

RoboHelp: Evolving Features and Methods



Matthew Ellison

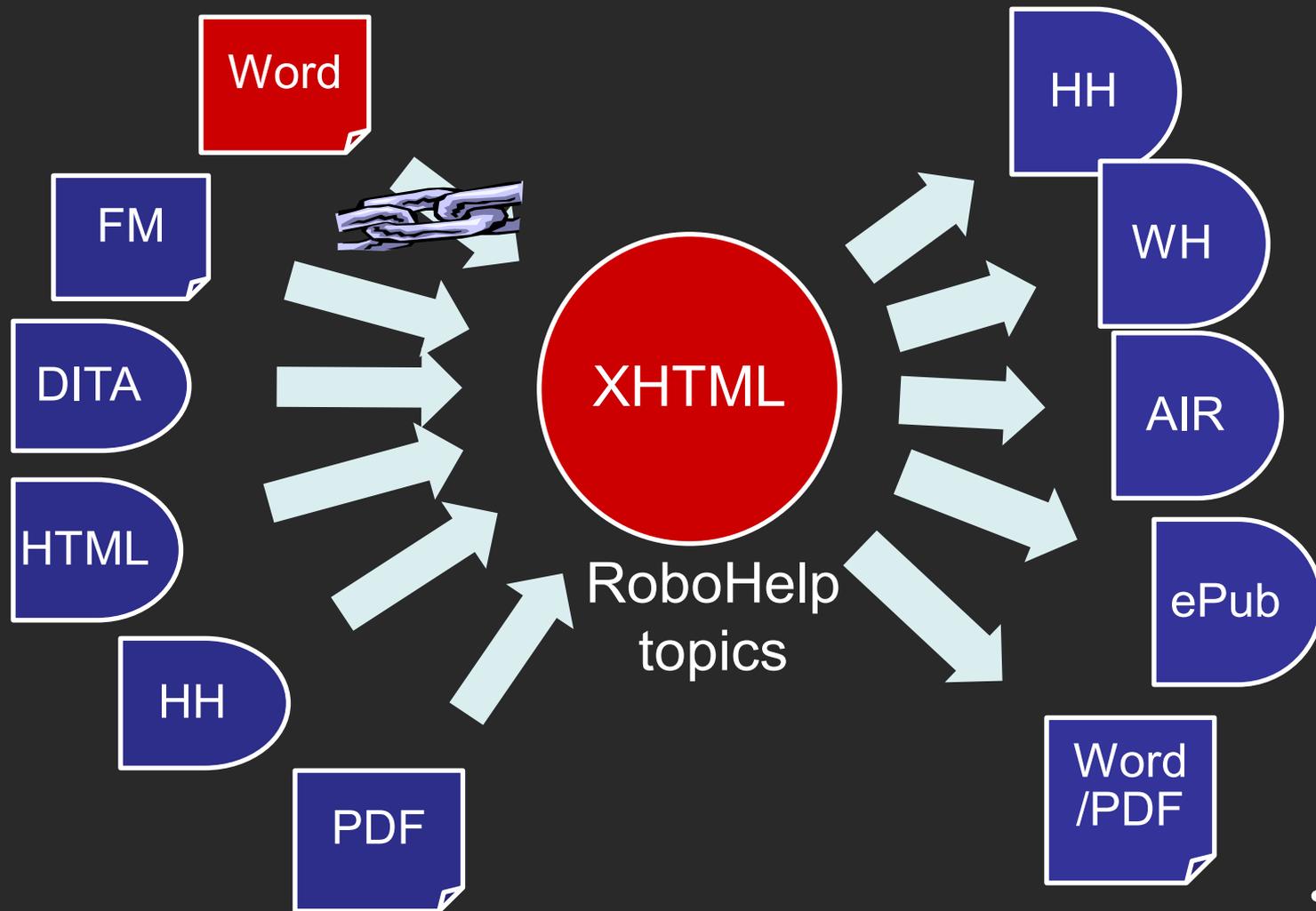
UA Europe?



What we'll cover in this session

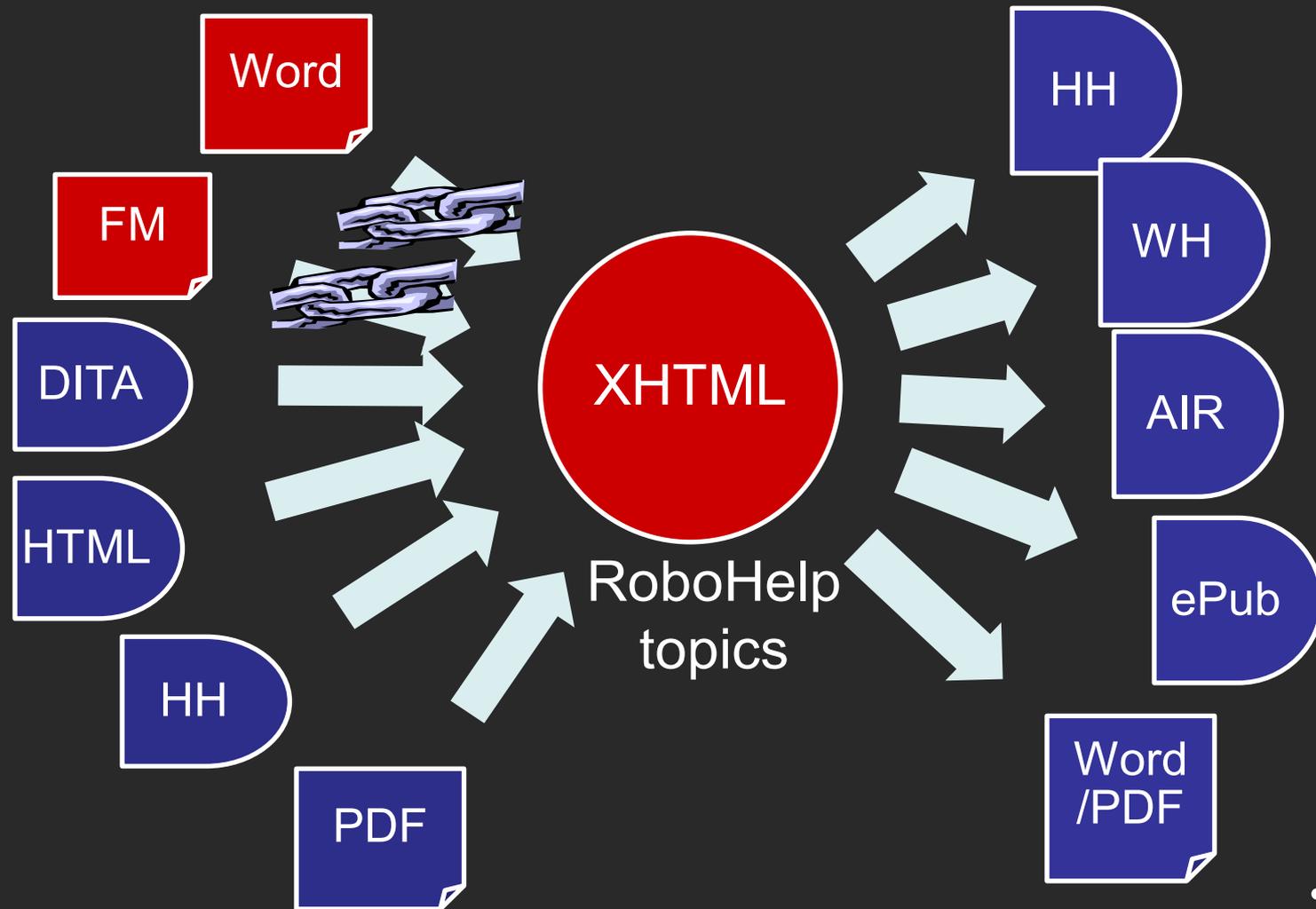
- Possible workflows for single sourcing to print and Help
- Techniques for linking to content in Word
- Multi-level lists
- Applying global styles
- Getting the most out of Search
- Sharing resources between projects

