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*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 customers. 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 them via email to [mweiss@solutionbeacon.com](mailto:mweiss@solutionbeacon.com).*

*Prior editions of the Solution Beacon Newsletters are available for review at:*

[http://www.solutionbeacon.com/tools\\_newsletters.htm](http://www.solutionbeacon.com/tools_newsletters.htm)

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

**GET THE BOOK! GET THE BOOK! GET THE BOOK!**

## Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle E-Business Suite Applications Release 11.5.10+

**AVAILABLE NOW!**

It's here! Purchase your copy **NOW** at [www.solutionbeacon.com](http://www.solutionbeacon.com). This book is bigger and better than the last! It's the definitive book on Release 11.5.10+!

*Solution Beacon and OnCallDBA  
Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle E-Business Suite Release 11i*



*(or "Teaching an Old Dog New Tricks – Release 11i Care and Feeding")*

**Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining  
Oracle E-Business Suite Applications  
Release 11.5.10+**

*By Barbara Matthews, John Stouffer, Randy Giefer, Karen Brownfield, Jeff Holt, Bruno Coon, James Morrow, Tim Sharpe and Faun deHenry*

Our latest collaboration is co-authored by Barbara Matthews, John Stouffer, Randy Giefer, Karen Brownfield, Jeff Holt, Bruno Coon, James Morrow, Tim Sharpe and Faun deHenry. We also had reviewers Craig Ward, David Griffin, Kevin Ward, Susan Behn, Ramesh Sarma, and Lon White, who double-checked and even



added additional material to help get the important points across. The book also includes valuable contributions from Vicki Howard, John Kanagaraj, Mike Elquist, and Brian Bent.

We changed the table of contents so it has much more detail, making it easier for you to find topics that you need to know about. We added a figures section and a references section at the end. The references section breaks out the Solution Beacon and OnCallDBA links, as well as the MetaLink Notes, Oracle Manuals and papers, so you can find them in one place when you need to search for them.

We've covered many of the features of Oracle10g, including RMAN, added a chapter on Release 11*i* Reporting, and added more detail to the Installing and Upgrading or Migrating to Release 11*i* chapters. All of the screen shots and other material have been updated to use Solution Beacon's Release 11.5.10.2 [Public Vision Demo](#) environment.

Get out your bifocals, though, because we had to shrink the font a bit to make the book fit within our 700 page limit. It's full of screen shots, examples, and pointers to useful documents and scripts.

## Chapters:

1. Introduction
2. Who Does What?
3. Release 11*i* Concepts and Architecture
4. Oracle10g
5. Installing Release 11*i*
6. Upgrading or Migrating to Release 11*i*
7. Maintaining Release 11*i*
8. Administering Release 11*i*
9. Securing Release 11*i*
10. Setting Up the Concurrent Manager
11. Using the Concurrent Manager
12. Release 11*i* Reporting
13. Tuning and Troubleshooting

Download a Preview of the Table of Contents and Index at:

<http://www.lulu.com/browse/preview.php?fCID=581940>

**Get the Book! Purchase your copy NOW at [www.solutionbeacon.com](http://www.solutionbeacon.com).**

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## Daylight Savings Time (DST) Alert

Oracle released updated information regarding the Daylight Savings Time (DST) changes that will occur in 2007. MetaLink Note: 403311.1, *United States Time Zone Changes 2007: E-Business Suite (EBS)* has a lot of additional information including patches and upgrades that Release 11i customers need to apply. There are pointers to many additional notes, including required patches for Oracle databases (including non-11i databases), upgrading the JVM that is installed in the database, iAS and Developer patches, and required client and server patches.

Oracle also released an Alert that states that, in order to support Daylight Saving Time changes in March of 2007, *all 11i clients* will need to install **JInitiator 1.3.1.26 or higher**. The MetaLink Document ID is 401155.1, *Minimum JINITIATOR version Required to support the March 2007 US DST Changes*. The alert suggests reviewing the following document from SUN Microsystems:

<http://java.sun.com/developer/technicalArticles/Intl/USDST/>

Oracle JInitiator 1.3.1.26 is equivalent to Sun J2SE 1.3.1.18. The "About" page of the JInitiator control panel should show the underlying level of the Sun JVM. You need to upgrade your JInitiator version to at least 1.3.1.26 to be compliant with Sun's recommended J2SE version.

*Jim Srock, Solution Beacon*

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## Ask the Solution Beacon Experts

**Question:** In the "Ask the Solution Beacon Experts" section in the October 2006 newsletter, the answer to the question about automatic statistics gathering in Oracle Database 10gR2 had this slightly erroneous statement: "You can and should run database statistics for non-Applications and custom schemas, since histograms don't apply to them."

