

# **Tooling Enhancements**

To Visio RMIM Designer  
added January 8, 2007

# Documentation enhancements

- Business names
- Multiple annotation types per class

# Default vs. fixed

- “Exact” now works when creating a class
- Can now differentiate ‘fixed’ and ‘default’ values
- Fixed and default values can only be specified for ‘simple’ datatypes
  - ST, INT, REAL, etc.

# Datatypes & flavors

- Datatype is now a tree, not a list
- Fixed some derivations that didn't used to be there
- Disabled some derivations that are now there
  - E.g. You can no longer constrain to 'CS' if not 'CS' in the RIM
- Datatype flavors can be added to a text file

# Cardinality & length

- Cardinality no longer constrained to a drop-down
  - You can have a cardinality of 37..52 if you have a business-case for it . . . ☺
- You can now document “maximum length” for simple attributes (ST, INT, etc.)
  - In general, this will not be used much at the international level unless there is strong consensus on what the lengths should be.

# Vocabulary

- Differentiates between binding an attribute to a Vocabulary Domain vs. a Value Set vs. a Table (and possibly a code)
- Assumption is that whatever you're referencing now is a domain (unless we can find it in the RIM as something else)

# Validation

- Additional validation on class names
  - No spaces, must start with an upper-case

# IMPORTANT

- Supplemental information (particularly descriptions) is saved in a parallel XML file.
  - If you lose this file, you lose your descriptions.
  - If this file gets messed up (which happens rarely, but still happens) , you lose your descriptions
    - If you can reliably reproduce the bug that causes descriptions to disappear, I'll buy you a bottle of whatever you like !
  - **BACK UP THIS FILE REGULARLY**
  - Or better yet, use source control, such as HL7's CVS system



# IMPORTANT (cont'd)

- The XML files will be used in the next ballot cycle to generate the ballot content, removing the need to create a RoseTree repository for most committees
  - You need to submit them with your Visios
- Copy & Paste causes HUGE grief
  - Before attribute-documentation, it caused duplicate class names, forcing a re-name before saving models
  - With attribute-documentation, it confuses the tool as documentation can only exist for one class
  - Result – If you copy and paste, your descriptions WILL get messed up.
  - So: Don't copy and paste!

# Discussion points

- Do all attributes require attribute-level documentation?
  - Suggest that only non-fixed attributes need documentation
- What type of documentation is required?
  - Definitions at minimum, rationale's encouraged
- Do we need to use “Exact” for class, mood, etc.?
  - Strongly encouraged where it makes sense
    - No requirement to fix structural codes where they can reasonably vary in instances

## Discussion points (cont'd)

- What about committees who have already documented their content in other tools (e.g. detailed walkthroughs, table-view editors)?
  - Discuss with publishing. Expectation to migrate over time, but perhaps not for this cycle.
- Who updates models that don't have a committee maintaining them?
  - Models will be updated when new changes are made

# Discussion points (cont'd)

- What are a committee's obligations in terms of ballot comments on descriptions?
  - More specifically, when are changes to attribute-level annotations considered substantive?

# What we don't have (yet)

- Annotations for associations
  - Probably not happening in Visio ever
    - (despite 150+ hours invested)
- Publishing capability
  - Hope to have integration into v3Generator by end of Jan.
- Model derivation
  - This will be part of the v3Generator work, but will require significant training