Single sourcing workflow – RoboHelp 9



- Also:
- DITA
 - FlashHelp
 - JavaHelp
 - Eclipse Help
 - XML

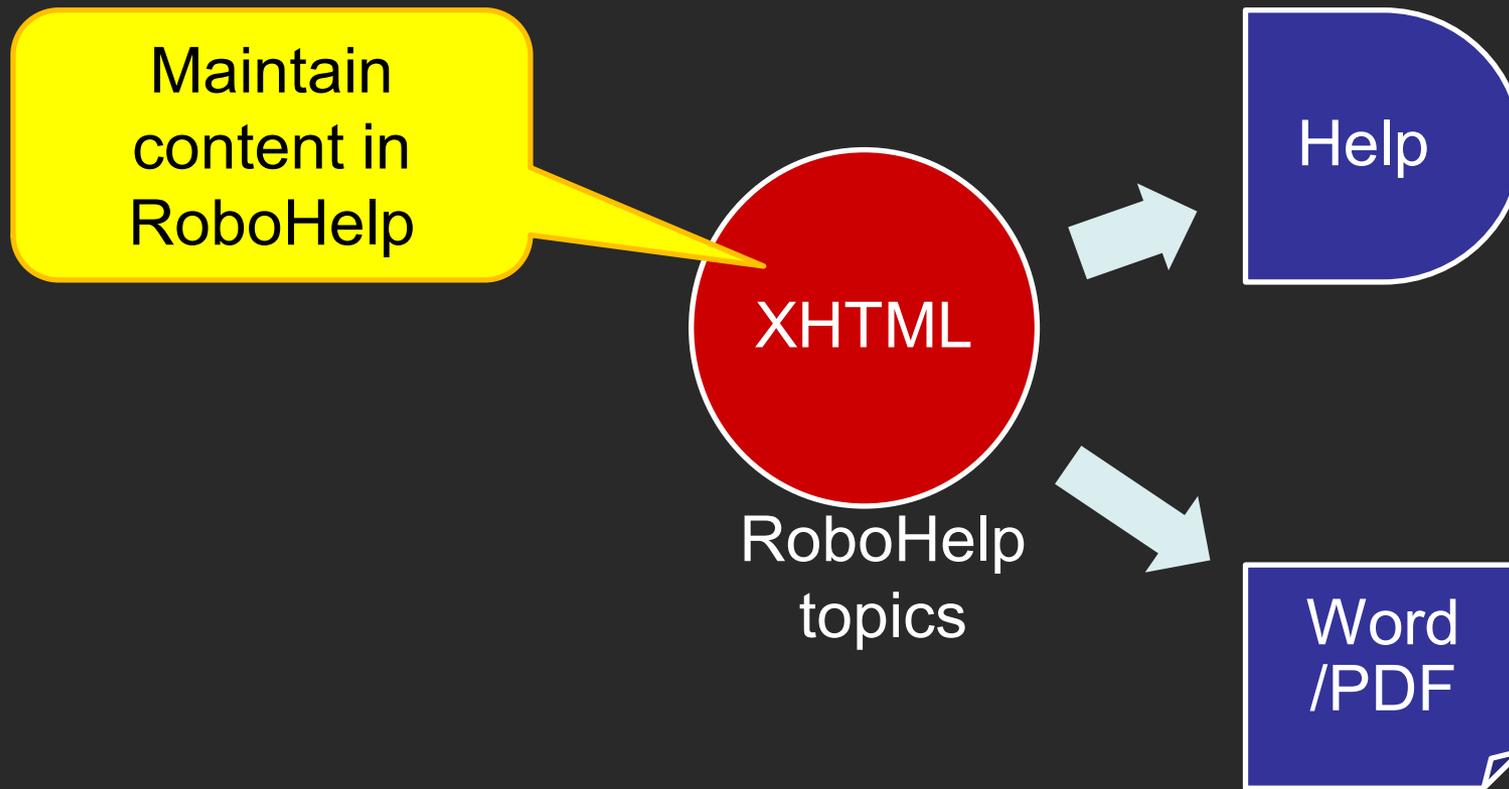
Single sourcing workflow – TCS 3.5



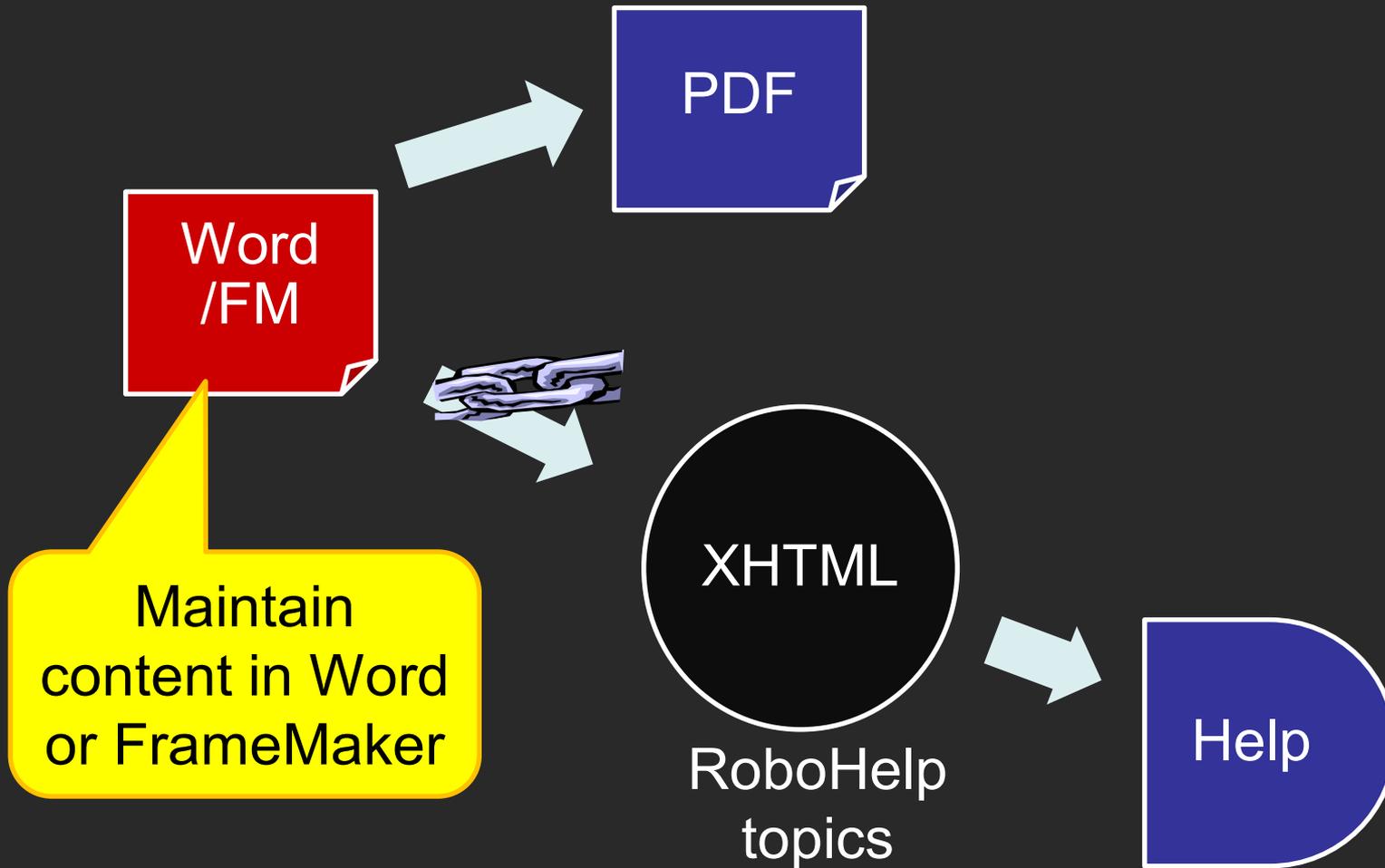
Also:

