

The Slidinator Plugin 0.2.0RC02

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Introduction

The slidinator plugin transforms DITA source into a PowerPoint presentation based on an existing PowerPoint slide set.

The plugin applies any static text defined in the slide masters to the final output and uses whatever default fonts and colors are set for the body and title content. The plugin creates simple single-column slides from the DITA source. The slides are a starting point and may need adjustment after production but takes full advantage of reuse capabilities inherent in DITA.

The plugin is provided without warranty but recommendations and contributions for improvement can be made at <https://github.com/drmacro/slidinator>.

Requirements and limitations

Slidinator requires a specific environment and input.

Requirements

Slidinator runs on DITA-OT 1.7.5 or later. It requires other DITA-OT plugins for success.

- org.slidinator.doctypes
- org.dita-community.common.xslt
- org.dita4publishers.common.xslt
- org.dita4publishers.common.mapdriven

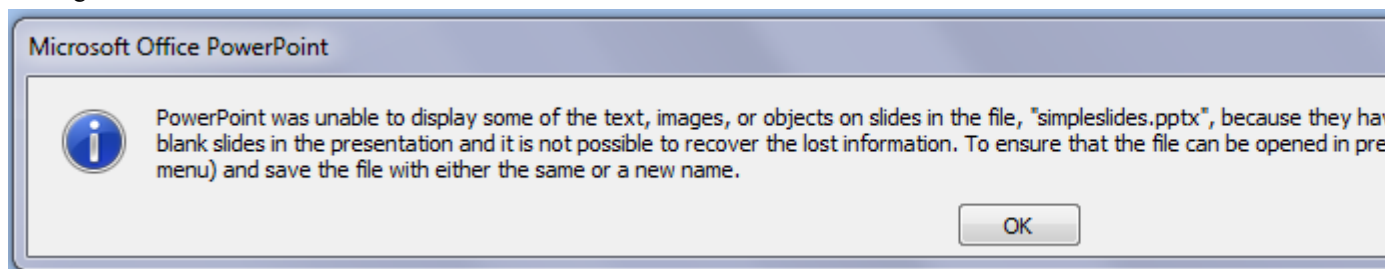


Note: If running the plugin from </oXygen>, make sure that you turn off support for RNG attribute defaulting.

Limitations

At the time of this writing, there are a number of things that cause the output to be less than optimal. Keep these in mind when providing input to the plugin.

- Emulating two-columns with tables in the source results in output that appears garbled. Avoid tables in the source.
- Images in the source may get dropped when you open PowerPoint. You will get the warning indicated by this message.



Dropped images that are the only thing on a slide are indicated by blank slides. The only solution is to insert the image in PowerPoint.

- Slidinator cannot determine the font-size of the output and will not split the content across slides. Whatever text is in a topic will be output to a single slide. You will have to make adjustments manually.
- Paragraphs are handled as if they are unbulleted list items.

Running slidinator in OT command line

This topic describes how to run slidinator from the OT command line. Use this as a basis to enable the plugin in any OT-based tool.

1. Create a PowerPoint document that will be the base for the slides. This can be an empty slide set but you may want to keep the title slide as a placeholder.
2. Install and integrate the plugin to a DITA-OT instance.
3. Prepare your DITA source and assemble into a map.

The plugin creates one slide for each topic. For best results, your content should be either unordered or ordered lists.

1. Go to the DITA-OT directory and double-click `startcmd` for your system.

This opens a command window with a DITA-OT prompt.

2. Enter the example command at the prompt to start the transform.

```
DITA-OT1.7.5 > ant -f build.xml -Dtranstype pptx
-Dargs.input path_to_input.ditamap
-Doutput.dir path_to_output_dir
-Dargs.slidinator.base.pptx path_to_base_powerpoint.pptx
```

The transform runs and you should see a message that states `Build successful`.

3. Fix the resulting pptx file.
 - a) Add or update the title slide.
 - b) Fix font size for slides running off the page.
 - c) Fix image slides and transparency.
 - d) Add images that were dropped.
 - e) Save the updated PPTX.

You now have a basic presentation.

Add any transitions or other effects you want for your presentation.