<?xml version="1.0"?>

<order OrderNumber="312597">

<date>2000/1/13</date>

<customer id="A216">Company A</customer>

<item>

<part-number warehouse="Warehouse 11">E16-25A</part-number>

<description>Production-Class Widget</description>

<quantity>16</quantity>

</item>

</order>

We've just added some attributes, for the sake of demonstrating how to address

them with XPath.

How Do Templates Affect the Context Node?

An important point to remember in XSLT is that whatever

the template uses for its match attribute becomes

the context node for that template. This means that

all XPath expressions within the template are relative

to that node. Take the following example:

<xsl:template match="/order/item">

<xsl:value-of select="part-number"/>

</xsl:template>

This template will be instantiated for any <item> element that is a child of an <order> element that is a child of the document root. That <item> element is now the context node for this template, meaning that the XPath expression in the <xsl:value-of> attribute is actually only selecting the <part-number> element which is a child of the <item> element already selected for this template.