- DITA
- FlashHelp
- JavaHelp
- Eclipse Help
- XML

Single sourcing print and Help – Option #1



Single sourcing print and Help – Option #2



The process for linking a Word document

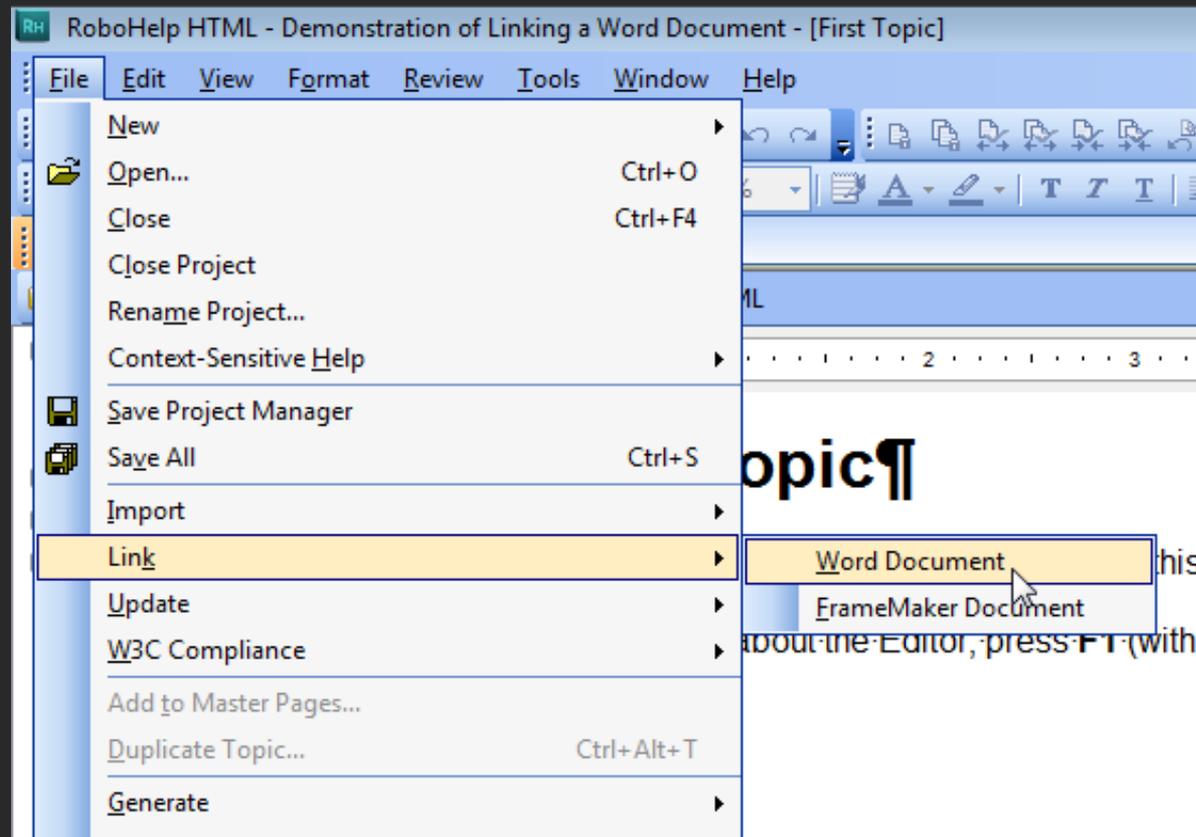
1. Link the document
File > Link > Word Document
2. Set up the mappings and conversion settings
File > Project Settings > Import tab
3. Select settings for converting TOC, Index, and Glossary
Right-click Word Document > Properties
4. Generate the RoboHelp topics
Right-click Word Document > Update > Generate

After updates to the Word document:

5. Update the RoboHelp topics
Right-click Word Document > Update > Update

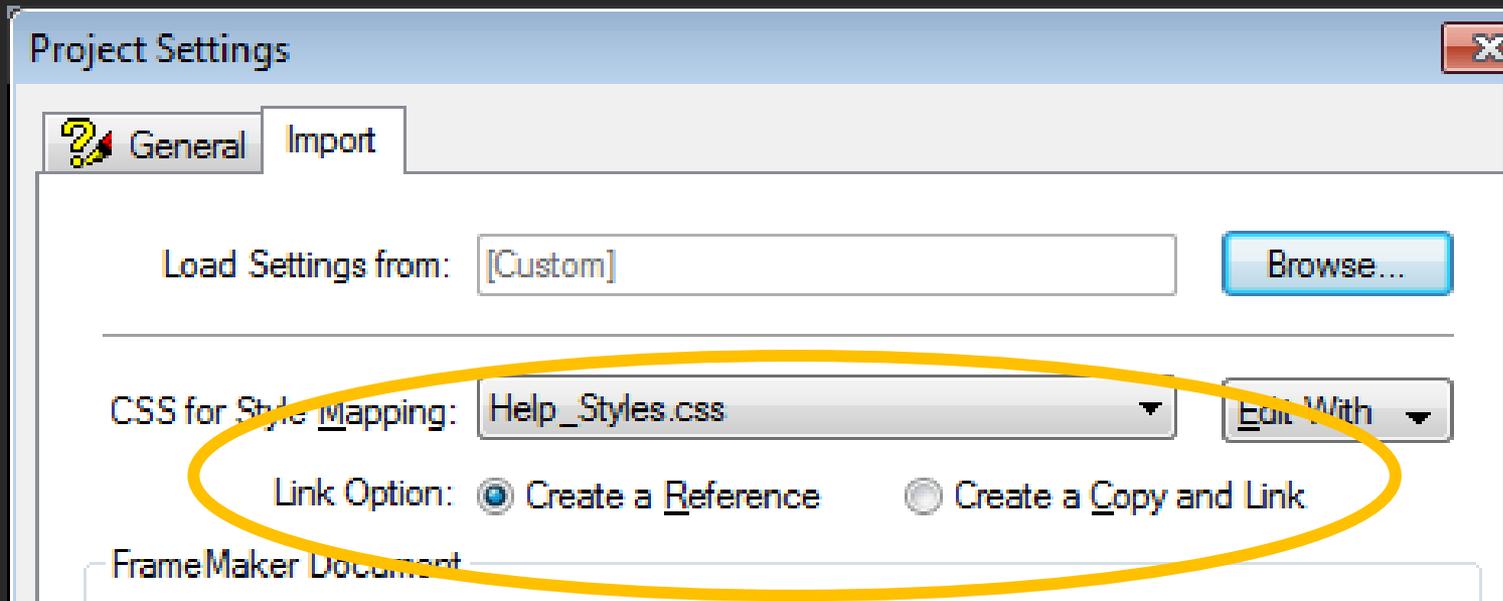
Demonstration of linking a Word document

1. Link the document



Demonstration of linking a Word document

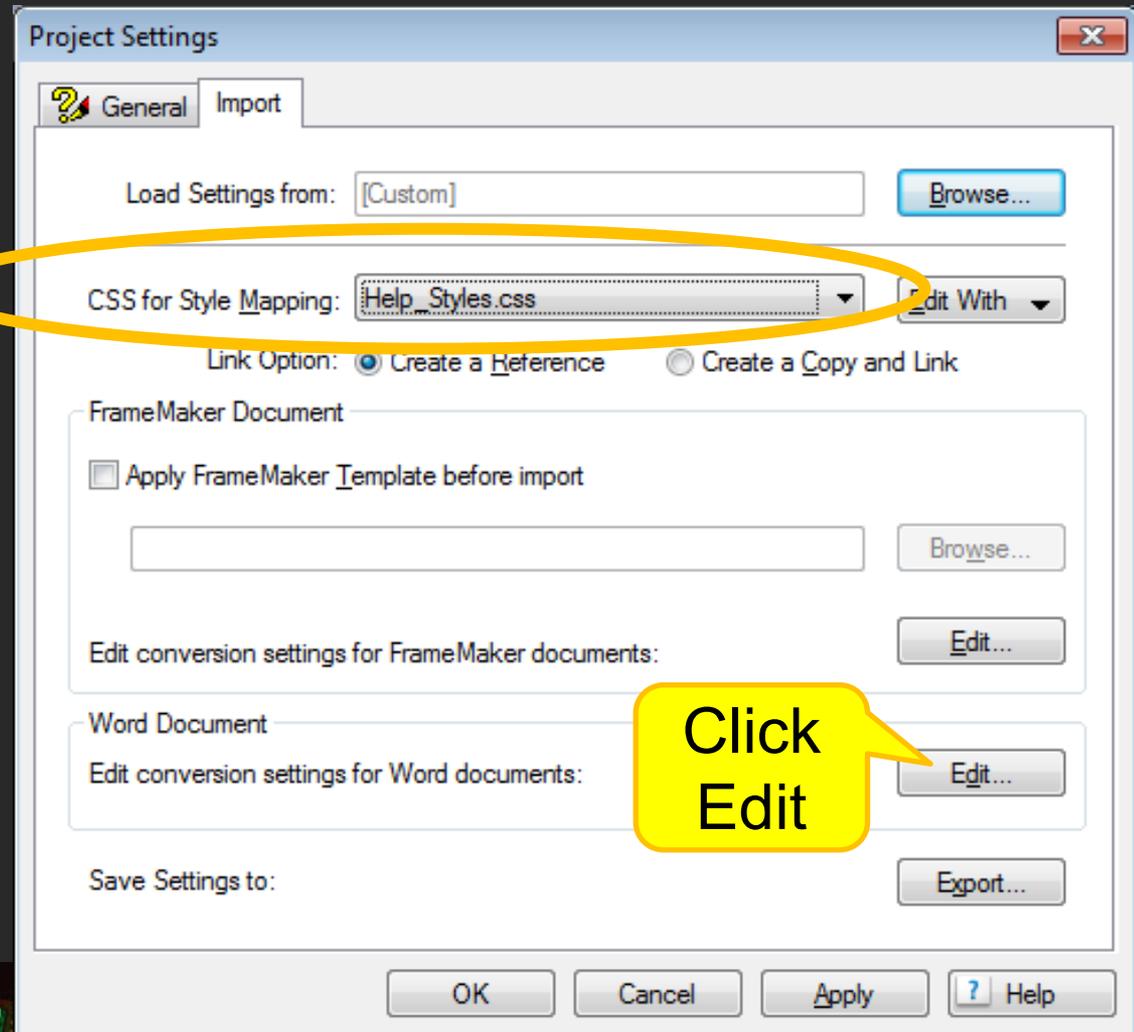
- The document is either linked in its original location, or copied into the project folder and linked



