

Oracle Applications Release 11i Newsletter

The contents of this newsletter were contributed by **Solution Beacon** consultants who have accumulated extensive experience during the numerous installations, implementations, and upgrades of Release 11i that we have performed for our clients. We also welcome your participation in this newsletter. If you would like to contribute on any Release 11i topic, please send your contact information, topic, and a short abstract to mweiss@solutionbeacon.com. We would also appreciate any feedback from our readers if you have successfully or unsuccessfully implemented one of the suggestions from any of the newsletters. Comments or suggestions are always appreciated. Please send to mweiss@solutionbeacon.com.

Mary Lou Weiss, Alicia Hoekstra, and Randy Giefer, Editors, Solution Beacon

OAUG: Success Through Education

Next Stop: **Atlanta** for *The ROAD TO ORLANDOSM*

Friday July 23 at the Marriott Marquis

Only TWO stops left! The OAUG and Solution Beacon have teamed up to bring you *The Road to OrlandoSM*. Many of you have gotten a head start on the great educational and networking opportunity of OAUG Connection Point 2004 by attending one of the Release 11i Workshops given in multiple cities prior to the conference in September in Orlando.

The *Road to OrlandoSM* started in Dallas in April. These one-day events feature two tracks covering functional and technical topics, including New Features in Financials, Supply Chain, Projects, Manufacturing, and Human Resources and Payroll, as well as Change Management, Linux migrations, and Care and Feeding of Release 11i.

Kicking off each day are breakfast presentations for senior managers – an Executive Round Table – "Maximizing Release 11i ROI". From Dallas, *The Road to OrlandoSM* continued on to Phoenix (June 4), Los Angeles (June 11), Denver (June 24) and Washington D.C. (July 16). After Atlanta (July 23), our last stop will be in Portland (July 27). The *Road to OrlandoSM* will conclude in Orlando at OAUG Connection Point 2004 on September 12-15.

For more information, visit www.solutionbeacon.com, www.oaug.org or e-mail SBPresentsRTO@solutionbeacon.com.

Chuck Meyers, William Mills Agency for OAUG, Mary Lou Weiss and Randy Giefer, Editors, Solution Beacon

Release 10.7 Desupport Clarified

Oracle stated that Error Correction Support (ECS) would end June 30, 2004 (which was extended from the original date of June 30, 2003 in cooperation with OAUG) and that Extended Support (ES) would end June 30, 2005. Some of you may have recently received a note that leads you to believe that you have full support for your 10.7 Applications thru June 30, 2005. You have full Extended Support but NOT Error Correction Support.

From MetaLink:

Extended Support consists of:

- Providing known workarounds and existing fixes via Oracle *MetaLink*
- Assistance with TARs 24 hours per day, 7 days a week
- Ability to log TARs through Oracle *MetaLink*
- Assistance with migration plans to fully supported programs/versions
- Assistance with questions regarding compatibility and certification

Extended Support does not include:

- Program Updates, patches to correct new issues, general maintenance releases or functionality releases
- Error Correction Support
- Backporting of fixes from later versions
- Certification with supported products, new operating system releases or new compilers

Extended Support is intended for customers that need to migrate to Oracle supported programs/versions over an extended period of time. Because Extended Support programs/versions are no longer fully supported, information and skills regarding those releases may be limited.

Please closely review MetaLink docs 99266.1 and 226571.1 for more details. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions and/or concerns – jstouffer@solutionbeacon.com

