

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:mweiss@solutionbeacon.com).

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

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## OAUG: Success Through Education

The OAUG and Solution Beacon teamed up to bring you another series of workshops, *The Trail to Texas<sup>SM</sup>*, in March through May of 2005. *The Trail to Texas<sup>SM</sup>* wrapped up at the OAUG Connection Point 2005 conference on June 15, 2005 with the Release 11i Workshops. The presentations can be found at:

[http://www.solutionbeacon.com/industry\\_presentations.htm](http://www.solutionbeacon.com/industry_presentations.htm)

**Brandon Sparks** of **Chick-Fil-A** and **Threcia Gallant** of **The Burley Corp** were the lucky winners of electronic scooters at the Solution Beacon booth. We had drawings for the book "Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle Applications 11i – or "When Old Dogs Herd Cats - Release 11i Care and Feeding" at all our sessions. Two of the winners of the book were **Russell Brown** of **DISD** and **Kathy Van Abel** of **Fleetguard, Inc.**

See you next April in Nashville!

*Mary Lou Weiss and Randy Giefer, Editors, Solution Beacon*

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## Ask the SB Experts

**Question:** Could you please let me know, if there is any good JAVA Decompiler that I can use. I have compiled .class files and I need to convert them to actual .java files, so that I can modify the code. I tried both JD Decompiler and Mocha, both are not giving 100% of conversion.

**Answer:** Java decompilers are sometimes useful for debugging purposes when troubleshooting application errors in Release 11i. They should not be used for customizing the applications and the seeded class files supplied with Release 11i should not be modified or application stability and integrity could be compromised. A few free decompilers are CavaJ available at <http://www.sureshotsoftware.com/cavaj/index.html>, the JAD Decompiler (non

commercial use) at <http://www.kpdus.com/jad.html> and DJ Java Decompiler available at <http://dj.navexpress.com/download.htm>.

*The Senior Consultants at Solution Beacon*

## 10g is Certified With Release 11i

10g is now certified for 11.5.9 and 11.5.10 on Linux and Solaris:

### Certify - Certification Matrix: E-Business Suite on Solaris Operating System (SPARC)

#### Application Tier Certifications

OS	Product	Server	Status	Addtl. Info.	Components	Other	Issues
2.6	11.5.9 (11i)	8.0.6	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>
9	11.5.9 (11i)	8.0.6	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>
8	11.5.9 (11i)	8.0.6	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>
10	11.5.9 (11i)	8.0.6	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>
2.6	11.5.10 (11i)	8.0.6	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>
9	11.5.10 (11i)	8.0.6	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>
8	11.5.10 (11i)	8.0.6	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>
10	11.5.10 (11i)	8.0.6	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>

#### Database Tier Certifications

OS	Product	Server	Status	Addtl. Info.	Components	Other	Issues
9	11.5.9 (11i)	9.2 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
8	11.5.9 (11i)	9.2 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
10	11.5.9 (11i)	9.2 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
2.6	11.5.9 (11i)	9.2	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
9	11.5.9 (11i)	9.2	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>

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8	11.5.9 (11i)	9.2	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
10	11.5.9 (11i)	9.2	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
2.6	11.5.9 (11i)	9.0.1	Desup:RDBMS	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	N/A	N/A
9	11.5.9 (11i)	9.0.1	Desup:RDBMS	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	N/A	N/A
8	11.5.9 (11i)	9.0.1	Desup:RDBMS	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	N/A	N/A
2.6	11.5.9 (11i)	8.1.7 (8i)	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
9	11.5.9 (11i)	8.1.7 (8i)	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
8	11.5.9 (11i)	8.1.7 (8i)	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
9	11.5.9 (11i)	10g 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
8	11.5.9 (11i)	10g 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
10	11.5.9 (11i)	10g 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
9	11.5.10 (11i)	9.2 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
8	11.5.10 (11i)	9.2 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
10	11.5.10 (11i)	9.2 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
2.6	11.5.10 (11i)	9.2	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
9	11.5.10 (11i)	9.2	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
8	11.5.10 (11i)	9.2	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
10	11.5.10 (11i)	9.2	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
9	11.5.10 (11i)	10g 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
8	11.5.10 (11i)	10g 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>
10	11.5.10 (11i)	10g 64-bit	Certified	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	None	<a href="#">Yes</a>

*John Stouffer, Solution Beacon*

## Updates for Oracle 11i Payroll Customers

More information on HR Family Pack K is now on MetaLink. The mandatory Payroll Family Pack for 2005 still requires a complete technology upgrade.