Demonstration of linking a Word document

2. Set up the mappings and conversion settings

Select style sheet containing required styles for Help



Click Edit



Demonstration of linking a Word document

The screenshot shows the 'Conversion Settings' dialog box. On the left, under 'Word Document Settings', a list of styles is shown, with 'Heading 1' selected. On the right, the 'Style Preview' section shows two boxes: 'Word' containing the text 'Text' and 'RoboHelp' containing the text 'Text'. Below these, a dropdown menu for 'RoboHelp Style:' is set to 'Heading 1'. A 'Check for updates' button is visible. At the bottom, there are checkboxes for 'Glossary Definition', 'Glossary Term', 'Pagination (Split into topics based on this style)', and 'User Defined HTML Tag'. The 'Pagination' checkbox is checked.

Map each Word style...

...to a RoboHelp style

Important option for main headings

Demonstration of linking a Word document

Conversion Settings

Word Document Settings

- Paragraph
- Character
- Table
- Other Settings**

Set Other Settings as required

- Auto-create CSS styles from inline formatting
- Convert References to hyperlinks
- Convert Headers
- Convert Footers
- Convert Word list to
- Context Sensitive Help Marker
- Topic Name Pattern

Required for cross-references

Demonstration of linking a Word document

3. Select settings for converting TOC, Index, and Glossary

The screenshot displays the RoboHelp HTML interface. The main window title is "RoboHelp HTML - Demonstration of Linking a Word Document". The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Format, Review, Tools, Window, and Help. The Project Manager on the left shows a tree view of project files, with "User Guide for RoboHelp.docx" selected. A context menu is open over this file, with the "Properties" option highlighted by a yellow oval. The "Word Document Settings" dialog box is open on the right, showing the "Content Settings" tab. It has three sections: "Table of Contents", "Index", and "Glossary". Each section has a checked "Convert" checkbox and two radio button options: "Add to existing" and "Create new associated". The "Create new associated" options are selected, and the text boxes next to them contain "Word_TOC", "Word_Index", and "Word_Glossary" respectively. The "Table of Contents" section also shows a text box with "Demonstration of Linking a Word Document".

RoboHelp HTML - Demonstration of Linking a Word Document

File Edit View Format Review Tools Window Help

Normal Times New Roman 12pt

Project Manager

Project Files

- User Guide for RoboHelp.docx
- First Topic
- default.css
- Broken Links
- URLs
- Table of Contents
- Index
- Glossary
- See Also

Word Document Settings

Content Settings File Update Settings File

Table of Contents

- Convert Table of Contents
 - Add to existing TOC
 - Create new associated TOC

Index

- Convert Index
 - Add to existing Index
 - Create new associated Index
 - Add to topic

Glossary

- Convert Glossary
 - Add to existing Glossary
 - Create new associated Glossary

Properties

Software User Assistance

Demonstration of linking a Word document

4. Generate the RoboHelp topics

The image shows two overlapping screenshots of the RoboHelp HTML software interface. The left screenshot shows the 'Project Manager' pane with a context menu open over the 'User Guide for RoboHelp.docx' file. The 'Update' option is selected, and a sub-menu is displayed with 'Generate' highlighted by a yellow circle and a mouse cursor. The right screenshot shows the same software with the 'User Guide for RoboHelp.docx' file selected in the 'Project Manager' pane, displaying a list of topics such as 'About direct marking', 'About indirect marking', and 'About the tools in the Me'.

RoboHelp HTML - Demonstration of Linking a Word Document

File Edit View Format Review Tools Window Help

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Project Manager

Project Files

- User Guide for RoboHelp.docx
- First Topic
- default.css
- Broken Links
- URLs
- Table of Contents
- Index
- Glossary
- See Also

Edit

Delete

Rename

Update

Apply Conditional Build Tag

Create PDF for Review...

Explore...

Status

Properties

Generate

Update All

Force Update

Force Update All

RoboHelp HTML - Demonstration of Linking a Word Document

File Edit View Format Review T

Normal Times New Roman

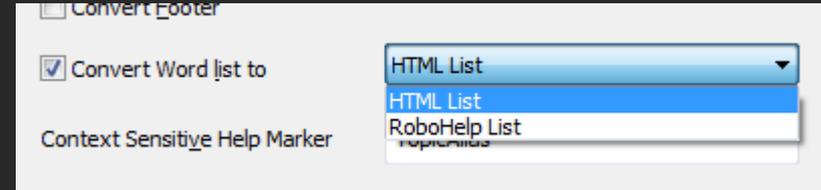
Project Manager

User Guide for RoboHelp.docx

- About direct marking
- About indirect marking
- About the tools in the Me
- About this User Guide
- Accessing e-Marker®
- Accessing S-Process
- Activating and pinning a
- Adding comments
- Adjudication
- Adjusting the contrast
- Adjusting the marks for a
- Adjusting the opacity of c

Issues

- Mapping of bulleted and numbered lists
 - Can't map to RoboHelp List styles



- Formatting of multi-level lists
- Heading numbering
- Conditional text

My strategy

- Use styles for all list items, tips, notes, etc.
- Before import into RoboHelp:
 - remove all bullets and numbering from list items
 - remove bullet images from notes, warnings, etc.
 - remove heading numbering
- Tip:
 - create a Word Document Template (.dotm) containing modified versions of the styles for list items, tips, notes, etc.

My strategy

- Map each style to a corresponding RoboHelp style

Normal → Normal

Heading 1 → Heading 1

Heading 2 → Heading 1

Bullet 1 → Bullet1

Numbered Step → NumberedStep

One Step → OneStep

The magic is in the RoboHelp style sheet!

- Link each style for a list item to an appropriate Multilevel List Style

The image shows two overlapping dialog boxes from the RoboHelp software. The background dialog is titled "Styles" and contains a list of styles. The "NumberedStep" style is highlighted with a yellow oval. The foreground dialog is titled "List For Autonumbering" and has the following settings:

- Inherit Numbering Property from Multilevel List
- List Class: **NumberedList**
- List Level: **2**

The "Preview" section of the "List For Autonumbering" dialog shows a three-item numbered list with placeholder text: "1. #####", "2. #####", and "3. #####". To the right of the "List For Autonumbering" dialog, a portion of the RoboHelp interface is visible, showing a toolbar with icons for text formatting. A yellow oval highlights the "List" icon in the toolbar. Below the toolbar, the text "(Style for following paragraph)" and "list-style: rh-list; x-list-class:" are visible.

The magic is in the RoboHelp style sheet!

- Paragraph styles for bullet items linked to **BulletList**
Multilevel List Style

