Tips and Tricks for Working in Astoria

Selecting Elements

Sometimes when you click the opening tag of an element, such as <**li**>, the element will collapse rather than highlight (be selected). When you need to highlight (select) an element, click the closing tag of the element </**li**>. This will ensure that the entire element will highlight, not collapse.

Navigating From Cell to Cell in Tables

If you want to move your cursor from one cell to another in an Astoria table, perform any of the following actions:

- To move your cursor to the table cell immediately to the right of your cursor, press <**Tab**>.
- To move your cursor to the table cell immediately to the left of your cursor, press <**Shift**> + <**Tab**>.
- To move your cursor to any cell adjacent to your cursor, press the arrow key that corresponds to the direction you want your cursor to move.

Troubleshooting Help

What do I do When the Undo Checkout Option is Unavailable on a Checked-Out Document?

Sometimes when you are working in XMetal and you are ready to revoke the checkout on the topic, the Repository > Undo Checkout option is grayed out even though you have the topic checked out. To enable the Undo Checkout option and complete the process to revoke the checkout on the topic, complete the following steps:

1. Click **File > Close**. The topic file closes.
2. Click **Repository > Open Checked-Out Document**. The Select Checked Out Document dialog box displays.
3. From the list of files, select the topic that you want to revoke the checkout on.
4. Click **Open**. The topic displays in XMetal.
5. Click **Repository > Undo Checkout**. The XMetal Author Enterprise Edition dialog box displays, verifying whether you want to undo your checkout without saving changes.
6. Click **Yes**. The checkout is undone, and the file closes.

What if I can't check out topics from the Astoria Workbench?

Each time that you upgrade your version of XMetal, you need to ensure that you remap the location of the XMetal editor in the Workbench.

To Remap to the current version of XMetal Editor in Astoria Workbench
1. Open the **Astoria Workbench**. The Astoria Workbench program opens.
2. From the toolbar, click **Tools > Preferences**. The Preferences dialog box displays.
3. In the **Editor Settings** pane, click **Browse** next to the **Editor Location** field. The Open dialog box displays.
4. From the **Look in** drop-down box, navigate to the following path:
C:\Program Files\XMetaL 5.1\Author\xmetal51.exe
5. Click **Open**. The correct file path now displays in the Editor Location field.
6. Click **OK**. The Astoria Workbench program redisplays.

Why won't my topics start at the top of the page in the generated output?

Make sure that you have assigned the outputclass attribute, **top-of-page**, to the topic; this inserts a page break before the topic starts. If this customization doesn't work and the topic doesn't start at the top of the page, add the outputclass attribute, **top-of-page**, to the <title> element.

When I generate the output of my data sheet, blank pages are inserted. What do I do?

Check whether the topic immediately following the topic that is generating a blank page has an outputclass attribute of **top-of-page** in the title element. If it does, delete the attribute and regenerate the output. For example, if the blank page is being generated after the Features topic, open the Pin Assignments and Descriptions topic. Place your cursor in the <**title**> element, and in the Attribute Inspector pane, delete the **top-of-page** attribute in the **outputclass** field.

I created a new topic, and I want to xref elements within the topic, but the element IDs don't display in the Select Cross Reference Endpoint list? What happened?

When you check a topic in to the Astoria repository, Astoria assigns a unique ID to each element. When you update xrefs in your topics, you will reference the unique ID that Astoria assigned to the element that you want to reference. If the element does not display in the Select Cross Reference Endpoint list, it may not have a unique ID assigned to it. To assign the element a unique ID, save the topic, check it in to the repository, and then check the topic out. Repeat the xref process, and the xreffed elements should now display in the Select Cross Reference Endpoint list.