

Channel Definition Format

ml

- CDF is an XML vocabulary
 - an XML-based vocabulary for pushing content
 - *Used (in windows) for Active Channels, the Active Desktop and also as a basis for the Open Software Distribution system*
 - supported by many other vendors
 - quite flexible
 - *able to describe:*
 - multiple item channels
 - regularly scheduled updates
 - *with begin/end limits as well*
 - caching options
 - logging
 - user interface features
 - etc.
 - *quite simple*
 - development made easier with good tool support

Channel Wizard Example

SDN Channel Wizard - Step 1 of 7

Please enter a friendly title and a short description (abstract) for your channel.

The channel title is displayed in the main Explorer Channel Guide, as well as the Explorer Feed channel box.

Channel Title:

The channel is a short description of your channel. It appears as a tooltip when the user hovers the mouse over your logo in the channel box.

Channel Abstract:

SDN Channel Wizard - Step 2 of 7

Please enter the URL for your channel's main page and the desired update interval.

The main page URL is the channel's page - the first Web page that the user sees after clicking your logo in the channel box.

Main URL:

The update interval specifies how frequently a subscriber's browser (Internet Explorer) will go to your channel to check for a change in your XML file.

Update interval:

SDN Channel Wizard - Step 3 of 7

Please enter the URL pointing to the image for your channel's logo and icon.

The logo is displayed in the channel box once the user has subscribed to your channel. Must be at 80x80 pixels (16-bit or 24-bit).

Logo image URL:

The icon is displayed in the Explorer main Channel box. It must be a 16x16 pixel JPEG or GIF file.

Icon URL:

SDN Channel Wizard - Step 4 of 7

Select, right-click, and copy the code below to your XML file. Save the file with a .XML extension.

```
<CHANNEL METADATA ENCODING="UTF-8">
  <CHANNEL
    HTTP="http://www.transient.com/channels.xml"
    LEVEL="1">
    <TITLE>What's New at Transient this week?</TITLE>
    <ABSTRACT>What's New at Transient this week?</ABSTRACT>
    <ICON
      HTTP="http://www.transient.com/icon16x16.gif"
      STYLE="IMAGE"/>
    </ICON>
```

Exit << Back Next >>

SDN Channel Wizard - Step 5 of 7

Please enter the RDF file URL.

This is the full URL of the Web page or file that contains the code you created in Step 4. The user's browser will use this information to subscribe to your channel. Please make sure the file has a ".XML" extension.

RDF File URL:

SDN Channel Wizard - Step 6 of 7

Right-click and copy this image to your computer. You will use this button on your Web page to launch your channel. To use the Mouse, Add Active Channel button, you must accept the license of the [Creative Commons License Agreement](#).

Now, click the View Code button below to copy the code to your Web page.

Once you've copied both the image and the code, please click "Next" to complete the creation of your channel.

SDN Channel Wizard - Step 7 of 7

Congratulations!

You have now created a channel. To qualify for the Online Channel Guide, please complete the following steps:

1. Add Dynamic HTML to your channel pages. Click "Dynamic HTML" below.
2. Become a Site Builder Network member and apply to get your channel listed in the Online Channel Guide. Just follow the instructions on the [Online Channel Guide page](#).

For more information about channels, click "More" below.

Exit << Back Get HTML More

This sort of tool makes life easy!

- Here is the code generated:

```
<?XML VERSION="1.0" ENCODING="UTF-8"?>
<CHANNEL HREF="http://www.transentia.com.au/channel.html" LEVEL="1">
<TITLE>What's New at Transentia</TITLE>
<ABSTRACT>What's New at Transentia this week?</ABSTRACT>
<LOGO HREF="http://www.transentia.com.au/logo/channel80x32.gif" STYLE="IMAGE" />
<LOGO HREF="http://www.transentia.com.au/logo/channel16x16.gif" STYLE="ICON" />
<SCHEDULE>
  <INTERVALTIME DAY="7" />
</SCHEDULE>
</CHANNEL>
```

```
<A NAME="Transentia"
  HREF="http://www.microsoft.com/ie/ie40/download/?/ie/ie40/download/redirect.htm">
<IMG SRC="IEAddChannel.gif" BORDER=0 WIDTH=136 HEIGHT=20></A>
<SCRIPT LANGUAGE="JavaScript">
  if (isMsie4orGreater()) { Transentia.href = "http://www.transentia.com.au/Channel.cdf" ; }
</SCRIPT>
```

Add Active Channel



- Another Microsoft tool for creating CDF-based channels

Microsoft CDF Generator