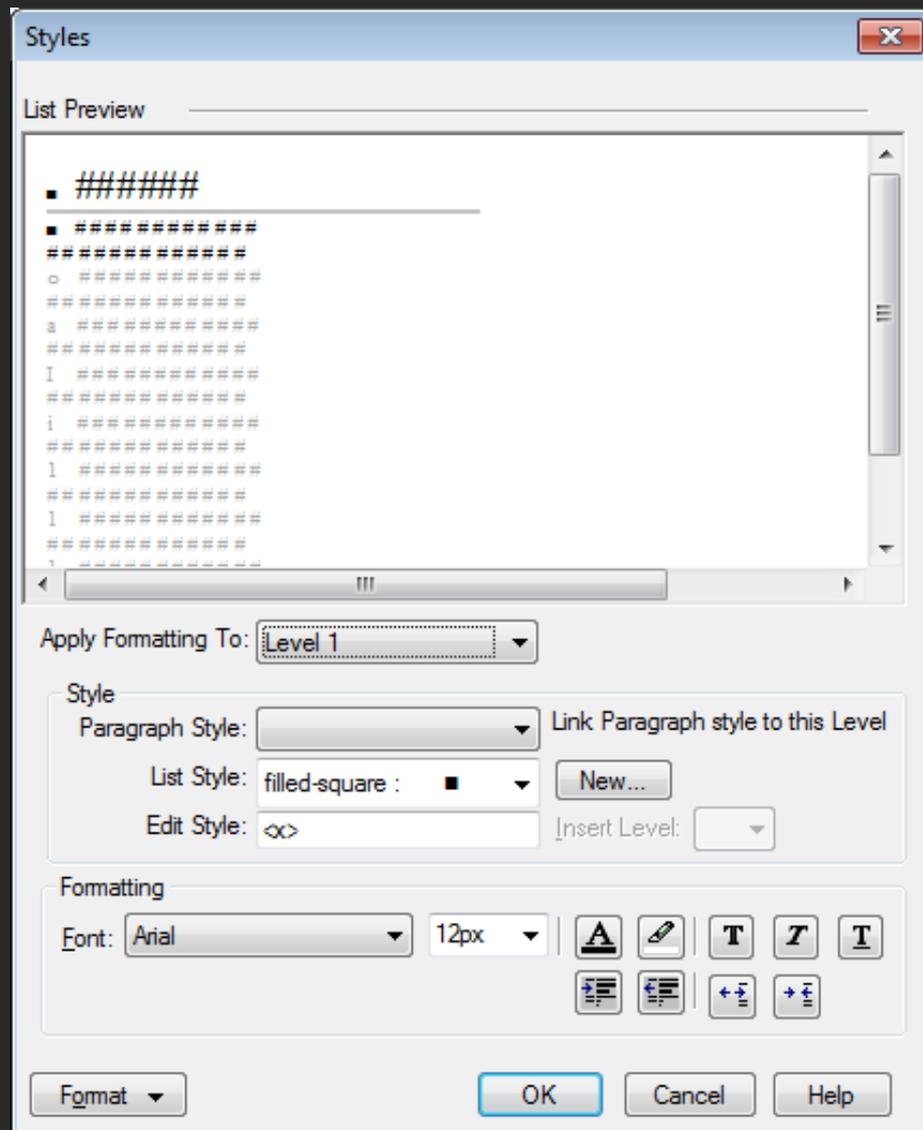
```
p.Bullet1 {  
  text-indent: -22px;  
  margin-left: 22px;  
  list-style: none;  
  x-list-class: BulletList;  
  x-list-level: 1;  
}
```

```
p.Bullet2 {  
  text-indent: -22px;  
  margin-left: 44px;  
  list-style: none;  
  x-list-class: BulletList;  
  x-list-level: 2;  
}
```

The magic is in the RoboHelp style sheet!

- **BulletList** Multilevel List Style

```
rh-list.BulletList {  
  x-level-count: 2;  
  x-lvl-1-format: "<x>";  
  x-lvl-1-type: filled-square;  
  x-lvl-2-type: circle;  
  x-lvl-2-format: "<x>";  
  x-lvl-1-pfx-class: rls-1-BulletList;  
}
```



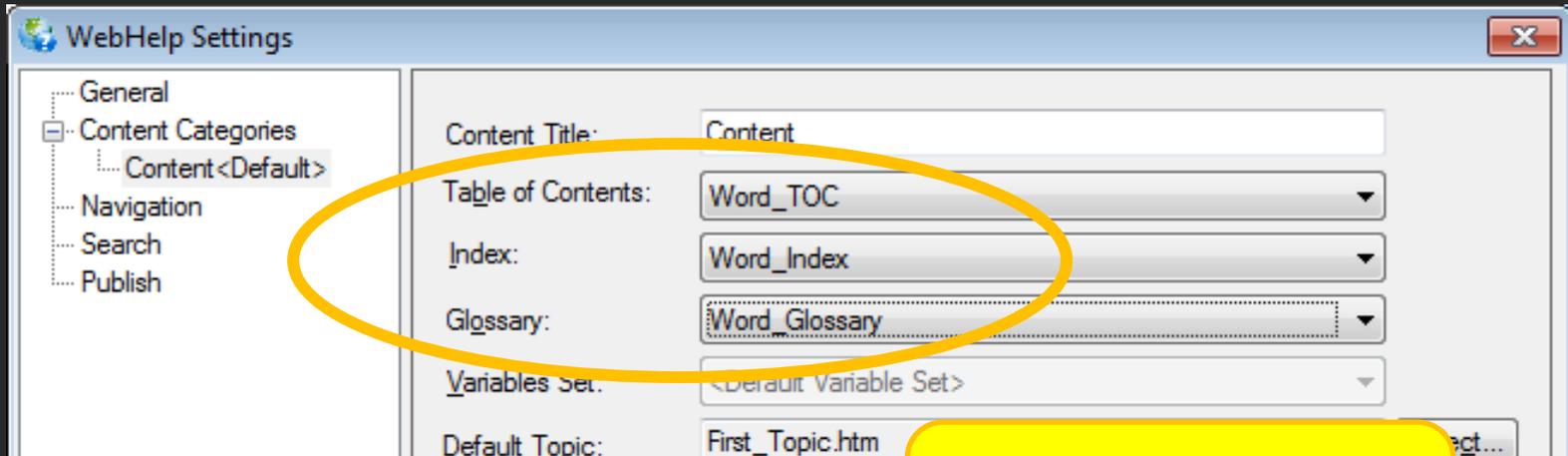
The magic is in the RoboHelp style sheet!

- Paragraph style for single step list items linked to **OneStep**
Multilevel List Style

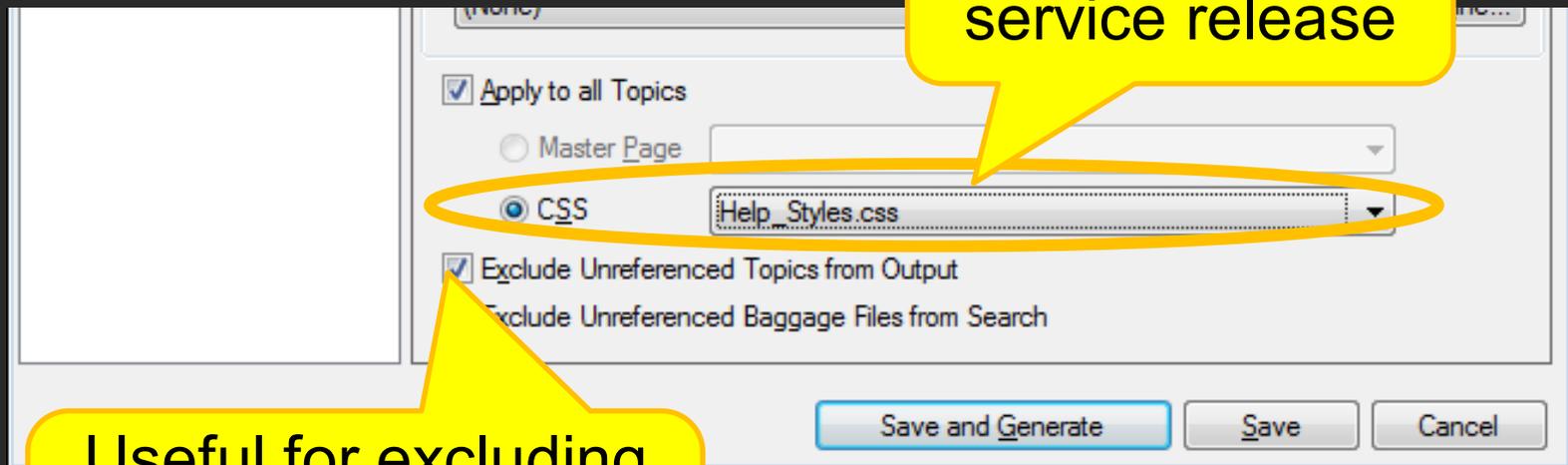
```
p.OneStep {  
    text-indent: -22px;  
    margin-left: 22px;  
    list-style-type: none;  
    x-list-class: OneStep;  
    x-list-level: 1;  
}
```

```
rh-list.OneStep {  
    x-level-count: 1;  
    x-lvl-1-type: diamond;  
    x-lvl-1-format: "<x>";  
}
```

Single Source Layout settings



Vital before 9.02 service release



Useful for excluding unwanted content that came from Word

Getting the most out of Search

- Great content is useless if it's not found
- To find information, most end-users use Search in preference to Index or Contents
- It's worth investing time in Search!

Is indexing worth the effort?

Possibly!

- RoboHelp adds all index keywords as search keywords
- Index is important for printed output
(when search is not available)

Techniques for improving Search

- Educate users
- Add search keywords (metadata)
- Add synonyms
- Enable Substring Search
- Show Context in Search Results
- External Content Search

Educate users

- WebHelp supports Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT)
 - Unlike Google, default operator is OR
- Phrase search
 - “measurement tool”

Add search keywords (metadata)

- Synonyms and any other words that user might search for

Enter here...

