

# ManageTopicRefNames 1.0

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## Introduction

When you generate DITA maps from automated tools such as MIF2Go, you will get machine-generated topicref names to ensure that they are unique. For example, here is an excerpt of a DITA map.

```
<topicref navtitle="Installing WidgetMaster" href="au1124999.xml#iau1124999"
  type="topic">
  <topicref navtitle="Installation overview" href="au1124986.xml#au1124986"
    type="topic">
    <topicref navtitle="System requirements" href="au1126271.xml#au1126271"
      type="topic"></topicref>
    <topicref navtitle="Administrator account required"
      href="au1126648.xml#au1126648" type="topic"></topicref>
    <topicref navtitle="Installation steps" href="au1126272.xml#au1126272"
      type="task"></topicref></topicref>
  <topicref navtitle="Installing printer drivers" href="au1118123.xml#au1118123"
    type="topic">
    <topicref navtitle="Manual installation of printer drivers"
      href="au1126014.xml#au1126014" type="topic"></topicref></topicref>
```

You can see that the topicrefs are given names that correspond to the top-level element's id attribute value (au1124999.xml, au1124986.xml, au1126271.xml, etc.). In many cases, you will want more "human readable" hrefs and file names.

ManageTopicRefNames is a collection of FrameScript scripts that makes that makes changing href values and corresponding file names much easier. These scripts give you two basic modes that you can use to rename the hrefs and file names:

**Automatic mode:** This consists of a single script that automatically chooses new topicref names, based on the element's navtitle attribute value. The script copies the navtitle value, converts it to lowercase, removes any special characters, and replaces spaces with underscores. It then appends an .xml extension and uses this for the new href value and file name. For example, here are the topicrefs that were shown above with the new values in place:

```
<topicref navtitle="Installing WidgetMaster"
  href="installing_widgetmaster.xml#iau1124999" type="topic">
  <topicref navtitle="Installation overview"
    href="installation_overview.xml#au1124986" type="topic">
    <topicref navtitle="System requirements"
      href="system_requirements.xml#au1126271" type="topic"></topicref>
```

```

<topicref navtitle="Administrator account required"
  href="administrator_account_required.xml#au1126648" type="topic">
</topicref>
<topicref navtitle="Installation steps"
  href="installation_steps.xml#au1126272" type="task"></topicref></topicref>
<topicref navtitle="Installing printer drivers"
  href="installing_printer_drivers.xml#au1118123" type="topic">
  <topicref navtitle="Manual installation of printer drivers"
    href="manual_installation_of_printer_drivers.xml#au1126014" type="topic">
</topicref></topicref>

```

The script will rename the topics on disk, as well as in the href values.

**NOTE:** The script prevents duplicate names by adding sequential numbers to any duplicate navtitle values.

**Semi-automatic mode:** Sometimes you want finer control over the topic names. In this mode, you run a script that extracts all of the topic filenames to an Excel file. The Excel file will have three columns: the old file name, the navtitle value, and the proposed new file name. The proposed new file names follow the same rules as the automatic mode; the navtitle value is converted to lowercase, special characters are removed, and spaces are converted to underscores.

After you make any desired edits to the new file name column in the spreadsheet, you run a script that takes the spreadsheet data and applies to to your DITA map and topics.

## Requirements

ManageTopicRefNames requires the following software:

- Windows FrameMaker 7.2 or higher
- FrameScript 4 or higher
- Microsoft Excel 97 or higher (to use semi-automatic mode)
- MSXML 4.0 (Microsoft's free XML parser)

## Installation

ManageTopicRefNames consists of the scripts listed below.