This is only partially correct. While it is true that you should collect database statistics for non-Applications and custom schemas, it is possible to have histogram-related statistics collected for tables in these non-Applications schemas. This is performed via the DBMS\_STATS call using the appropriate METHOD\_OPT options for the "FOR <Col-list> [size\_clause]" or the SIZE SKEWONLY option (new in 9i +). Details can be found in the *Oracle Database Performance Tuning Guide* and the *PL/SQL Packages and Types Reference* manual. An example is shown below:

```
execute dbms_stats.gather_table_stats('TESTHIST','LARGE_TAB',-
estimate_percent=>DBMS_STATS.AUTO_SAMPLE_SIZE,-
method_opt=>'FOR ALL COLUMNS SIZE SKEWONLY', cascade=>TRUE);
```

The statement conveyed the impression that since the "Gather Schema Statistics" programs do not cover non-APPS or Custom schemas, histograms do not apply for the tables in these schemas and thus should not be collected. Regardless of how statistics were collected (via the 11i FND\_STATS calls or plain old DBMS\_STATS) or which objects they pertain to (Applications or non-Applications schema), histograms will be used by the CBO whenever possible. A descriptive note detailing how



histograms are collected and used in Oracle Applications can be found in the Customer Knowledge Exchange (CKE) repository's MetaLink Note: 358323.1, *Case Study: Judicious Use of Histograms for Oracle Applications Tuning*.

**Answer:** We humbly agree with John Kanagaraj, who sent us this refinement. We suggest folks take a look at his article about tuning with histograms. His example is particularly pertinent to Oracle Applications users running with multi-org and having problems with skewed data across organizations.

**Question:** Do you know of any decent documentation about Oracle's Patch Advisor? We uploaded `InfoBundle11i.zip` and did the filters and then asked for a recommendation. We find it hard to tell where we should be going when the recommended patches are lower than the patches we already have applied. The two sections of "Recommended Patches for Current Code Level" and "Patches that introduce New Code Levels" don't necessarily tell us what we need to know. We want to know what patches need to be applied to our 11.5.9 implementation to keep us at 11.5.9 and cover our rear ends for EOY/BOY payrolls. I planned on applying 5179027, 5366500 and 5366666 -- but after reading the Patch Advisor -- I'm not sure if I need to be at 11.5.10 and apply 5055050. Can you shed any insight on documentation or give advice on the patches?

**Answer:** The Patch Advisor bad news is that there is not much out there except for the OAM/Utilities documentation, and it's pretty lean. Make sure you review all documents discussed in MetaLink Note: 233039.1, *Patch Information Bundle File (InfoBundle11i.zip)*.

The definitive document for Payroll for Release 11i customers is always MetaLink Note: 111499.1, *Oracle North American Payroll – 11.5.x Mandatory Patches*. You should review MetaLink Note: 111499.1, because the patches you should apply depend on the order that you applied Patch HR FP K RUP #1. We applied Patch 5055050 (RUP #1) and then Patch 5366666 (which is cumulative and includes Patch 5366500) at one of our customers.

According to MetaLink Note: 387351.1, *Does Patch 5055050 and 5179027 Both Need to Be Applied?*, Patch 5179027 is for customers with HR ONLY installed (not an HR/Payroll combination). Therefore, since you are running Payroll, you should *only* apply Patch 5055050, which is consistent with what we did.

**Question:** What is Solution Beacon recommending these days for a two node configuration? Do you suggest putting the database tier on one node and everything else on the other, or do you recommend putting the database and concurrent manager tiers on one node and the forms, web and applications tiers on the other?

**Answer:** We've pretty much moved to Oracle's recommendation to isolate the database when more than one physical server is needed (which is not normally the case). Our preferred order given the relative size of the client is:

Single tier, single user, single mountpoint	RAID 1+0, SAN utilities, Java 1.5, latest UNIX/Linux OS, latest ATG RUP and CPUs
Two tier homogenous, with the database isolated on one of the tiers	RAID 1+0, SAN utilities, Java 1.5, latest UNIX/Linux OS, latest ATG RUP and CPUs
Two tier heterogeneous, with the database isolated on one of the tiers	RAID 1+0, SAN utilities, Java 1.5, latest UNIX/Linux OS, latest ATG RUP and CPUs



By the way, the Technology Validation Utility does not always work properly on the standard two tier implementation (database and concurrent manager on one tier, forms, web and applications on the other tier) depending on the specific installation release and subsequent maintenance packs. We are working with Oracle Support to get a bug fix but it mainly applies to earlier 11i customers that had previous 9iAS versions.

We have not bought into the separate concurrent manager server 100% at this point. The benefits of this configuration versus the extra maintenance and management are not readily apparent to us at this time.

**Question:** We are upgrading a Linux environment to Oracle10gR2 with ASM and RAC. We have issues with the ASM configuration, and not all of the objects migrated to OATM.

