



Happy Thanksgiving

The Solution Beacon Team

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

The OAUG and Solution Beacon teamed up to bring you *The Road to OrlandoSM*, a series of Release 11i Workshops that were given in multiple cities and ending at Connection Point 2004 in Orlando in **September**. **Solution Beacon and OAUG will be bringing you another series of workshops, *Trail to TexasSM***, in January to May of 2005 prior to the OAUG Connection Point 2005 in Grapevine in June.

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

Release 11.5.10 Update!

The Release 11.5.10 Maintenance Pack is now available for download from MetaLink via PATCH# 3140000 for HP-UX, AIX, Tru64, Solaris, Linux and Windows! Patch 3140000 is being distributed as 4 files of approximately 600M each. The MetaLink link to this patch is <http://tinyurl.com/3v3c9>.

The note for the 11.5.10 Maintenance Pack is 259484.1 and can be accessed via: <http://tinyurl.com/4fe2n>

Additional 11.5.10 related patches:

3180816 AD.I
3594604 AutoConfig
3971265 TechStack Validation
3262159 FND.H (Included in 11.5.10)

The media for 11.5.10 vision is DVD (9 disks). Beware! Inexpensive DVD readers may have problems reading the DVDs.

John Stouffer, Solution Beacon – OAUG Upgrade SIG Chair

Ask the SB Experts

Question: We keep getting the following error in concurrent manager log:

```
Starting FNDCRM Concurrent Manager          : 14-OCT-2004 08:30:18  
ORACLE error 1422 in get_sm_info
```

Cause: get_sm_info failed due to ORA-01422: exact fetch returns more than requested number of rows.

The SQL statement being executed at the time of the error was: select
FND_CONCURRENT_PROCESSES_S.nextva

Could not initialize the Service Manager FNDSM_COORDB02_dev. Verify that
COORDB02 has been registered for concurrent processing.
ORACLE error 1427 in cleanup_node

Cause: cleanup_node failed due to ORA-01427: single-row subquery returns more than one row
ORA-06512: at "APPS.FND_CP_FNDSM", line 29
ORA-06512: at line 1.

Any ideas?

Answer: FND_CP_FNDSM looks for the FNDS_<current_node_name> concurrent_queue. This is where it wants to start the managers. To do so it uses the following query where node = <current_node_name>. (expecting only one entry for the <current_node>).

```
update FND_CONCURRENT_PROCESSES  
  set PROCESS_STATUS_CODE = 'S',  
      LAST_UPDATE_DATE = sysdate  
  where CONCURRENT_QUEUE_ID =  
        ( select CONCURRENT_QUEUE_ID  
          from FND_CONCURRENT_QUEUES  
          where MANAGER_TYPE = '6'  
            and NODE_NAME = node)  
    and PROCESS_STATUS_CODE not in ('S', 'K');
```

```
update FND_CONCURRENT_QUEUES  
  set running_processes = 0,  
      max_processes = 0,
```

```
control_code = null
where MANAGER_TYPE = 6
and NODE_NAME = node;
```

Then entries in `fnl_concurrent_queues` were as follows :

1067 FNDSM_COORDB01	COORDB02
1159 FNDSM_COORDB03	COORDB02
1267 FNDSM_COORDB02	COORDB02

Update the `node_name` as follows and the concurrent managers should start correctly.

1067 FNDSM_COORDB01	COORDB01
1159 FNDSM_COORDB03	COORDB03
1267 FNDSM_COORDB02	COORDB02

Question: We are starting the 11.5.9 upgrade. Should I convert the SYSTEM tablespace from Dictionary managed to locally managed as the last step before GO LIVE?

Answer: Convert to locally managed using the OATM utility but not as part of the upgrade. Do it at some point following the upgrade. OATM lets you convert to true locally managed vs. hybrid locally managed.

Question: We are implementing iStore and were wondering if there is some sort of template for jsp changes/modifications.

Answer: It depends on what version of iStore you are using. There are no templates for JSP changes/modifications in the current releases. Unfortunately, the only way is to make a copy of the changes and customize it.

