoboHelp to generate richly formatted online Help. Both FrameMaker and RoboHelp provide enhanced features for importing FrameMaker content into RoboHelp projects. You can also use them together to create online Help formats such as WebHelp and Help based on Adobe AIR.

Adobe Technical Communication Suite   Adobe® Technical Communications Suite provides technical communicators a streamlined workflow to author content once and deliver in multiple formats. You can author in FrameMaker and publish richly formatted PDF for print and online viewing. Technical Communication Suite provides more features than the component applications that make the suite. You can integrate FrameMaker and RoboHelp authoring and publishing and dynamically link FrameMaker and RoboHelp content.

Adobe Technical Communication Suite includes Adobe Captivate and Adobe Photoshop—tools that you can use to include rich multimedia capabilities in your output formats. In addition, you can use Adobe Acrobat to set up shared reviews and consolidate review comments and edits. You can later import these comments and edits into your FrameMaker documents.

Authoring considerations for optimizing for online output

If your authoring process in FrameMaker is optimized for print output, consider the following before linking or importing FrameMaker documents into RoboHelp projects.

Heading formats   Determine the best mapping of FrameMaker heading formats to RoboHelp styles. FrameMaker documents define various heading formats specifically for print documentation. Among these formats are side heads and heading styles that start on a new page. These formats don't apply to online formats. You generally map these heading styles to a few standard styles in the RoboHelp project.

Page layout settings   Often FrameMaker chapter templates specify an even number of pages so that new chapters begin on a recto (right) page. For online Help, ignore these pagination considerations.

Headers and footers   RoboHelp ignores headers and footers during conversion, including legal text such as "Confidential" and copyright lines. Include such text in the headers and footers in a separate step, after conversion. Similarly, in RoboHelp, re-create watermark text or images that you used in the printed documentation. Use the master page feature in RoboHelp to make these corrections.

Navigation In print, cross-references specify page numbers which are irrelevant in Help. Converting to online Help removes chapter and section titles in headers and footers. You can enhance navigability by using breadcrumbs, and back and next buttons instead.

Redundant content To provide context in different sections of a printed document, writers generally add redundant information such as brief summaries of concepts covered previously. Because online Help is a random-access, nonlinear medium, it requires less redundant content. Use cross-references and conditional text options to minimize redundant content in your outputs.

Chapter versus topic In printed documentation, chapters signal stand-alone logical units, which readers use to grasp the scope of content. Online Help segregates content at topic level, accessed one topic at a time. You can group the content into chapter-like folders that expand when a user navigates the table of contents. Even so, only one topic appears at a time. In this case, try to provide comprehensive information without adding redundancy by grouping related topics together.

Context sensitivity Although you can assign map IDs to topics in RoboHelp, you can also assign context-sensitive Help markers in FrameMaker documents. RoboHelp reads these markers and assigns the map IDs to the generated topics. Ensure that the topics created in FrameMaker contain sufficient information.

For example, a short procedure as a stand-alone topic does not provide conceptual context for the reader. To avoid creating topics with incomplete information, assign context-sensitive Help markers to topics at a higher level. In this way, the generated Help topic contains the concept, procedure, and any relevant graphics.

Prepare FrameMaker documents for conversion to Help

If the FrameMaker document that you are importing is an unstructured FrameMaker book, you can define a single FrameMaker template for the conversion. You can then specify this template as the project template that overrides the formats of individual documents at the RoboHelp project level. You can also reuse the conversion settings across other projects by exporting the conversion settings.

Carefully examine the FrameMaker templates before importing the documents into RoboHelp, such as when you use a general-purpose FrameMaker template. If this template contains formats that aren't used in the book, omit those formats in the template you use for the conversion.

1   Create a FrameMaker template that contains the formats you need in Help. Alternatively, customize the FrameMaker template. You don't have to apply the template manually. You can set RoboHelp to apply a selected template to FrameMaker files before they are linked or imported to RoboHelp.

    In Structured FrameMaker, the element definition document (EDD) or the DTD used in the structured FrameMaker template automatically controls formatting. Because structured FrameMaker enforces a valid structure and format, structured documents do not contain format overrides.

2   Create the required DHTML effects such as expanding text and drop-down text using the RoboHelp menus in FrameMaker.

3   Apply context-sensitive Help markers to the required topics.

4   Enclose graphics, callouts, and graphic or text frames you created with FrameMaker graphic tools in anchored frames. RoboHelp imports only those FrameMaker graphics that are enclosed in anchored frames.

    By default, graphics and multimedia files imported into a FrameMaker document are placed in anchored frames. If your FrameMaker document contains graphics in graphic frames, place them in anchored frames before linking or importing the FrameMaker files into RoboHelp.

5   To maintain the original quality of images, insert them in FrameMaker documents by reference. RoboHelp copies the referenced images directly from the source if the complete image is visible inside the anchored frame. Similarly, if the images are large, insert them in the source document by reference.

6   Fix any issues in the document such as unresolved cross-references, missing fonts, and irregular numbering issues.

7   Set up alternative text or captions for the images and graphics to create accessible online content.

8   Apply conditional text settings in FrameMaker documents.

9   Edit the FrameMaker TOC reference pages to have indented hierarchical headings with different styles.

More Help topics

"Pagination, topic naming, and context-sensitive Help" on page 25

"Create alternative text for images" on page 34

Linking options for documents

When you link a document to a RoboHelp project, you have two options. To specify the linking options, in RoboHelp choose File > Project Settings. Click the Import tab and select one of the following:

Create a Reference   You create a reference to an external document. In this case, the source document is not copied into the RoboHelp project folder and remains outside the project. You can edit and update the source document independently. Later, in RoboHelp, you can update the topics generated from the linked document.

Use the linking by reference option to bring in content that is shared across multiple projects. Because only a single copy of the document exists, any change in the source document is reflected in all projects to which this document is linked.

Create a Copy and Link   You create a copy of the source document and link to the RoboHelp project. In this case, a copy of the source document is copied into the RoboHelp project and is visible in the Project Manager pod. You can edit and update the copy without affecting the source document. You update the topics generated from the copied document whenever you edit the document.

Use the Create a Copy and Link option to restrict access to the source document. This option allows editing only in the copy available in the RoboHelp project. For example, if you want to bring in content from a static FrameMaker document, link the document by copying it to the RoboHelp project.

Note: FrameMaker books are always linked by reference, irrespective of the linking option you choose.

Trade-offs between linking and importing

- Link FrameMaker and Word documents when your entire authoring is in one or both of these tools. You can make full use of RoboHelp's advanced integration features, such as converting TOC, index, and glossaries, and creating context-sensitive Help. Whenever the source content changes, you can quickly update the topics generated in RoboHelp from the linked documents. In such cases, RoboHelp converts your FrameMaker or Word documents to multiple Help outputs with a few clicks, with little, or no native authoring in RoboHelp.

- Import FrameMaker and Word documents when you have multiple independent documents and carefully use RoboHelp's integration features. In addition, ensure that the documents you import are stable and don't require updates independently until you have finished publishing the online Help.

- Avoid editing the generated topics in RoboHelp so that you don't lose your edits if you have to update the generated topics or overwrite them. Topics generated from *linked* documents can be preserved with their edits, but topics generated from *imported* documents are overwritten.

- If you are making minimal updates to a large RoboHelp project, it is best not to link or import documents into RoboHelp. Doing so can disturb the natively created TOC, index, and glossary, pagination, and context-sensitive Help settings.

Linking and importing FrameMaker documents

The RoboHelp workflow for linking or importing FrameMaker documents allows you to do the following:

* Create a RoboHelp project by importing a FrameMaker book or DITAMAP.

* Link or import FrameMaker book or DITAMAP into a RoboHelp project.

* Link or import FrameMaker documents into a RoboHelp project. You can import FM, MIF, DITA, and XML files.

When you link a FrameMaker book or DITAMAP, HTML files are not created until you define the project settings and generate the Help topics. At the same time, you can see the added files in their hierarchical order. Importing the FrameMaker documents and editing the HTML files generated from them in RoboHelp does not affect the source FrameMaker documents.

Before you import FrameMaker documents, check them in FrameMaker for errors such as unresolved cross-references and format overrides.

Create a RoboHelp project by linking or importing FrameMaker books or documents

You can create a RoboHelp project by importing FrameMaker books or documents.

1 On the RoboHelp Starter page, click More under Import, or select File > New > Project.

2 On the Import tab of the New Project dialog box, select FrameMaker Document and click OK.
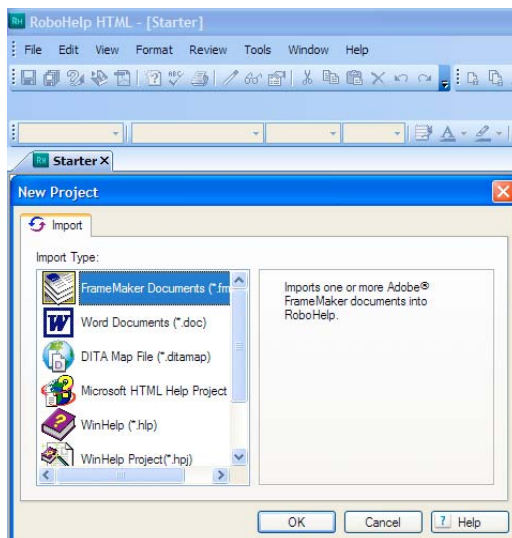
Importing a FrameMaker book or ditamap to create RoboHelp project

3 Select the FrameMaker book or document from the Files Of Type pop-up menu. Then browse to select the FrameMaker book, and click Open.

Import a FrameMaker book or DITAMAP into RoboHelp project

1 Create a project or open an existing project in RoboHelp.

2 Select File > Import > FrameMaker Document.
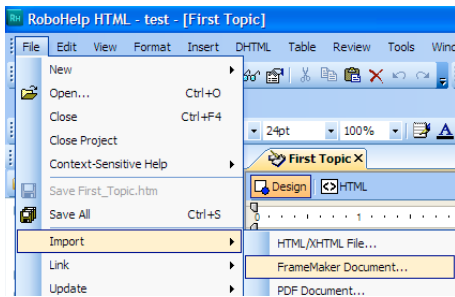
Importing a FrameMaker book or ditamap into a RoboHelp project

3 Select FrameMaker Book or FrameMaker DITAMAP from the Files Of Type pop-up menu.

4 Browse to select the FrameMaker book or DITAMAP file and click Open.

5 Optionally, select a DITAVAL file and click Open. Click Cancel to proceed without a DITAVAL file.

If you are importing a FrameMaker document, you can select the components that you want to import from the Content Settings wizard that appears. You can select the TOC, index, and glossary, and specify the conversion settings.

Note: FrameMaker documents created in versions earlier than 6.0 (FRM files) can be imported but not linked.

Link a FrameMaker book or DITAMAP into RoboHelp project

1 Create a project or open an existing project in RoboHelp.

2 Select File > Link > FrameMaker Document.
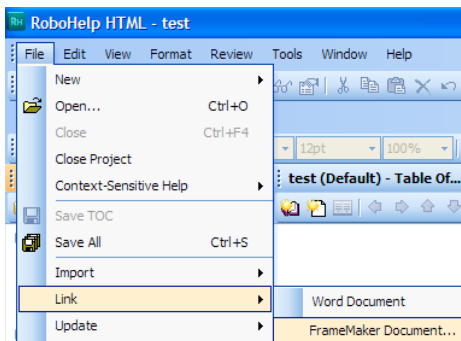
Linking a FrameMaker book or ditamap into a RoboHelp project

3 Select FrameMaker Book or FrameMaker DITAMAP from the Files Of Type pop-up menu.

4 Browse to select the FrameMaker book or DITAMAP file and click Open.

Note: FrameMaker documents created in versions earlier than 6.0 (FRM files) can be imported but not linked.

Generate HTML topics from linked FrameMaker documents

Linking FrameMaker documents does not automatically create the topics. You generate the topics after you set the project and conversion settings.

❖ Do one of the following:

 • Right-click the linked FrameMaker document from the Project Manager pod and then select Update > Generate.

 • Select File > Update > Generate.

