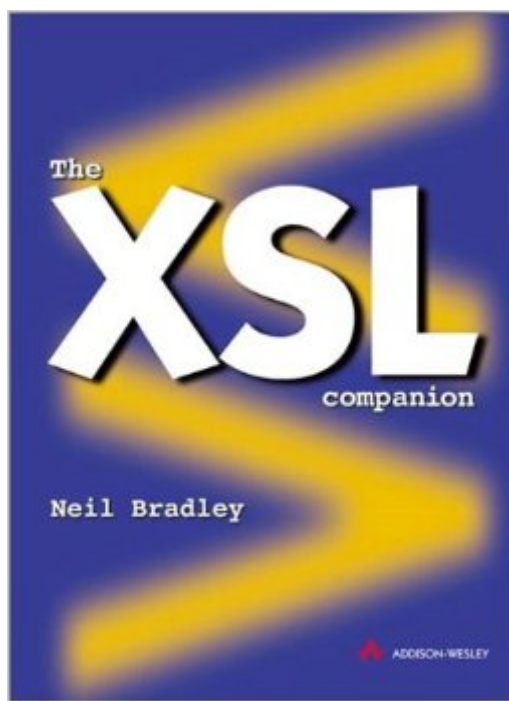# The book was found

XSL Companion, The

Synopsis

A concise, comprehensive and accessible guide to the scope, strengths and limitations of the XSL (eXtensible Stylesheet Language) family of stylesheet standards for XML, this book explains the practical ways in which XSL can be utilized for formatting and manipulating information held in the hugely popular XML data format If you are a current or potential XML user looking for just one reference to get you up to speed on styling and manipulating your XML documents with clarity, comprehensive coverage and precision, then this book will be your essential and constant companion

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Computing seems to have a propensity to generate anawesome acronym soup; two examples being XSL and XSLT.The difference between these is rather nuanced.Frankly, for most purposes, I would consider theminterchangeable. But if you really want to know thedifference, this book does a neat job explaining.Both have to do with manipulating XML documents. XSLTtransforms an XML document into another document. Theoutput can be XML, or any other format, with XHTMLbeing a popular choice. XSLT does not necessarily haveanything to do with presentation, per se. It is adeclarative language, like SQL, and unlike C or java,which are procedural languages. If the latter is yourbackground, this may be your biggest impedencemismatch. Takes some getting used to. But the text isclearly written to help you along.Pure XSL, on the other hand, is an XML basedformatting language. It is explicitly for displayingdocuments. In fact, it draws many of its propertynames and

actions from CSS (Cascading Style Sheets).This was done to let those familiar with the latterpick up XSL quickly. There is a long chapter on XSLthat goes exhaustively through its many properties.TeX and troff gurus will see numerous layout conceptsredone here in new flesh.Overall, a very useful and up to date book. Theexamples and accompanying text do succinctly conveythe meanings intended. This book has clarity. You arenot deluged in unnecessarily complicated explanations.I do have some caveats. Firstly, tree diagrams aredrawn from left to right?! Those from a computerscience background are used to trees always beingdrawn from top to bottom.

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