If you use OA Framework (iStore 11.5.9+), you can extend controller classes and not touch Oracle provided classes at all. But if you are working with JSP etc (11.5.9), then there is no good way to customize. Here are some options:

1. If the page is based on AK regions, then customize AK regions instead of JSP.
2. If possible, call your customized pages directly (by changing profiles etc).
3. As a last resort, change Oracle provided classes.

If a patch overwrites your class, you need to reapply the customizations. There is no way around this. Also, you can use JDeveloper to debug JSP pages.

If iStore is completely moved to OA Framework in 11.5.10, then the Customization and Personalization Framework can be used to declaratively customize the look and feel without making the changes to the jsp's. These Personalizations are stored in a separate directory and are stored in a separate xml file so that later releases do not effect the customizations.

The Senior Consultants at Solution Beacon, LLC

Automated Testing

Solution Beacon recently investigated integrating Mercury Tools into testing and performance monitoring approach for the following reasons:

- With the continuing upgrades, it will become important to use a combination of testing and performance monitoring to establish baseline metrics regarding key transactions.
- Synthetic transactions can be traced through the production system using these techniques to find performance bottlenecks.
- By combining performing testing with performance monitoring, you can perform production monitoring can using these metrics to alert technical staff when poor performance metrics are realized.

Using the combination of these tools not only helps the testing of the upgrade but establishes a test library for future testing while establishing procedures and methods for production monitoring and maintenance.

Automated testing packages provides a ready-made package of test cases, integration tests, and proven best practices specifically designed to be extensible to each customer's unique Oracle Applications environment. Test cases can now be created and maintained by business analysts or subject matter experts, and with substantially less effort than was possible with previous-generation tools. The result? A way to implement test automation quickly, with dramatically lower effort and cost.

Although automated testing has always been viewed as an expensive option, we have found other ways to implement the testing suite in a cost efficient manner. Below is a sample ROI model put together that justifies implementing automated testing:

Cost of Manual Testing – 7200 Hours	\$360,000
Cost of Creating Automating Testing (25% of testing time)	
Number of hours required to create scripts – 1800 hours	
Average Loaded Rate @\$50/hour	\$ 90,000
Total Benefit to Year One Savings	\$270,000
Year One Cost to Implement Quality Center	\$250,000

Return of Investment for Automated Testing Savings

Year One Savings	\$270,000 – 250,000	\$ 20,000		
Year Two Savings	Benefit – Annual Maintenance Costs	\$50,000	\$220,000	
Total for Five Years	Benefit = 1,350,000	Total Costs	\$450,000 =	\$900,000

This is a sample ROI from a large size customer and they actually were able to justify their entire upgrade suing this model.

Each of these test cases is constructed with reusable test components, representing a major advance forward in automated Release 11i testing. Test components allow non-technical subject matter experts to design and create tests at the same level at which they think, not at

the atomic level of a programmer. In addition, new or customized test cases can be created via drag-and-drop in minutes, not hours. This frees subject matter experts to create tests much like they would write manual test cases, speeding implementation and eliminating adoption pitfalls. To perform larger integration tests, such as order-to-cash, test cases are combined using the test lab capability found in business process testing. Using drag-and-drop, test cases are placed into a business process flow, and the entire flow is executed as a single action. Results are displayed in an easy-to-understand format, with drill-down information available for assistance in troubleshooting and problem resolution. In a matter of hours, the Accelerator is prepared to verify that your system is production-ready.

Paul Cyphers, Solution Beacon

Budgeting Tips

At this time of year when many companies are busy approving and finalizing their 2005 budgets, now is a good time to discuss a few tips and techniques for loading budget data into your general ledger. Most organizations have to repeat the cycle of prepare – review – approve/reject several times before final approval for the budget is given.

Do not use the GL Budget features as a tool to prepare your budget. Except for the simplest of operations, Excel or other sophisticated budget preparation tools are much more efficient.

Do use the GL Budget features as a budget reporting tool. If you have to distribute, manage and consolidate many spreadsheets, load your budget data to the Oracle GL and use it to review and report on your first cut of the budget. Even if you are certain that it will be revised significantly, you can load it into your general ledger and take advantage of the Financial Statement Generator to prepare financial statements to summarize and analyze your budget. It is easy to reset the balances to zero as you work on revising the budget.

