

## Proposed Resolution of MX-003, MX-006 (VML)

Change the end of the first paragraph of Section 6 (Introduction to VML).

### **OLD**

...VML should be considered a deprecated format included in Office Open XML for legacy reasons only and new applications that need a file format for drawings are strongly encouraged to use preferentially DrawingML.

### **NEW**

...VML is a deprecated format; it is included in Office Open XML for legacy reasons only. As with all deprecated formats, a producer should not write VML except to represent legacy content that was originally in VML.

An application should not attempt to convert VML content to DrawingML and expect full fidelity; information would be lost. Two key differences between the formats would make such a conversion in general both lossy and computationally challenging.

- First, VML uses flat XML, whereas DrawingML uses hierarchical XML. In general, inferring hierarchical structure from flat XML is much more difficult than generating flat XML from hierarchy.
- Second, VML allows combinations of attributes that would be conflicting in DrawingML. In general, adding schema constraints is more difficult than removing them.