**Answer:**

Oracle Applications Tablespace Manager (OATM) – We reviewed your issues and came up with solutions for each of them. In your case, there were two schemas left of interest, AP and HRD. There were segments remaining in the AP tablespace because your database is running Oracle10g, and the new `recycle bin` feature renames discarded tables (see MetaLink Note: 265253.1). The LOB index and segment associated with those segments were thus irrelevant as well. Your HRD tablespace and remaining segments failed to convert because they were related to backup tables of `AQ$WF_DEFERRED`. You can ignore those segments because they were backups. Finally, any segment type of `SPACE MANAGEMENT` can be ignored per MetaLink Note: 271866.1, *Objects Remain In Their Original Tablespaces After Run Oatm*.

RAC – Your ASM issue was corrected by changing single node ASM to cluster and redoing your Virtual IP configuration. VIP configuration is supposed to occur when the `root.sh` program is run, but it didn't. We think it didn't happen because the subnet mask wasn't a commonly used mask – you used 255.255.248.0 instead of 255.255.255.0.

**Question:** I've been told by our IT organization that IE7 will go out as an automatic update on Wednesday of this week. Basically, most of our users will be automatically updated to IE7. Do you know of any problems running the Applications on IE7?

**Answer:** According to Steve Chan's BLOG, IE7 is certified to run with the E-Business Suite with ATG RUP#4 and JInitiator 1.3.1.x.

For more details, see:

<http://blogs.oracle.com/schan/newsItems/departments/newCertifications/2006/12/12#a1053>

According to Steve: "Minimum requirements for this certified configuration are:

- E-Business Suite Release 11i version 11.5.10
- Oracle Developer 6i patchset 18 (6.0.8.27.x) or later
- Oracle Applications Technology 11i.ATG\_PF.H Rollup 4 (RUP 4) (patch 4676589)
- JInitiator 1.3.1.x"



Also, check out MetaLink Note: 285218.1, *Recommended Browsers for Oracle Applications 11i*. This note describes a way to block the IE7 automatic upgrade if you need to, using the `Microsoft Internet Explorer 7 Blocker Toolkit`. The bottom line – if you aren't running ATG RUP#4 and Jlnitiator 1.3.1.x, then you shouldn't be running IE7.

**Question:** I am a functional user in need of a translator for my DBAs and was hoping you could assist. Our situation is that we are currently on 11.5.9 Applications Release CU2. We want to upgrade the database to Oracle10g. The DBAs are telling me that we need our Financials to be on Family Pack G, our Procurement on FP J and our Projects/Grants on FP M. They say that we need to be on those levels before the database can be upgraded to Oracle10g because of the interoperability patches needed in those Family Packs. Can you tell me if the applications need to be at this level in order for us to get to Oracle10g? Could you steer me to Oracle documents to assist?

**Answer:** You don't have to apply the Family Packs that you mentioned to upgrade to Oracle10gR2. Perhaps the DBAs are trying to sneak in an Oracle Applications upgrade on you. ☺ Tell them to review MetaLink Doc. ID: 362203.1, *Oracle Applications Release 11i with Oracle 10g Release 2 (10.2.0)*, which says: "Only Oracle Applications Release 11.5.9 and 11.5.10 are certified for use with Oracle Database 10g Release 2 (10.2.0)". It clearly states that 11.5.9 with CU2 is fully supported on Oracle10gR2 in the body of the document.

Having said this, we do highly encourage you to upgrade to Release 11.5.10.2 plus all of the out-of-date Family Packs (there are actually five more critical Family Packs that need to be applied than the ones you listed) for optimal functionality and features. Release 11.5.9 was a 2003 Applications release...but it's a business call and if you don't need any of the new features or patches, you can/should continue as you are.

**Question:** I want to make the Project Accounting fields "required" in one of the *i*Procurement forms. How can I do that?

**Answer:** Go to the page in *i*Procurement where you enter the Project Account numbers. Click on the "Personalization" link and look in the "Name" field for Project Accounting (we don't know what the name is, but you need to be sure of that name). Then click on the "Personalize" icon (the pencil) and IF the option to make them required exists you will see a "Required" field in the "Personalization Properties". Change the value at whatever level is appropriate to "Yes".

**Question:** I want to use my Blackberry to respond to workflow notifications, but I get an error when I try. Am I doing something wrong?

**Answer:** No, your environment just needs some patches. If your company has applied RUP4, add Patch 5479427 (see MetaLink Note: 390687.1, *5515304: Responses from Blackberry Are Or Make Mailer Crash*). If you have not applied RUP4, see MetaLink Note: 341677.1, *Unable to Process Notification Responses Via Outlook Email. Responses Move to Discard Folder*, and apply the appropriate patches.

**Question:** How do companies deal with letting the DBA have the APPS password? What other mitigating controls have to be in place? For the DBA to have this, do they have to log what they are doing or do you have some kind of auditing on at the database level?