John Stouffer, OAUG Upgrade SIG Chair

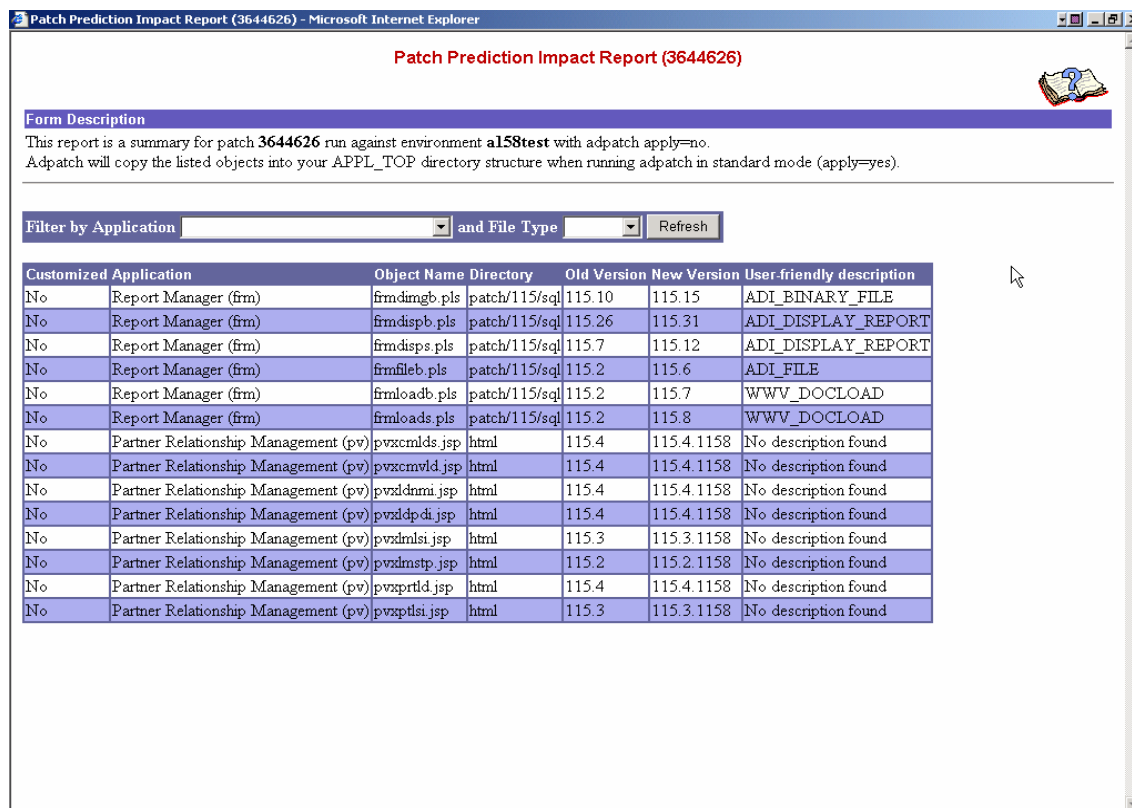
Ask the SB Experts

Question: We have applied a recommended security patch (#67) to our test system and are looking for advice on how to test it. We opened a TAR, but the only response from Oracle Support was to read MetaLink Note 274356.1, which offers no suggestions for testing. If you have any suggestions for us, they would be appreciated! (We are on 8.1.7.4 and 11.5.7.)

Answer: That's the challenge with Security patches! Due to security reasons, they don't always provide the specifics behind the vulnerability – that's intentionally done to prevent widespread intrusions.

By viewing the patch driver file for Alert 67, we are able to see numerous objects dealing with 'ADI' and 'files', so we would concentrate our testing on file upload/download there – assuming of course that you use ADI.

An alternative to a manual review of the patch, is to use features found in several Automated Patch Management (APM) products. We have pasted a report below from RingMaster's APM tool that demonstrates their patch prediction functionality. This report shows the changed objects by the patch. It's a great, quick way to see what the patch is changing. As you can see, it automated the manual review effort and produced a useful report.



Patch Prediction Impact Report (3644626)

Form Description
This report is a summary for patch 3644626 run against environment a158test with adpatch apply=no. Adpatch will copy the listed objects into your APPL_TOP directory structure when running adpatch in standard mode (apply=yes).

Filter by Application and File Type Refresh

Customized Application	Object Name	Directory	Old Version	New Version	User-friendly description	
No	Report Manager (frm)	frmdimgb.pls	patch/115/sql	115.10	115.15	ADI_BINARY_FILE
No	Report Manager (frm)	frmdispb.pls	patch/115/sql	115.26	115.31	ADI_DISPLAY_REPORT
No	Report Manager (frm)	frmdisps.pls	patch/115/sql	115.7	115.12	ADI_DISPLAY_REPORT
No	Report Manager (frm)	frmfileb.pls	patch/115/sql	115.2	115.6	ADI_FILE
No	Report Manager (frm)	frmloadb.pls	patch/115/sql	115.2	115.7	WWW_DOCLOAD
No	Report Manager (frm)	frmloads.pls	patch/115/sql	115.2	115.8	WWW_DOCLOAD
No	Partner Relationship Management (pv)	pvxcmls.jsp	html	115.4	115.4.1158	No description found
No	Partner Relationship Management (pv)	pvxcmvld.jsp	html	115.4	115.4.1158	No description found
No	Partner Relationship Management (pv)	pvxdnmi.jsp	html	115.4	115.4.1158	No description found
No	Partner Relationship Management (pv)	pvxdpdi.jsp	html	115.4	115.4.1158	No description found
No	Partner Relationship Management (pv)	pvxdlms.jsp	html	115.3	115.3.1158	No description found
No	Partner Relationship Management (pv)	pvxlmstp.jsp	html	115.2	115.2.1158	No description found
No	Partner Relationship Management (pv)	pvxprtld.jsp	html	115.4	115.4.1158	No description found
No	Partner Relationship Management (pv)	pvxptlsi.jsp	html	115.3	115.3.1158	No description found

Question: We are planning on upgrading to 11i in 2005 (from 11.0). Our database is currently 8.0.4. I hear all this talk about having to move all our Oracle forms to J2EE (java). What database release level is it that we **MUST** convert our Oracle forms to java?

I'm thinking if we migrate to 11i (9i db) next year, why worry about converting to java when the db (9i) still supports Oracle Developer forms? What's your thought?

Answer: Interesting question and we totally agree with your conclusion. We would NOT move to 100% Java forms until Oracle's JRAD tools get a little more stable. We don't see a "forced" move to totally java forms for quite some time.

11.5.10 (due in September 2004) is basically 11.5.9 with a database upgrade from 9.2.0.3 to 9.2.0.5.

11.5.10 and 9.2.0.6 are, currently, supposed to be the terminal releases for the 11i Apps and the Oracle9i RDBMS.

We'll still be using Forms 6i up to and including 11.5.10. No reason to move to Java forms at this point. 10G will also still allow for Forms 6i due to backporting for compatibility with 11.5.9 and 11.5.10. That version of 10G is due in Sept as well.

Having said that, though, a lot of the newer features and functionality is Java based. It is in your best interest to start learning everything you can about Java especially if you plan on customizing and/or extending the Applications.

Release 11.5.9 did start the phasing out of the common modules (AK) and moving to MDS. Oracle also moved to the JDeveloper for the Java-based applications:

Extension to Jdeveloper

OA Framework and the MDS model have been folded as an extension to JDeveloper. A special Applications release of JDeveloper 9i has been adopted as the standard development environment for OAF 5.7 and will be made available to customers as part of a standard JDeveloper offering in a future release. In OA Framework 5.7, therefore, the base line technology stack is now JDeveloper version 9.0.3.6 and BC4J version 9.0.3.