Do not define a new budget for each new year. Use the same budget you defined for last year's budget. You can open the new budget year without affecting your journal entries simply by changing the 'Last' period in the Define Budget form to the last period of the upcoming year.

Note: In order to advance budgets to a new year you must use the last period of the calendar year as the 'last' budget period. In some organizations, this may mean defining an adjusting period as your Last Period even though you don't enter any budget to that period.

This has several benefits. One – there is no maintenance to the control values of all FSGs that refer to budget data. Two – If you ever need to refer to historical data you have the historical budget data available to compare without having to re-write your FSGs. Three – There is no maintenance to recurring or allocation journals that use budget data in their formulas. Budget balances will be stored by period (MM-YY) just as the actual balances are stored by period.

The one shortcoming has to do with freezing the budget. The same budget that might have frozen budget data must be opened to load new budget data. However, there are workarounds if this is an issue.

Define multiple budgets only if you have business requirements for multiple budgets such as reporting with operating budget and a forecast.

Define budget organizations only if you have a business need to secure budget data from one group to another. You can password protect access to any and all budget organizations. If you do set passwords, be sure to communicate that password to the appropriate person.

Note: You must define at least one budget organization.

Do freeze your budgets after they have been finalized and approved. This prevents unauthorized changes to the budget numbers. If future revisions are necessary, you can re-open the budget.

You can freeze portions of your budget without freezing the entire budget. To do this you will need to define a budget organization and assign the account numbers or ranges to be frozen to that organization. To freeze a budget organization, navigate to Budgets > Freeze and query the budget you are working with. The status of the budget should be Open, then select the Organization tab and mark the organization you want to freeze.

Do use the Oracle GL consolidation features to consolidate your budget data. If you have multiple sets of books and use the consolidation features for our actual results, then you can use the same mappings to load your budget. The other option is to upload your budget again to the consolidated set of books.

Do use the translation features of Oracle GL to convert budgets from one currency to another. If you have to maintain budget data in local exchange rates and in USD or some other currency you can use Oracle GL to translate the data. Another option is to use excel and upload the results of both budgets.

Note: If you use MRC and have primary and reporting sets of books, you will have to enter the budgets of both currencies separately. MRC does not function to automatically convert budget data.

Do use the GL_Budget_Interface table to upload your budget data. This interface table is designed to accept output from Excel spreadsheets and other budgeting applications. It is looking for one row that contains the account code combination and data for all the periods of the year. The budget import process edits the data in this table to make sure:

- The account is assigned to a budget organization
- The budget entry type for the account is entered
- The budget is not frozen
- The budget organization is not frozen
- The budget year is open

Do use Oracle's Application Desktop Integrator (ADI). It is an application that interfaces Excel spreadsheets with Oracle GL and includes budget uploading tools.

Don Driggs, Solution Beacon

Oracle8i Desupport Update

Update as of 11/10/2004: Please refer to MetaLink Note 290211.1 for the latest information on Oracle 8i desupport with Release 11i Applications.

Full Error Correction Support (ECS) for Oracle8i ends after December 31, 2004. Oracle is recommending any E-Business Suite 11i customer that is currently running on the Oracle8i database should have a plan in place to upgrade to Oracle9iR2 before the end of the year to ensure that they are running a fully supported configuration.

See url:

http://metalink.oracle.com/metalink/plsql/ml2_documents.showNOT?p_id=290211.1

My business cycle will not allow me to upgrade the E-Business Suite version before December 31, 2004. Will I continue to be supported?

Oracle will provide a grace period of seven months beyond the end of database Error Correction Support for you to upgrade to E-Business Suite Release 11.5.9 or 11.5.10 and a supported database version. You will continue to be entitled to error correction for existing functionality in the E-Business Suite, and to database patches until July 31, 2005. However, as of January 1, 2005, Release 11.5.6 and earlier will no longer be tested or certified. You should adopt a plan to upgrade as soon as possible.

