HTML: A Tool You Might be Overlooking

An Introduction to the Hypertext Mark-up Language.

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Some quick points to make

- HTML is not case sensitive
- All documents have a header and text body enclosed in <html>...</html>
- The header is enclosed in <head>...</head>
- The text body is enclosed in <body>...</body>
- Comments are written as <!-- A comment -->
- all lists may be nested

HTML is just a text file. This...

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//IETF//DTD HTML//EN">
<html>
 <head>
  <!-- A sample document -->
  <title>Document title</title>
  <link rev=”Greg Breuer" href="mailto:breuerg@missouri.edu">
 </head>
 <body>
  <h1>Top-level heading</h1>
  <p>First paragraph of text.</p>
  <ul> <!-- A bulleted list -->
   <li>First list item</li>
   <li>Second list item, with a hypertext
      <a href="info.html">link<a> to another
      file.</li>
  </ul>
  <h2>Second-level heading</h2>
  <p>Another paragraph, <img alt=”Where I work"
    align="bottom" src=”http://msdis.missouri.edu/images/msdis.gif">  with an
    illustration.</p>
 </body>
</html>
```

becomes this...

Header Elements

<title>...</title>

Document title, max length 64 characters

<link ...>

Relationships for the document as a whole: attributes rel, rev, href

<base href="url">

Defines the default structure for any partial URLs

<meta ...>

Embed meta-information for the server: attributes http-equiv, name, content

Section Headings

<hn>...</hn>

Section headings, six levels available <h1> to <h6>

Block-oriented elements

...

Paragraphs of regular text

<address>...</address>

Address information

<blockquote>...</blockquote>

Block quotations (can contain paragraphs)

<pre>...</pre>

Preformatted text (courier font)

<hr>

Horizontal rule

Block-oriented elements (cont.)

Lists - all lists may be nested

...

Ordered lists, items numbered consecutively

...

Unordered lists, items bulleted

...

List items within ordered, unordered, menu, and directory lists

<dl>...</dl> Definition lists

<dt>...</dt> Definition term in a definition list

<dd>...</dd> Definition discussion in a definition list, may contain other block-oriented elements

Inline elements - logical markup

<cite>...</cite> Citations
<code>...</code> Computer code
... Emphasis
<samp>...</samp> Literal characters
... Strong emphasis

Inline elements - visual markup

...	Bold type
 	Forced line break
...	Italics
<tt>...</tt>	Typewriter
<u>...</u>	Underlined

Inline elements - hypertext links

...

Link to another document or resource

...

Link to a specific destination in another document

...

Link to a specific destination in the same document

...

Labels the surrounded text as a target destination

Uniform Resource Locators (URLs)

http://<hostname or IP name> /dir/.../dir/filename

gopher://<hostname or IP name>

ftp://<hostname or IP name>

telnet://<hostname or IP name>

mailto:john_doe@myhome.com

news:<newsgroup name>

Images

External images are specified with the <a> element as hypertext links. Inline images are specified with

```
<img src="url" [align=”<top/middle/bottom"] [alt="..."] [ismap]>
```

The alt attribute provides text for non-graphical users and is strongly recommended.

An image map (clickable image) is an <img> with ismap inside an <a> element pointing to a server map file:

```
<a href="http://www.server.com/cgi-bin/imagemap/any">
<img src="http://www. server.com /any.gif" alt="Image map" ismap>
</a>
```

Forms

<form method="<GET|POST>" action="script|mailto:">...</form>

Within a form, input fields are defined with:

multiline: <textarea name="..." rows="n" cols="n">...</textarea>

single-line:

<input name="..." type=" <text|checkbox|radio|hidden|password|reset| submit> " [xxx]>

Where xxx=align|checked|size|maxlength|src|value

All <input> fields of a radio or checkbox group must have the same name.

menus: <select name="..." [multiple]>...</select>

Options are given with

<option [value="..."]>...[</option>] within the <select>...</select>.

Individual options can have an attribute of selected|disabled.

Forms - Example code

```
<hr>
    <form method="GET" action="http://www.server.com/cgi-
bin/script">
      <p>Name: <input name="name" type="text" size="20"><br>
         Operating system:
         <select name="opsys">

<option>Unix<option>VMS<option>Mac<option>DOS<option>
         </select>
      </p>
      <p><textarea name="comments" rows="4" columns="40">
         Please write your comments here...</textarea>
      </p>
      <p><input type="submit">
         <input type="reset">
      </p>
    </form>
  <hr>
```

Forms (cont.)

Netscape: This is a Sample HTML file...
Back
Forward
Reload
Home
Search
Netscape
Images
Print
Security
Shop
Stop
Location:
file:///6GB_HD/Desktop%20Folder/sample.html
What's Related
Name:
Operating system:
Unix
Please write your comments here...
Submit Query
Reset

HTML is...

- Your connection to the world via the WWW.
- Easy to create and maintain - simple text editor (*notepad or Word*) to HTML editor (*WYSIWYG editor*) to web site manager (*Net Objects Fusion or Adobe GoLive*).
- Can be as simple as straight HTML or HTML3 or can be enhanced with Java.

Some HTML Tools

HotDog

FrontPage

DreamWeaver2

Adobe GoLive

NetObjects Fusion

Thank You for your attention!

Any Questions?

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