Introduction
- XSLT – eXtensible Style sheet Language for Transformations
- Purpose is to transform XML documents from one format into another
- XSLT is an XML language

How do we use it?
- Use XSLT to convert XML documents at server and send to client.

Two ways of using XSLT
- Server side processing
  - Server does XSLT transformations on server and sends HTML to client
- Client-side processing
  - Server sends XML and the XSLT style sheet to the client which does the transformation
  - Browser support: IE 6.0

Using XSLT
- Multiple ways
  - From the command prompt
  - Using a GUI
    - From http://www.marshal.com

XSLT basics
- An XSLT processor merges an XML document into an XSLT style sheet
  - This merging is a template-driven process
- An XSLT style sheet can specify page layout, page orientation, writing direction, margins, page numbering, etc
- To connect an XSLT style sheet to an XML document (client-side processing)
  - <xsl:stylesheet type="text/xsl" href="XSLT style sheet"/>
- An XSLT style sheet can specify page layout, page orientation, writing direction, margins, page numbering, etc
Examples
- greeting.xml, greeting.xsl and greeting.html

Template matching
- An XSLT style sheet is an XML document with a single element, stylesheet, which defines namespaces
  `<xsl:stylesheet xmlns:xsl = "http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Format"/>
- If a style sheet matches the root element of the XML document, it is matched with the template:
  `<xsl:template match = "/">`

XSLT basics
- A template can match any element, just by naming it (in place of /)
- XSLT elements include two different kinds of elements, those with content and those for which the content will be merged from the XML doc
- Elements with content often represent HTML elements
  `<span style = "font-size: 14">`
  Happy Easter!
  `</span>`

XSLT basics
- XSLT elements that represent HTML elements are simply copied to the merged document
- The XSLT value-of element
  - Has no content
  - Uses a select attribute to specify part of the XML data to be merged into the XSLT document
  `- <xsl:value-of select = "CAR/ENGINE" />`
- The value of select can be any branch of the document tree