John Stouffer, Solution Beacon, Upgrade SIG Chair

Oracle Software Updates

New quarterly program to manage Oracle software updates

Beginning in 2005, Oracle will provide Critical Patch Updates for all product offerings on a quarterly schedule. The comprehensive patches will address significant security vulnerabilities and include fixes that customers are likely to apply, or are prerequisites for security fixes.

The first Critical Patch Update will be issued on January 18. Following quarterly updates will be issued on April 12, July 12, and October 18 of 2005. These updates will include as needed patches for Oracle Database, Oracle Application Server, Oracle Enterprise Manager, Oracle Collaboration Suite and Oracle e-Business Suite.

In the case of a critical flaw discovered in between the quarterly release dates, Oracle will issue an unscheduled security alert email notification through MetaLink, and post the patch for immediate download. That patch will also be included in the regular quarterly download.

For more information about this new process, please see MetaLink Document ID 290738.1 "Oracle Critical Patch Update Program General FAQ" at:

<http://metalink.oracle.com/metalink/plsql/showdoc?db=NOT&id=290738.1>

or contact your sales representative for details.

Oracle Corporation

Forms Launcher – Servlet vs Socket

Please note: If you have:

- # Developer Patchset 15 (Forms 6.0.8.24) with one-off bug 3431149
- # Developer Patchset 16 (Forms 6.0.8.25) with one-off bug 2632838

Then there are changes in how FRD works....

Summary of Changes:

- It will now only be possible to create an FRD log file in \$ORACLE_HOME/forms60/log, or if specified, the directory identified by the environment variable FORMS60_TRACE_PATH. With this change in place, there is little point specifying the directory path, only the file name, for example log=myfrd.log.
- FORMS60_TRACE_PATH, if defined, must only specify a single directory.
- If you try to override the default directory path using the "log" parameter, the path will be ignored, and the FRD log file created in \$ORACLE_HOME/forms60/log or \$FORMS60_TRACE_PATH. For example if you passed log=/mydirectory/myfrd.log, an output file named myfrd.log would be created in \$ORACLE_HOME/forms60/log (or \$FORMS60_TRACE_PATH).
- This change is applicable to all file names specified via the "log" parameter and the "record" parameter.
- As before, the Forms server process must have permissions to create the file, or no log file will be written. File permissions are those of the UNIX user responsible for starting the Forms server.

- You may wish to set FORMS60_TRACE_PATH=/tmp (or /var/tmp as applicable) to avoid permissions problems.
- As FRD log files may be rather large, you may wish to point FORMS60_TRACE_PATH to a different file system.

If you want to check the value of FORM60_TRACE_PATH from your Oracle Applications Forms session, use the following

1. From the menu, select Help->Diagnostics->Examine
2. In the first field select \$ENVIRONMENT\$ from the LOV
3. In the second field enter the name of the environment variable, for example
`FORMS60_TRACE_PATH`
4. Navigate to the third field, and the value should be automatically completed. If the variable is undefined you will get an error.

In a future release, this variable will be added to the "About Oracle Applications" window. You can also use this method to check the USER environment variable on UNIX, which returns the name of the user who started the Forms server.

Remember because you are forms servlet, these variables are in formservlet.ini.

Kurt Forshee, Solution Beacon

Check Patch Logs for Errors

Oracle has made many improvements to adpatch, the patch application utility for Oracle Applications over the years. Some of these automate the patch process considerably. For example, "unified" driver combines the copy, database, and generate drivers into one driver and reduces the number of adpatch executions down to single adpatch run for a given patch. One task that continues to be a manual imprecise effort at best is the process of checking for errors in the patch log files. This article presents a simple shell script to automate this task.

Background

Although adpatch has been carefully written to trap errors and exit the patch with a failure status or stop and wait for the DBA to fix the error before continuing, you always search for the words "error" and "FAILED" in the patch log files before deciding that the patch was applied successfully.

However, searching for these words will almost always yield false matches. This is because a patch will often include phrases that contain these words such as "0 files with errors" in the log

files. Usually these are obvious, but one could easily overlook a real error if obscured by the false matches.