**Answer:** We thought Cam Lerner of Absolute Technologies ([www.absolute-tech.com](http://www.absolute-tech.com)) provided a measured and correct response to this question, which appeared on the [OracleSox@yahoo.com](mailto:OracleSox@yahoo.com) site:

1. You may want to distinguish between the DBA "the person" and the various system "access methods" a DBA might use to access the database. This is important, because based on the access method, the DBA has different powers and privileges. If you are on an RDBMS 9i database, a DBA might use any of the following database accounts to perform his duties: SYSDBA, SYSOPER, SYSTEM or any named account granted the DBA role.
2. Depending on your database initialization/system parameters, a DBA may be able to logon to the SYSDBA or SYSOPER users without a database password. All they need is the password to the OS "oracle" user. Typically, the DBA uses the "oracle" OS account to run scripts necessary to manage and/or upgrade/patch the database. However, there are steps that can be taken to limit the DBA's access to this OS account without preventing access to those files she needs to do her job. For better control, the DBA should have to login to the database with a DB-authenticated password.
3. If a DBA can log on as SYSDBA, he/she has access to the SYS user/schema, and essentially has full reign of the database. With SYSDBA, the DBA does not need the APPS password to access/alter any object/data in the APPS schema or any schema.
4. It is possible to audit the DBA, whether they logon as SYSDBA or APPS, using one or a combination of the following methods:
  - Using Oracle SQL Audit
  - Setting the initialization parameter called AUDIT\_SYS\_OPERATIONS to TRUE (writes audit trail of SYS activity to an OS logfile)
  - Using Oracle Log Miner
  - Using Database Triggers
  - Using 3rd party solutions that utilize any of the above

However, steps must be taken to secure the audit trail from the DBA by segregating ownership and control of the Database and the Operating System. In smaller companies, this may be difficult and unwelcome by the single DBA who currently has access and free reign on both, and does not wish to be burdened with a control policy that limits power or requires additional steps to perform an already demanding job.

It may be said by many DBAs that the DBA role is a trusted role, or that a good DBA could overcome almost any restrictions or audit trail deployed for control and compliance purposes. Whether that is true or not is not the point. The reality is that external auditors are starting to scrutinize DBA access and request controls and systematic proof of such to attain compliance. Any particular approach may not be "bullet proof", but each hurdle or preventative measure deployed reduces the overall risk as assessed by the auditor.

*The Senior Consultants at Solution Beacon, LLC*

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## Desupport/Certification Notices

According to MetaLink Doc. IDs: 124606.1 and 329685.1:

- JInitiator 1.1.8 desupport is coincident with 11.0 desupport (2/28/07)

According to MetaLink Doc. ID 395808.1:

- RDBMS 9.2.0.8 was certified in November 2006
- ATG RUP#4 is recommended by EOY 2006

*John Stouffer, Solution Beacon*

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## ATG Newsletter

Check out MetaLink Note: 395808.1, *Oracle ATG Newsletter – November 2006, Volume 3*. Topics include RUP (Rollup) FAQ, a list of MetaLink Notes that point to various Diagnostics and Top Patches/Notes/Links.

*John Stouffer, Solution Beacon*

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## SQL Can Execute in Wrong Schema

According to MetaLink Note: 392673.1, *SQL Can Execute in Wrong Schema*:

If different schemas have objects (tables / views / synonyms etc.) with identical names and sessions from different schemas execute IDENTICAL SQL statements then it is possible for such SQL sentences to get executed against the wrong schema objects if a cursor gets reloaded in a certain manner.

e.g.:

Consider USER1 and USER2 both with their own table MYTAB.

If sessions are concurrently executing "SELECT col FROM MYTAB" then it is possible, under certain conditions, for USER1 to execute the statement in USER2's schema regardless of any permissions granted.

This can occur for DML or SELECT SQL.

Once a bad reload has occurred the wrong schema continues to be used for that session until the cursor is aged out or invalidated.

## Likelihood of Occurrence

This problem can occur only if all of the following are true:

- \* The SQL statement refers to some object without using a fully qualified object name

e.g.:

"select \* from TABLENAME"

rather than

"select \* from SCHEMANAME.TABLENAME"

- \* The unqualified object name resolves to a different underlying object for different users.
- \* Sessions in different schemas execute IDENTICAL SQL sentences.
- \* If literal replacement is enabled (CURSOR\_SHARING=SIMILAR or FORCE) then this can occur if the SQL text which has replaced literals is identical.

The above conditions are fairly easily met, especially for systems that use the same application code executed in different schemas against privately owned objects. The unqualified object can be any type of object.

e.g.:

"Select PLSQL\_FUNCTION(dummy) from SYS.DUAL" is susceptible to the problem if different schemas resolve PLSQL\_FUNCTION() to a different underlying object.