However, if you are importing a FrameMaker document, topics are generated immediately according to the conversion settings you specify. In addition, you can select the components that you want to import from the Import wizard that appears. You can select the TOC, index, and glossary, and specify the conversion settings.

Convert a FrameMaker TOC

When you import a FrameMaker book to a RoboHelp project, you can also import the table of contents (TOC). Import the TOC into the RoboHelp project to retain the navigation structure you defined in the FrameMaker book.

1 Select File > Import > FrameMaker Document.

2 In the Content Settings dialog box, select Convert FrameMaker Table Of Contents, and browse to select the FrameMaker TOC file.

3 Select one of the following options:

Add To Existing TOC Appends the TOC entries to any existing RoboHelp TOC in the project. Select an existing RoboHelp TOC from the list.

Create New Associated TOC Enter a name for a new associated TOC that is added to the RoboHelp project.
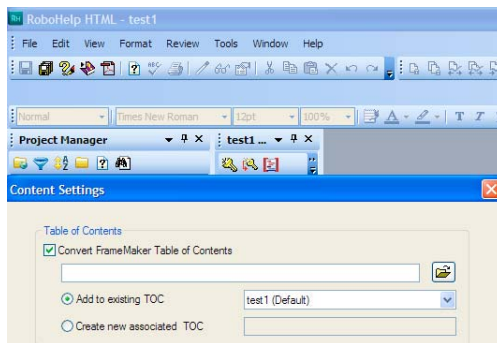
Styles in the FrameMaker TOC determine which TOC items become books, sub-books, or pages. The most important element in determining the level is the left-most indent, followed by the font size and font weight. TOC entries that have indented items under them become books in the RoboHelp TOC. If all the TOC entries have the same indention, font size, and weight, the TOC in RoboHelp appears flat.

• To make a heading a main book, include indented heading levels beneath that heading, or use smaller fonts or no bold for the subsumed headings.

• To make a heading a sub-book, place the heading under a main heading. Then include indented heading levels beneath the sub-book heading, or use smaller fonts or no bold for the subsumed headings.

• To make a heading a page, don't include any heading levels beneath that heading. Indent the page heading, or use smaller fonts or no bold.

Differences between FrameMaker and RoboHelp TOCs

You can either import the FrameMaker TOC or automatically create a TOC in RoboHelp from generated topics.

• In FrameMaker, the TOC is generated according to the heading styles that you include in the TOC. In RoboHelp, the TOC is generated according to the topic titles. If you use topic name markers in FrameMaker to name the topics when you import FrameMaker documents, filenames in RoboHelp differ from the topic titles.

• Autocreating a TOC for a FrameMaker 9 book can create multiple layers of content because of the folder structure in a FrameMaker 9 book.

• In RoboHelp, you can place a TOC placeholder in another TOC, thus allowing you to create nested TOCs.

More Help topics

"Hierarchical structure in a FrameMaker book" on page 24

Tips on generating TOCs

Import FrameMaker index entries

RoboHelp creates an index based on the index markers in the document you are importing. However, the index file generated in the FrameMaker book is not imported into the RoboHelp project.

1 Select File > Import > FrameMaker Document and select the FrameMaker book or document.

2 Select Convert Index in the Content Settings dialog box, and select one of the following options:

Add To Existing Index Add the FrameMaker index entries to the existing RoboHelp index of the project.

Create New Associated Index Enter a name for a new associated index that is added to the RoboHelp project.

Add To Topic Add the FrameMaker index entries to individual topics in which they appear.

Import glossary definitions

RoboHelp creates a glossary based on glossary markers in the document you are importing. The text inside the glossary marker is the glossary term, and the paragraph text that contains the marker is the definition.

1 Select File > Import > FrameMaker Document and select the FrameMaker book or document.

2 Select Convert Glossary in the Content Settings dialog box, and select one of the following options:

Add To Existing Glossary Add the FrameMaker glossary to the RoboHelp glossary of the project. You can select the glossary from the list.

Create New Associated Glossary   Enter a name for a new associated glossary that is associated with the existing glossary in the RoboHelp project.

Synchronizing linked FrameMaker documents with RoboHelp projects

You can update a linked FrameMaker document if the source FrameMaker document has changed or conversion settings in the RoboHelp project have changed.

Note: Linking eliminates the need to reimport the FrameMaker document and overwrite the topics when you update.

Update the topics generated from linked FrameMaker documents in the following scenarios:

• Source FrameMaker documents changed after you added or linked them to the RoboHelp project.

• You changed the pagination settings in the RoboHelp project.

• You changed the style mapping in the RoboHelp project.

• You updated the CSS in the RoboHelp project.

• You edited the topics generated from the linked documents.

Icons of the project files in the Project Manager pod indicate whether the documents are in sync with the RoboHelp topics.

On the other hand, if the documents were imported into the project, the Project Manager pod does not indicate the synchronization status. If either the FrameMaker documents or the conversion settings change, reimport the FrameMaker documents and overwrite the RoboHelp topics already generated. When you update the documents, RoboHelp updates the converted HTML topics, TOC, index, and glossary.

FrameMaker book synchronization status indicators

Icon	Description
	FrameMaker book missing. The source FrameMaker book that you have linked to the RoboHelp project is either moved to another folder or deleted. Locate the source book and link them to the new location.
	FrameMaker book out of sync because of changes in the source document. Update the RoboHelp topics.
	Topics generated from the linked FrameMaker book are out of sync because of changes in the RoboHelp Project Import Settings. Update the RoboHelp topics generated from the FrameMaker book.
	Topics generated are in sync with the linked FrameMaker book.

FrameMaker document synchronization status indicators

Icon	Description
	Linked FrameMaker document missing. The source FrameMaker book that you have linked to the RoboHelp project is either moved to another folder or deleted. Locate the source book and link them to the new location.
	FrameMaker document out of sync because of changes in the source document. Update the RoboHelp topics.
	Topics generated from the linked FrameMaker document are out of sync because of changes in the RoboHelp Project Import Settings. Update the RoboHelp topics generated from the FrameMaker document.
	Topics generated are in sync with the linked FrameMaker document.

Update FrameMaker documents

❖ From the Project Manager pod, right-click a FrameMaker book and select Update, then choose one of the following:

Generate Generates HTML topics from the linked FrameMaker document for the first time. After generating the topics, the option changes to Update.

Update Updates topics generated from the selected book or document alone.

Update All Updates all topics generated from all linked FrameMaker documents.

Force Update Overwrites the current set of topics generated from the selected FrameMaker book or document. Use this option to force update the topics generated from the linked FrameMaker book or document.

Force Update All Updates all linked documents and overwrites all generated topics.

Alternatively, you can select the linked FrameMaker book or document and update the RoboHelp topics generated from the linked FrameMaker book or document.

Preserve changes to a topic during an update

Normally, when you update a linked document, all topics generated from it are updated, overwriting any other changes you made in the generated topics. However, you can selectively preserve changes in generated topics and retain your edits.

1 Right-click the linked document in the Project Manager pod and select Properties.

2 In the FrameMaker Document Settings dialog box, select the File Update Settings tab.

3 On the left column, select the edited files you want to preserve changes during update and click OK.

Any files that you had selected earlier for preserving changes are displayed in the right column.

Set alert when editing generated topics

You can set RoboHelp to alert you when you edit topics generated from linked documents. When you save the changes to such topics, RoboHelp alerts you that the changes would be lost when the linked documents are updated.

1 Select Tools > Options.

2 In the General tab, select Show Alert On Modification Of Auto Generated Topics From Linked Documents and click OK.

Mark topic edits for preservation

If you enabled alerts when saving changes to generated topics, you can mark the topic edits for preservation during an update. Topics marked for preservation during updates are automatically added to the list of preserved topics in the File Update Settings dialog box.

1 Edit a generated topic and save the changes.

2 In the alert message that appears, select Preserve Modifications To This File and click OK.

Delete a generated topic

When you delete a generated topic, you have two options. You can regenerate the deleted topic when you update the linked FrameMaker document or completely remove the deleted topic from your project. By default, RoboHelp regenerates the deleted topic when you update the FrameMaker document.

1 In the Project Manager pod, expand the linked FrameMaker document to display the topics generated from it.

2 Right-click the topic that you want to delete, and select Delete.

3 Do one of the following:

- Click OK to delete the topic from the project permanently. The deleted topic is not regenerated when you update the FrameMaker document.

- Select Generate This File On Next Update and click OK to delete the topic. When you update the FrameMaker document, the deleted topic is generated again.

Regenerate a deleted topic

If you delete a topic generated from a linked FrameMaker document, the topic is removed from the project. However, you can regenerate topics deleted from a linked document.

1 Right-click the linked FrameMaker document in the Project Manager pod and select Properties.

2 In the FrameMaker Document Settings dialog box, select File Update Settings tab.

3 On the right column, select the deleted files that you want to retrieve and click OK.

4   Update the FrameMaker document.

Edit a linked FrameMaker document

You can edit linked FrameMaker documents directly in FrameMaker.

1   Right-click a document and select Edit.

2   Edit the FrameMaker document.

3   Click Save. The modified FrameMaker document now appears in the Project Manager pod with a different icon. This icon indicates that the source content is now out of sync with the topics generated from the linked FrameMaker document.

Note: Force an update of the document after you edit the source in FrameMaker.

Delete a linked document

You can directly delete documents linked by copy from the Project Files folder, and you can delete the references of the documents linked by reference.

❖   Right-click a document and select Delete.

When you delete a linked file, all its associated documents, such as CSS, images, baggage files, and multimedia files, are also deleted.

Notes:
*   If a referenced file is moved to a different location, its icon changes. You can restore the link to the document by pointing to its new location.
*   Do not rename files generated after linking a document.
*   You cannot drag the generated topics outside the source document folder to some other location in the Project Manager pod.

Restore a link to a missing or renamed document

If any of the linked documents are moved or renamed, RoboHelp displays a missing link icon for the linked document in the Project Manager pod. You can restore the link to a moved or renamed file and have all the topics already generated from the document retained in the project.

1   In the Project Manager pod, right-click the document that has the missing link icon.

2   Select Restore Link To FrameMaker File, and browse to select the new location of the missing file.

FrameMaker document components converted to RoboHelp

RoboHelp converts most of the FrameMaker components when you link or import FrameMaker documents. The following tables list the major FrameMaker document components and show how they are converted in RoboHelp.

FrameMaker files	
Book files	Documents contained within the book are converted (FM, XML, MIF, HTM, and HTML files). XHTML files that are included in the FrameMaker book must be valid XHTML. Validate the XHTML in FrameMaker itself. All other files in the FrameMaker book are ignored. Child books, folders, and groups in FrameMaker 9 books are converted and appear as folders in the RoboHelp projects. See "Hierarchical structure in a FrameMaker book" on page 24.
TOC	Converted, if selected. See "Convert a FrameMaker TOC" on page 16.
Text insets	Text insets in the FrameMaker documents are considered part of the FrameMaker document itself and are flattened in the RoboHelp topic.
Index and glossary	Index and glossary files generated in the FrameMaker book are not converted. Instead, the index markers and glossary markers in the imported FrameMaker documents are converted if selected. See "Import FrameMaker index entries" on page 17 and "Import glossary definitions" on page 17..

Variables and conditional text	
Variables	Converted. User-defined variables in FrameMaker are converted as such in RoboHelp and can be redefined. Apply relevant conditional text tags to suppress variables that shouldn't appear in online format. For example, you can suppress the Table Continuation variable in table headers for tables that break across pages in the FrameMaker documents.
Conditional tags	Converted as RoboHelp conditional build tags.
Equations	Convert equations to images and insert them in the RoboHelp topics after conversion.

Markers	
Cross-references, hypertext, URLs	Converted to hypertext links. You can map the cross-reference formats in RoboHelp so that you can remove the volume, chapter, and page references that are not relevant in online format. Unresolved cross-references and hypertext entries appear as text in online Help. URLs become live hypertext links in the online Help output. See "Convert FrameMaker cross-reference formats to RoboHelp styles" on page 24.
Index and glossary markers	Converted to an index and glossary when creating project. See "Import FrameMaker index entries" on page 17 and "Import glossary definitions" on page 17.
Topic name markers	Converted if you select this option in the project conversion settings. Use topic name markers to create topic titles and topic filenames from the marker text. See "Pagination, topic naming, and context-sensitive Help" on page 25.
Context-sensitive Help markers	Converted if you select this option in the project conversion settings. Use Context Sensitive Help Makers in FrameMaker to specify text in FrameMaker document for generating Context Sensitive Help. See "Pagination, topic naming, and context-sensitive Help" on page 25.
Custom markers	Converted. You can use these markers for delineating topics from FrameMaker source, or to pass processing instructions to RoboHelp for images and tables.