Please check out MetaLink Docs:

313605.1 – Pre-reqs

310928.1 – HR Family Pack K

If you are applying HR FP K, ATG.H or FND.H or are running HR/Payroll in a fully installed mode, please review MetaLink document 135266.1 as soon as possible.

FND.H / ATG.H have known problems so check patch 4395139.

If you are upgrading from ANY 11i environment to 11.5.10 OR applying ATG.H OR applying FWK.H OR applying FND.H, you will have SIGNIFICANT issues due to the mandatory Java Framework upgrade from 5.7 to 5.10.

The new Java Framework completely replaces the 5.7 framework but does not update the original software running against the old framework. You must apply interoperability patches (275874.1) to get the old 5.7 enabled application software to work.

This is *not* a trivial exercise. We have also found problems with FND.H, ATG.H and SSL – review MetaLink Doc 123718.1 for details about the cert problem.

Make sure you allocate additional patching time, testing time, cloning time for *any* 11i migration to the new Java Framework 5.10.

This does not affect any 10.7/11.0 upgrades to 11.5.10.

Also, The United States (US) Second Quarter Statutory Update (Q2), 2005 has been released. US Q2 2005 Incremental Statutory Update patch numbers:

R11: 4345753

R11i: 4345753

NOTE: This patch is incremental (not cumulative) and does not require a new HR Legislative data install (hrglobal). You must however re-run your existing hrglobal.dr. Please read the installation instructions closely and be sure to carefully read ALL the readmes before beginning to install these patches, to ensure successful processing!

In addition, it appears that FND.H by default uses the Java Login by default. If you don't want to use the Java login and continue to use the pl/sql login, you have to apply patch 4285341.

*John Stouffer, Solution Beacon*

## How to Keep Autoconfig from Resetting the Workflow Administrator

Every time a patch is installed, the program autoconfig is run. One side effect of this is that the workflow administrator is reset to 'SYSADMIN'.

Actually what happens is that `adautoconfig.sh` calls `admprf.sh` (version 115.7, located under `$FND_TOP/admin/templates/afadmprf.sh`). `afadmprf.sh` calls `afadmprf.sql` (version 115.18, located under `$FND_TOP/admin/templates/afadmprf.sql`). This script contains the following statement:

```
update WF_RESOURCES
set text = 'SYSADMIN'
where name = 'WF_ADMIN_ROLE'
and type = 'WFTKN';
```

The problem is fixed in 11.5.10 and for earlier versions, is available (`afadmprf.sql` version 115.26 or higher) via 3175852 – Autoconfig Templates to Support Hardware HTTP Load Balancers for the web tier. This patch actually has been superseded by patch 3104607, which is superseded by 3416234 – TXK (FND) Autoconfig Template Rollup Patch H (May 2004).

Once you are at 11.5.10 or have applied patch 3416234, you will need to update the `$APPL_TOP/admin/SID.xml` with the desired value for `wf_admin_role`, as the script will take whatever value is there and use it to reset the workflow administrator.

*Karen Brownfield, Solution Beacon*

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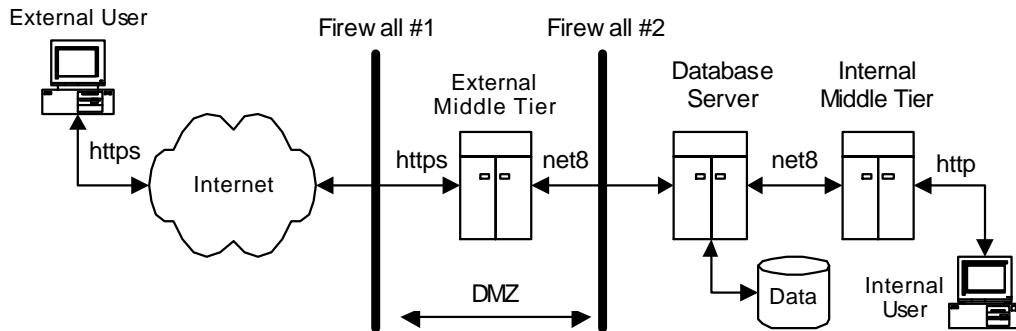
## DMZ Configuration in Release 11i

Oracle has recently announced new certified configurations for the internet facing modules available with the Release 11i E-Business Suite of Applications. These modules, such as *iStore* or *iRecruitment* for example, require the applications to be directly accessible from the internet and therefore require additional security measures to be implemented for the hardware architecture and the application configuration. The reference document for these configurations is MetaLink note 287176.1 "*DMZ Configuration with Oracle E-Business Suite 11i*". This article presents some configuration scenarios, installation options, and discusses the application setup steps required for deployment.