The problem is related to reload of aged out cursors and so is more likely to occur when the shared pool is under load or if it is periodically flushed.

Note that this issue is **very rare in 10.1 releases but can occur more easily in 10.2.0.2**. Even in 10.2.0.2 it requires some very specific conditions to be met in order for the problem to occur.

## Possible Symptoms

This problem can show up as many different symptoms:

- \* Wrong results from SELECT SQL.  
e.g.: Sessions getting results from wrong schema table/s.
- \* Logical data corruption for DML SQL.  
e.g.: INSERT may insert into the wrong table.
- \* Unexpected errors such as ORA-2291 / ORA-1 from DML  
e.g.: If an INSERT executes in the wrong schema due to this bug then the values inserted may violate a constraint as they have not been derived from data relevant to that schema.

- \* Parse errors if the underlying object definitions differ.  
e.g.: ORA-904 etc.. could occur if the schema objects have the same name but different definitions.

## Workaround

The issue can be avoided by prefixing object names with the schema name.

e.g.: In the above example change the SQL to use "select mycol from A.mytable" for user A and "select mycol from B.mytable" for user B.

If SQL cannot be changed then it can help to reduce shared pool load (as the problem occurs when cursors are reloaded having been aged out/invalidated). Using DBMS\_SHARED\_POOL.KEEP for affected cursors can also help.

The best solution to prevent this problem is to apply the patch. This issue is expected to be fixed in the 10.2.0.3 Patch Set. Interim patches are available for 10.2.0.2 on some platforms under Patch 5458753:

[http://updates.oracle.com/ARULink/PatchDetails/process\\_form?patch\\_num=5458753](http://updates.oracle.com/ARULink/PatchDetails/process_form?patch_num=5458753)

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## CPUJul2006 Patches

The following update to MetaLink Note: 365228.1, *About ATG.H RUP 4* was made 8-Nov-06:

November 8, 2006	Revised introduction with updated description of CPU patches included in and required on top of 11i.ATG_PF.H Rollup 4.
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The revised introduction in the current form is:

Oracle Applications Technology 11i.ATG\_PF.H Rollup 4 contains Oracle Applications Technology (ATG) security fixes for core ATG products from the January 2005 Critical Patch Update (CPUJan2005) through the July 2006 Critical Patch Update (CPUJul2006). The following core ATG products are included in 11i.ATG\_PF.H Rollup 4: FND, OAM, OWF, FWK, JTT, JTA, TXK, XDO, ECX, EC, AK, ALR, and UMX.

Based on that update, **all** previous CPU patches for E-Business Suite 11i are **not** included in RUP 4 (only "core" ATG product CPU patches are included). In a previous revision, the statement was misleading in regards to which E-Business Suite patches for CpuJul2006 were included in 11i.ATG\_PF.H Rollup 4.

*Jeff Holt, Solution Beacon*

## Upgrade to Oracle9*i* or Oracle10g?

There are a number of reasons why, if you are planning an upgrade, you should upgrade to Oracle10g instead of Oracle9*i*:

- According to Oracle, Oracle9*i* will be desupported on July 31, 2007
- The Oracle10gR2 CBO is far superior to 9*i*
- The maintenance, tuning and management of the database is significantly easier with Oracle10g
- Oracle10g has faster database recovery
- Oracle10g is platform agnostic (you have to export/import in Oracle9*i* to change hardware, but no longer have to with Oracle10g)
- The performance of the Oracle10gR2 PL/SQL engine is reportedly 1.5-1.75 times as fast as Oracle9*i*R2
- Oracle10g includes new tuning advisors like ADDM (Automatic Database Diagnostic Monitor) and STA (Sql Tuning Advisor)
- Oracle10g has Automatic Shared Memory Management (SGA\_TARGET), dynamic sizing/allocation
- Oracle 10g includes ASM (not for everyone, but huge potential)
- Oracle10g has better security and more encryption options like TDE (Transparent Data Encryption), although not supported yet in HRMS.

*John Stouffer and Jeff Holt, Solution Beacon*

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## Change Organization Issue

### Frequent :\$PROFILE\$.MFG\_ORGANIZATION\_ID issues with Reports in a Manufacturing Environment

#### Issue:

Certain concurrent requests expect the MFG\_ORGANIZATION\_ID value from the Profiles as a parameter.

*Example:* Upon login to a certain Organizational level responsibility, a user clicks on Run Requests, or a similar action, as a first operation, then selects a Concurrent Program that is expecting: \$PROFILE\$.MFG\_ORGANIZATION\_ID as a parameter. An error message appears, as it doesn't recognize the above profile value. This is because the Profile value is not set upon user Login. If a user selects any other function and then navigates back to reports, this profile gets set, and therefore the error goes away. Alternatively, the user can switch to another responsibility, select an Org, and therefore set the profile value, and then switch back to the Organizational level responsibility. The issue is usually with responsibilities with Organizational Security defined on them. For all other responsibilities, the user is prompted with a list of organizations to choose from upon login, and therefore the profile value gets set when the user chooses an organization.