Formats	
Paragraph formats	Converted. You can map FrameMaker paragraph formats to RoboHelp styles or import the source formatting. See "Convert FrameMaker paragraph formats to RoboHelp styles" on page 28
Character formats	Converted. You can map FrameMaker character formats to RoboHelp styles or import the source formatting. See "Convert FrameMaker character formats to RoboHelp styles" on page 29.
Table formats	Converted. You can map FrameMaker table formats to RoboHelp styles or import the source formatting. See "Convert FrameMaker table formats to RoboHelp table styles" on page 32.
Footnote properties and table footnotes	Converted. Because table title and table footnotes are paragraph formats in FrameMaker, you specify conversion settings for these paragraph formats separately.
Lists	Converted according to the settings you define. See "List-mapping scenarios" on page 30.

Page layouts	
Master pages	FrameMaker master pages are ignored. Master pages are used for layout, borders, and page numbers in FrameMaker, so they are not applicable to online Help. RoboHelp provides master page support for breadcrumbs, mini-TOCs, and headers and footers that can be selected when you publish a single source layout.
Reference pages	Ignored. However, you can use the advanced scripting support in RoboHelp to convert images and graphics placed in the reference pages that are associated with paragraph formats.
Page layout, size, and pagination	Ignored. These elements are not applicable to online Help. See "Pagination, topic naming, and context-sensitive Help" on page 25.
Headers/footers	Ignored. Headers and footers in FrameMaker usually contain chapter names, chapter numbers, and page numbers, which are not applicable in online formats. After you generate topics, you can create headers and footers in RoboHelp.
Rotated text	Converted to text, such as in table cells. (Rotated text is not supported in HTML).

Images and anchored frames	
Images	Only converted if they are inside anchored frames. If the images are not in anchored frames, reinsert them after you have imported the FrameMaker files. By default, FrameMaker places the imported and linked images in anchored frames, so they are converted. However, images placed in graphic frames are not converted. If images contained in anchored frames are missing, RoboHelp creates blank images with the filename in a sequential manner. See "Image conversion settings" on page 32.
Drawings	Drawings created within anchored frames are converted to images. You can define the image conversion settings. See "Image conversion settings" on page 32.
Anchored frames	Converted to images. See "Image conversion settings" on page 32.
ALT text on images and anchored frames	Converted. If no ALT text is provided in the FrameMaker document for images RoboHelp applies the filename of the converted images as the ALT text. See "Create alternative text for images" on page 34.
Text frames, graphic frames, and images inside anchored frames	Anchored frames and their content convert to images. All content within an anchored frame, including text frames, multiple images, and callouts convert to a single image. RoboHelp inserts the filename of the created image as the ALT text if no ALT text is defined for the anchored frame.
Equations	Enclose equations in anchored frames so that they are converted to images when RoboHelp converts them.

Structured FrameMaker components	
DITAMAP files	Converted like FrameMaker books
DITA documents	Converted like FrameMaker documents
XML files in book	Converted like FrameMaker documents
XHTML files in book	Converted like FrameMaker documents
Content references	Text or files inserted into FrameMaker documents as content references appear as part of the topics where they appear. They do not appear as references in the online Help outputs. See "Content reference" on page 25.

Conversion basics

Converting FrameMaker formats to RoboHelp styles

You can define how the FrameMaker formats are converted to RoboHelp styles on the project level. All FrameMaker format definitions in the FrameMaker document appear in the Conversion Settings dialog box, even if they aren't used. For structured documents, FrameMaker formats that are mapped to elements in the structured template are listed. You specify the following:

• FrameMaker template used for conversion. This step is optional.

• RoboHelp style sheet for style mapping.

Select a FrameMaker template for conversion

If the FrameMaker document that you are importing is an unstructured FrameMaker book, you can define a single FrameMaker template for conversion. For example, suppose the documentation set contains a Getting Started Guide, Installation Guide, User Guide, and an Administration Guide. These documents can have different page layouts and formats in print, none of which are relevant for online output. In such cases, you can define one template that contains format definitions for all documents you want to convert.

You can then specify this template as the project template, which overrides the formats of individual documents at the RoboHelp project level. You can also reuse the conversion settings across other projects by exporting the conversion settings.

1   Select File > Project Settings.

2   Click the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box. Select Apply FrameMaker Template Before Import.

3   Click Browse to select the FrameMaker template you want to use for the project.

Select the CSS for style mapping

You can select the cascading style sheet (CSS) that RoboHelp uses to map the FrameMaker formats to RoboHelp styles. By default, RoboHelp uses the RHStyleMapping.css file for the project. You can also use a custom CSS. You can later edit the styles either in RoboHelp or in an external CSS editing application such as Adobe® Dreamweaver®.

1   Select File > Project Settings.

2   Click the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box. Do one of the following:

• Select the CSS file from the CSS For Style Mapping menu.

• Click Add next to the CSS for Style Mapping pop-up menu, and select a CSS file.

    Use this option to specify a custom CSS for the project. When you select this option, RoboHelp copies the selected CSS file into the root folder of the project, and uses the selected CSS for style mapping.

Upgrading from RoboHelp 7 to RoboHelp 9

RoboHelp 7 allowed document-level conversion settings for the FrameMaker documents that you added to a RoboHelp project. With RoboHelp 9, the conversion settings are applied project-wide, allowing you to have a consistent set of conversion parameters. If you are opening a RoboHelp 7 project that had FrameMaker documents added by reference or by copy, you can retain the document-specific settings defined in RoboHelp 7 project.

When you upgrade a RoboHelp 7 project, you can either retain the earlier document-level settings or convert to the project-level settings supported in RoboHelp 9. After you upgrade your project, you cannot open the project in RoboHelp 7.

If you choose to retain the RoboHelp 7 settings, you can add or remove documents to an upgraded project with the document-level conversion settings. You can define document-level conversion settings for the newly added FrameMaker documents also. This option allows you to retain the RoboHelp 7 behavior for your upgraded project. However, to take advantage of the enhanced features of RoboHelp 9 and its integration with FrameMaker, you should upgrade the project completely. For example, RoboHelp 7 provided limited mapping options for autonumbering and list styles. On the other hand, RoboHelp 9 allows you to map complex autonumber formats and multilevel list styles to RoboHelp styles or HTML lists.

Note: You can discard the document-level settings any time, even if you choose to retain them at the time of upgrading. However, discarding the document-level settings is irreversible.

Hierarchical structure in a FrameMaker book

You can enforce a hierarchical structure and grouping within the book. You can also include child books within a book, and create folders and groups within a book.

When you link or import a FrameMaker book, the Project Manager pod in RoboHelp shows the FrameMaker book's hierarchy. When linked or imported into RoboHelp, child books inherit the TOC, index, and glossary from the parent book.
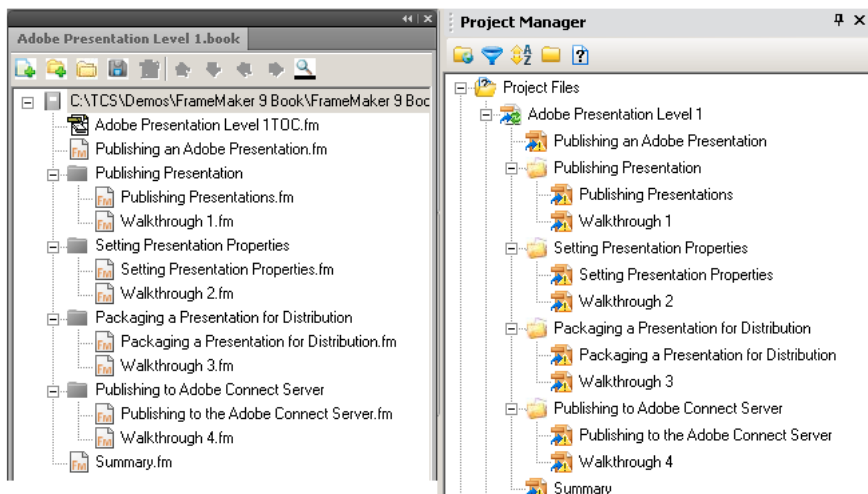
Hierarchy of FrameMaker book reflected in the Project Manager pod when you link a FrameMaker book into RoboHelp

Convert FrameMaker cross-reference formats to RoboHelp styles

By default, all cross-reference styles in the source document are used in the generated topics without mapping. Define the mapping of these formats because FrameMaker documents can contain page and volume references in cross-references that are not relevant to Help formats.

1 Select File > Project Settings.

2 In the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box, click Edit under FrameMaker Document.

3 Select a cross-reference format from the Cross Reference group in the Conversion Settings dialog box.

4 Select a RoboHelp style to map to it, or type the RoboHelp style field to redefine the cross-references in the FrameMaker document.

5 Double-click a building block to append it to the RoboHelp cross-reference definition.

Content reference

Text or files that you have inserted into the FrameMaker documents as content references appear as part of the topics where they are referenced. They do not appear as references in the online Help outputs.

Conversion settings

You can create a standard set of conversion settings for importing FrameMaker content into RoboHelp projects and then use these settings consistently across multiple projects.

You define these settings once. For subsequent projects, import these settings to the project. In this way, you can quickly set up the project environment and publish FrameMaker content in several online formats.

These settings include:

- Specified FrameMaker template
- Cascading style sheets (CSS) for RoboHelp projects
- Style mapping between FrameMaker formats and RoboHelp styles
- Format conversion settings, image conversion settings, and other settings

More Help topics

Demystifying Mapping Files

Export conversion settings

1 Select File > Project Settings.

2 On the Import tab, click Export.

3 Specify a name for the RoboHelp Import Settings file (ISF file) and click Save.

Import conversion settings to a project

1 Select File > Project Settings.

2 On the Import tab, click Browse.

3 Select a RoboHelp Import Settings File (ISF file) and click Open.

Pagination, topic naming, and context-sensitive Help

When you link or import a FrameMaker document, you define how FrameMaker content is presented as topics in RoboHelp. With Technical Communication Suite, you can set how the content is paginated, topics named, and map context-sensitive Help topics for integration with a product.

Considerations for pagination and topic titles

Determine the pagination option suited to your environment based on the following factors:

Completeness of content in the topic Ensure that the topic generated contains relevant and complete information for the reader. For example, if you set pagination for Heading 3 level paragraph, it is possible that the topic contains only

the task information, without the required contextual information that is covered in another Heading 3 level topic. To avoid such disconnected topics, set the pagination at a higher level so that complete information is available in a single Help topic.

Drop-down text Ensure that the paragraph format for the drop-down text body is not set for pagination. The paragraphs applied with this format must accompany the drop-down text caption paragraph format.

Even though it is easy to define pagination and topic title generation based on FrameMaker paragraph formats, this approach has the following limitations:

Lack of topic-level controls Because the pagination settings are set at the project level, you cannot exercise discrete control over topics that are not in the defined heading levels. For example, suppose you want to make an H3 level topic a separate Help topic. If you set pagination at H2 for your project, you can't do so. The H3 topic is included under the topic immediately above it.

Uniform topic naming convention Help topics use the same file-naming conventions that you define in the conversion settings, especially if your authoring environment is Structured FrameMaker. You can't deviate from these conventions.

Lack of flexibility in topic titles You cannot selectively alter the titles or filenames of the topics without changing the source content. When you search for content in RoboHelp, topic titles are displayed in search. An intuitively titled topic helps the reader quickly identify the most relevant information from search results.

Possibility of inconsistency in documents from multiple books Linked and imported FrameMaker documents from multiple books can lead to inconsistent heading styles for generated topics.