Automated Error Checking

The shell script below automates the process of scanning the patch logs for errors. The following summarizes the script execution:

1. The patch log directory is determined
2. Depending on whether or not a specific patch log is to be analyzed (indicated by the command line switch "-p <patch number>", the script either scans all patch log files in the log directory or scans the log file that matches "*<patch number>*.log
3. The log file is checked to be sure it was generated from adpatch
4. The log file is checked for the words "error" and "FAILED", bypassing lines containing phrases that would trigger false matches
5. The log file is checked for the success/failure message near the end of the log
6. If either 4) or 5) result in an error being detected, the log file name is printed
7. If "verbose" mode is selected (indicated by the command line switch "-v"), the error message detected is printed
8. At the end, a line is printed showing the number of log files scanned and the total number of logs files found that contain errors

```
#!/bin/sh
#
# Check patch log files for errors.
# 10/20/04 Jeff Holt jholt@solutionbeacon.com

program=`basename $0`
usage="Usage: $program [ -h ] [ -v ] [ -p <patchnum> ] -h=help, -v=verbose"
err_exit() {
    echo "$*"; exit 1
}

[ -z "$ORACLE_SID" ] && err_exit "ORACLE_SID is not set"
[ -z "$APPL_TOP" ] && err_exit "APPL_TOP is not set"
[ -z "$PATCH_TOP" ] && err_exit "PATCH_TOP is not set"

VERBOSE="N"
while [ $# -gt 0 ]; do
    case $1 in
        -h) shift; err_exit $usage ;;
        -v) shift; VERBOSE="Y" ;;
        -p) PNUM="$2"; shift 2 ;;
        *) err_exit $usage ;;
    esac
done
```

```
myhost=`hostname | cut -d\. -f1`
LGDIR=""
[ -d "$APPL_TOP/admin/${ORACLE_SID}_${myhost}/log" ] &&
  LGDIR="$APPL_TOP/admin/${ORACLE_SID}_${myhost}/log"
[ -d "$APPL_TOP/admin/${ORACLE_SID}/log" ] &&
  LGDIR="$APPL_TOP/admin/${ORACLE_SID}/log"
[ -z "$LGDIR" ] &&
  err_exit "Cound not find patch log directory"
echo "Patch log directory is $LGDIR"
echo

parselog() {
  sed -e'/Generated 0 files with fatal errors'/d \
    -e '/Revision string format error:/d' \
    -e '/will be ignored without error./d' \
    -e '/^for errors./d' \
    -e '/0 files had fatal errors/d' $LGFIL | sed -ne'/ error/p' -e'/FAILED/p'
}

checklog() {
  cd $LGDIR
  count1=0
  count2=0
  count3=0
  for LGFIL in `find . -name \*${PNUM}\*.log`
  do
    if head -10 $LGFIL | grep "Start of AutoPatch" >/dev/null; then
      count3=`expr $count3 + 1`
      adpatch_ok="adpatch was sucessful"
      tail -38 $LGFIL | grep "AutoPatch is exiting successfully." >/dev/null
      [ $? != 0 ] && adpatch_ok="adpatch was UNSUCCESSFUL"
      errcnt=`parselog | awk 'END{print NR}'`
      if [ $errcnt -gt 0 -o "$adpatch" = "adpatch was UNSUCCESSFUL" ]; then
        if [ "$VERBOSE" = "Y" ]; then
          [ $errcnt -gt 0 ] && parselog
          echo "error found ($adpatch_ok): $LGFIL"
          echo "-----"
        else
          echo
        fi
      else
        echo "error found ($adpatch_ok): $LGFIL"
      fi
    fi
    count1=`expr $count1 + 1`
    count2=`expr $count2 + 1`
    if [ $count1 -eq 100 ]; then
      count1=0
      echo "$count2 log files checked...."
    fi
  done
  echo "$count2 log files checked, $count3 were adpatch log files."
}

checklog
#
exit 0
```

Conclusion

The script assumes the patch log file name contains the patch number as part of the file name. Rather than continuing to use the default patch log file "adpatch.log" for each patch, a separate log file name is recommended for each patch that contains at a minimum the patch number. Also, the patch worker logs "adworkxx" are not scanned, because these files are appended to by adpatch and they contain log information for multiple patches.