## Resolution:

The report submission Function parameters need to be modified. Login as an Application Developer or System Administrator.

To find the function of interest navigate to:

Responsibility -> Menu -> find the report submission function

To edit the parameter screen:

Function -> click on Form tab, enter USE\_ORG="Y" in the Parameter section. Separate by space if the section already has other parameters.

Close screens.

Switch responsibility and test.

*Naren Thota, Solution Beacon*

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## AutoConfig Features and Enhancements

The newest AutoConfig Rollup Patch O (released in December 2006) includes several new features and enhancements. Remember that all TXK (FND & ADX) Rollup Patches are cumulative. Before applying Patch 5478710, you should reference MetaLink Note: 165195.1, *Using AutoConfig to Manage System Configurations with Oracle Applications 11i*, which was also updated in December, 2006. According to Steve Chan's blog, "this Rollup fixes over three dozen issues that affect areas such as:

- [Real Application Clusters](#) (RAC) configurations
- Cloning, including cloning fixes for UTF-8 environments
- [Java Virtual Machine](#) (JVM) configuration and stability
- Platform-specific issues for HP Tru64 and Sun Solaris
- JMailer + [Oracle Application Manager](#) integration
- Context file generation and variable population
- JDK 5.0 configurations
- [10gR2](#) database configurations
- Forms configurations"

*Kevin Dahl, Solution Beacon*

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## GL Alert – Possible Balance Corruptions

All GL users on any version of 11i should be aware of an Alert recently published by Oracle Support. The Alert is MetaLink Note: 396923.1, **Possible Balance Corruptions caused by Incompatibility**

**issues in 11.5.** The problem was introduced in various versions of 11i when Oracle allowed the simultaneous processing of certain concurrent programs that affect the GL\_BALANCES table.

According to MetaLink:

If the concurrent program definitions weren't updated correctly, then you might be allowed to post a journal while a period is being opened for the same set of books. In this case, the Open Period program isn't aware that the Posting program is running, so it doesn't consider the impact of the journals the Posting program is in the process of posting when calculating opening balances.

Also, the Posting program isn't aware that the Open Period program is running, so it doesn't roll the balances into the period that the Open Period program is in the process of opening. So the opening balance of the newly opened period isn't equal to the closing balance of the period before it." (See Note ID 238345.1)

For example in 11.5.10, Oracle introduced a new feature for "Open Period/Posting/Translation/Summary Accounts Program Compatibility Among Sets of Books." In 11.5.9, it introduced a new feature "Budget Programs, Translation and Posting Compatibility Across Sets of Books." In 11.5.7 it introduced a new feature, "Budget Programs Compatibility Across Sets of Books" and in 11.5.4 it introduced a new feature, "Translation Compatibility Across Sets of Books."

If you are running any version of Release 11i and operate with multiple sets of books, we strongly advise that you review this note and follow all the steps in the alert that apply to your situation. It provides SQL scripts to diagnose if you have any corrupted data in your GL\_BALANCES table. There is another script that identifies any programs that have problems and it identifies a variety of patches depending on your installed version and applied family packs that you should apply if the problem affects you. Chances are if you only operate with one set of books, this won't affect you, but we advise that you review this alert and take necessary precautions.

*Don Driggs, Solution Beacon*

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## Fusion Corner

OAUG's Fusion Council now provides a three-step roadmap guide for Demystifying Fusion Applications via webinars and at every *Road to Vegas<sup>sm</sup>* EXTREME event. Stay current with OAUG Fusion Council activities at:

<http://oaug.org/resources/fusioncouncil/index.html>.

*John Stouffer, Solution Beacon and Floyd Teter, JPL*

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## Release 12 Corner

The release of Oracle Applications Release 12 is eminent. If you are not already on Release 11.5.10.2, please review the information below very carefully.

Most of our information is based on what we've seen in Steven Chan's BLOG (Steven is the Director of Applications Technology Integration at Oracle):

<http://blogs.oracle.com/schan/2006/10/09#a813>

According to Steven, a previous article stated:

We plan to support upgrades from any Release 11*i* version to Release 12. If your environment is at any level between 11.5.1 to 11.5.10, you should be able to upgrade to Release 12.

However, Steven comments that:

This is still technically correct. But there's one more thing. Our release engineering team has stated that it is expected that 11.5.10 will be a **prerequisite** for [desupported E-Business Suite versions](#) (11.5.6 or earlier) for the Release 12 upgrade.

So, if you're on an earlier desupported release, say, 11.5.3, you will need to **upgrade to 11.5.10 first**. Once you're on 11.5.10, you'll be able to upgrade to Release 12.