For example, suppose you link to or import FrameMaker documents from a user guide and reference guide. In this case, topic titles can reflect differences in style for instructional content and reference content. If topic titles are derived from the paragraph text at which pagination is set, the Help topics generated can have inconsistent titles.

Advantages of setting pagination from within FrameMaker

Using custom markers in FrameMaker, you can overcome these drawbacks for smaller projects and do the following:

Create workflow-based content With the intelligent use of custom markers in FrameMaker, you can create RoboHelp topics that present users information about the workflow. You can create Help topics irrespective of the heading styles applied in the FrameMaker document.

Optionally, define the titles of the topic This option becomes useful when you want to combine many topics and assign a relevant title to the combined topic, rather than derive the topic title text from one of the heading styles.

Optimize topic length Because you define from FrameMaker how Help topics are created in RoboHelp, you can precisely control the topic length suited for topic-based authoring. However, if you use the mini-TOC feature for your Help topics, limit the number of headings included in a topic. A long mini-TOC can make the topic contents accessible only through scrolling.

After you define these markers in your FrameMaker documents, you can set the conversion settings in RoboHelp to create and name topics according to your preferences.

Pagination options

You can define how FrameMaker content is segregated as different Help topics in RoboHelp.

Create separate HTML topics based on FrameMaker paragraph formats You specify the heading styles in FrameMaker that should be used as the page break. For example, if the FrameMaker file contains ten topics, each with subtopics, tasks, and tables, you can have each topic convert into a separate HTML file. If each of these topic headings is at

Heading 1 format, you can set each Heading 1 topic to be created as a separate HTML topic. On the other hand, if you set the pagination at Heading 2, separate HTML files are created for each Heading 2 topic,

Define Page Break markers in FrameMaker content You can insert Page Break markers at the beginning of the paragraph in FrameMaker documents. Typically, you create page breaks at the heading levels that you choose. If you use this option, avoid defining pagination setting based on paragraph formats.

Use custom markers defined in FrameMaker If you are converting legacy content in FrameMaker that used custom markers to define pagination using other tools, you can use this option. Avoid using the Page Break markers in such documents.

Topic name options

You can define how topics that are generated from FrameMaker content will be named within RoboHelp. By default, you can define the text of the paragraph set for pagination as the topic name. In addition, you can define other naming conventions. If the filenames use sequential numbering, such as helptopic001.html and helptopic002.html, you can define the pattern for such conventions.

Based on paragraph text When you set heading styles for pagination, the heading text becomes the default filename for the topic file created in RoboHelp. For example, suppose you define Heading 2 for pagination, and the FrameMaker document has two Heading 2 topics, "Introduction" and "Beyond basics." In this case, RoboHelp creates the topics introduction.htm and beyond_basics.htm. Thus, you get intuitively named HTML files that indicate the topic title.

Topic Name Pattern Topics are named according to the selected pattern. You can select one of the following or create a topic name pattern using the Topic Name Pattern building blocks provided by RoboHelp. In addition, you can add standard static text, such as "HelpTopic," followed by sequential number as the topic name pattern.

Building block	Converted topic name pattern
default	HTML topic generated has the filename consisting of the paragraph text.
<$filename_no_ext>-<$paratext>	HTML topic generated has the filename consisting of the filename of the FrameMaker document without the .fm extension and the topic title, separated by a hyphen. For example, the FrameMaker document named "Chapter.fm" with "1-Introduction" as paragraph text is converted to an HTML topic with the filename "Chapter-1-Introduction.htm"
<$filename_no_ext>-<n>	HTML topic generated has the filename consisting of the filename of the FrameMaker document without the .fm extension and the paragraph number separated by a hyphen. For example, the FrameMaker document "Chapter.fm" is converted to an HTML topic with the filename "Chapter-1.htm"
<$paratext_no_num>	HTML topic generated has the filename consisting of the paragraph text of the paragraph format at which pagination is set, without the paragraph number. For example, a heading 1 paragraph "1. Introduction" is converted to an HTML topic with the filename "Introduction.htm"
<$paratext>	HTML topic generated has the filename consisting of the paragraph text of the paragraph format on which pagination is set. For example, a heading 1 paragraph "Introduction" is converted to an HTML topic with the filename "Introduction.htm"

Topic Name Marker Topics are named after the marker applied in the FrameMaker document. Ideally, you specify the topic name as the marker text, so that topic names reflect their content. If you select this option, the pagination settings applied on the Paragraph Styles pane are ignored. Use this option to precisely control the creation of separate Help topics from the FrameMaker documents.

Page Break Marker If you are creating new content in FrameMaker, and do not want to use custom markers to define pagination, you can use the Page Break marker. When you define the topic title, FrameMaker automatically creates the topic name based on the topic title.

Avoid using this option when your FrameMaker document already contains custom markers for pagination, or when you want to define pagination based on FrameMaker paragraph formats.

Define topic name settings

1   Select File > Project Settings.

2   In the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box, click Edit under FrameMaker document.

3   In the Other Settings tab, select the required option:

Context-sensitive Help markers in FrameMaker documents

If you are using Technical Communications Suite, you can define the context-sensitive Help map IDs within FrameMaker itself, in addition to using other markers.

You can convert the context-sensitive Help markers that you insert in your FrameMaker documents and reuse them as map IDs. You specify the context-sensitive Help marker in the Project Settings dialog box before linking FrameMaker documents. You can also specify this setting when you import FrameMaker documents. You can work with context-sensitive Help markers in FrameMaker documents in two ways:

Automatic conversion of map IDs from FrameMaker documents   You apply context-sensitive Help markers in your FrameMaker documents, and specify the marker type in the conversion settings. RoboHelp imports the markers from FrameMaker documents and adds the map IDs from the strings contained in the context-sensitive Help markers.

Manually adding map IDs   You can use the map IDs you received from your development team in two ways:

- From within FrameMaker, use the CSH marker option to enter the map IDs for the topics that you want generated. This option is available only if you are using the Technical Communications Suite.

- From within FrameMaker, use the map ID as the text for the marker that you want to use the context-sensitive Help marker. When you link or import the FrameMaker documents, you specify the context-sensitive Help marker in the conversion settings.

If you are using the first option, avoid specifying the context-sensitive Help marker in the conversion settings.

Specify the context-sensitive Help marker

1   Select File > Project Settings.

2   In the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box, click Edit under FrameMaker Document.

3   In the Other Settings group of the Conversion Settings dialog box, select Context-Sensitive Help Marker.

Converting FrameMaker content

Convert FrameMaker paragraph formats to RoboHelp styles

By default, RoboHelp converts all paragraph formats from FrameMaker to RoboHelp CSS styles. It retains the appearance and behavior of the FrameMaker formats in the RoboHelp project. To ensure consistency of the online Help projects, map the FrameMaker formats to RoboHelp styles and edit them.

1   Select File > Project Settings.

2   In the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box, click Edit under FrameMaker Document.

3   On the Conversion Settings panel, select the FrameMaker format from the Paragraph group.

4   From the RoboHelp Style menu, select the RoboHelp style that you want to map to the FrameMaker format. To retain the appearance of FrameMaker text in the online Help format, select [Source].

To edit the selected RoboHelp style, click Edit Style.

5   Select the properties for the mapped RoboHelp style:

Exclude From Output Select to discard the content in FrameMaker document that is applied with the selected FrameMaker paragraph format.

Pagination Select to create a Help topic at each occurrence for the selected FrameMaker paragraph format.

User Defined HTML Tag Select or enter a user-defined HTML tag for the selected paragraph format.

If the selected FrameMaker format has auto numbering properties defined, specify how auto numbering is converted.

More Help topics

"Custom HTML tags" on page 30

"Autonumber style mapping" on page 30

Mapping FrameMaker Styles to RoboHelp

Convert FrameMaker character formats to RoboHelp styles

You can map the FrameMaker character formats to character styles in RoboHelp.

You can also edit the styles in RoboHelp.

1   Select File > Project Settings.

2   In the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box, click Edit under FrameMaker Document.

3   Select the FrameMaker character format from the left pane of the Conversion Settings dialog box.

4   Select the RoboHelp character style from the pop-up menu. Optionally, you can do the following:

   •   To import the FrameMaker character format, select [Source] from the pop-up menu.;

   •   To edit the selected RoboHelp style, click Edit Style.

   •   To exclude the text in the FrameMaker document applied with the selected character format, select Exclude From Output.

   •   To apply a user-defined HTML tag to the imported text in HTML output, select User Defined HTML Tag, and select the tag from the pop-up menu. You can also enter a new HTML tag. The custom HTML tag for the character format replaces the <span> tag in the generated HTML file.

Exclude a FrameMaker paragraph format from Help topics

You can exclude the content in FrameMaker documents that has a specified paragraph format from the converted output. Use this option to remove content such as special notices that are not required in online output.

1   Select File > Project Settings.

2   In the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box, click Edit under FrameMaker Document.

3   In the project settings, select a FrameMaker paragraph format in the left pane.

4   Click Exclude From Output.

Custom HTML tags

You can define or apply a custom HTML tag instead of the standard <p> tag for paragraph styles and <span> tag for character styles in the HTML output for the formats that you import from FrameMaker. You can define separate HTML tags for each format in the FrameMaker document.

1 Select File > Project Settings.

2 In the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box, click Edit under FrameMaker Document.

3 In the Conversion Settings dialog box, select the user-defined HTML tag option.

4 Type the name of the custom HTML tag or select an existing tag to use instead of the default HTML tag.

Apply FrameMaker conditional text build expressions

You can apply the Show/Hide settings of the conditional text build expressions to the content in your FrameMaker documents imported into RoboHelp projects. RoboHelp imports the content after applying the Show/Hide settings to the FrameMaker content. Any text that is hidden is not brought into RoboHelp project.

1 Select File > Project Settings.

2 In the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box, click Edit under FrameMaker Document.

3 In the Other Settings group of the Conversion Settings dialog box, select Apply FrameMaker Conditional Text Build Expression.

Autonumber style mapping

Choose the conversion setting for converting autonumber formats in the FrameMaker document to the Help format. If the FrameMaker document contains hierarchical numbered lists, you can choose one of the following:

Ignore Autonumber Choose this option if the autonumber text is relevant only in print format. The converted paragraph does not contain autonumbering. For example, suppose you ignore autonumbering for the FrameMaker paragraph format "Section2 Level." In this case, "Section 1.1: System Requirements" in the source appears as "System Requirements" in the RoboHelp topic generated.

Convert Autonumber To Text Choose this option to retain the appearance of the FrameMaker numbered lists. The autonumber part loses its sequencing properties and appears as part of the paragraph text in RoboHelp topic.

Convert Autonumber To HTML List Choose this option to convert the autonumber to HTML lists using HTML tags such as <ol>, <ul>, and <li>.

Convert Autonumber To RoboHelp List Choose this option if you want to edit the generated HTML topics in RoboHelp or use the RoboHelp styles to control the numbering properties.

List-mapping scenarios

RoboHelp allows you to convert list properties of FrameMaker paragraph formats in several ways. Consider the following scenarios:

More Help topics

Best practices in mapping list styles

FrameMaker numbered list mapped to [Source]

The FrameMaker paragraph format autonumber property converts to a list according the autonumber conversion settings you define for that FrameMaker paragraph format.

Ignore Autonumber The autonumber part of the FrameMaker paragraph format is ignored. The converted paragraph style in the RoboHelp topic doesn't contain the list part.

Convert Autonumber To Text The autonumber part of the FrameMaker paragraph converts to text and appears as paragraph text in the RoboHelp topic.

Convert Autonumber To HTML List Autonumber format converts to list items using HTML tags such as <ol>, <ul>, and <li>.

Converted Autonumber To RoboHelp List Autonumber properties of the paragraph style convert to a RoboHelp list.

Example:

- Create a paragraph style "FM_Para1" in FrameMaker with autonumbering defined as <a+> and apply it to paragraphs. The resulting paragraphs are ordered as "a, b, c, ..."
- Map the FrameMaker paragraph format "FM_Para1" to [Source].

Generated paragraphs in RoboHelp topics have the list style applied to them, where the list has properties similar to those in the source document.