CLOSELY REVIEW MetaLink document [236618.1](#) – lots of companies already on 11i will have lots of issues with this.

Question: You use a term in your newsletter 'terminal release'. What does this phrase mean?

Answer: Terminal release means that the version specified is the last point release of that product. For example, the "terminal release 11.5.10" for the 11i E-Business Suite would mean that there will not be any further releases of 11i after 11.5.10. Specifically, that would mean there will not be a release 11.5.11 for 11i.

The Senior Consultants at Solution Beacon, LLC

OAUG Documentation Customer Council

Here is finally an opportunity for us to do something we have complained about for a long time! No, we're not talking politics, we are referring to one of the longest standing gripes about the Oracle Applications – documentation (or lack thereof).

Oracle, in conjunction with OAUG, is forming a council to address improvements to the applications documentation. The goal is to make the process easier, with the result of better, complete, consistent documentation that addresses the needs of various types of persons – functional, technical, implementers, developers, etc. The proposed council charter is attached.

If you are interested in joining the council, please forward your name, your company, your job function, your areas of expertise (which modules) to kbrownfield@solutionbeacon.com. Consultants are welcome to participate.

In an effort to kick-start this effort, can you please take a few moments and answer the following 3 questions.

1. What features do you like about Oracle applications documentation?
2. What frustrations do you have with the documentation?
3. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

Answers to these questions can be emailed to Karen Brownfield at kbrownfield@solutionbeacon.com. Karen is currently the chair of the council and welcomes all complaints, praises and suggestions. For more information about the council please visit:

<http://repo.solutionbeacon.net/OAUGDCC.doc>

Randy Giefer, Solution Beacon, SysAdmin SIG Chair

Sharing APPL_TOP's in Oracle Applications Release 11i

Sharing an APPL_TOP in Oracle Applications Release 11i is an intriguing concept. However, existing documentation from Oracle is rather sparse. A MetaLink search reveals only two articles dedicated to explaining and using shared APPL_TOP's (Notes 233428.1 and 243880.1). In this article, we discuss why you might want to consider using a shared APPL_TOP and some techniques to help you implement a shared APPL_TOP.

Definition

A shared APPL_TOP allows a node in an Oracle Applications Release 11i environment to share its application file system. Specifically, the COMMON_TOP and APPL_TOP directories can be



shared to other nodes. The participating nodes of the shared APPL_TOP system support the services defined by the node that is sharing its APPL_TOP. For example, if the node sharing its APPL_TOP is a forms server node, only forms servers are supported on the shared APPL_TOP. Sharing the technology stack file system (iAS, 8.0.6, etc.) is not supported.

A node can be configured to use only a subset of the services defined by the shared APPL_TOP node. If a shared APPL_TOP node implements web, forms, concurrent processing and a database service, a participating node of the shared APPL_TOP system can be configured to provide the forms and web service.

Benefits

A clearly identifiable benefit with a shared APPL_TOP is that changes made in the shared APPL_TOP file system are immediately visible on all nodes and thus administration tasks are reduced. Benefits of a shared APPL_TOP include:

- Administration tasks only need to be performed on any one node in the system
- Application patches only need to be applied to any one node in the system
- Allows the use of "Distributed AD" to reduce downtime (see MetaLink 236469.1)
- Reduces overall disk space requirements
- Makes it easier to add additional nodes to your Applications system
- Create single node clones from a shared APPL_TOP multi node system
- Merge APPL_TOP's from different application tiers into a single APPL_TOP

Disadvantages

The major disadvantage to a shared APPL_TOP configuration is the "single point of failure" event. When the sharing APPL_TOP node experiences a failure (for example, the disk device that the shared APPL_TOP resides on malfunctions), all nodes in the system will be affected. Another potential issue is that the shared file system is commonly implemented by configuring NFS services on the nodes. Sometimes the security policies in place prohibit the use of NFS services between various nodes in the environment. Additionally, performance may be an issue if the communications between the various nodes are impacted by small network "pipes" or connections.

Administration

In 11.5.9 (or as a result of renaming the Applications Context file in the previous section), the Applications Context file is renamed to <sid>_<host>.xml. The <sid>_<host> combination is referred to as the Context Name.

Several key application environment files and directories are renamed to include the Context Name as part of the filename or directory name. For example, the applications environment file APPSORA.env is replaced by APPS<CONTEXT_NAME>.env. Also, the applications administration scripts directory (start/stop scripts) in the COMMON_TOP directory is renamed to include the Context Name. For example, the directory is now located at <COMMON_TOP>/admin/scripts/<CONTEXT_NAME>.

This naming convention is essential to the shared APPL_TOP architecture. Each node participating in a shared APPL_TOP system will have its own copy of the key application environment files and administration scripts. They are unique to the shared APPL_TOP node. For example, the COMMON_TOP/admin/scripts directory would contain multiple sub directories, one for each node with start/stop scripts specific for that node.

When patching, you only need to apply Application patches to the node that is sharing its APPL_TOP, since there is only one physical APPL_TOP file system. Patches to the technology stack would still have to be applied to each node, since the tech stack file system cannot be shared at this time.

Implementation

As mentioned previously, nodes of the shared APPL_TOP system support the services defined by the node that is sharing its APPL_TOP. Therefore, a system that was originally installed in a multi node configuration could benefit from a shared APPL_TOP if multiple forms/web/concurrent processing nodes are needed. For example, if concurrent processing is configured on one node and forms/web on the other node, a 3rd node could be added whose APPL_TOP is a share from one of the original nodes. In that case, the new node could provide either concurrent processing or forms/web services (but not both).

