Caleb (00:03):

Orion is a editorial content cleanup, validation, and exporting tool for scholarly publishing. It's a drop in replacement for eXtyles. We want you to have a very similar user experience because we recognise that there's muscle memory in how you've been using this tool for, well, for some people 20 years, and so there are a lot of similarities. The dialogues and so forth will look quite familiar. Another key feature that we're doing from a compatibility layer is that you can import your settings from eXtyles into Orion. So if you have your finely tuned workflows, that all of that information can come in to allow you to just continue to work. We've attended the Council of Science Editors Annual Meeting in Minneapolis. We did a webinar in the middle of the month, and then right now we're at the Society for Scholarly Publishing. And each of these events is trying to just get out and talk to people and have these one-on-one conversations and see how people are reacting and seeing what resonates in how we're building Orion.

(01:27):

What we've been able to demonstrate here at SSP is a true end-to-end workflow. That we can start with content, we can apply the tagging and the styles, we can do some of the smart replace, the auto redact rules, we can validate and correct your references and then export that back out into JATS XML. We still have a lot to do, but we're very excited about the response we've been getting here at the conference and just from conversations, that the people seem genuinely excited, they're really happy about the fact that Orion looks so familiar. But the difference between Orion and eXtyles is that Orion is built on a modern tech stack, and so we're using XSLT, we're supporting Schematron, and we're natively working with the Microsoft Word Office Open XML. Complex documents with lots of tables or very long files will process smoother and faster with Orion.

(02:37):

So our goal is to release Orion 1.0 by the end of this calendar year, and we chose that time, that date, to give you ample time to test it out, to kick the tyres and see how it operates because we want something that works. Our goal is that you could be working in eXtyles on a Friday and can come in on Monday and continue working in Orion. Now, there's a lot that has to happen to make that as seamless as possible, but by giving you the software early, it allows us to gather the feedback and the information we need to enable that seamless transition between the programmes.