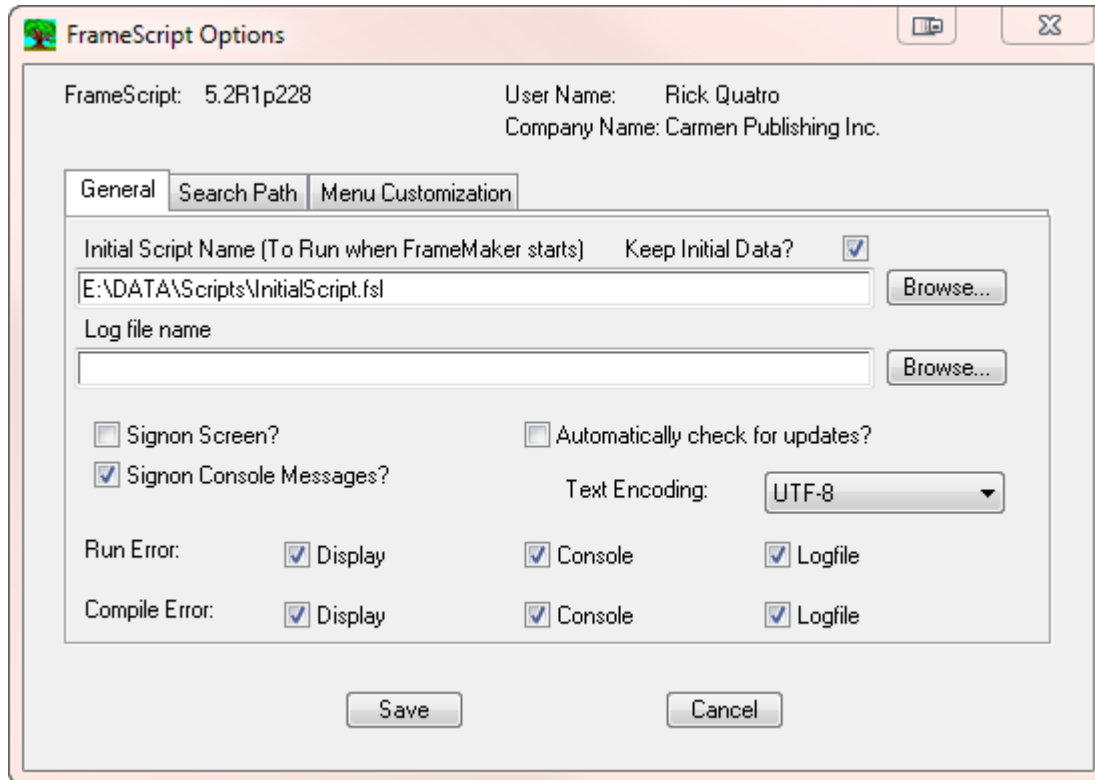
**NOTE:** Each script will have an .fsl or .fso extension on it, depending on whether you purchased the compiled (.fso) or uncompiled (.fsl) version of the scripts.

- **RenameTopicRefs.** This script prompts you for the .ditamap file that you want to process. This is the "automatic mode" script that will quickly generate new topic names based on each navtitle value, update the .ditamap, and rename the topics on disk.
- **GetTopicRefData.** This is the first script you run in "semi-automatic mode". This script extracts the current and proposed topicref data and puts in in a .csv file. This .csv file is the one you will open and edit in Excel.
- **UpdateTopicRefData.** This is the second part of the "semi-automatic mode"; when you run this script, it will prompt you for the Excel file, apply its values to the .ditamap file, and rename the topics on disk.

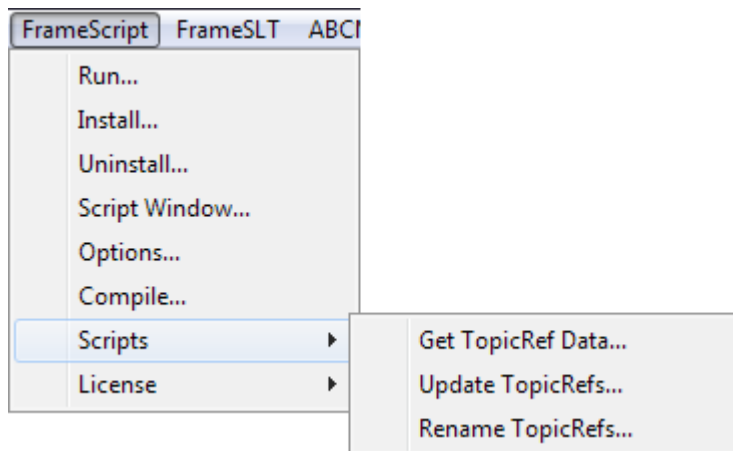
- **InitialScript.fsl**. This is used to install the other scripts automatically whenever you start FrameMaker.

