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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 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 them via email to mweiss@solutionbeacon.com.

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

http://www.solutionbeacon.com/tools_newsletters.htm

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

Daylight Savings Time (DST) Alert

Don't Assume You Won't Be Affected!

We've been hearing from some E-Business Suite clients who say they assume that the Daylight Savings Time changes that will occur in March this year will not affect them because they do not have any "time-zone sensitive" business transactions. Solution Beacon **strongly** recommends that clients review MetaLink Note 403311.1. The note describes **required** patches for the operating system, database tier and application server, and **conditional** patches for E-Business Suite Release 11i.

Affected E-Business Suite Environments

According to MetaLink Note 403311.1, your E-Business Suite Release 11.5.1 to 11.5.10 environment requires patching if **ANY** of the following are true:

- Your E-Business Suite environment is located in the U.S. or Canada.
- Your E-Business Suite environment is located outside of the U.S. or Canada but you conduct business or have clients or suppliers in the U.S. or Canada.

Good news – There are no Oracle Daylight Savings Time patching requirements for E-Business Release 12, 11.0.3, or 10.7 environments. However, you will need to apply appropriate Operating System (OS) patches provided by your OS vendor.

Keep Checking MetaLink Note 403311.1!

As more clients apply patches and experience issues with DST-related fixes, Oracle continues to update the *United States Time Zone Changes 2007: E-Business Suite (EBS) 403311.1* document on MetaLink.



In some cases, the changes are minor, but in others, the impact can be significant. Reader Dirk Rosenbaum from Albertsons gives a great example of why you need to keep checking MetaLink Note 403311.1:

“I just read your January newsletter about DST. The January 19 revision of MetaLink Note 403311.1 stated the Developer 6i DST patch had to be applied to Patchset #16 or higher. My company is at #14 so I had major concerns about that requirement. On January 31, this was revised to Patchset #10. It is important to continue to review this note!”

Recent changes include new patching requirements for Release 11.5.10 and higher, as well as **mandatory** Jinitiator upgrades if you use Gantt chart functionality in Oracle Field Service, Oracle Manufacturing Scheduling, and Oracle Enterprise Asset Management. The latest version is dated February 26, 2007 and is now published on MetaLink.

Last month we provided a list of additional MetaLink Notes that relate to DST. Bob Fleisig commented that “the DST2007 deadline is not an artificial deadline and it is virtually moments away, in the realm of things. Not getting a solution in place, in time, may affect enterprise systems.” Bob sent us pointers to two additional notes:

Note: 403659.1 – *2007 Daylight Saving Time Changes For Oracle Applications*

Note: 409225.1 – *Impact of 2007 USA DST changes on Grid Control Release 2 – preparation and patching guidelines*

John Stouffer and Randy Giefer, Solution Beacon

Release 12 DBAs – Do You Know?

A Shared APPL_TOP is now an installation option?

There is a brand new TOP called INSTANCE_TOP in the Application Tier that holds any configuration files specific to that server.

Randy Giefer, Solution Beacon

Release 12 Vision Instance is Available on the Solution Beacon Website!

As a member of the Oracle Partner Network, Solution Beacon has installed the E-Business Suite Release 12 Vision instance for public access. Take Release 12 for a spin! Check it out at http://www.solutionbeacon.com/tools_vision.htm, where you can sign up for a username and password.

Browser Settings



In Release 12 the Oracle JInitiator plug-in required by Release 11i is no longer used. Instead, the default Sun JRE (Java 5.0) software is used. If you do not already have the JRE plug-in installed, it will be installed automatically when accessing Forms mode the first time. In order to allow the JRE plug-in to be installed automatically, click Tools->Internet Options->Security->Trusted Sites. Then, click on the "Sites..." button. Enter *.solutionbeacon.net in the "Add this Web site to the zone" field and click "Add". Make sure that "Require server verification (https:) for all sites in this zone" is unchecked.

We have had many users send us email requesting help with getting the Oracle Forms mode interface to work. In most cases we have found the problem is due to **popup blocking** software. Before sending us an email requesting help, check to be sure that you do not have popup blocking software enabled. The Oracle Forms mode interface needs to open several additional browser windows and if it is blocked, Oracle Forms will fail to load.