Jeff Holt, Solution Beacon

Vendor Corner: TurnKey Solutions

Test Automation for Oracle Patches with Mercury Solutions

If you're like most companies, it's a struggle to stay current with Oracle patches. While some companies fear patches and the unforeseen havoc they can wreak elsewhere in the system, other companies find it too disruptive to pull resources out of the business to help with patching & testing. The bottom line? It's difficult to do a good job with patches when you're not sure what to test and you lack the resources to do the job. And with 200,000 projected bug fixes for 11.5.10, partial testing is becoming an increasingly risky approach.

Automated testing from Mercury & TurnKey Solutions addresses both problems.

- Not sure what to test? Test everything, every time you patch.
- Don't have the testing resources you need? Automate the process.

The Mercury/TurnKey solution enables you to do just that with a solution that applies object-oriented capabilities to test automation. The solution is called the "Business Process Testing Accelerator for Oracle 11i", and here are the types of results it delivers:

100% Test Coverage for Every Patch: Run a complete, unattended, automated regression test for every patch, and pick up your test results in the morning.

200% Productivity Gains in Ongoing Operations: You get complete test coverage, and you spend less time getting it. With a library of re-usable object-oriented testing components, your Subject Matter Experts no longer get hamstrung by relying on custom programming to build and execute test cases.

500% Productivity Gains in Deployment: Pre-written content means you can deploy fully automated business processes in a matter of hours. For example, General Ledger testing is typically deployed in less than a day.

Customer Quote: "Having the Business Process Testing Accelerator for Oracle 11i is like having an extra team of developers dedicated to the testing team, which saves time and money from a personnel management perspective and speeds time to deployment for our applications."

Sometimes, seeing is believing. If you'd like to see a complete demonstration of these capabilities and more, contact Tom Tompkins at TurnKey Solutions at 720-935-4471.

Tom Tompkins, TurnKey Solutions

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

To order your copy of "Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle Applications 11i (or, When Old Dogs Learn New Tricks)" visit our website or order your book at

<http://www.oncalldb.com/docs/Books/?&L=sb>

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

Solution Beacon News

Will Cordle has been named Secretary for DCOAUG. Will previously served as DCOAUG Vice President.

Tim Fontaine has joined Solution Beacon as Senior Applications Consultant / Project Manager. He will be handling strategic consulting and project management engagements as well as assisting with business development and resource sourcing. Tim has sixteen years in Manufacturing, Distribution, and Consulting Industries and 8 years using the Oracle apps. His professional experience includes Consulting, Project Management, Manufacturing Engineering, and Operations. This experience has been developed in both a project team and individual contributor positions within these industries. Tim can be reached at tfontaine@solutionbeacon.com.

Warren Kassel has joined Solution Beacon as a Data Warehouse specialist. He brings years of Data warehousing experience including extraction/transformation/loads, query performance tuning and data modeling. In addition he has performed as Enterprise database administration of small to large size systems in 3-tier environments including installation, migration/upgrade, database creation, backup/recovery, monitoring, performance tuning, hot standby, SQL tuning, reorgs, partitioning, replication, snapshots/materialized views, views, triggers, security, auditing, export/import, listener configuration, etc. for Oracle v7-v9i. Warren has been working in technology for more than 17 years with 7 plus years on Oracle. Warren can be reached at wkassel@solutionbeacon.com

Don Driggs joins Solution Beacon with 22 years of accounting and computer systems experience in the commercial and public sector arenas where he has been involved in numerous software implementations and upgrade projects. Don has a wide knowledge base in the following modules: General Ledger, Receivables, Payables, Assets, Grants Accounting, Internet Expenses, Purchasing, and Internet Procurement. His expertise with the financial applications includes providing business processing solutions

using ADI, FSG reporting, multi-org, currency conversions, consolidations, budgetary control, and allocations, and the creative use of the features of the financial applications to improve office productivity.

Don is an active supporter of the Oracle Application User Group and has presented many papers and training sessions at various conferences on such topics as ADI, Multi-Org, Budgeting, Project Implementations and others. He can be reached at ddriggs@solutionbeacon.com.