### DeMilitarized Zones (DMZ)

For internet facing applications, the application server accessible to the internet is normally placed in a DeMilitarized Zone (DMZ) of the network. This zone is exposed to the internet and protected by a perimeter firewall with firewall rules tailored for internet access. A second firewall is placed between the DMZ and corporate intranet with firewall rules tailored for traffic between the DMZ and the corporate intranet. In the event of a security breach, only the area

within the DMZ is exposed to potential damage. The second firewall protects the corporate intranet from the security threat. The server placed in the DMZ is either the external *middle tier* or a *reverse proxy*. The diagram below depicts an external middle tier server placed in a DMZ.

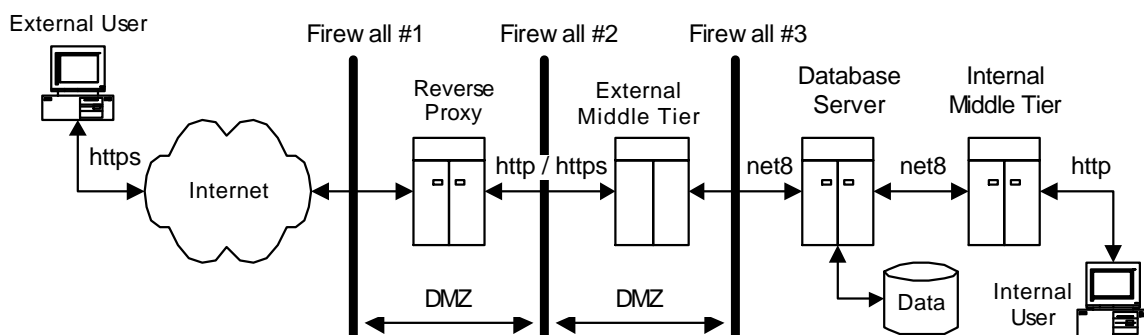


## Reverse Proxies

A reverse proxy server is commonly deployed in web application server architectures and can provide the following benefits:

- Isolates the middle tier servers from the external clients (browsers) to allow additional security to be placed between them
- Allows SSL encryption to be configured for external traffic and non SSL for traffic to middle tier servers
- Conceal port numbers, host names, etc used on middle tier servers and translate to different values exposed to external internet
- Allow some performance options such as balancing load among back-end servers and caching of static documents

The DMZ configuration document on MetaLink is the first publicly available document from Oracle that supports E-Business Suite configurations that employ reverse proxy servers. The documentation states "*Customers who follow the topologies as documented are fully supported. Customers who implement alternative topologies are supported on a best effort basis*". The diagram below illustrates a supported configuration topology utilizing a reverse proxy.



## Multiple Domains

The architecture of the DMZ configuration supports multiple domain names. When deploying E-Business Suite applications accessible to the internet, it might be desirable to access the applications using one domain name on the external internet and a different domain name when accessing the applications from the internal intranet. For example, the E-Business Suite applications could be configured to use a more generic \*.com top level domain name when accessed from the internet and a \*.net top level domain name could be used when accessed from the internal intranet.

## Installation

If performing a fresh install of E-Business Suite, then perform either a single-node or multi-node installation of the E-Business Suite 11i on the internal node(s) in the intranet and apply the required DMZ configuration patches. Then perform *one* of the following steps on the external middle tier. If performing a DMZ configuration for an existing E-Business Suite environment, apply the required patches on the internal node(s) and then perform *one* of the following:

- Option 1: Clone only the Oracle Applications middle tier of the existing installation to the external middle node using the Rapid Clone utility. The external middle tier and the internal tier must be the same platform.
- Option 2: Perform a fresh E-Business Suite installation on the external middle tier using the Rapid Install utility. For an existing environment, reapply all patches that were previously applied. Then, for both fresh installs and existing environments, apply the DMZ configuration patches. The external middle tier and the internal tier can be different platforms.