A multi-node configuration can also utilize a shared APPL_TOP to merge existing APPL_TOPs into a single shared APPL_TOP. The Rapid Clone procedure (see MetaLink 230672.1) uses this feature to allow cloning a multi-tier to a single tier configuration although it is still a work in progress from Oracle. Note: *Cloning Multi Tier to Single Tier Environments* will be the topic of a future Solution Beacon newsletter article.

In our experience, the optimal configuration in a shared APPL_TOP system is to install a single node configuration and convert to a shared APPL_TOP after the initial single node installation. In this case, additional forms/web/concurrent processing nodes can easily be added to support the services desired for their node type. You can also clone the node sharing its APPL_TOP without cloning the shared nodes. The result is the clone would effectively become a single node system. A very simple, supportable way to clone from multi-tier to single tier.

Requirements

A shared APPL_TOP implementation has the following requirements:

1. The system must be configured for AutoConfig (see MetaLink 165195.1).
2. AD mini-pack H (2673262) must be applied (if on 11.5.8 or lower).
3. The environment must be on ADX mini-pack D (3130740) or later.
4. The Oracle Universal Installer must be patched to version 2.2.0.19. Apply patch 3567364 to the iAS and database ORACLE_HOME.
5. If the tech stack for the applications environment was created with Rapid Install 11.5.8 or earlier, you need to regenerate the Applications Context File:

```
cd <AD_TOP>/bin
perl adclonctx.pl sharedappltop \
contextfile=<existing Applications Context File>
```

This will create a new Applications Context File that conforms to the standard naming convention `<sid>_<host>.xml`.

6. Run AutoConfig:

```
cd <AD_TOP>/bin
adconfig.sh contextfile=<Applications Context File>
```

Adding a Node

To add an additional node, follow these steps.

1. Make the APPL_TOP and COMMON_TOP directories accessible to the target node. A NFS file system solution is usually implemented to meet this requirement. You must **retain the same absolute path** for the mount points of the shared APPL_TOP and COMMON_TOP directories.

2. Verify the following utilities are installed on each node:

Software	Minimum Version	Verify Command
Perl	5.005	perl -version
JDK	1.3.1	java -version
Zip	2.3	zip -v

3. Prepare the source node. Login to the node whose APPL_TOP you are sharing and execute the following commands:

```
cd <COMMON_TOP>/admin/scripts/<CONTEXT_NAME>
perl adpreclone.pl appstier
```

4. Clone the technology stack from the source system to the target. Use the following steps as a guide:

- o Use the tar utility to create a backup the source `<806 ORACLE_HOME>` and `<iAS ORACLE_HOME>`. Copy or ftp to the target node and untar into a directory containing the same absolute path as the source system
- o Copy the `$HOME/identitydb.obj` file from the source node to `$HOME/identitydb.obj` on the target node
- o Login to the target node you are adding and execute the following commands:

```
cd <AD_TOP>/bin
perl adclonctx.pl sharedappltop \
contextfile=<Applications Context file of the source
node>
cd <COMMON_TOP>/clone/bin
```

```
perl adcfgclone.pl appsTier <Applications Context file of  
the new node>
```

When running `adcfgclone.pl`, you will be prompted for the “node types”. Enter the types that the node you are adding is supporting. For example, if the node is a forms/web server, answer “Yes” to the questions “Do you want to add forms server node?” and “Do you want to add web server node?” as shown in the sample output from `adcfgclone.pl` below:

```
Provide the values required for creation of the new APPL_TOP Context file.  
  
Do you want to use a virtual hostname for the target node (y/n) [n] ? : n  
Do you want to add admin server node (y/n) [y] ? : n  
Do you want to add concurrent processing server node (y/n) [y] ? : n  
Do you want to add forms server node (y/n) [y] ? : y  
Do you want to add web server node (y/n) [y] ? : y  
Target system 8.0.6 ORACLE_HOME directory [/d01/tst11i/tst11i/ora/8.0.6]:  
Target system iAS ORACLE_HOME directory [/d01/tst11i/tst11i/iAS]:  
Location of JDK 1.3.1 on the target system [/usr/java131]:  
APPS password is required to validate database connection using database port 1522  
Enter APPS Password [APPS]:  
Web Listener port is 8001  
Complete port information available at /d01/tst11i/tst11i/appl/admin/out/tst11i_sbllc5/portpool.lst
```

At this point, you should have a new functioning application tier server configured for the services you defined. If you converted from a single node to a multi node shared APPL_TOP as described above, then the URL for the applications login page will change to reflect the hostname of the forms/web node.

After converting to a shared APPL_TOP, check the 9iAS apache error log for entries similar to:

```
[Sun Jul 11 22:53:21 2004] [error] [client sbllc5] Symbolic link  
not allowed: /d01/tst11i/tst11icomn/
```

If this error is being logged, then change the “-FollowSymLinks” parameter in the apache `httpd.conf` file to “+FollowSymLinks” to resolve.

Also, we have found that when running AutoConfig on the original single tier node, you should also run AutoConfig on the new forms/web tier afterwards.