Kurt Forshee joins Solution Beacon as a Sr. Database Administrator. He has more than 13 years in technology with the majority of that as an Apps DBA where he has wide exposure to financial, manufacturing and distribution modules as well as 9IAS, Discoverer and Workflow Builder. Kurt also has experience as a developer and has worked as a Project manager and instructor. He can be reached at: kforshee@solutionbeacon.com

Mike Speights is working for Solution Beacon as a Sr. Database Administrator on a Dallas based project. Mike has sixteen years of experience as a database administrator, analyst, system designer, and developer. Additionally, he has twelve years experience on large Oracle implementations including more than ten full life cycle Oracle Applications implementations and upgrades. He has worked as managing principal consultant for Oracle Corporation and been a highly regarded independent consultant in the Dallas area for many years. Mike holds a BA from the University of Texas at Austin, a MS in Information Systems from the University of Texas at Dallas and an MBA from the University of Texas at Dallas. He can be reached at: mspeights@solutionbeacon.com

Art Dowd, Solution Beacon

OAUG News

OAUG's Election to Select Board of Directors

The OAUG will conduct its annual election to select board members during the month of November 2004.

OAUG member organizations in good standing may vote in the annual election. Ballots are counted and validated by the online voting application. Elected directors are those candidates placing in the top eight by plurality vote.

The OAUG will distribute an online voting ID and password to the key contact of each member organization in early November. Candidate biographies will be posted on the OAUG Web site and in the online voting application. Each member organization may vote for no more than the number of open positions. Eight candidates will have terms expiring on December 31, 2006.

For more information about the election, visit the OAUG's Web site at www.oaug.org.

OAUG Participation at Oracle OpenWorld San Francisco

The OAUG will be participating in Oracle OpenWorld San Francisco, which will include keynote presentations, breakout sessions and extensive networking opportunities. On Sunday,



December 5, 2004, Oracle OpenWorld will kick off with a day dedicated to Oracle users and sponsored by the top user groups: the Oracle Applications User Group (OAUG); the International Oracle Users Group (IOUG); and the Oracle Development Tools User Group (ODTUG). For the first time, all three groups will partner and debut the "Oracle Users Forum." This is a specially designed day of keynotes, best practices panels, technical sessions and more than 40 special interest groups (SIG) meetings. You will not want to miss a day of in-depth training led by top community leaders and visionaries.

For more information about OpenWorld and the Oracle Users Forum, visit the OpenWorld Web site at www.oracle.com/openworld/sanfrancisco/conference/users_forum.html.

Chuck Meyers, for Meeting Expectations

Upcoming Solution Beacon Events

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Oracle OpenWorld	December 5-10, 2004	San Francisco, CA
Oracle OpenWorld, Upgrade SIG Meeting, John Stouffer, Chair, Solution Beacon	December 5, 2004, 9:45 AM – Room 3012	San Francisco, CA
Oracle OpenWorld, SysAdmin SIG Meeting, Randy Giefer, Chair, Solution Beacon	December 5, 2004, 11:00 AM – Room 3012	San Francisco, CA
Oracle OpenWorld, <i>Best Practices Panel</i> , Karen Brownfield / John Stouffer, Solution Beacon	December 5, 2004, 3:15 PM - Room 2001	San Francisco, CA
Oracle OpenWorld – <i>Adapting Oracle Financials to a Changing Business Climate</i> , Don Driggs, Solution Beacon	December 8, 2004, 4:30 PM – Room 2003	San Francisco, CA
Oracle OpenWorld – <i>Maximizing ROI: Is Your Technology Working for You ... Or, are you working for your technology?</i> , John Stouffer, Solution Beacon	December 9, 2004, 1:00 PM – Room 3003	San Francisco, CA
NCOAUG Conference	February 28, 2005	Chicago, IL
NEOAUG Conference	April 11, 2005	Worcester, MA
OAUG Connection Point 2005	June 13-16, 2005	Dallas, TX
ODTUG NOW 2005	June 18-22, 2005	New Orleans, LA

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