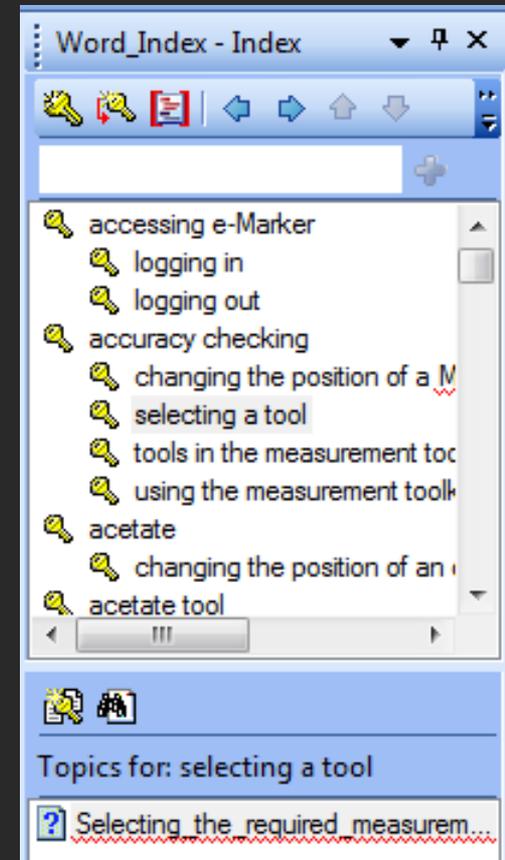
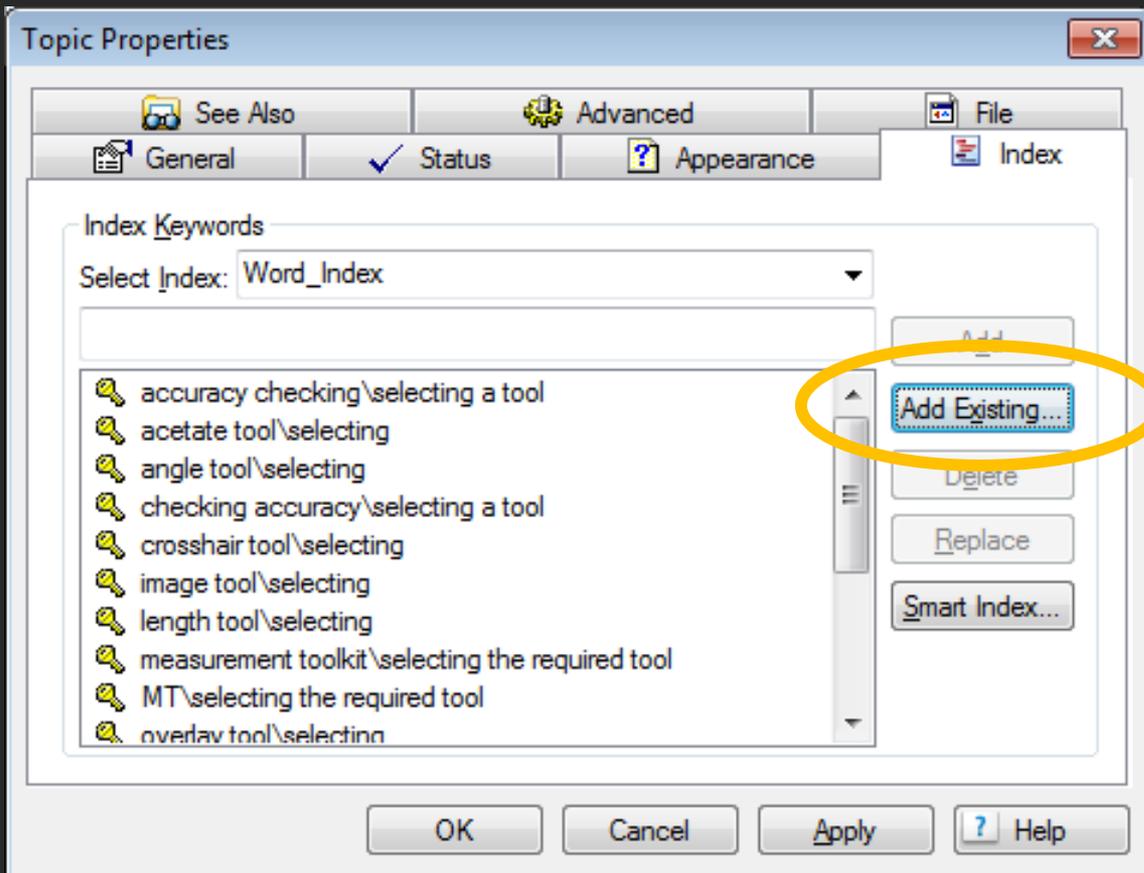
The image shows a screenshot of a software dialog box titled "Topic Properties". The dialog has a tabbed interface with tabs for "General", "Status", "Appearance", and "Index". The "General" tab is active. The fields are as follows:

- Topic Title:** Selecting the required measurement tool
- File Name:** Selecting_the_required_measurement_tool.htm
- Master Page:** (None)
- Editor:** Design View
- Language:** None
- Author:** (empty)
- Keywords:** image,angle,acetate,length,overlay (This field is circled in yellow)
- Exclude From Search

At the bottom of the dialog are buttons for "OK", "Cancel", "Apply", and "Help".

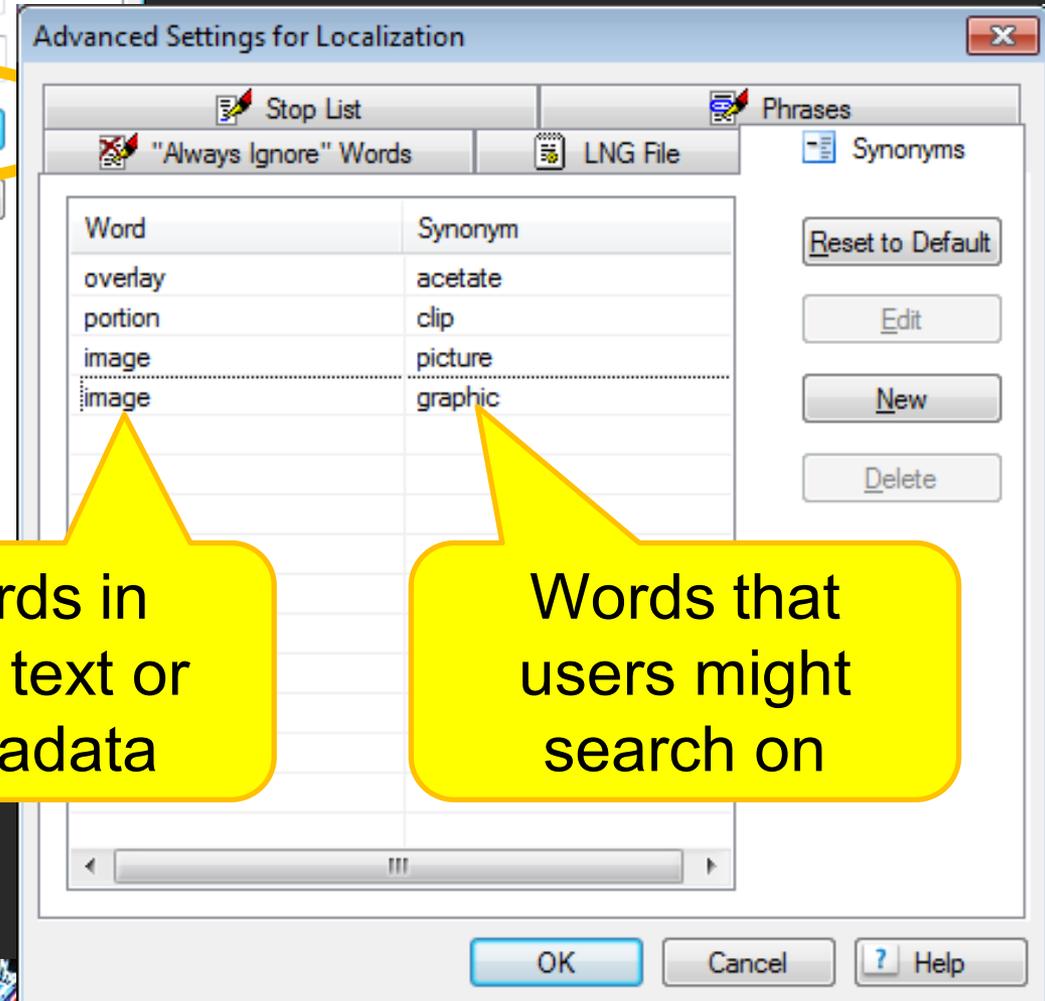
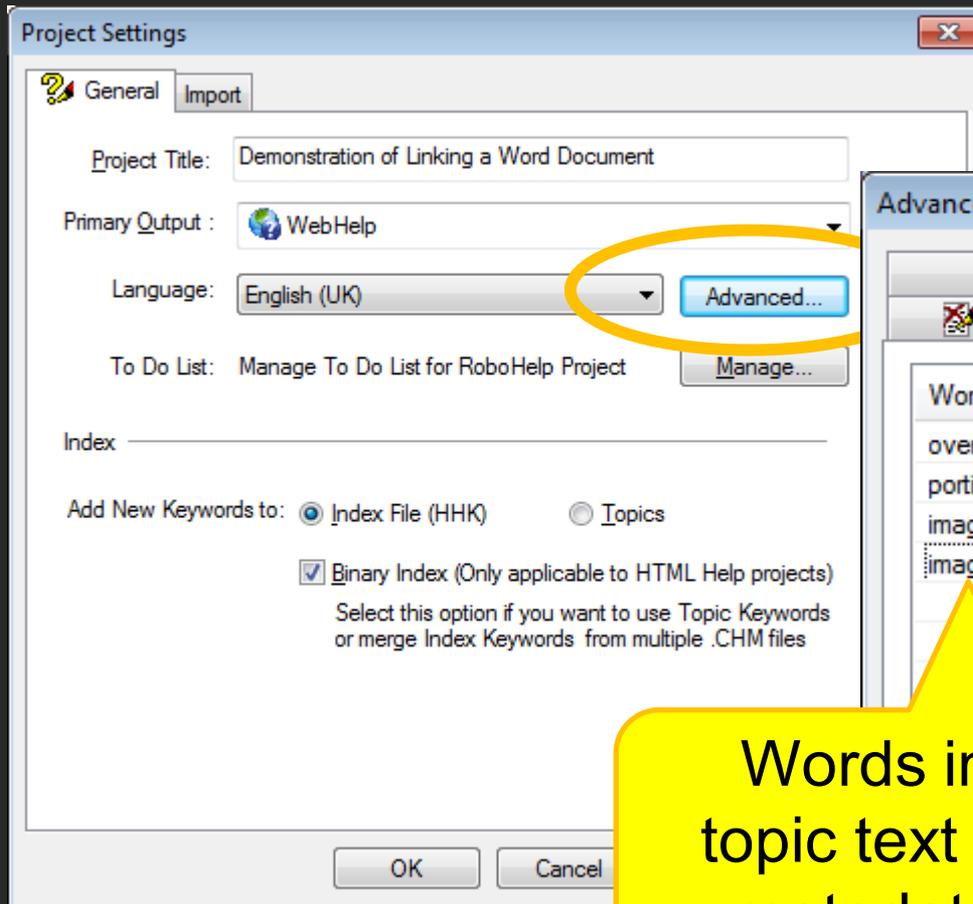
Add search keywords (metadata)