Also, although we haven't seen an actual Release Content Document (RCD) yet on Release 12, we believe the configuration will look like the following:

### Database Tier Components

- RDBMS: 10.2.0.2 (10gR2)
- Java: Java 5 (J2SE)

### Applications Tier Components

- Oracle AS 10g 10.1.2.0.2 (Forms/Reports)
- Oracle AS 10g 10.1.3 (Apache/OC4J)
- (Note that this will be in two distinct ORACLE\_HOMEs... most services will be started out of the 10.1.3 \$ORACLE\_HOME)
- JDBC: 10.2
- Java: Java 5 (J2SE)

### Client-Side:

- Will use native Sun Java2 Standard Edition (instead of JInitiator!)

### Other upcoming tidbits:

- Release 12 should (eventually) be certified with IPV6
- Multi-Org Access Control (MOAC) will be at least partially based on the VPD (Virtual Private Database) model.

*James Morrow, Solution Beacon*

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## Vendor Corner: HP StorageWorks RIM for Databases

### HP StorageWorks Reference Information Manager for Databases – Industry Leading Archiving Solution for the Oracle e-Business Suite

**Is surging database growth causing application performance degradation despite your best efforts at performance tuning?** HP RIM for Databases is a long term, repeatable solution that safely manages data growth over time. RIM for DB improves application performance, streamlines database operation and disaster recovery, optimizes the infrastructure via tiering, and meets user and compliance requirements, all while lowering the TCO.

The HP StorageWorks Reference Information Manager for Databases Relocater identifies data that can be archived and moves it to the archive database while maintaining transparent access to it. The HP Reference Information Manager for Databases Encapsulated Archive stores unused but required data in an XML format. A GUI, the HP StorageWorks Reference Information Manager for Databases Analyzer, is a dashboard which helps identify and track high data growth areas and map data management projects.

By reducing the size of the production database, RIM for DB can boost application performance by as much as 70 percent, improving application stability, and potentially reducing annual application environment costs by significant dollar amounts.

RIM for DB is a software solution that allows customers to take advantage of new, complex database features without modifying custom code, saving expensive developer costs. Pre-built AppsPacks for Oracle enable rapid integration into the Oracle e-business suite. The AppsPacks are productized, and HP enhances them upon modifications to the Oracle e-business suite. AppsPacks provide application modeling for data integrity including database tables to be archived, constraints for the data to be archived, and policies for data retention.

Would you like more information? Please [contact](#) the HP StorageWorks RIM for Databases team.



## OAUG News

### OAUG Elects New Board of Directors for 2007

The OAUG is proud to announce that the organization has added four new members to its 2007 Board of Directors during the organization's elections in November.

The new board members include: Basheer Khan, President of Irvine, California-based Innowave Technology; Ray Payne, Manager of Oracle Technical Infrastructure Projects for Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Mount Laurel, Maryland; Betsy Rothwell, Director of Business Application Solutions Support, IFIS Division, Ministry of Government Services in Toronto, Ontario, Canada; and Margaret Wright, Technology Manager for a General Ledger Supply Chain Accounts Payable Enterprise (GLSCAPE), Southern Company, in Atlanta, Georgia.

The new board will meet for the first time in January 2007 to select the OAUG's president.

### Registration Now For COLLABORATE 07: Technology and Applications Forum for the Oracle Community

The OAUG is now registering attendees for the annual COLLABORATE 07 conference, taking place at the Mandalay Bay Resort and Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, April 15-19, 2007. This year, attendees must be registered for the conference before confirming their hotel reservations.

The event is co-hosted by the OAUG, IOUG and Quest, and will provide attendees with a series of educational sessions, workshops, networking opportunities and access to Oracle representatives.

For more information regarding the event and to register, visit the OAUG Web site at <http://oaug.collaborate07.com/>.

*Robin Dahlen, Meeting Expectations*

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## And The Winner Is...

Solution Beacon exhibited at various events throughout October and November. We'd like to congratulate the following individuals for stopping by our booth and winning one of our \$50 American Express Gift Card giveaways!

### **Kansas City OUG – October 11, 2006 – Overland Park, KS**

Winner: Cindy Griffel of Tnemec

### **New England OAUG – November 6, 2006 – Worcester, MA**

Winner: Allan Simpson of New York State Insurance Fund

### **Southwest OAUG – November 10, 2006 – Costa Mesa, CA**

Winner: Randy Fouts of Kyocera Wireless



## OHUG – November 29 through December 1, 2006 – Orlando, FL

Winners: Todd Krenke of Fair Isaac Corporation  
Nadine Pedersen of Pinellas County  
Lee Singinger of BAX Global

## *The Road to Vegas<sup>sm</sup> EXTREME*

### The Features, Functions, and Future of 11i/12

**Raleigh, NC   Santa Clara, CA   Cincinnati, OH   Denver, CO   Atlanta, GA   Detroit, MI**

O AUG and Solution Beacon are teaming up once again to bring you the highly-acclaimed Release 11i/12 Workshop series, currently touring the US!

