






## Inside this issue

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Greetings from the Polaris UK Service Team!!

We welcome you to the sixth issue of the *ProductWriter® newsletter*.

In this edition we will be focusing on the recent changes to ProductWriter®. One of the most popular features has been the successful implementation of Schema Generated dictionaries. This approach opens up ProductWriter® to easier product development and simpler integration.

We are pleased to announce support for the RTE and XRTE on a Virtual Server. Using this technology, where a physical server can run multiple virtual servers brings many benefits to an organisation.

Plans are underway for ProductWriter® release 19.00 which is expected to be released to the market in the first half of 2008. This exciting release intends to enable version control of Schema Generated Dictionaries and support of ProductWriter® on Windows Vista.

The Polaris service team continues to work using the blended model with a UK and Bangalore based team. The above photo shows our award winning Bangalore team who many of you will have spoken to via the Polaris Service Desk.

For all questions feel free to ring us on 0845 456 1956 or email on [polaris\\_uk@logicacmg.com](mailto:polaris_uk@logicacmg.com).

Kind regards,

**The Polaris Service Team**



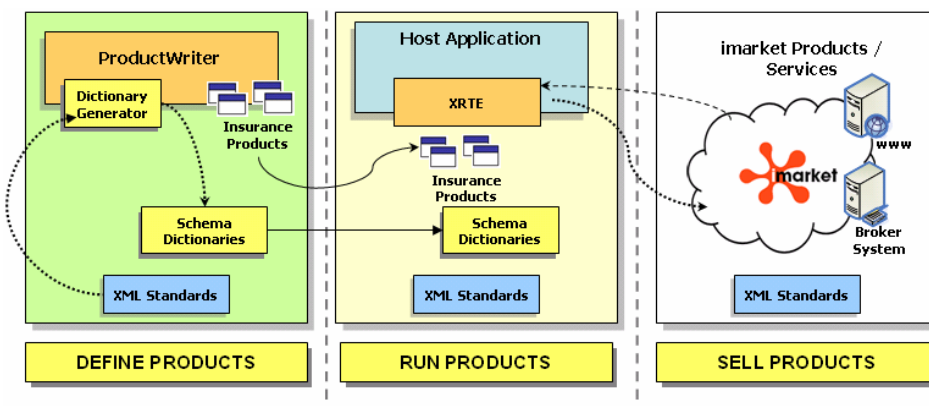
## Unleashing the XML power in ProductWriter®

The efficiency of managing and processing information can be dramatically improved by applying XML techniques. The ProductWriter® toolset has been enhanced to enable insurers to develop products built on dictionaries generated from Polaris' XML schemas. This provides power and flexibility opening up easier development, simpler integration and an unlimited range of applications.

### What are Schema Based Dictionaries?

**Schema Based Dictionaries** were introduced in ProductWriter® release 17.00 and enable product writers to develop schema based products. Schema dictionaries use the Polaris defined Request and Response schemas to generate an input and output object hierarchy. Any intermediate objects and properties that are not specified in the Polaris schemas can be added using an additional ProductWriter® schema. This is insurer defined; perhaps you need a Work Area object to output data to a form. Not only can you define this in the ProductWriter® schema you can also output this information on your form.

Once you have your generated dictionary, the next step is to begin developing your products. This is the easy bit. The process of developing a schema based product is nearly identical to that followed for a traditional scheme. Almost all functionalities that exist for traditional schemes also exist for *Schema Based products*. The only difference being that Schema products cannot be stored in a repository – yet - we're aiming to bring this feature and the ability to store XML schemas in a repository in the next release of ProductWriter®.



The XRTE has been enhanced to support these dictionaries and products. There are some changes to the functions in the XRTE and the way that the XRTE is called, please contact the service desk for advice and guidance for your integration.

Using schema based dictionaries takes away XSLT translation between Polaris dictionaries and the RTE on *imarket*. This is only one of the many benefits of adopting schema based dictionaries.

Polaris schemas are business specific, therefore so too are your dictionaries. For example an insurer wishing to support a Property Owners Small product would generate their dictionary using the Property Owners Small schema files. The dictionary produced contains data relevant to the line of business and so should significantly reduce product development time. In addition your products are closely aligned with industry standard schemas enabling easier integration with *imarket*.