FrameMaker numbered list mapped to RoboHelp unnumbered style

You can map a FrameMaker paragraph format with autonumbering properties to a RoboHelp paragraph style that is not linked to any list style. In this case, the autonumber is converted to a list according to the autonumber conversion settings you define for the paragraph format.

Ignore Autonumber The FrameMaker paragraph autonumber is ignored and doesn't appear in the RoboHelp topic. However, the paragraph style is mapped.

Convert Autonumber To Text The FrameMaker autonumber part is converted to text and appears as a part of paragraph text in RoboHelp topic. The paragraph style is mapped.

Convert Autonumber To HTML List The FrameMaker paragraph format is converted to HTML list items using HTML tags such as <ol>, <ul>, and <li>.

Convert Autonumber To RoboHelp List The autonumber properties of the FrameMaker paragraph format are ignored. The paragraph style is mapped.

FrameMaker unnumbered format mapped to RoboHelp numbered style

In this case, the converted paragraph has the RoboHelp paragraph style and inherits the RoboHelp list style. The Autonumber conversion options do not affect the paragraph behavior in the RoboHelp topic.

For example:

- In the FrameMaker document, create a paragraph format "FM_Para 1" without autonumber properties.
- Define a RoboHelp list style "RH_List1" in the RH style mapping CSS.
- Create a paragraph style "RH_Para1" and link the first level of list style "RH_List1" to the paragraph style "RH_Para1".
- Map the FrameMaker paragraph style "FM_Para1" to RoboHelp paragraph style "RH_Para1".

The generated paragraph in the RoboHelp topic inherits the properties of the list style "RH_List1".

FrameMaker numbered list mapped to RoboHelp numbered list

The converted paragraph style has the RoboHelp paragraph style and inherits the RoboHelp list style. The Autonumber conversion options do not affect the paragraph behavior in the RoboHelp topic.

For example:

- In FrameMaker, create a paragraph format "FM_Para1" with autonumbering defined as <a+> and apply it to a paragraph so that the paragraph has an ordered list such as "a, b, c, …."
- Define a numeric list style "RH_List1" in the RoboHelp style mapping CSS with the first level definition as <x>.
- In RoboHelp, define a paragraph style "RH_Para1" and link the first level of list style "RH_List1" to the paragraph style "RH_Para1".
- Map the FrameMaker paragraph format "FM_Para1" to the RoboHelp paragraph style "RH_Para1".

The generated paragraph in the RoboHelp topic inherits the properties of list style "RH_List1" and displays a list of type "1, 2, 3, ..."

Convert FrameMaker table formats to RoboHelp table styles

You can map FrameMaker table formats to RoboHelp table styles. Alternatively, you can import the table formats from the FrameMaker document. You can also edit the table formats in RoboHelp. Cells in the FrameMaker document that are merged (straddled) cannot be unmerged (unstraddled); however, the straddled cells appear merged in the RoboHelp topic.

If the FrameMaker table formats contained table titles and table footnotes, convert these paragraph formats in FrameMaker to RoboHelp paragraph styles separately. Decide whether you want to retain automatic numbering in the table title styles and specify the autonumbering properties for the mapped RoboHelp paragraph style. For example, if the table title formats in the FrameMaker documents included the chapter number, such as "Table 2-3: Quarterly Results", you can choose to ignore the autonumbering part and have only "Quarterly Results" appear as the table title.

1 Select File > Project Settings.
2 In the Import tab of the Project Settings dialog box, click Edit under FrameMaker Document.
3 Select the FrameMaker table format from the left pane of the Conversion Settings dialog box.
4 Select the RoboHelp table style from the pop-up menu and click OK. Optionally, to edit the table style in RoboHelp, click Edit Style.

More Help topics

"List-mapping scenarios" on page 30

Image conversion settings

Some FrameMaker documents, especially those optimized for high-quality printing through PDF, contain images in EPS format. You can let RoboHelp use Adobe Distiller to convert such images to online formats.

You specify the following image conversion settings in the Conversion Settings dialog box:

Use PDF To Generate Images Select this option to generate web-friendly images formats from graphics linked and inserted in FrameMaker documents. You should use this option especially if you have vector graphics formats such as EPS or AI, or graphics with text content in them.

Preserve 3D Images Select this option to convert the 3D graphics as a PDF file, with the 3D rendering intact within the PDF file. To ensure that the 3D image retains its rendering, enable embedding in FrameMaker.

Preferred Dimensions Specify the dimensions for the images. Select one of the following:

- **Scale** Scale images as a percentage of the existing size. The aspect ratio of the images is maintained.

- **Width and Height** Specify the absolute image size as Height and Width, in points. Select Maintain Aspect Ratio to ensure that the images are not skewed.

Note: To convert the images in FrameMaker documents to the actual dimensions of the images, specify the height and width as 0 pt. The <img> tag for such images in the generated HTML does not have the height and width values. This conversion is irrespective of the dimensions of the anchored frames that contained the images.

- **Maximum Dimensions** Set the maximum dimensions for images in online format. Images that exceed the maximum dimensions you specify are automatically scaled down to fit the maximum size you specify. If you scale the images and specify an aspect ratio, RoboHelp scales the images within the maximum dimensions specified and maintains the aspect ratio.

Use this option to avoid large images causing the browser window to scroll horizontally or vertically. For example, if you specify the window size to be 800 x 600 pixels, you can specify the maximum dimensions to be 640 x 480, so that the images do not exceed the window size.

Margins Set the margins for the images:

- Set equal margins on all sides by setting the margin in All Sides.

- To set margins on individual sides, set the margins on each side.

Borders Set a border for the images:

- To set a uniform border on all sides, select All from the Border pop-up menu. Alternatively, you can specify the side on which you want the border to appear from the pop-up menu.

- To set the border style, select the style from the Style pop-up menu.

- To set the border color, select the color from the Color pop-up menu.

- To set the border width, select it in, in points, from the Width menu.

Format Define the image format, color depth, and quality settings for the web-supported images that are converted from the images in the FrameMaker document:

- **As Is** Select this option for retaining the images in the current web-supported format.

- **JPG** Select this option for multicolor images such as screenshots or photographs. JPG format with a high color depth provides the best online quality, but increases the file size.

- **GIF** Select this option if the FrameMaker document contains only line art, such as schematic diagrams.

- **BMP** Select this option for screenshots and other images. BMP files provide good quality at an increased file size.

- **PNG** Select this option for screenshots and photographs.

JPEG Quality Set the quality percentage for JPG images.

Color Bit Depth Set the color bit depth for bitmap images. JPG and PNG formats can have either 8- or 24-bit color depth, while BMP images can be have color bit depths of 1, 4, 8, 16, 24, or 32. GIF images can have only 8-bit color depth.

Grayscale Select this option if you want monochrome images.

More Help topics

Preparing Anchored Frames for Conversion

Preserve converted images

RoboHelp converts the images and anchored frames in the FrameMaker documents each time the topics are updated or generated. You can skip updating the images if the corresponding images or SWF files from the corresponding anchored frames are already present in the RoboHelp project. Use this option in the following cases:

- You want to avoid regenerating the images each time the FrameMaker document is updated

- You have edited the images in the RoboHelp project using another image-editing tool, and want to prevent overwriting of the edited images

- You want to preserve the earlier generated image in the RoboHelp project even though the image in the FrameMaker document has changed

If the order in which the images appear in the document or the image name has changed, you should clear this option and allow RoboHelp to update the images.

❖ In the Image tab of the Conversion Settings dialog box, select Do Not Re-Generate Images.

Create alternative text for images

To create accessible content, create alternative text for images so that visually impaired users can access the content through screen readers. If you link or import completed FrameMaker books into RoboHelp for publication, add alternative text to graphics used in the FrameMaker documents. These entries are not visible in PDF files, but they appear in online content when the mouse hovers over the images.

RoboHelp options within FrameMaker

When you use FrameMaker as part of Adobe Technical Communications Suite, you get several options that enable you to streamline online Help publishing with RoboHelp.

Pagination with Page Break marker

If you are creating a new document within FrameMaker that you want to published from RoboHelp, you can avoid the traditional ways of having to define custom markers for pagination and topic naming. You can add Page Break markers to denote the topics that should be converted as separate Help topics, and define their topic names.

Note: If you define page break markers within FrameMaker documents, RoboHelp silently paginates based on these markers in addition to any other pagination settings that you defined in conversion settings.

Add Page Break marker

1 Within FrameMaker, click the heading text, and select Adobe RoboHelp > Apply Page Break Marker.

2 In the Page Break Marker dialog box, enter the topic title. The topic name is automatically populated based on the title text that you enter.

For example, if you enter the topic title as "RoboHelp Conversion Settings", the topic is named "RoboHelp_Conversion_Settings.htm".

Remove all Page Break markers

❖ Select Adobe RoboHelp > Remove All Page Break Markers.

Context-sensitive Help marker

You can add the context-sensitive Help map IDs that you received from your product development team to paragraphs within FrameMaker content. For best results, ensure that you are applying the map IDs to heading styles that you identified for pagination.

Apply a context-sensitive Help marker

1   Click on the paragraph text that you want to insert the context-sensitive Help marker.

2   Select Adobe RoboHelp > Apply CSH Marker.

3   Enter the map ID and click OK.

Apply index markers

1   Click on the paragraph text that you want to insert the index marker.

2   Select Adobe RoboHelp > Apply Index Marker.

3   Enter the index entry and click OK.

Create Dynamic HTML effects

You can create dynamic HTML effects such as drop-down text and expanding text in your FrameMaker documents if you want to have the published online Help formats to have these options.

Use the drop-down text effect to provide alternative task options and basic conceptual topics, summarize the questions on an FAQ, and shorten nested procedures. Text that you mark as drop-down body is displayed in your PDF output. But the text appears online only when the user clicks the drop-down text caption on the Help page.

Similarly, you can use expanding text DHTML effect to display expanded definitions, key terms, or links to overview topics embedded in a paragraph. Expanding text requires an expanding text caption that contains the link and expanding text body that is displayed when a user clicks the expanding text link. Expanding text body is not displayed in PDF. It appears only in the Help page when a user clicks the text that contains the expanding text link.

These DHTML effects require two components: a caption and body. You apply the drop-down text effects to paragraphs and the expanding text effect to characters. When the drop-down text effect is created, two paragraph formats, DropDownCaption and DropDownBody, are added to the FrameMaker document. When the expanding text effect is created, two character formats—ExpandingTextCaption and ExpandingTextBody—are added. These formats are imported to the RoboHelp project when you import the FrameMaker documents. The effects are visible in the created HTML topics.

If the HTML topic generated contains only the captions without the accompanying body formats, links are generated and visible in the HTML topic. If the HTML topic generated contains a text body without the corresponding captions, no links are generated. In addition, if a paragraph to which the drop-down text body format is applied is also specified for conversion to an autonumbered list, the list conversion is ignored.

Create drop-down text in a FrameMaker document

1   Select the text or paragraph on which you want to place the drop-down text caption.

2   Select Adobe RoboHelp > Dynamic HTML Effects > Drop Down Caption.

3   Select the text that should appear as drop-down text in your online Help page.

4   Select Adobe RoboHelp > Dynamic HTML Effects > Drop Down Body.

Create expanding text in a FrameMaker document

1   Select the term or phrase on which you want to place the expanding text caption.

2   Select Adobe RoboHelp > Dynamic HTML Effects > Expanding Text Caption.

3   Select the text that should appear as expanding text in your online Help page.

4   Select Adobe RoboHelp > Dynamic HTML Effects > Expanding Text Body.

HTML publishing workflow using Technical Communication Suite and standalone products

Adobe Technical Communications Suite provides technical communicators a streamlined workflow for authoring content once and delivering it in multiple formats. You can author in FrameMaker and import FrameMaker documents into RoboHelp to publish Help in several formats, including Adobe AIR Help and WebHelp.

The suite provides more features than the individual suite applications used as standalone products. The following table lists some differences in the workflow for importing FrameMaker documents when you use the suite and when you use the standalone products.

