14 Accessing ODMA-compliant DMSs

ODMA (Open Document Management API) is a standardized, high-level interface between desktop applications and document management systems (DMS). HoTMetaL PRO can access an ODMA-compliant DMS.

System requirements

If the ODMA functionality is to be used, you must supply a suitable library, and identify it via the Windows registry in an ODMA32 entry.

The DLL must provide the OLE interface CODMDocMan to the standard ODMA functions such as OpenDoc() and CloseDoc(), as documented (rather briefly in the case of the OLE interface) at *http://www.aiim.org/odma/odma.htm*.

Configuring HoTMetaL PRO to work with ODMA

To enable ODMA:

- Choose Options... from the Tools menu.
- Click on the General tab.
- Turn on Enable ODMA.
- Click on OK .
- Restart HoTMetaL PRO.

Some other ODMA settings are made by editing the HoTMetaL PRO configuration file, *hmpro4.ini* in the HoTMetaL PRO folder with a text editor. Many of these options are commented out in the configuration file: you must remove the initial '#' to make them active. After you edit and save the file, you must quit and relaunch HoTMetaL PRO in order for the changes to take effect. (Note that you can use either a colon ':' or an equals sign '=' to set configuration options.)

> **Note** Enabling ODMA puts the 'access_dms_files = true' setting in the configuration file.

Menu items for DMS access

If DMS access is turned on, new menu items are added to the File menu.

Activate

A new menu item called Activate [server] will be added to the File menu. Choose this command to launch your DMS. The [server] part of the menu item name is configurable and gets its value from the *server_name_for_activate_menu_item* option in the configuration file.

For example:

```
server_name_for_activate_menu_item = Neural Lace
```

would cause the menu item to appear as Activate Neural Lace.

Open, Save, etc.

If you have enabled access to a DMS, you can configure HoTMetaL PRO's File menu in either of two ways.

- DMS-specific menu items: the File menu will contain two pairs of Save As and Open menu items: one pair for accessing the DMS and the second pair accessing the local file system

Or:

- Combined menu items: the File menu will contain only one Save As/Open menu item pair that can be used to access both the DMS and the local file system.

This is purely a convenience option; the functionality available to you is the same in either case.

DMS-specific menu items

To obtain the first configuration above, make the following settings:

```
own_menu_items_for_dms = true
dms_name_for_menu_items = DMS Name
```

In this case:

1. A second Open menu item whose menu label has the form Open from [DMS]... will be added to the File menu underneath the existing Open... item. This will allow you to open documents from the DMS server.
2. A new toolbar button whose tooltip is Open from document server appears beside the default Open toolbar button. Clicking on this toolbar button has the same effect as choosing the Open from [DMS]... menu item.
3. A second Save As menu item whose menu label has the form Save to [DMS] As... will be added to the File menu underneath the existing Save As... item. This will allow you to save documents to the DMS server.
4. If the document was last saved to, or read from, the DMS, then a plain Save will save the file to the DMS, and the command name will change temporarily to Save to [DMS] to remind you of this.

5. The [DMS] part of these command names is configurable and gets its value from the *dms_name_for_menu_items* option in the configuration file. For example:

   ```
   dms_name_for_menu_items = Sesame
   ```

   would cause the menu items to appear as Open from Sesame... and Save to Sesame As....

Combined menu items

To obtain the second configuration, set:

```
own_menu_items_for_dms = false
```

In this case, the standard menu items will invoke DMS operations. Save As now means Save to DMS As and Open means Open from DMS (and so does the Open toolbar icon). When you save a document that hasn't been saved before, the dialog box that appears will be labeled Save to [DMS].

The dialog box produced by each of these menu items will have a button to enable access to the local filesystem. This button will produce the standard (non-DMS) HoTMetaL PRO version of the dialog box.

The Activate [server] menu item will still be found in the File menu.

Autosaving

If you set:

```
local_only_autosave_of_dms_file = true
```

then only an explicit save command (or Ctrl+S or other equivalent) from you will cause the file to be saved to the DMS. The autosaves that are performed at certain times or after every so many changes will save to the local temporary file only.

If you set:

```
local_only_autosave_of_dms_file = false
```

then any autosave will go to the same destination as a manual save would.