Conclusion

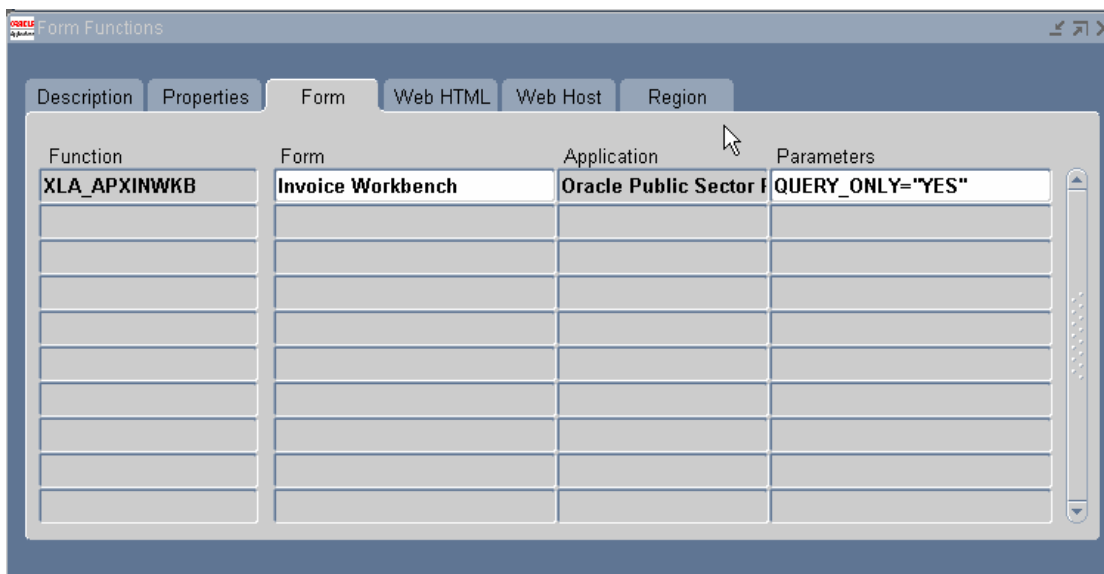
Sharing the APPL_TOP file system is not suited for every environment but if you have multiple application tiers or want to convert a single node into a multi node, it can significantly reduce patching and maintenance. However, carefully consider the trade-offs you may need to make. At a minimum, ensure the shared NFS file system is a high availability storage device in a RAID configuration with large network communication bandwidth.

Jeff Holt, Solution Beacon

Query Only for Help → Diagnostics → Examine

Oracle does not provide a query only option for Help → Diagnostics → Examine, however, many clients want this functionality to view fields that are not on the form. This creates a huge security hole resulting from the ability to change values using this utility. Although you cannot directly make this utility query only, there is a viable option that will provide the same functionality. The only thing you lose is the ability to see what is happening during data entry.

1. Create a responsibility specifically for this purpose.
2. Create form functions for any form desired with the parameter QUERY_ONLY = "YES"



Function	Form	Application	Parameters
XLA_APXINWKB	Invoice Workbench	Oracle Public Sector	QUERY_ONLY='YES'

3. Set the profile option Utilities:Diagnostics = yes at the responsibility level for the responsibility you have just created. This will allow the examine functionality without requiring the apps password.

Susan Behn, Solution Beacon

Material Planning Functional Sequences

Oracle planning can be used in many different functional sequences, depending upon business process it will support. The material planning process consists of four steps – forecasting, master demand processing, master scheduling and material requirements planning.

Note! Item setup is required for planning processes

The processes are intended to be used in the sequence identified above. However, there is no requirement to use any or all of the processes. Planning considers the current and future material position of each item and uses inventory status, purchase status, sales order status and manufacturing status. Therefore, you do not need to provide a forecast, or you can enter a forecast into the MDS or MPS modules. MDS brings all demand sources together.

If you do not need a complete demand picture, you can skip this process. MPS is used to create the demand production for items which are ordered or sold. This process also includes rough cut capacity planning. The MRP processing can also provide the output from MPS, except for the rough cut capacity. If you don't need RCCP, then MPS is not required for processing. MRP calculates the material and short term capacity needs for all items not processed in MPS. MRP is not required if all items are planned in MPS. This will negate the short term capacity calculations.

The diagrams below identify some of the functional sequences used by companies to manage their material plans. Your use of the processes depends upon how business is conducted. Therefore, you must understand your business environment and how you want to manage material prior to defining your planning processes.

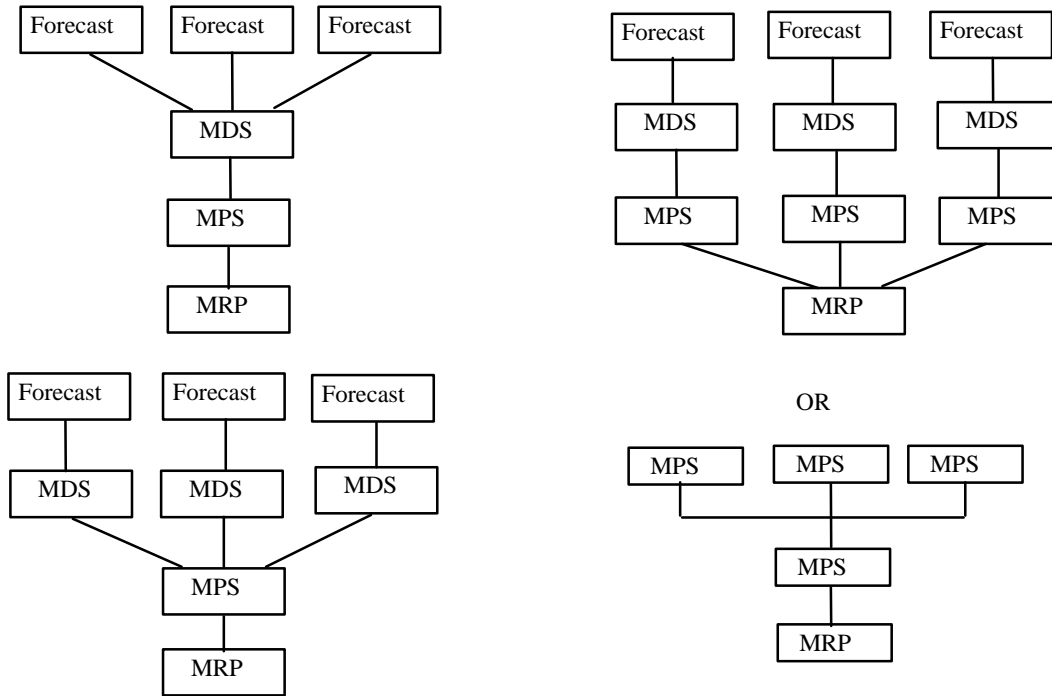
If you have multiple product lines and want to plan material independently for each product. You can use the focus planning approach. This is identical to the normal material planning process functionally, but you must use forecast only for the products being planned, and the sub-inventories used in the plan must be limited to material specifically identified for the product line.