Note that sharing of APPL\_TOPs between the internal and external middle tiers is not supported by the DMZ configurations.

## Required Patches

At the time this article was published, the patches listed below are required to implement DMZ configurations. Note that patch numbers are not listed, only the patch descriptions. Refer to the MetaLink reference document for latest patch requirements since they are subject to change.

*Note: the Applications Framework patch (currently patch 4059749) has a significant prerequisite. The prerequisite is the 11i.FWK.H patch (currently patch 3262919), which installs version 5.10 of the applications framework technology. This patch includes substantial changes to the applications framework technology and needs to be thoroughly tested. The new 5.10 framework technology is included with release 11.5.10.*

Patch Description	Comment
Latest Oracle HTTP Server RUP for iAS 1.0.2.2.2	Only required for 11i9 or below
ADX.E.1 Post Roll up	
TXK AutoConfig Template Roll up	
Ebiz Home Page V1.5C	



FND Mini pack G	Only required for 11i8 or below
AOL/PROFILES Roll up Patch A	
Applications Framework	patch for server level profiles

## Profile Hierarchy Types and Trust Levels

The security model for DMZ configurations extends the security model of E-Business Suite applications to allow a limited set of internet responsibilities to be accessed depending on the web server from which the user logs in. For example, if a user logs in from an internet facing web server they can be presented a different (and more restrictive) set of responsibilities than if they were logging in from the intranet.

A key element used in this model is the Hierarchy Type access level of application profiles and the Trust Level assigned to specific nodes and responsibilities. When the Hierarchy Type setting for a profile is set for "Server Level", its value can then be set at the server level. This allows its value to change based on the server the user is logging in from. This is the principle feature that also allows you to define multiple domains to access the applications.

There are a number of profiles whose values define the various URL's used in the E-Business Suite applications. Currently, there are thirteen of these profiles (see the MetaLink reference document for the complete list). An example is the Applications Web Agent profile. These profiles need to be updated at the *server-level* (the internet facing web server) to contain the URL accessible from the internet. However, when accessing the applications from the corporate intranet, their value will reflect the site level setting, which would normally be the URL defined for the internal web server.

To designate the web server(s) that allow only the limited set of internet responsibilities to be active for a user logging in from it, assign the Node Trust Level profile a value of "External" for the applicable web server. The various Node Trust Levels are:

- Administrative – assigned to secure servers used exclusively by system administrators
- Normal – assigned to servers used by employees within a company's firewall
- External – used by customers or employees outside of a company's firewall

After updating the Node Trust Level profile at the server-level for the external middle tier to external, users can no longer see any responsibilities when they login from the external middle tier server. In order for a responsibility to be available, set the Responsibility Trust Level profile option value for that responsibility to External. Only certain product specific responsibilities can be made externally accessible. See the MetaLink reference document for a complete list.

## Conclusion

For internet deployed modules, the certified DMZ configurations provide improved application security management and allow flexible E-Business Suite application architectures to be designed. And, after a long wait, Oracle has finally documented the support for configuring reverse proxies with E-Business Suite applications.

*Jeff Holt, Solution Beacon*

## Interesting Fact about Accounting Invoices and Payments in Payables

Since the inception of Release 11i, Payables has required that all invoices and payments be accounted before they can be transferred to GL. This process can be done at the invoice or invoice batch level, at the payment batch level (after confirming), or by running the Payables Accounting Process.

However you cannot account the payments until the invoices have been accounted. Normally this isn't an issue as invoices have to exist before a payment can be processed. However, there are several scenarios where this could present a problem.

1. Invoices aren't accounted by batch, payments are. Obviously if the payment batch is accounted and the invoice batch hasn't been accounted, the process won't account the payments.
2. You run Payables Accounting Process in a report set with a separate request for Invoices and a separate request for Payments. If the Payments process is run first, some payments may not be accounted.
3. You are running Property Manager and your rents are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. You set the schedule day for the payment to be the 1<sup>st</sup>, but you actually export your payments to AP the week prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> so they can be paid and mailed in time to arrive by the first. The invoice will carry an accounting date of the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month; the payment will carry an accounting date of the payment date (in the month prior to the invoice accounting date). Your process for closing the month involves running the Payables Accounting Process with dates that stop at the last day of the month. Since this prohibits the invoice from accounting, the payments won't either.