Task in the workflow	Technical Communication Suite	FrameMaker and RoboHelp as stand-alone applications
Importing FrameMaker documents into RoboHelp project	Link to or import the FrameMaker source documents into the RoboHelp project.	Import FrameMaker documents.
Synchronizing FrameMaker source files and RoboHelp topics	The Project Manager pod in RoboHelp indicates whether the linked documents are out of sync. You can update the linked documents to have the changes reflected in RoboHelp projects. You can choose to preserve the changes in the generated topics.	Reimport the FrameMaker documents and overwrite the topics generated earlier.
Updating the topic structure when pagination settings are changed	Update the FrameMaker document in RoboHelp.	Reimport the FrameMaker documents and overwrite the topics generated earlier.

Mixed sources of documents

Typically, you use the suite workflow to convert your existing FrameMaker books to online Help format; that is, you link the entire book into RoboHelp. If you have well-shaped FrameMaker documents, you can optimize the workflow with minimal changes to the FrameMaker source or generated topics in RoboHelp. Use this method when your author primarily in FrameMaker and want to use RoboHelp as the publishing tool.

However, sometimes it's necessary to reuse content from diverse sources in RoboHelp projects. An example is updating a small online Help project by including conceptual information from a reference guide and troubleshooting information from a maintenance guide. Perhaps these documents are authored in different tools and templates, and perhaps they follow different writing guidelines.

Documents can have these sources, among others:

• Documents authored in earlier versions of FrameMaker

• Documents authored in structured and in unstructured FrameMaker

• Documents authored in FrameMaker and in Microsoft Word

Project-wide conversion settings

RoboHelp allows you to define project-wide settings for each source type. For all FrameMaker documents, you define the conversion settings only once, whether they are linked to or imported into RoboHelp. Similarly, the conversion settings of Microsoft Word documents remain the same for linked as well as imported documents.

Project-wide conversion settings promote consistency not just in your project but across multiple projects. You can quickly set up a RoboHelp project without having to define individual conversion settings for paragraphs, tables, images, and so on.

Project-wide conversion settings work best when you author the entire document either in FrameMaker or in Word and use RoboHelp as the publishing tool. In this case, you simply optimize the source content for publishing to online Help formats and do little or no content modification in RoboHelp. However, if you have a mixed authoring environment or content from multiple sources, complex scenarios arise. Differences in the following can add complexity:

FrameMaker templates RoboHelp allows you to select a template to be applied to the FrameMaker documents that you link or import. Different document types could have different templates with different paragraph and other formats defined.

Topic naming patterns This complicating factor arises when you base the topic names on the paragraph text. Depending on how you have written the headings, the RoboHelp topics could have inconsistent names. For FrameMaker documents, you can define topic naming based on custom markers. You can't define topic naming based on custom markers in Word.

Context-sensitive Help marker text Defining context-sensitive Help in the source documents itself gives you complete control over how the online Help is created. However, defining context sensitivity in the source can introduce significant complexity. If you have multiple types of source documents, you usually have several types of markers that differ in syntax.

More Help topics

Compare style mapping approaches: FrameMaker and RoboHelp

Tips for creating context-sensitive Help

To overcome the challenges, keep the following tips in mind when you plan your project:

Determine the workflow If you're working on a large RoboHelp project created natively, it makes more sense to continue authoring in RoboHelp if the content inputs are minimal. Linking and importing external documents can increase the complexity of the project, especially if you defined TOCs, indexes, glossaries, and context-sensitive Help settings in RoboHelp. If, however, you are creating a project from scratch or significantly revising an existing project, link to and import external documents to avoid updating content manually in RoboHelp.

Identify the source documents Before you define the project settings in RoboHelp, identify the sources of content that you intend to use in your project. If all your source documents are well-shaped FrameMaker documents, link the documents. If your source documents are of several types, import the documents.

Explore your linking and importing options Even though you can choose to convert the TOC, index, and glossary from the source documents, explore your options carefully. For example, importing a TOC works best when you want to retain the TOC structure in your source documents. Similarly, if you are importing a set of FrameMaker and Word documents in different versions, consider carefully before using context-sensitive Help markers or index markers. Their use is advantageous only if you are making significant revisions. If the update is minimal, sometimes the best option is to import the content and add the map IDs or index entries natively in RoboHelp.

Scenarios for creating a project

Source documents	Method to use	Options available
Single unstructured or Structured FrameMaker book	Link FrameMaker book	Use RoboHelp as the publishing tool, with little or no content authoring in RoboHelp • Define pagination based on either FrameMaker paragraph formats or custom markers • Create context-sensitive Help using custom markers in FrameMaker • Convert TOC, index, and glossary
Multiple unstructured or Structured FrameMaker books	Link FrameMaker books	Use RoboHelp as the publishing tool, with little or no content authoring in RoboHelp • Define pagination based on either FrameMaker paragraph formats or custom markers • Create context-sensitive Help using custom markers in FrameMaker • Convert TOC, index, and glossary
Single or multiple FrameMaker books in versions earlier than 7	Import FrameMaker books	• Define pagination based on either FrameMaker paragraph formats or custom markers • Create context-sensitive Help using custom markers in FrameMaker • Convert TOC, index, and glossary
Independent FrameMaker documents	Import FrameMaker documents	• Define pagination based on either FrameMaker paragraph formats or custom markers • Convert TOC, index, and glossary
Single Word document with a well-shaped TOC and index	Link Word document	• Define pagination based on Word paragraph styles • Define context-sensitive Help marker using the custom footnote option in Word and use the marker text for context-sensitive Help • Convert TOC, index, and glossary • Use RoboHelp as the publishing tool, with little or no content authoring in RoboHelp

Source documents	Method to use	Options available
Multiple Word documents	Import the documents	• Define pagination based on Word paragraph styles • Define context-sensitive Help marker using the custom footnote option in Word and use the marker text for context-sensitive Help
Mix of FrameMaker books and Word documents	Link FrameMaker and Word documents	• Define pagination based on FrameMaker and Word paragraph styles, separately • Use context-sensitive Help marker in source documents
Mix of independent FrameMaker and Word documents	Import the documents	• Define pagination based on FrameMaker and Word paragraph styles, separately • Use context-sensitive Help marker in source documents

Scenarios for updating a RoboHelp project

Source documents	Method to use	Options available
Single unstructured or Structured FrameMaker book	Link FrameMaker book	• Define pagination based on either FrameMaker paragraph formats or custom markers • Create context-sensitive Help using custom markers in FrameMaker
Multiple unstructured or Structured FrameMaker books	Link FrameMaker books	• Define pagination based on either FrameMaker paragraph formats or custom markers
Multiple FrameMaker books or independent FrameMaker documents	Import FrameMaker books and documents	• Define pagination based on either FrameMaker paragraph formats or custom markers
Single Word document with a well-shaped TOC and index	Link Word document	• Define pagination based on Word paragraph styles
Multiple Word documents	Import the documents	• Define pagination based on Word paragraph styles
Mix of independent FrameMaker and Word documents	Import the documents	• Define pagination based on FrameMaker and Word paragraph styles, separately

More Help topics

"Trade-offs between linking and importing" on page 13

Publishing the current document

Note: This feature is available only if FrameMaker is part of the Adobe Technical Communications Suite.

You can quickly publish the current document, book, DITA file, or DITAMAP using the Publish option in FrameMaker. You can select from a set of several online output formats, and then specify the publishing options that you defined for the FrameMaker- RoboHelp workflow.

If you want to quickly publish the entire book or DITAMAP from FrameMaker, ensure that you have defined the publishing workflows such as the FrameMaker to RoboHelp style mapping, pagination, and other conversion settings. In a production environment, create separate RoboHelp projects and Import Settings Files (ISF) for each output format.

Optionally, you can also specify the DITAVAL file to create output based on conditions specified in the DITAVAL file.

1   Select File > Publish.

2   In the Publish Settings dialog box, select the output format.

3   Select the folder where the published output will be saved. By default, FrameMaker chooses the same location as the source file.

4   Specify the RoboHelp settings that will be used for the conversion and click Publish.

   Note: Even though these settings are not mandatory, to get optimum output, you should specify the relevant settings. FrameMaker does not alert you to specify these settings when you initiate the Publish action.

   RoboHelp Project Specify the RoboHelp Project file (XPJ) that you have created.

   ISF File Specify the Import Settings File (ISF) that contains the required conversion settings.

   Master Page Specify the RoboHelp master page (HTT) that will be used for the Help pages.

Chapter 4: Review and collaboration

Technical Communication Suite includes Acrobat that lets you collaborate on documents. Using Acrobat you can share PDF files, set up and manage reviews, and collaborate on PDF documents. FrameMaker, RoboHelp, and Adobe Captivate also let you initiate reviews, so that you can send content for review without exiting the authoring application.

Reviews

Your reviewers do not require Acrobat to participate in reviews. Create a PDF and use Acrobat to set up a review. Reviewers can add annotations on the review PDF. Reviewers can use the free Adobe Reader to post annotations on a PDF.

Review types

	Invite reviewers	Annotation Tools	Track reviews	Collect Comments	Concurrent view of comments
Simple PDF	Manual	• Adobe Reader: Sticky Note & Highlight • Acrobat: All commenting tools	No	Manual	No
Reader Extended PDF	Manual	All commenting tools	No	Manual	No
E-mail Review	Automatic e-mail	All commenting tools	Yes	Automatic	No
Shared Review using Acrobat.com	Automatic e-mail	All commenting tools	Yes	Automatic	Yes
Shared review using internal server (WebDAV, Sharepoint, or shared folder)	Automatic e-mail	All commenting tools Reviewers need read/write access to shared location	Yes	Automatic	Yes

Send documents for review

You can send content for review from within the authoring environments provided by Technical Communication Suite. RoboHelp, FrameMaker, and Adobe Captivate all provide integrated review functionality so that you can set up and send content for review without having to leave the applications.

FrameMaker Choose File > Save As Review PDF.

RoboHelp Choose Review > Create PDF for Review.

Adobe Captivate Choose File > Collaborate > Send for Shared Review.

Incorporating review comments

Using Technical Communication Suite, you can set up a review from within the authoring environments. FrameMaker and RoboHelp provide built-in mechanisms to track changes and edits. You can also import the comments made on a review PDF and import them into source files. To import comments from the review PDF:

FrameMaker Choose File > Import > PDF Comments.

RoboHelp Choose Review > Import Comments from PDF.

Collaboration

Use Collaborate Live to review a PDF with one or more remote users in an online session. In a Collaborate Live session, the participants view a document with a live chat window. When a participant shares a document, the page number and magnification are also shared, so that everyone sees the same part of a document.

To start a Collaborate Live session, you must have Acrobat X installed. Participants in a Collaborate Live session must have Acrobat X or Adobe Reader® X.

Chapter 5: Working with ExtendScript

In Adobe Technical Communication Suite, you can use scripts to automate many of the features and thus save so much of time and effort. A script is a set of commands that instructs an application to do a specific task that you perform manually. These tasks can be simple and affect only one object. For example, setting the table properties in a FrameMaker body page. These tasks can also be complex and affect many objects in different applications. For example, setting the dpi properties of images to a predefined value in FrameMaker, import the images to Photoshop, and do some editing.

In short, scripts automate repetitive tasks and streamline tasks that can be too time consuming to do manually. Adobe Technical Communication Suite provides ExtendScript ToolKit to develop and debug scripts in many of the applications in the suite.

