

Report Markup Language:

RML2PDF and RML

Report Markup Language

- n Page Layout Description
- n RML
- n RML2PDF
- n No Programming
- n Outputs PDF

What is RML?

- n XML
- n Cross-platform
- n Simple to use!

What is RML *NOT*?

- n "XML-like"
- n XSLT
- n Free

RML Features:

- n Separates content from layout:
 - stylesheet
 - template
 - story
- n Integrates with other RL products (eg PageCatcher)
- n Allows:
 - multiple frames on a page
 - multiple templates in a document

Graphics vs Flowables:

- n **Graphics**

appear at a specific, defined location on the page.

- n **Flowables**

Appear in the "story", which flows down the page.

Examples:

- n **Graphics**
drawString, rect, circle,
ellipse, lines, path,
curves, forms
- n **Flowables**
para, blockTable, title,
h1, h2, h3, spacer, pre

More Examples:

- n **More graphics**
grid, Translate, Scale, Rotate,
Skew, Transform, Image
- n **PageNumber**
- n **Name and getName**
- n **Seq and seqReset**
- n **plugInGraphics and plugInFlowables**
- n **Aliases**
- n **outlineAdd**

How does RML look?

```
<!DOCTYPE document SYSTEM "rml_1_0.dtd">  
<document filename="example_1.pdf">
```

```
<stylesheet>  
</stylesheet>
```

```
<pageDrawing>  
  <drawCentredString x="4.1in",  
    y="5.8in">  
    Hello World.  
  </drawCentredString>  
</pageDrawing>
```

```
</document>
```

A real example of RML:

Space station demo...

RML can be invoked from:

- n Command line

```
rml2pdf filename.rml
```

- n Cgi-script

(eg web or application server)

- n Within Python

```
def go(xmlInputText,  
outputFileName=None, outDir=None,  
dtdDir=None):
```

PageCatcher

ReportLab Solutions, LSM, Bordeaux 2001

PageCatcher

- n Takes an external PDF file
- n Extracts single or multiple pages ("*catches*" them)
- n "cans" them as a data file

So...?

- n Allows you to re-use single/multiple pages from existing PDF files
- n Lets designers use their favorite tools...
- n Can re-order pages without having to totally redesign
- n Can overprint new info on old documents
- n Integrates with RML!
Using the <catchForms> tag

Some PageCatcher demos...

some basic demos showing what it can do.