Note! If you are using inter-organization requirements you will need to use MDS and MPS to flow these requirements properly.

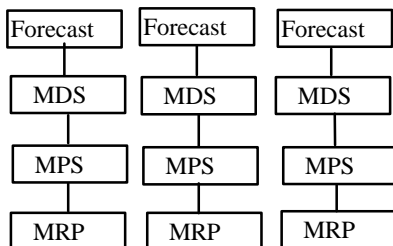
Material simulations can be accomplished using the planning processes as long as you do not release work or purchase requirements from a simulation.

When planning for more than one inventory organization, you should use all modules in each organization. If a change is required to the material plan in any organization, you should alter the forecasts or orders at their source organization and then rerun the material plan. If you were to alter a production plan in a supplying organization and not rerun, there is potential business issues for the organization who thinks you are supplying material. See below for the Planning Process flow diagram.

Planning Process Functional Flow Examples



FOCUS Forecasting



Focus forecasting requires **dedicated** sub-inventories.

Isolated inventories are necessary so that the MRP processing **does not** use the same quantities more than once

NOTE!

Explode forecast - Planning Items **ONLY once** or you double requirements

These are examples only you use processing designed to suit you business environment.

Dave Tipping, Solution Beacon

JInitiator "Yellow Bar" Revisited

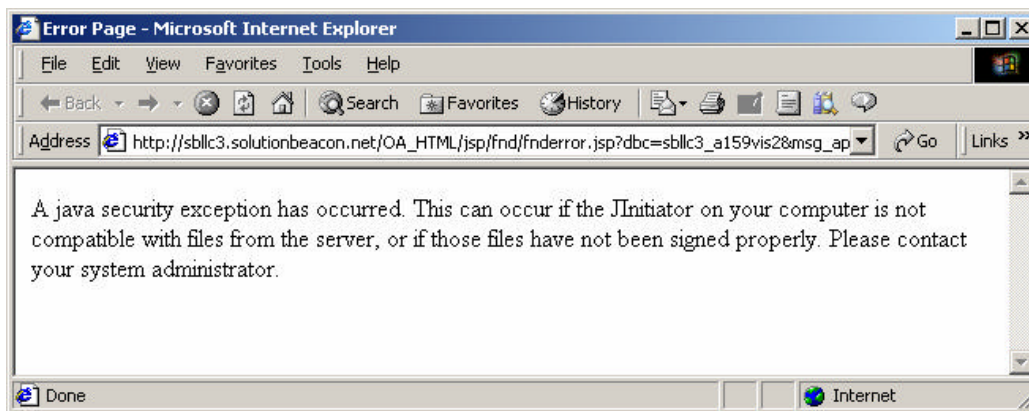
Oracle JInitiator configuration and best practices are well documented (MetaLink 162488.1) for Oracle Applications 11i customers in single organization environments. However, if you need to access other Oracle 11i environments outside of your organization, such as the Solution Beacon Vision environments (http://www.solutionbeacon.com/tools_vision.htm), then you may experience the JInitiator yellow warning bar or other connection problems. This article explains how to avoid this and other problems associated with JInitiator certificates when connecting to multiple Oracle 11i sites.

Background

Oracle Applications use JInitiator to run Java applets on a desktop client in "trusted mode". If an applet is "trusted", Java will extend certain privileges to the applet such as copy/paste, launching a browser window, etc. The Yellow Warning Bar is a warning sign that the applet is not running in a trusted mode.



In previous versions of 11i, the effect was a loss of functionality as mentioned above. In 11.5.9, the problem can be as severe as failing to open a forms-based session. See the example below.





The system administrator can take steps to avoid these problems in multiple environments within one's own organization, but when accessing Oracle 11i sites outside of your organization, the problem can only be solved by modifying the JInitiator configuration on your PC.

How to Avoid the Yellow Warning Bar at Multiple Sites

One way to avoid the yellow warning bar or incompatible certificates between multiple sites is to deinstall JInitiator prior to accessing the Oracle 11i login page for the site exhibiting the problem. Once logged in, select a forms-based responsibility and JInitiator will automatically load and install the correct Java certificate (see <http://sblc3.solutionbeacon.net/sbjinitinst.html> for prerequisite steps).

However, this method has the undesirable effect of removing the previous site's JInitiator certificate information and simply transfers the problem back again when a different site is accessed.