"The Release 11i workshop was really excellent – the Solution Beacon presenters know the topics better than any other speakers I have ever heard. Karen Brownfield especially – she presents in an easily digested, down to earth manner, supplemented with good humor and real world experiences. It was all so worthwhile!" Jeannie Dobney, EduSource Pty Ltd.

If you can't make it to Vegas in 2007 for the COLLABORATE 07: Technology and Applications Forum for the Oracle Community <<http://www.oaug.com/>>, you can still experience the great educational and networking opportunity of the conference by attending one of our FREE highly-acclaimed workshops.

This year, we're turning up the heat by delivering *The Road to Las Vegas<sup>sm</sup> EXTREME* version! In addition to our core Functional and Technical tracks, we're now offering a Management track for C-level executives to learn more about licensing, testing, and how they can successfully build a roadmap to Fusion Middleware.

Agendas are available for each location. Some topics may include:

Technical	Functional	Management Track
Release 11i/12 Care and Feeding – Applications DBA 101	Release 11i/12 Features and Functionality	Software Licensing AND Release 12: Upgrade Versus Reimplementation Considerations
Release 11i AutoConfig and Cloning	Workflow for End Users	E-Business Tools
Linux, RAC, and 10gR2	Business Process Language (BPEL)	Automated Testing for the Oracle E-Business Suite
Database Growth: Problems and Solutions	Oracle Business Intelligence	Release 11i/12 Security
Oracle Applications Framework (OAF), Foundations with Java	Discoverer 10g and XML Reporting (Part of the BI Suite)	Oracle Fusion Middleware



## Upcoming Solution Beacon Events

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
<b>The Road To Las Vegas<sup>sm</sup> EXTREME Release 11<i>i</i>/12 Workshop in conjunction with the Eastern States OAUG</b> Visit <a href="http://www.solutionbeacon.com">www.solutionbeacon.com</a> to view a complete agenda	January 12, 2007	Raleigh, NC
<b>The Road To Las Vegas<sup>sm</sup> EXTREME Release 11<i>i</i>/12 Workshop in conjunction with the NorCal Training Day – Exhibiting and Presenting:</b> <b>Demystifying Fusion – OAUG's Three Step Program</b> <i>John Stouffer</i> <b>Release 11<i>i</i>/12 Care and Feeding – Applications DBA 101</b> <i>Jacki Cramer</i> <b>Release 11<i>i</i>/12 Security</b> <i>John Stouffer</i> <b>Discoverer and XML Publisher: Full Throttle Reporting</b> <i>Tim Sharpe</i> <b>Business Process Language (BPEL) – The Wave to the Future</b> <i>Paul Cyphers</i> <b>Configuring a Linux Apache Proxy Server for Use with Internet Supplier Portal (iSupplier)</b> <i>Kevin Dahl</i>	January 17, 2007	Santa Clara, CA
<b>Arizona OAUG – Exhibiting and Presenting:</b> <b>Business Process Language (BPEL) – The Wave to the Future</b> <i>Paul Cyphers</i> <b>Automating the Procure to Pay Process or “Garbage at the Speed of Light”</b> <i>Paul Cyphers</i>	January 18, 2007	Phoenix, AZ
<b>The Road To Las Vegas<sup>sm</sup> EXTREME Release 11<i>i</i>/12 Workshop in conjunction with the Ohio Valley OAUG</b> Visit <a href="http://www.solutionbeacon.com">www.solutionbeacon.com</a> to view a complete agenda	January 26, 2007	Cincinnati, OH
<b>The Road To Las Vegas<sup>sm</sup> EXTREME Release 11<i>i</i>/12 Workshop in conjunction with the Colorado OAUG</b> Visit <a href="http://www.solutionbeacon.com">www.solutionbeacon.com</a> to view a complete agenda	February 22, 2007	Denver, CO
<b>Alliance '07 – Exhibiting and Presenting:</b> <b>Use Internet Expenses to Manage Your Procurement Card Transactions</b> <i>Don Driggs</i>	March 11–14, 2007	Orlando, FL
<b>The Road To Las Vegas<sup>sm</sup> EXTREME Release 11<i>i</i>/12 Workshop in conjunction with the Atlanta OAUG.</b> Visit <a href="http://www.solutionbeacon.com">www.solutionbeacon.com</a> to view a complete agenda	March 16, 2007	Atlanta, GA
<b>The Road To Las Vegas<sup>sm</sup> EXTREME Release 11<i>i</i>/12 Workshop in conjunction with the Michigan OAUG.</b> Visit <a href="http://www.solutionbeacon.com">www.solutionbeacon.com</a> to view a complete agenda	March 22, 2007	Detroit, MI

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