



Figure 4-2

In the preceding example, the application extracts data from a data source such as a database, text file or another XML data source. The XSLT transforms the source to a defined XML tree structure in preparation for applying further transformations to the data. Depending on the desired destination, you can apply a stylesheet to the data to produce the appropriate output.

In the previous example, the application applies XSLT to the source, selecting appropriate data to be output within HTML tags. An XSL-FO stylesheet is applied to the source defining the pagination and format of the data to be output in Adobe PDF format. The final transformation performs an XML-to-XML transform to produce a SOAP packet.

You work through an example like this later in the chapter. First, however, you go through the basics of XSL-FO.

XSL-FO Overview

The namespace for XSL-FO is `http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Format`. The example that follows shows how the `xsl-fo` namespace is generally introduced using the alias "fo".

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<fo:root xmlns:fo="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Format">
```