A flexible solution is to install multiple certificates, one for each site. To do this, you need to obtain the JInitiator certificate file (normally named `appltop.cer`). This file is located in `$APPL_TOP/admin` directory on the application server node. You can also extract the certificate from the JInitiator self-extracting download file as follows:

Save the JInitiator self-extracting download file to your local PC. The URL is usually of the form http://myhost.mydomain.com/OA_HTML/oajinit.exe. Then, rename it to `oajinit.zip` and open with WinZip. Extract the `appltop.cer` file.

Follow these steps to add a certificate file to the Java identity database:

Step 1:

Obtain the `appltop.cer` file for the site you are accessing, and store it on your PC (such as `c:\temp`)

Step 2:

Go to a DOS prompt and change directory to the directory you chose in Step 1

Step 3:

Execute these commands

```
C:\PROGRA~1\Oracle\JINITI~1.13\bin\javakey.exe r appltop01
```

```
C:\PROGRA~1\Oracle\JINITI~1.13\bin\javakey.exe c appltop01 true
```

```
C:\PROGRA~1\Oracle\JINITI~1.13\bin\javakey.exe ic appltop01 appltop.cer
```

For each site you want to access, repeat the steps above but change "appltop01" to "appltop02", "appltop03", etc., for each site. The certificate for each site will be loaded into the Java identity database (`identitydb.obj`), and the associated `appltop.cer` files will no longer be needed. Afterwards, you will be able to access each site and avoid the yellow warning bar and connection problems due to incompatible certificates.

Jeff Holt, Solution Beacon

Oracle Forms 6i and Reports 6i Licensing

In this document we discuss Forms 6i and Reports 6i licensing. When is Oracle Forms 6i / Reports 6i being desupported?

Oracle Forms 6i and Oracle Reports 6i will be desupported effective 01/31/05. Extended support will be offered through 01/31/08. New versions of Oracle Forms and Oracle Reports are now available through Oracle iDS (Internet Developer Suite) and Oracle Application Server.

Q: How does this affect my current licenses of Oracle Forms Developer or Oracle Forms?

A: You may continue to use your existing Forms Developer (or Oracle Forms) licenses to develop Forms applications. Customers current on their software update may upgrade to the latest version at no additional charge. You may continue to use the Forms Developer functionality contained in iDS.

Q: How does this affect my current licenses of Oracle Reports Developer or Oracle Reports?

A: You may continue to use your existing Reports Developer (or Oracle Reports) licenses to develop Reports applications. Customers current on their software update may upgrade to the latest version at no additional charge. You may continue to use the Reports Developer functionality contained in iDS.

Q: How does this affect my current licenses of Oracle Forms Server?

A: You may continue to use your existing Forms Server licenses to web deploy Forms applications. Customers current on their software update may upgrade to the latest version at no additional charge. You may continue to use the Forms Services functionality, provided that you own perpetual licenses, which is part of Internet Application Server Enterprise Edition license without migrating to full use iAS EE. Specifically you may use the following components contained in iAS:

- Full use license of Oracle9iAS Forms Services
- Restricted use license of Oracle9iAS Containers for J2EE (OC4J) for deployment of the Forms Listener Servlet and the Forms Servlet

Q: How does this affect my current licenses of Oracle Report Server?

A: You may continue to use your existing Report Server licenses to web deploy your Reports applications. Customers current on their software update may upgrade to the latest version at no additional charge. You may continue to use the Reports Services, provided that you own perpetual licenses, which is part of Internet Application Server Enterprise Edition license without migrating to full use iAS EE. Specifically you may use the following components contained in iAS:

- Full use license of Oracle9iAS Reports Services



- Restricted use license of Oracle9iAS Containers for J2EE (OC4J) for deployment of Reports

Q: When do I need to upgrade to full use iAS EE?

A: Oracle Forms and Oracle Reports are no longer sold as stand alone products (since July 2000). If you need additional users or processors of either Forms and/or Reports, it is likely you will want to migrate the Forms and/or Reports licenses to iAS EE (Internet Application Server Enterprise Edition) and/or iDS (Internet Developer Suite)

- If you want to use other features contained in the iAS Suite of products and/or iDS, such as Portal, OID (Oracle Internet Directory), application server, etc., you will want to migrate to full use iAS EE licenses.
- Customers using the free client/server deployment licensing from previous releases of Forms and Reports (as well as Developer, Developer 2000) would need to upgrade their licenses to full use iAS EE licenses for web deployment.

Q: I am currently using an older version of Forms for free deployment in client/server or character mode environment and would like to continue doing that. Is that supported by Oracle?

A: The latest version of Oracle Forms and Oracle Reports no longer support client/server deployment. Previously, the client/server licenses for Forms deployment were provided at no cost. For continued usage in a client/server environment, you can continue to run your applications under the same terms and conditions as originally determined by your contract and the licensing policies in effect at that time.

IOUC Pricing Council and Oracle Corporation

Third Party Tools – Mercury

We receive many requests from customers, prospects, and sales teams asking for details about our partnership with Mercury Corporation. We'd like to take this opportunity to deliver a brief partnership update. Mercury is an Oracle Certified Advantage Solution Partner and a member of the Oracle Partner Program. However, this relationship goes well beyond the levels of a standard software partnership.

Oracle and Mercury work closely on numerous joint development activities to ensure Mercury's IT governance, application delivery and management solutions are seamlessly integrated with Oracle E-Business Suite. The most recent result of this joint development is an end-to-end business technology optimization (BTO) platform, Mercury for Oracle E-Business Suite.

Now, customers can leverage this BTO platform to reduce the total cost of ownership (TCO) of Oracle E-Business Suite by up to 20%, as validated by a leading analyst firm, the Yankee



Group. Mercury for Oracle E-Business Suite helps customers to decrease staff for testing, eliminate unnecessary hardware and reduce downtime.