Solution:

1. If you are going to run the accounting process by batch, at month end run at least one Payables Accounting Process with no dates.
2. Run the Unaccounted Transactions Report before you close and resolve the issues that prohibit the accounting.

*Karen Brownfield, Solution Beacon*

## Solution Beacon Expands Service Offerings

Solution Beacon is proud to announce the expansion of our partnership with Oracle Corporation. Solution Beacon has recently been selected by Oracle to become an **Oracle On Demand Certified Implementer**.

In the past Solution Beacon has typically worked only with traditional consulting customers in the integration and implementation of the Oracle e-Business Suite, but with the advent of Global Outsourcing, Solution Beacon and their Customers recognize the tremendous value proposition in running Oracle technologies in an outsourced model. Many customers utilize outsourcing in order free up internal resources within an organization so that they can be redeployed to other key projects within the company. Solution Beacon's in depth experience with the Oracle Applications coupled with Oracle On Demand outsourcing is a formula for success. For more information please visit

[http://www.solutionbeacon.com/about\\_ondemand.htm](http://www.solutionbeacon.com/about_ondemand.htm)

*John Nicholson, Solution Beacon*

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## 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*

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## OAUG: Events in the News

### OAUG Holds Successful Connection Point 2005 User Conference

The Oracle Applications Users Group (OAUG) held its OAUG Connection Point 2005 conference June 13–16 at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Grapevine, Texas. The event occurred in conjunction with the Quest International Users Group Conference & Expo 2005, which provides training and learning opportunities for J.D. Edwards users.

Conference highlights included:

- Approximately 3,700 visitors participating in more than 85 educational sessions, 19 geographic user group meetings and 46 special interest group meetings



- John Wookey, Oracle's senior vice president of Applications Development, giving the keynote speech during the general session. He discussed Oracle's overarching strategy and road map for Applications development.
- Lisa Palermo, president of People ROA, being named the 2005 OAUG Member of the Year. Palermo served as chairperson of the OAUG Connection Point 2005 conference committee and has been an active member of the OAUG since 2003.
- The Dallas Independent School District (DISD) being named the 2005 OAUG Innovator of the Year. The DSID was recognized for developing and implementing a calling system to help manage staffing requirements. The school district has been a member of the OAUG since 2002.

## **OAUG and Quest International Users Group Announce Fusion Council**

The OAUG and Quest International Users Group recently announced the formation of the Fusion Council, which will provide future users of Oracle's Fusion software with a forum for learning more about the product, and a direct link between users and Oracle.

The Fusion Council will consist of members representing all Oracle Applications, J.D. Edwards and PeopleSoft users. The council's responsibilities include working with Oracle to educate users about the product and its modules, facilitating user feedback in the product's development, assisting users during the installation of Fusion, collaborating with Oracle to establish and publish required industry and product-specific information and conducting quality testing for Oracle as needed.

Contact Steven Hughes at [shughes@oaug.com](mailto:shughes@oaug.com) for more information on how to get involved with the Fusion Council.

The OAUG Fusion Council charter and information regarding joining the Fusion Council listserver is now available on the OAUG Web site at [www.oaug.org](http://www.oaug.org).

*Robin Dahlen, for Meeting Expectations*



## Upcoming Solution Beacon Events

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
ATLOAUG Meeting, <i>Web ADI 11.5.10 Overview</i> , Karen Brownfield, Solution Beacon	July 15, 2005	Atlanta, GA
Oracle OpenWorld	September 18-22, 2005	San Francisco, CA
Oracle OpenWorld, Upgrade SIG Meeting, Chair John Stouffer	September 18-22, 2005	San Francisco, CA
Oracle OpenWorld, SysAdmin SIG Meeting, Chair Randy Giefer	September 18-22, 2005	San Francisco, CA
Oracle OpenWorld, Customizations & Extensions SIG Meeting, Susan Behn	September 18-22, 2005	San Francisco, CA
Oracle OpenWorld, <i>ABCs of Workflow – It's All in the Setup</i> , Karen Brownfield, Solution Beacon	September 18-22, 2005	San Francisco, CA

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