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Subject: Re: Documentation - assorted html errors - table errors -  
www.tonymarston.net

Posted by [jjtoranzo2004](#) on Tue, 26 Feb 2013 23:16:08 GMT

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Tony,

The old validator is DTD based, and the new validator is not. In fact, the new validator is designed to find errors that the old one misses.

On the limits of DTD based validation see the HTML 4.01 specs:

<http://www.w3.org/TR/html401/sgml/intro.html#h-19.1>

That being said, there might be bugs in the new validator (as in any piece of complex software).

I am not a nu validation fan (for example in its treatment of XHTML served as html), I am only using it as a tool to detect some errors, mainly table errors raised by an inconsistency between the column count established by col and colgroup elements and the contents of some rows. In my experience it works well detecting that errors.

On that specific matter see the HTML 4.01 specs:

Reference

The COLGROUP element

<http://www.w3.org/TR/html401/struct/tables.html#h-11.2.4.1>

The COL element

<http://www.w3.org/TR/html401/struct/tables.html#h-11.2.4.2>

Calculating the number of columns in a table

<http://www.w3.org/TR/html401/struct/tables.html#h-11.2.4.3>

Thanks again.

PS.

Sorry for grouping too many errors in the same post, but don't take that as an indication that they should be corrected immediately.

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