To install the scripts, follow these steps:

1. Copy all of the scripts into a single folder on your hard drive or network volume.
2. Launch FrameMaker, and choose **FrameScript > Options**.



3. Click the Browse button next to the Initial Script Name field and navigate to the InitialScript.fsl file. After you select the file and click Select, you will see the path in the Initial Script Name field. Click Save to close the FrameScript Options dialog box.
4. Quit and restart FrameMaker. When you look at your **FrameScript > Scripts** submenu, you should see the ManageTopicRefNames commands as in the screenshot below.



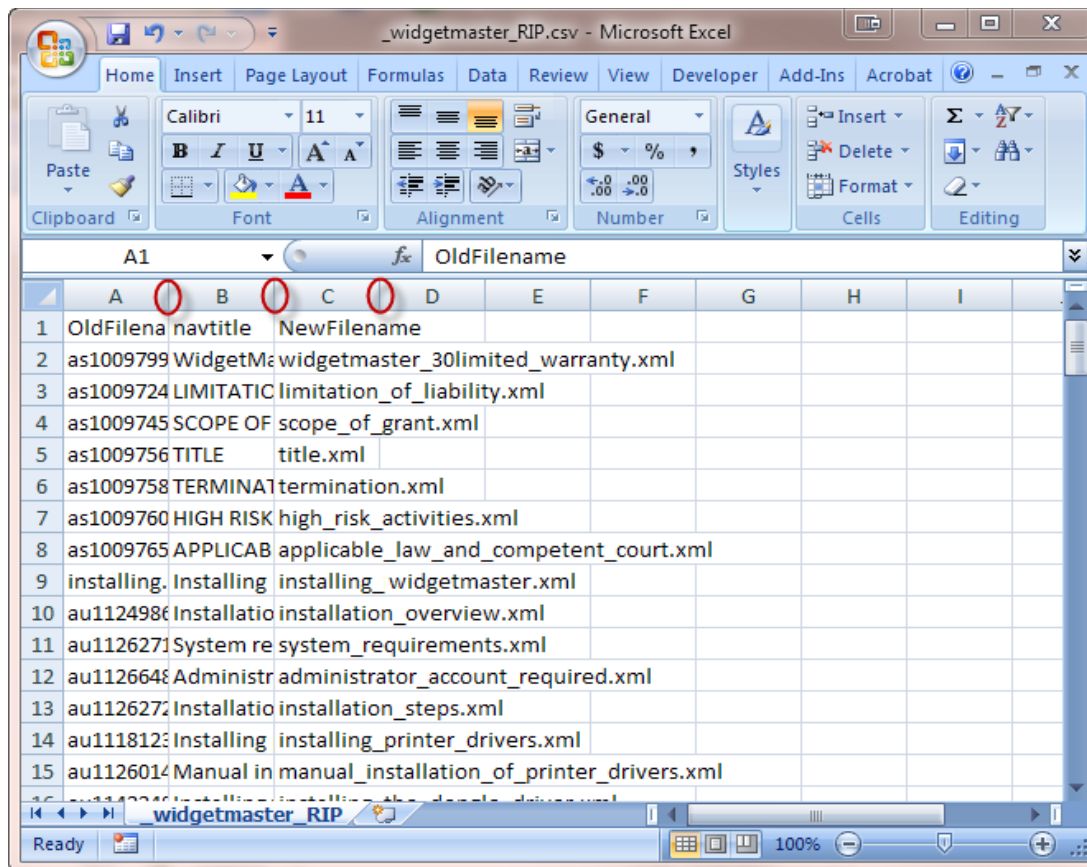
## Collecting TopicRef Data (Semi-Automatic Mode)

To collect topicref data, choose **FrameScript > Scripts > Get TopicRef Data**. You will be prompted for a .ditamap file; select the desired file and click **Select**. The script will collect the topicref data and put it into a .csv file, which will be in the same folder as the .ditamap file. It will have the same name as the .ditamap file, but with a .csv extension.