...or use the more powerful indexing tools



Add synonyms

Not used by
MS HTML Help



Words in
topic text or
metadata

Words that
users might
search on

Search option in Single Source Layout

Users can search on part of a word

The image shows the 'WebHelp Settings' interface. On the left is a navigation pane with categories: General, Content Categories, Navigation, Search (highlighted), and Publish. The main area is titled 'Search Options' and contains several checkboxes: 'Enable Substring Search' (checked and circled), 'Enable Highlighting in Search Results' (checked), 'Enable External Content Search' (checked), 'Show Context in Search Results' (checked and circled), and 'Hide Rank Column in Search Results' (unchecked). A yellow speech bubble points to the 'Enable Substring Search' checkbox with the text 'Users can search on part of a word'. Below the settings is a search input field containing the word 'overlay' and a 'GO' button. Below the input field are options for 'Highlight search results' (checked) and 'Search results per page' (set to 10). At the bottom, a search results table is shown with columns 'Title' and 'Rank'. The first result is 'Changing the position of a measurement tool image' with a rank of 1. The second result is 'About the tools in the'.

WebHelp Settings

- General
- Content Categories
- Navigation
- Search**
- Publish

Search Options

- Enable Substring Search
- Enable Highlighting in Search Results Text ▾
- Enable External Content Search
- Show Context in Search Results
- Hide Rank Column in Search Results

Type in the word(s) to search for:

overlay GO

Highlight search results

Search results per page

Title	Rank △
Changing the position of a measurement tool image Changing the position of a measurement tool image Each measurement tool appears automatically ...	1
About the tools in the	

External Content Search

- External URLs can be included in search results
 - Search keyword mapped to external URL

The image shows a screenshot of the RoboHelp HTML software interface. The 'Edit' menu is open, and the 'External Content Search...' option is highlighted. The 'External Content Search' dialog box is also open, displaying a table with search results.

External Content Search Dialog Box:

Map search term(s) to external content URL:

Title	Search Terms	URL	Description
Measurement ...	measurement tool,acetate	http://en.wikipedia.org...	Wikipedia site: information on various measuring de...
Text to Speech	text to speech,TTS	http://www.highlander...	Matthew's blog post on Text to Speech in Captivate 5
Captivate Wid...	widget,swf,add-in,quiz qu...	http://www.highlander...	Matthew's blog post on Captivate Widgets

Buttons: Add, Remove, Edit, OK, Cancel

External Content Search

Edit

Title:

Search Terms:

URL:

Description:

OK Cancel

Contents Index Search

Type in the word(s) to search for:
 GO

Highlight search results

Search results per page

Title	Rank Δ
Captive Widgets Matthew's blog post on Captivate Widgets	1

Jun 24 2011

Adobe Captivate Widgets (part 1)