Mercury's IT governance, application delivery and application management solutions integrate tightly with Oracle E-Business Suite. Our respective R&D teams continuously work together to ensure that Mercury's solutions fully support all of the Internet-enabled, SmartClient and Character Mode client interfaces, including all the native controls such as flexfields and tables.

Oracle's Engineering has standardized on Mercury™ Quality Center solution. We have hundreds of engineers trained on WinRunner and QuickTest Professional to test Oracle EBusiness Suite and Oracle 9I Application Server. We even provide customers with a library of compatible scripts to facilitate their Oracle E-Business Suite deployments and upgrades.

In addition, Oracle maintains a state-of-the-art benchmarking facility and use Mercury™ Performance Center as our load testing, tuning and capacity planning solution. We have also worked together to develop Oracle specific-monitors for use with the Mercury™ Business Availability Center so that customers can correlate the performance and availability of Oracle E-Business Suite processes with the underlying infrastructure.

To date, more than 1,255 companies have successfully used Mercury's IT governance, application delivery and management solutions to deploy, upgrade, and maintain their Oracle E-Business Suite. We look forward to continued collaboration together on new initiatives, which will serve to broaden the scope of our technology and marketing partnership for the benefit of mutual customers.

Alan Fletcher, Vice President, Oracle Corporation

Book Offer: "Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle Applications 11i" is Available!

Solution Beacon offers a special that is sure to catch your eye – while supplies last; purchases of "Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle Applications 11i (or, When Old Dogs Learn New Tricks)" will come with a free copy of "Horrible Oracle". Order your copies now from www.solutionbeacon.com.

Barbara Matthews, OnCallDBA, Karen Brownfield, John Stouffer and Randy Giefer, Solution Beacon

OAUG:Events in the News

OAUG Connection Point 2004

Connection Point in Orlando, Fla., on Sept. 12-15, is coming up. The conference is one of the most prominent Oracle-related events of the year and everyone is invited. The conference will

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be attended by Oracle Applications users, representatives from Oracle Corporation and vendors serving the Oracle community.

Road To Orlando

OAUG and Solution Beacon continue to offer the "The Road to Orlando" series of educational workshops regarding release 11i. This month, the next workshops will be held in Atlanta on July 23rd.

To register or for more information on any of these events, please visit OAUG's Web site at www.oaug.org.

Chuck Meyers, for Meeting Expectations

OAUG Upgrade SIG

Next Meeting: OAUG Connection Point 2004

Join us at Connection Point in Orlando, Florida, Sept. 12-15, for the next meeting of the OAUG Upgrade SIG.

To register or for more information on the event, please visit OAUG's Web site at www.oaug.org.

John Stouffer, Solution Beacon

OAUG SysAdmin SIG

Next Meeting: OAUG Connection Point 2004

Join us at Connection Point in Orlando, Florida, Sept. 12-15, for the next meeting of the OAUG SysAdmin SIG.

To register or for more information on the event, please visit OAUG's Web site at www.oaug.org.

Randy Giefer, Solution Beacon



Upcoming Solution Beacon Events

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Solution Beacon and OAUG – The Road to Orlando SM – Executive Breakfast and <i>Release 11i Workshops</i>	July 23, 2004	Atlanta, GA
SROAUG - <i>Roadmap To Successfully Migrate Oracle Applications 11i to Linux Platform</i> , Sandra Vucinic, Solution Beacon	July 23, 2004	Costa Mesa, CA
Solution Beacon and OAUG – The Road to Orlando SM – Executive Breakfast and <i>Release 11i Workshops</i>	July 27, 2004	Portland, OR
NCOAUG – <i>Care and Feeding of Release 11i – Installation, Administration & Maintenance</i> , John Stouffer, Solution Beacon	August 13, 2004	Chicago, IL
NCOAUG – <i>FSGs Made Simple</i> , Karen Brownfield, Solution Beacon	August 13, 2004	Chicago, IL
NCOAUG – <i>30 Minute Release 11i Security - Keeping the Bad Guys Away</i> , Randy Giefer, Solution Beacon	August 13, 2004	Chicago, IL
NCOAUG – <i>Change Management, No Longer an Option?</i> , Paul Cyphers, Solution Beacon	August 13, 2004	Chicago, IL
NCOAUG – <i>Roadmap to Successfully Migrate Oracle Applications 11i to Linux</i> , Sandra Vucinic, Solution Beacon	August 13, 2004	Chicago, IL
OAUG Connection Point 2004	September 12-15, 2004	Orlando, FL
OAUG Connection Point 2004 – <i>Oracle Financial Analyzer</i> , Okey Bess, Solution Beacon	September 12-15, 2004	Orlando, FL
OAUG Connection Point 2004 – <i>Roadmap to Successfully Migrate Oracle Applications 11i to Linux</i> , Sandra Vucinic, Solution Beacon – “Best Paper, CSOAUG Conference”	September 12-15, 2004	Orlando, FL
OAUG Connection Point 2004 Training Session – <i>FSGs Made Simple</i> , Ronda Ellis, Solution Beacon	September 12-15, 2004	Orlando, FL
OAUG Connection Point 2004 Training Session – <i>ABCs of Workflow</i> , Karen Brownfield, Solution Beacon	September 12-15, 2004	Orlando, FL
OAUG Connection Point 2004 Training Sessions – <i>Release 11i Workshops</i>	September 12-14, 2004	Orlando, FL
Oracle OpenWorld	December 5-10, 2004	San Francisco, CA

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