XForms

09/09/03
HTML Forms

- Important part of many web applications
- Help web applications to interact with web users ex: user fills in a HTML form to order items online
- XForms are the next generation HTML forms
XForms

• Separate the purpose from the presentation of a form
• Flexible presentation
• Platform and device independent
• uses XML to define and transport forms
XForm Example

• XForm uses XForm controls to control its interface example

<xform:selectOne> <xform:input>

These form controls are directly usable inside XHTML and other XML documents, like SVG.
Main Aspects of XForms

• The following illustration summarizes the main aspects of XForms:
XForms Data Types and Functions

- Data Types
- Data Attributes
- Validation Attributes
- Data Structures
- String Functions
- General Functions
- Finance Functions
Usability of XForms

• Richer and more flexible than HTML forms – more structure
• Decoupled data, logic and presentation
• Device independent and accessible --- less presentation
• More usability
• Integration with XHTML and other namespaces
Usability of XForms

- Defined data types and data logic
- Reduce the need for scripts