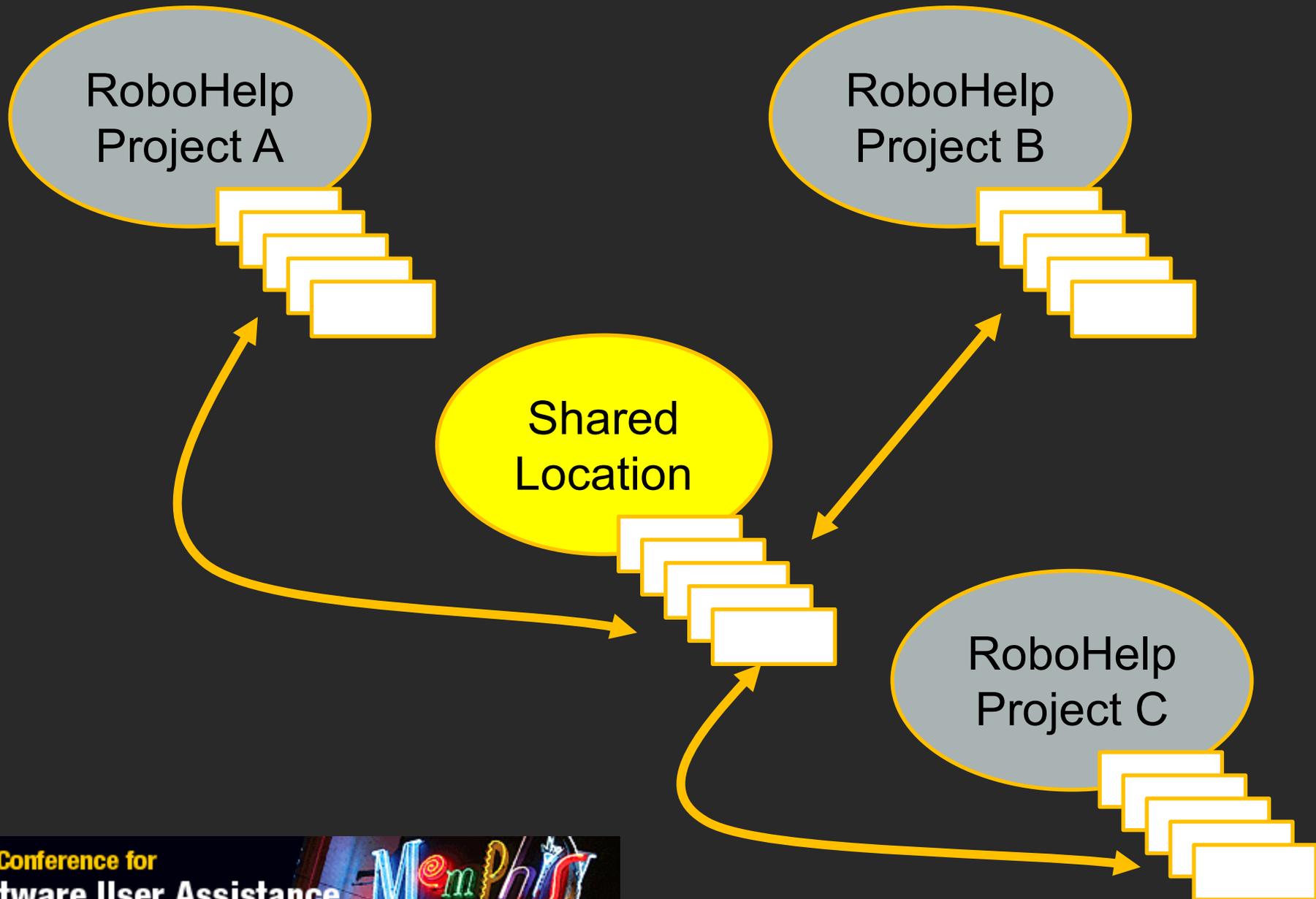
Captivate

+1 1

Recently someone drew my attention, through a comment, to a Captivate Widget that enables you to associate actions with a widget object. Inspired by this, I thought it might be a good time to discuss how they can help you with your Captivate development.

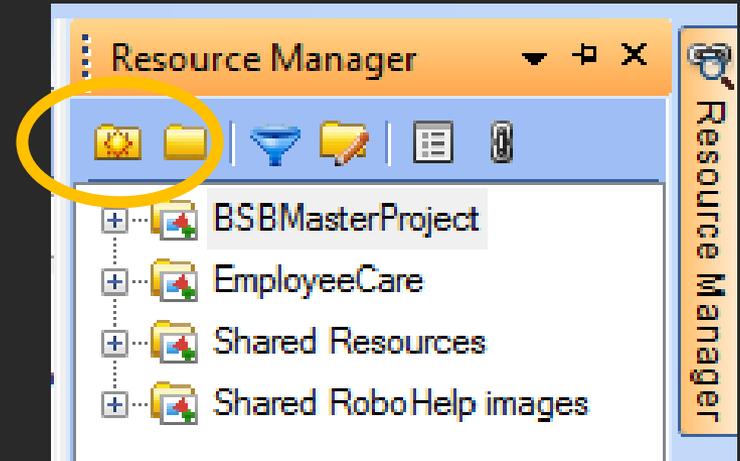
A Widget is a piece of software code that extends the normal functionality of a Captivate object, written by a Flash developer using Adobe Flash, and supplied to the user as a widget.

Sharing resources between projects



Sharing resources between projects

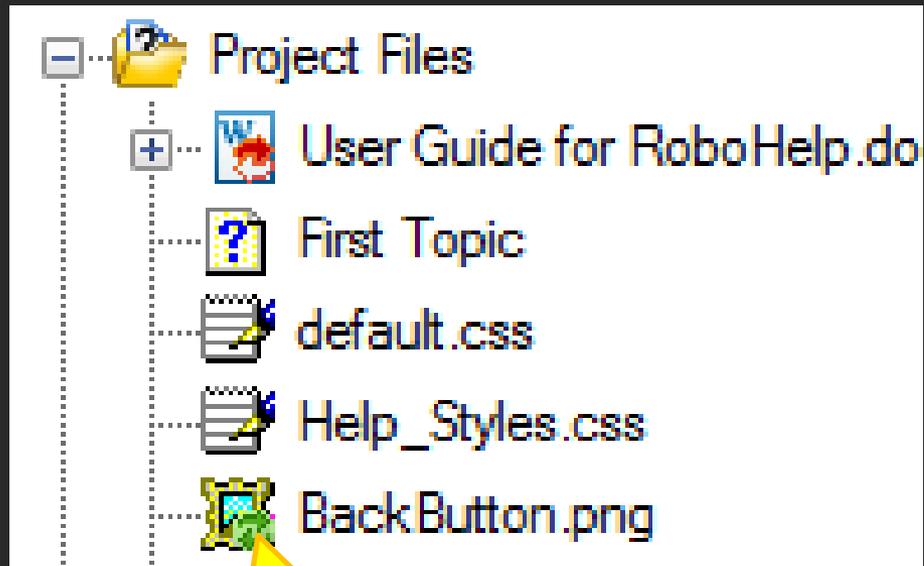
- Set up Shared Locations in **Resource Manager**



- Add files to the Shared Locations:
 - Images
 - Multimedia files
 - Snippets
 - Style sheets

Sharing resources between projects

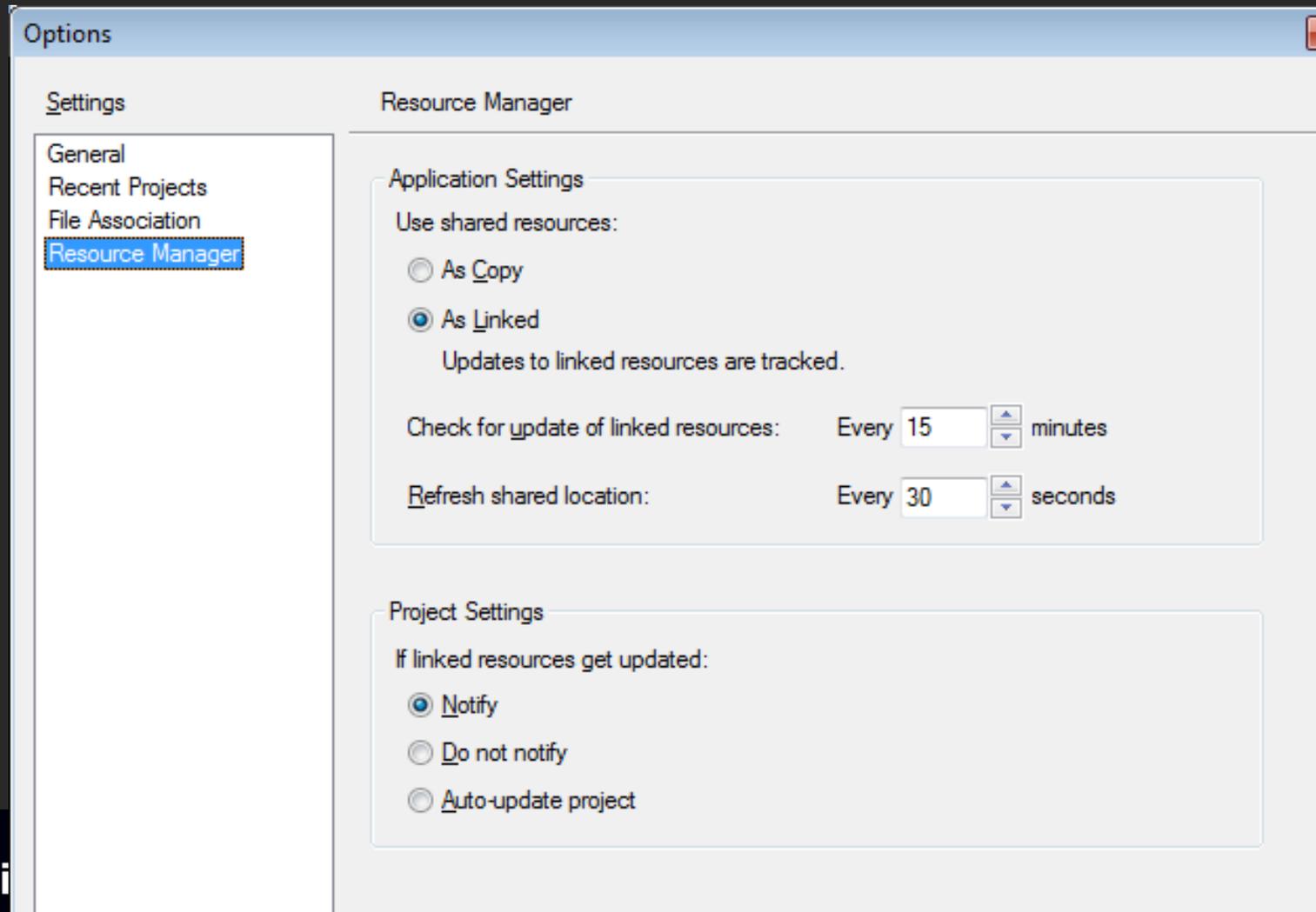
- Link files from a Shared Location to a RoboHelp project
 - Drag file from Resource Manager on to an open topic



Icon indicates
linked item

Sharing resources between projects

- Setting up the synchronization policy



Questions?

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