ExtendScript toolkit

ExtendScript is based on JavaScript. Use ExtendScript ToolKit (ESTK) to develop and debug ExtendScript. ESTK provides the following features that make scripting easy:

- A built-in syntax checker that verifies whether the syntax is correct and provides possible suggestions
- Support for Object Model Viewer that provides the information on different classes and methods
- Ability to run the script without saving the file

Adobe Technical Communication Suite provides ESTK support for the following components:

- FrameMaker 10
- Media Encoder
- Bridge CS5
- PhotoShop CS5
- RoboHelp 9

Accessing ESTK

Do the following to access ESTK:

1 Click Start > All Programs > Adobe Technical Communication Suite 3 > Adobe Extended Toolkit CS 5.

2 In the ESTK window's top-left drop down-list, select the application for which you prepare the script.

3 Prepare the script using the editor.

4 Run the script using the Play button displayed at the top-right corner.
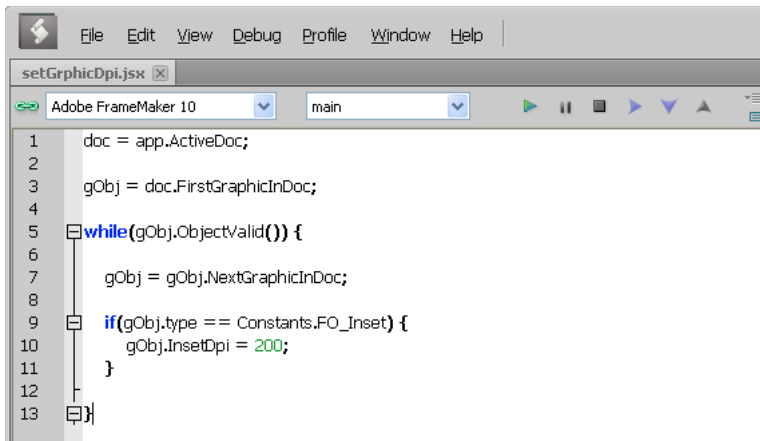
ESTK Window

*Note: You can also access ESTK from a supported Technical Communication Suite component. Refer to the User's Guide of the component for more details.*

Using object model viewer

Object Model Viewer in ESTK helps you to get the information on different classes and the methods in ExtendScript. Press F5 or click Help > Object Model Viewer to open Object Model Viewer.

Under Browser, select the object model for which you want the information. It displays all the classes in the selected object model and the details such as type, properties and method, and a short description of the class. It also provides a search functionality. You can search for a class or a method for which you want the information.
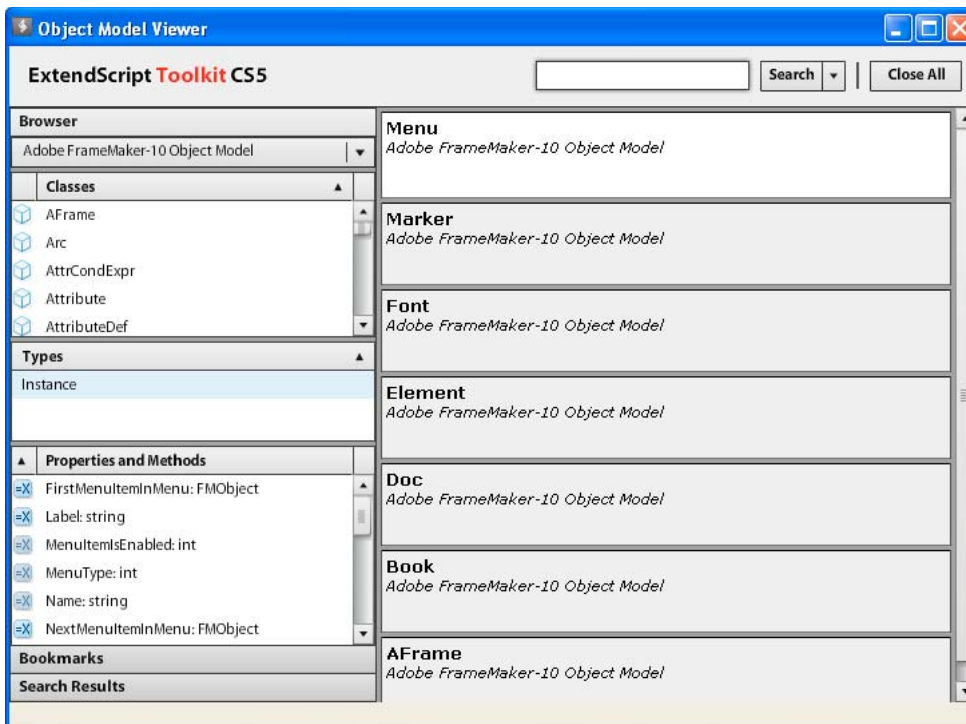
Object Model Viewer

Preparing scripts

ExtendScript is similar to JavaScript. You can easily develop ExtendScript for any of the applications in Adobe Technical Communication Suite if you are familiar with JavaScript.

The following sections provide examples for scripts that automates a specific activity in FrameMaker 10 and RoboHelp 9.

Adding text to a FrameMaker document and enabling change bar

The following script adds a sample text to a FrameMaker document and then enables the change bar. Open a FrameMaker document before running the script.

Copy and paste the script to ESTK and select FrameMaker 10 as the target application. Click the Play button to run the script.

```
var doc = app.ActiveDoc
var tl = new TextLoc()
var firstPgf = doc.MainFlowInDoc.FirstTextFrameInFlow.FirstPgf
tl.obj = firstPgf
doc.AddText (tl, "Hello")
doc.AutoChangeBars =1;
```

The script creates a text location using the `new TextLoc()` method. Assign the first page of the document as the text location. Using the `AddText()` method, add a sample text. Set the `AutoChangeBars` property to 1 to enable the change bar.

Changing the table properties in a FrameMaker document

The following script changes the left indentation of all the tables in a FrameMaker body page by 1 inch. It also changes the width of the columns to 2 inches. Open a FrameMaker document that has tables with two columns before running the script.

```
var doc =app.ActiveDoc
var flow = doc.MainFlowInDoc
var tbl = 0;
var textItems = flow.GetText(FTI_TblAnchor)
for (var i = 0; i < textItems.len; i += 1)
{
    tbl = textItems[i].obj;
    tbl.TblLeftIndent = (2*72 * 65536);
    var tblColWidths = new Metrics (2 * 72 * 65536, 2 * 72 * 65536);
    tbl.TblColWidths = tblColWidths;
}
```

The script creates the document's main flow using the `MainFlowInDoc` method. Use the `GetText(FTI_TblAnchor)` method to list all tables in the main flow. Using a for loop, for each table, use the `TblLeftIndent()` method to change the left indentation.

Use the `TblColWidths()` method to change the width of the column. This method accepts the argument in a metric form. So, create the arguments as a metric object using the `new Metrics()` method.

Note: By convention, there are 72 points per inch. Multiply the inch value with 65536 to get the correct value. 1 inch is equal to 1 * 72 * 65536 points.

Importing a FrameMaker document to a RoboHelp project

The following script, while executing, imports a FrameMaker document to a RoboHelp project. Open a FrameMaker document before executing the script. The script automatically launches RoboHelp.

```
doc=app.ActiveDoc
var path=doc.Name;
createScript(path)
function  createScript(path)
{
 script="doc.importFrameMakerDoc (\""+path+"\",\"\",\"\", \"\", false, \"\", \"\");";
 sendRoboHelp(script);
}
function sendRoboHelp(script)
{
var bt = new BridgeTalk();
bt.target = "RoboHelp";
bt.body = script;
bt.send();
}
```

Using the `doc` variable, create a reference to the active FrameMaker window. Use the `Doc.Name` property to get the path of the active FrameMaker window. Call the user-defined `createScrip()` function by passing the path variable. In the function, create the following string: `script="doc.importFrameMakerDoc (\""+path+"\",\"\",\"\", \"\", false, \"\", \"\");";`

`doc.importFrameMakerDoc` is a RoboHelp function that takes the following parameters to import a FrameMaker document to RoboHelp:

* File path

* Folder name

* FrameMaker TOC file path

* TOC name

* Add index to topics

* Index name

* Glossary name

The example uses default settings to import the document to RoboHelp. Provide document's path. Provide `false` for the Add Index to Topics parameter. As a general JavaScript rule, the quotes in a string are provided inside the escape character "\". The user-defined `sendRoboHelp()` function invokes RoboHelp. Create a new `BridgeTalk` object which is used to connect to a different application in Technical Communication Suite. Using the `target` property, provide the name of the application on which you want to run the script. Use the `body` property to provide the script that you want to run. The `send()` method sends the script to the target application and executes the script.

Changing the effect of an image using Photoshop

The following script applies an effect to a Photoshop image. Open an image in Photoshop before running the script.

```
preferences.rulerUnits = Units.PIXELS
docRef = app.activeDocument
docRef.activeLayer.applyPinch(80)
docRef.save()
```

The script sets the ruler units in pixels. Then, selects the active Photoshop image. It applies the Photoshop effect, `applyPinch`, in the active layer of the image. After applying the effect, it saves the file.

Chapter 6: Using External Resources

Style and linguistic checks using SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 SP1

SDL AuthorAssistant is a quality assurance tool developed by SDL. It improves consistency and translatability of your technical content. The following FAQ introduces and familiarizes SDL AuthorAssistant in the context of TCS and FrameMaker.

Adobe recommends you to also go through the SDL documentation before you start using SDL AuthorAssistant. SDL provides elaborate documentation on how to install, configure, and use SDL AuthorAssistant (see the FAQ on additional information for details).

FAQ about SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 SP1 for FrameMaker 10 and TCS 3.0

What is SDL AuthorAssistant?

A quality assurance tool for documentation that is freely available for all FrameMaker 10 and TCS 3.0 users.

SDL AuthorAssistant is a plug-in for FrameMaker that checks documents for corporate writing styles and standards, standard spelling, and grammar.

My editor reviews all the content. So how does SDL AuthorAssistant matter?

SDL AuthorAssistant helps you automate most of your style guide rule checks and linguistic checks. It reduces many of the manual editorial tasks.

With a constant increase in the number of things an editor has to remember, it is tough to do an air-tight editorial in shorter timelines. Especially, if you have a huge number of style checks and multiple word lists: some company-specific, some product suite-specific, and some specific to the product.

SDL AuthorAssistant reduces the number of misses. It provides consistency across documentation sets, across cross-geographical writer teams, and when you have multiple writers working on the same book or document.

What tasks can SDL AuthorAssistant perform?

- Verify grammatical usage, use of passive voice, or future tense.

- Standardize frequently used acronyms.

- Check wordiness, lengthy sentences, deprecated terms, misused words, and other style issues.

- Check against previously translated content, so that you can improve content reuse and reduce the downstream costs of localizing content.

Where can I get the SDL AuthorAssistant plug-in?

Download the plug-in from the following location: www.adobe.com/go/FM_AuthorAssistant/

Which are the languages supported by SDL AuthorAssistant?

SDL AuthorAssistant includes specific checks that apply for documents authored in any of the following languages:

- English
- German
- French

Other European languages are also supported, but with a reduced set of available checks. Asian languages and right-to-left languages are not supported.

Where can I get additional information about SDL AuthorAssistant?

- The details of system requirements, installation instructions, and licensing agreement are available at the following location:

  www.adobe.com/go/FM_AuthorAssistant/

- To get started with SDL AuthorAssistant, watch the movie tutorial *SDL AuthorAssistant Tutorial* (Start > All Programs > SDL > SDL AuthorAssistant 2010).
- For detailed installation procedures, see *SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 Installation Guide* (Start > All Programs > SDL > SDL AuthorAssistant 2010).
- For configuring SDL AuthorAssistant, use the Online Help in the SDL AuthorAssistant Configuration dialog box (SDL AuthorAssistant > Configure).

Need I connect to a server to do the checks?

SDL AuthorAssistant is a client software application. It performs checks based on the rules you specify in the SDL AuthorAssistant Configuration dialog box (SDL AuthorAssistant > Configure). You can reuse the same configuration later by saving the rules as a profile (.pfl file) on your computer. You can also import and use a profile created elsewhere.

So, if you have configured SDL AuthorAssistant or use a profile stored locally (either by creating or importing), you can check your documents without connecting to a server.

However, if you prefer to create and manage profiles centrally, you need an authoring management system for the server from SDL. For details, contact SDL.

Can I use SDL AuthorAssistant for any other versions of FrameMaker?

Yes, the plug-in supports the following releases in addition to FrameMaker 10:

- FrameMaker 8 (needs activation)
- FrameMaker 9

I use an older version of SDL AuthorAssistant. Can I upgrade?

Yes, the upgrade and compatibility information is available in the *SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 SP1 Installation Guide* and the release notes.

I use SDL AuthorAssistant for FrameMaker 9. If I upgrade to FrameMaker 10, can I use the same installation of SDL AuthorAssistant?

For FrameMaker 10, you require SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 SP1 version. Even if you have an earlier version of SDL AuthorAssistant (working with FrameMaker 9), you must download and upgrade to SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 SP1.