**NOTE:** Do not rename or change the location of the .csv file.

## Editing the TopicRef Data (Semi-Automatic Mode)

After collecting the topicref data, you can open the .csv file in Excel. When you double-click on the .csv file, it should automatically open with Excel; if it doesn't, launch Excel first, and open the .csv file from Excel.



After opening the .csv file, save it as a native Excel spreadsheet. This will be an .xls file for Excel 97 or 2003, or an .xlsx file for Excel 2007. You can then resize the column widths to make the file easier to use.

**NOTE:** To quickly resize columns to the width of their content, double-click the separator line between the columns, indicated by the red ovals in the screenshot above.

Here are some important notes and tips about the Excel data file.

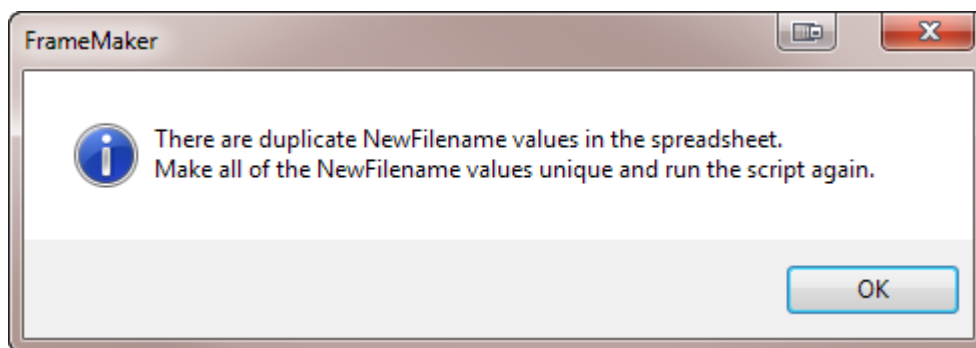
- You must save the file as an .xls or .xlsx file in order for the Update TopicRefs command to work with it. The Update command will not work with a .csv file.

- When you save the file as an .xls or .xlsx file, make sure you leave the first part of the filename as it is. It must match the name and location of the .ditamap file (except for the file extension), or the Update command will not be able to locate the .ditamap file.
- You can rearrange the columns any way you want in the spreadsheet, as long as you don't delete any of the columns. Don't rename any of the column headings.
- You can sort the rows any way you like, and you can delete any rows that you don't need.
- Make sure you do not delete or alter the contents of the OldFilename column. The Update script uses this column to find and edit the topicrefs that you have changed in the spreadsheet.
- You will be editing the NewFilename column of the spreadsheet. The navtitle column is there for reference only; any changes you make to the navtitle column will be ignored.
- Make sure the values in the NewFilename column are unique. Duplicate values would cause topic files to be overwritten; as a result, the Update script will not allow duplicate NewFilename values in the spreadsheet (see below).

### Updating the TopicRef Data (Semi-Automatic Mode)

After you modify the spreadsheet, make sure it is saved and closed. The Update script cannot read the spreadsheet if it is open in Excel. Choose **FrameScript > Scripts > Update TopicRefs**. The script will prompt you for the path to the .xls or .xlsx file. Select the file and click Select. The script will read the data from the spreadsheet and update the DITA map's href data, and rename the appropriate topics on disk.

**NOTE:** The Update command will check that all of the values in the NewFilename column are unique. If they are not, you will receive the warning dialog below and no changes will take place.



### Renaming the TopicRef Data (Automatic Mode)

ManageTopicRefNames can rename the href values and corresponding file names in a single pass. To do this, choose **FrameScript > Scripts > Rename TopicRefs**. You will be prompted for a .ditamap file. The script will rename the href and topics based on the following rules: it takes the navtitle value, converts it to lowercase, removes any special characters, and replaces spaces with underscores. It then appends an .xml extension and uses this for the new href value and file name.

**NOTE:** There is no undo for this command, so it is recommended that you make a copy of the original folder before running the script.

### **For More Information**

To purchase ManageTopicRefNames and other useful scripts by Carmen Publishing Inc., see [www.frameexpert.com](http://www.frameexpert.com) or email [rick@frameexpert.com](mailto:rick@frameexpert.com).