Although the dictionary can be based on the Polaris defined schemas, Insurers also have the ability to define their own schemas. This allows an unlimited flexibility in the dictionaries and products that can be defined.

**Did you know?**

**“The XML Dictionary Generator produces a dictinfo.csv file giving you more information about the objects and properties in your schema generated dictionary”**

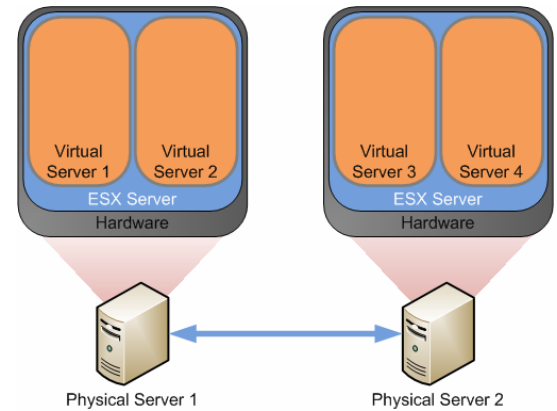


## RTE/ XRTE Supported on Virtual Servers

**Virtualisation** is growing in popularity and becoming a must have feature of data centres. Virtualisation allows a single computer to be partitioned so that multiple different operating systems can run on the same hardware.

The advantages of the technology are well understood. Server hardware is often under-utilised, with processors sitting idle for long periods. Using a technology where each physical server can run multiple virtual servers enables the company to make better use of its assets. It is also easier to set up new virtual servers with lower costs and decreased time to market.

Polaris has now completed its compatibility testing and is pleased to announce support for the RTE and XRTE under VMWare ESX 3.1. For more information or consultancy support for using virtual servers contact the Polaris service desk.



## Smart Features in ProductWriter®

### Text Groups

Insurers can define user defined text groups based on dictionary or user defined text properties. These groups hold the *list value* as defined by the insurer and its associated group value. This *list* can be updated frequently and does not rely on a dictionary update.

### Invalid and New List Values

Product developers can write rule statements using *If input and not in list*. This functionality enables handling of list values that are not yet included in the published code lists. Where a list value is found to be input and not in the list, the XRTE may continue processing to produce results.

### Set Corresponding

By writing an action statement insurers can copy output properties in an object to those from another object, where the property names and types match. This functionality works in a similar manner to the setting of individual properties.

### View By

The *View By* option is now available within a Group. This new functionality allows users to change the order of the displayed rows to make the editing of groups easier.

**Did you know?**

**“You can resize the dialog boxes within the Rules Editor to enable you to view longer object and property names”**

## ProductWriter® Training

The Bristol Team provides ProductWriter® training for the Introductory and Mid-Term Adjustment courses. Bespoke training courses are provided on request, subject to demand.

The course programme for 2007 is available on the web site; use the 'Training' link on the main page for an overview of each course. The 'Training' link has the 'Training Course Schedule', listing the course dates and prices, the joining instructions and directions to the Bristol office.

Course	Days	Price	Dates		
			Oct	Nov	Dec
ProductWriter® Introduction	4	£1700	16-19	13-16	11-14
Mid Term Adjustments and other Full Cycle Processes	1	£750	24	21	19

## Release 18.00 workshops

If you want to learn about the new features in release 17.00 and 18.00 then book a place on our r18 Workshop. It covers the features of r18 as well as Schema based dictionaries and products. Workshop dates are arranged subject to demand but remember you can take advantage of our 4 for 3 offer by sending four people for the price of three. Proving popular, half a dozen workshops have already been fully booked.

## Upcoming ProductWriter® updates

ProductWriter® release 19.00 is expected to be available in the first half of 2008. This exciting release plans to enable version control of Schema Generated products by storing them in your ProductWriter® repository. Your associated schemas and long lists can also be stored in here but access will not be controlled by the repository.

We are currently investigating the changes that need to be made to support ProductWriter® on Windows Vista. It is expected that we will be able to start supporting this operating system at ProductWriter® release 19.00.

Is there anything that you wish ProductWriter® could do but we haven't thought of it? Let the service desk know and it will be considered for inclusion in a future release.