On the same machine, if you have both FrameMaker 9 and FrameMaker 10, you can use the same installation of SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 SP1 for both.

1 Install SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 SP1 for either FrameMaker 9 or FrameMaker 10.

2 In the maker.ini file of the FrameMaker version for which you installed SDL AuthorAssistant (in step 1), copy the entry related to SDL AuthorAssistant in the `[APIClients]` section.

3 In the maker.ini file of the FrameMaker version for which you want to extend the SDL AuthorAssistant service, paste the content in the `[APIClients]` section.

For example, if you have installed SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 SP1 for FrameMaker 10, copy the following data from maker.ini in C:\Program Files\Adobe\FrameMaker10 to maker.ini in C:\Program Files\Adobe\FrameMaker9:

```
SDLAuthorAssistant=Standard, SDLAuthorAssistant, C:\Program Files\SDL\SDL AuthorAssistant
2010\S42AA_Adobe.dll, all
```

Note: File locations on your system can vary.

How do I verify if SDL AuthorAssistant is installed?

On successful installation of SDL AuthorAssistant,

• The option SDL AuthorAssistant appears in the FrameMaker menu.

  This option appears only when you are in the Document view and not Resource Manager view (book window).

• An icon appears in the Windows system tray.

What is the general workflow of SDL AuthorAssistant?

How do I configure SDL AuthorAssistant?

1 After installing SDL AuthorAssistant, open FrameMaker in Document view.

2 Select SDL AuthorAssistant > Configure.

3 Use the SDL AuthorAssistant Configuration dialog box (that appears) to configure.

• **General configuration:** Use the General tab to import or export a profile that contains rules for checks. Also, specify the result format and markup.

  Note: SDL AuthorAssistant includes a profile Global AMS Style Rules.pfl (the default location is C:\Program Files\SDL\SDL AuthorAssistant 2010), which contains a starter set of rules.

• **Configuring style and linguistic checks:** Use the Style and Linguistic Checks tab to configure grammar and linguistic checks, create style rules, and add them to the profile.

The following table details the configuration that you can either ignore or are conditional:

Configuration	Tab	Condition
Specify if XML elements have to be checked or ignored	Structure	Does not apply because, • For XML files, FrameMaker defines the structure. • For non-XML files, the configuration is of no use.
Check documents against translation memories	Translation Memory	Does not apply unless you have a Translation Memory available. For details, see SDL documentation.
Check documents against termbases	Terminology	Does not apply unless you have a Term Database available. For details, see SDL documentation.

How do I ensure that all authors in my team use the same configuration?

After you configure SDL AuthorAssistant, export the settings into a profile and distribute it across your department, for a consistent setup.

In the General tab of SDL AuthorAssistant Configuration dialog box (SDL AuthorAssistant > Configure),

*   Click Export to export all the settings into a .pfl file.

*   Click Import and specify the .pfl file that contains the settings to configure a new desktop with your rule check settings.

How do I check documents?

The following are the checking options:

*   **Check an active document or a selection:** Click SDL AuthorAssistant > Check Text - Active Document. To check only a section of the document, select the section of text before you check.

*   **Check multiple documents or book:** Click SDL AuthorAssistant > Check Text - Multiple Documents and then select the appropriate option in the Multiple Document wizard. The documents that you select are automatically checked in sequence. Closed documents are automatically opened for checking.

*   **Check documents from report:** Click SDL AuthorAssistant > Check Text - From Report.

    In this case, first run the report on the documents and then run checks from the report results. When you check from reports, instead of checking the entire document, SDL AuthorAssistant limits the checks to issues contained in the report. This option is effective when you have large documents to check.

When you check documents, the suggestions are displayed in a separate dockable window, SDL AuthorAssistant Results. It displays the source sentence with the issues highlighted in red color in an editable text box. The bottom half of the window explains the error and provides alternatives.

You can:

*   Accept suggested alternatives if any

*   Type a correction and click Apply to change the sentence in the document

*   Revert any changes

*   Recheck the changes you make before applying them

*   Move to the next error, ignoring the issue (click Next).

After correcting a sentence, click Apply/Next to apply the change and move on to the next error in the document.

How do the reports work?

The options SDL AuthorAssistant > Reporting - Active Document and SDL AuthorAssistant > Reporting - Multiple Documents let you obtain check reports. You can select a mix of .fm and .xml files or .book file for the reports.

SDL AuthorAssistant generates the report in HTML and opens it in the default browser.

The report generated by SDL AuthorAssistant has the following details:

*   Metadata for the report, such as the time it was generated, number of files checked, and the author name.

*   A cumulative summary of total errors categorized by the error type in the selected files.

*   Filenames in case you have generated the report for multiple files. You can click each link to see the list of errors categorized by the error type. Each error category also shows the exact error and the instances of each in the document.

- The concluding section of the report summarizes the settings that were enabled and disabled when the report was run, details of translation memories, and termbases used.

Apart from providing information, reports provide a convenient option to perform checks. For details, see Check documents from report in "How do I check documents?" on page 51

You can also import the results of a report into a spreadsheet for further analysis. SDL provides a sample report (Start > All Programs > SDL > SDL AuthorAssistant 2010 > SDL Global AMS Report Analysis).

Open the report and select Load before data... to import the CSV file created when you ran the report. You can then select Load after data... to import report data created after you have made corrections using the Check Text option, so that you can see the impact of the changes that you have made.

Manage and add assets using Adobe Bridge

Adobe Bridge lets you organize, browse, and locate assets that you use to create content. Adobe Bridge keeps native Adobe files (such as PSD, AI, and PDF) as well as non -Adobe files for easy access.
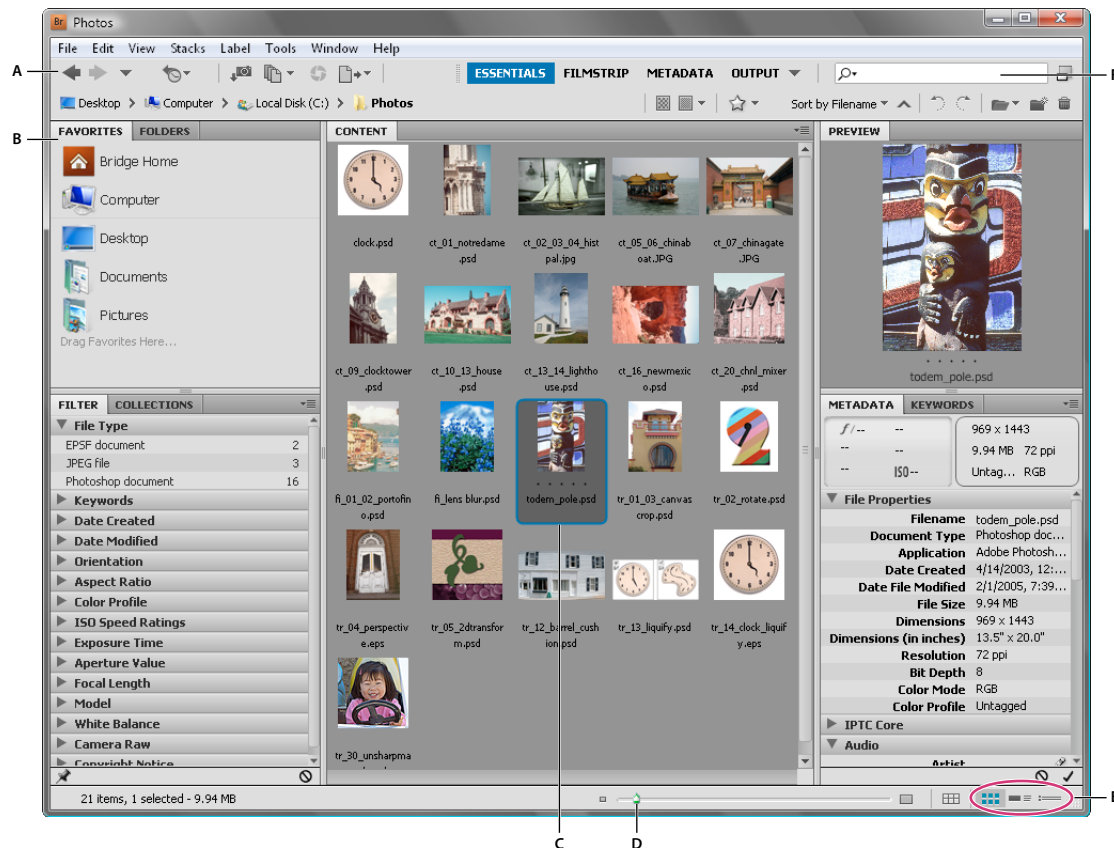
Adobe Bridge workspace
A. Application bar B. Panels C. Selected item D. Thumbnail slider E. View buttons F. Search

Using Adobe Bridge you can view, search, sort, filter, and manage images. Adobe Bridge also lets you rename, move, and delete files; edit metadata; rotate images; and run batch commands. You can also view files and data imported from your digital still and video camera.

To add an asset into your FrameMaker, RoboHelp, or Captivate file:

1 Browse to the asset in Bridge.

2 Click on the asset to select it.

3 Drag it to the document to add it.

More Help topics

Adobe Bridge online help

Convert and encode media assets using Media Encoder

Recording video and audio to a digital format involves balancing quality with file size and bitrate. Most formats also use compression to reduce file size. Adobe Media Encoder makes it easy for you to encode media assets, or convert assets from one format to another. Support for queue and watched folders gives you the flexibility to automatically convert media assets.
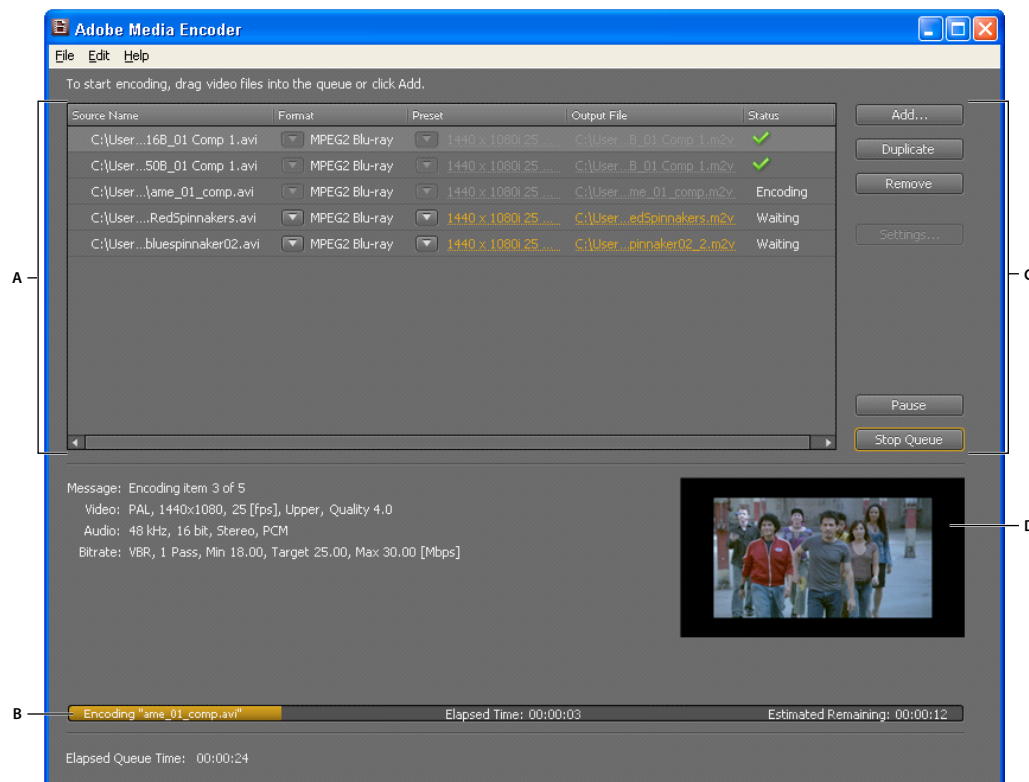
Adobe Media Encoder
A. Encoding queue B. Progress bar C. Queue controls D Preview

For more information, see Adobe Media Encoder online help.