Id Value

Definition

The Id Value data category is used to indicate a value that can be used as unique identifier for a given part of the content.

The recommended way to specify a unique identifier is to use xml:id [See http://www.w3.org/TR/xml-i18n-bp/#AuthUniqueID]. The idValueRule element is intended only as a fall-back mechanism for documents where unique identifiers are available with another construct.

Providing a unique identifier that is maintained in the original document can be use for several purposes, for example:

- Allow automated alignment between different versions of the source document, or between source and translated documents.
- Improve the confidence in leveraged translation for exact matches.
- Provide back-tracking information between displayed text and source material when testing or debugging.

Note:

- The Id Value data category only provides for rules to be expressed at a global level. Locally, users are able to use xml:id (which is defined by XML) or an attribute specific to the format in question (as in Example X3).
- Applying the Id Value data category to xml:id attributes using global rules is not necessary, since xml:id is the recommended way to specify language information in XML.

Implementation

The Id Value data category is expressed only with global rules. The information applies to the textual content of the element, *including* child elements, but *excluding* attributes. There is no default.

GLOBAL: The **idValueRule** element contains the following:

- A required **selector** attribute. It contains an XPath expression which selects the nodes to which this rule applies.
- A required **idValue** attribute. It contains an XPath expression which constructs a string corresponding to the identifier of the node to which this rule applies should be located. The identifier MUST be unique at least within the document. If the attribute xml:id is present for the selected node, the value of the xml:id attribute takes precedence over the idValue value.

Example X1: pointing to an ID value with the idValueRule element.

The idValueRule element indicates that the unique identifier for each <text> element is the value of the attribute 'name' of its parent element.

```
<resources>
 <its:rules xmlns:its="http://www.w3.org/2005/11/its" version="2.0">
  <its:translateRule translate="no" selector="/file"/>
  <its:translateRule translate="yes" selector="//resources"/>
  <its:idValueRule selector="//text" idValue="../@name"/>
 </its:rules>
 <entry name="btn.OK">
  <text>OK</text>
  <pos>1, 1</pos>
  <trig>sendOK</trig>
 </entry>
 <entry name="btn.CANCEL">
  <text>Cancel</text>
```

```
  <pos>2, 1</pos>
  <trig>cancelAll</trig>
 </entry>
</resources>
```

[Source file: EX-idValue-element-1.html]

Example X2: Constructing ID values using the idValueRule element.

The idValue attribute allows to build composite values based on different attributes, element or event hard-coded
text. Any of the String functions offered by XPath can be used. In the document below, the two elements <text>
and <desc> are translatable, but they have only one corresponding identifier, the name attribute in their parent
element. To make sure the identifier is unique for both the content of <text> and the content of <desc>, the
XPath expression concat(../@name, '_t') gives the identifier "settingsMissing_t" for the content of <text> and the
expression concat(../@name, '_d') gives the identifier "settingsMissing_d" for the content of <desc>.

```
<doc>
 <its:rules version="2.0" xmlns:its="http://www.w3.org/2005/11/its">
  <its:idValueRule selector="//text" idValue="concat(../@name, ' t')"/>
  <its:idValueRule selector="//desc" idValue="concat(../@name, ' d')"/>
 </its:rules>
 <msg name="settingsMissing">
  <text>Can't find settings file.</text>
  <desc>The module cannot find the default settings file.
   You need to re-initialize the system.</desc>
 </msg>
</doc>
```

[Source file: EX-idValue-element-2.html]

Example X3: Using xml:id and idValueRule.

When an xml:id attribute is present for a node selected by an idValueRule element, the value of xml:id takes
precedence over the value defined by the idValueRule element. In the example below, the unique ID to use is
"btnAgain" for the first <res> element, and "retryTip" for the second <res> element.

```
<file>
 <its:rules xmlns:its="http://www.w3.org/2005/11/its" version="2.0">
  <its:idValueRule selector="//res" idValue="@name"/>
 </its:rules>
 <res name="retryBtn" xml:id="btnAgain">Try Again</res>
 <res name="retryTip">click this to re-run the process
with the current settings.</res>
</file>
```

[Source file: EX-idValue-attribute-1.html]