

DYNAMIC HTML (DHTML)

- \* To develop a website, you use markup languages such as HTML and DHTML. DHTML is an enhanced HTML. It can make the websites more interactive.
- \* DHTML is used to introduce animations, interaction and dynamic updating of the webpage. Using DHTML you can make the website react to users' actions, and control the way the image reacts to a predefined action (eg. An image would only animate if the mouse pointer is over it).
- \* A webpage that uses DHTML reacts to user actions without contacting the server or downloading complex bandwidth consuming applications. This reduces the burden on the server. This feature of DHTML allows you to use it for front end or back end applications.
- \* You may use a DHTML event handler to automatically adjust the font sizes and the colour of certain texts on the web page. Here also, you may define a user action in such a way as to allow the text to animate only when a pointer is passed over it. DHTML can also be used to move the text to various positions, in response to a user action.

- \* You may also allow DHTML to start a video clip after a certain time or event, rather than writing an entire page of code to continuously present a video clip.

By using DHTML, you can even exchange the content dynamically, without refreshing the browser window.

- \* To use DHTML effectively, you must master 3 technologies:
  - Document Objects Model (DOM)
  - Cascading style sheets (CSS)
  - XHTML 1.0 or HTML4.01.

- \* To resolve the compatibility issues and to realize its full potential, a web page needs to comply with standards, called web standards.

W3C is an international body responsible for developing web standards. DOM is a standard developed by W3C.

- \* DOM is a language neutral and platform independent specification that describes how objects in a document are referred to and managed through scripting languages.

Because DOM is a set of standards, it needs a scripting language such as JavaScript or VBScript.

- \* With the help of DOM, a scripting language can easily update the content, structure, and style of a web page. A scripting language can also work with the content in separate fragments. DOM allows full power and interactivity of a scripting language to be exerted on a web page.



\* It is important you select a DOM compliant browser. By selecting one, you can access popular features of a website in the future. A DOM-compliant browser offers all the accessibility features advocated by W3C. These browsers also have the functionalities currently needed in your workplace.

\* When you choose a browser, it is best to select one that follows the DOM standard. This ensures that other browsers will support all the code used by your team to create a web page. However, factors that affect browser choice include stability, security, authentication features and availability.

\* The code used in some browsers is proprietary and, therefore, is not available for viewing.

In such a case, when a browser is affected by security issues, it can't be examined for problems.

Only some browsers, such as, MS Internet Explorer, support certain authentication features found in IIS.

\* Many browsers are available free of cost. However some companies choose to use the browser that is installed along with the OS, to avoid the task of downloading and installing a new browser.

\* When you use your browser, you may sometimes see an undefined object error, or you may view an unformatted document in plain text. This happens when your browser doesn't support a particular DOM

If a particular DOM is not supported by the browser, try using a different browser

\* [The W3C DOM page accessed with Explorer is displayed]

This site can be accessed to determine if your browser supports the W3C DOM.

In the table, if you get a year in a cell, your browser doesn't claim to support the DOM module for the given DOM level.

The year in the <sup>cell</sup> ~~DOM~~ is the year of the release of the W3C DOM Recommendation that defines the DOM Module

\* [The W3C DOM page accessed with Navigator is displayed]