General Information Regarding Our Release 12 Environment

- 1) JInitiator is no longer used. When accessing forms mode for the first time, the standard Sun JRE plug-in will be downloaded and installed.
- 2) We have restricted certain features on this instance, including site level profiles, Concurrent Manager definitions, and node configurations. We've done this to keep the instance as stable as possible for users.
- 3) When the user registration is completed, the username you are assigned is a copy of the standard "operations" user. If more responsibilities are needed, you can select system administrator and give yourself the extra responsibility
- 4) Workflow is not enabled at this time.
- 5) Back-end database access is generally not available due to firewall and security issues.

Jeff Holt, Solution Beacon

Release 11.5.10 CU3 – What the MetaLink Notes are Really Referencing

You may have heard that there is a CU3 for Release 11.5.10. You may even read it in MetaLink Notes, such as MetaLink Note 375647.1, *Action History Shows a Wrong Approval Flow*, dated 11-Feb-2007. This note contains the following:

Please download and review the readme and pre-requisites for one patch Patch 5242813. This patch needs to be applied on top of 11.5.10.2 (11.5.10 with CU2)

(part of note omitted)

The same fix for 11.5.10.3 (11.5.10 with CU3) is released under Patch 5262428.

If you research Patch 5262428, you will see that the patch has the following description "UNEXPECTED PERFORMERS IN ACTION HISTORY FOR TIMEOUT NOTIFICATIONS (Fix on top of 11.5.10.RUP3)". RUP3 is ATG_PF.H RUP3. It is a collection of patches and new functionality for the

technical products (including AOL, Workflow, XML and several other technical components). It does not contain any new functionality or patches for any other product or product suite.

Oracle has repeatedly stated that CU2 is the last cumulative update for Release 11.5.10. So if you read notes in MetaLink that refer to CU3, check the date of the note. If it is dated 2005 or earlier, the note was released when Oracle was considering a CU3. If the date is recent, then the note is probably referring to ATG_PF.H RUP3.

Obviously, if in doubt, file an SR and ask for clarification.

Karen Brownfield, Solution Beacon

Release 12 DBAs – Do You Know?

The software staging area for the full Release 12 requires approximately 33GB?

A fresh install of Release 12 on a single node now requires approximately 73GB? For the complete Vision instance, it is a whopping 161GB!

Randy Giefer, Solution Beacon

Ask the Solution Beacon Experts

Question: I get the concept of patching current on all the Family Packs for the products you are using. I can see the argument for patching current on other Family Packs where your running version is out of date even though you do not use the related modules (possible shared package with newer version). What are your thoughts on applying a Family Pack for something where there is not a baseline or running version and you will not be using the module (i.e. EXCHG, HC, etc.). Why would you ever do this?

Answer: We almost never patch the Exchange or Healthcare Family Packs unless they are in full use. We recommend patching all Family Packs and also recommend patching the fully installed modules, shared modules and pseudo technology modules where it makes sense. There are approximately 50-100 patches like Family Packs, mini-packs, Critical Patch Updates, Diagnostics, ATG and tech stack rollups (including AutoConfig) and DST patches that need to be applied after 11.5.10.2 has been laid down.

Question: We are installing Oracle Applications Release 11.5.10 with a multi-node installation of the Applications tier and a non-RAC database tier. Do you recommend splitting the installation into two UNIX account IDs, one for the Applications tier and one for database tier? Or should we use one UNIX account ID irrespective of tier.

Answer: For simplicity and ease of maintenance, we recommend a single UNIX account ID install regardless of server configuration (single/multi-tier). The only exception where we can understand when this is not the case is when there is an existing "separation" of duties" policy between the



Application DBAs and the core DBAs. However, we strongly recommend against such a separation of duties in the Release 11i environment. The Oracle E-Business Suite of Applications is a "packaged" software environment and all of the components including the database tier are critical to proper maintenance and administration. We believe that a unified approach to Release 11i application and database administration provides a more manageable and consistent environment. The single user install promotes this concept.

Question: When we disable a user or responsibility or re-enable them, it takes 30 minutes for the change to have an impact. That gives a terminated user a window of opportunity to get into the system when we don't want them in the system. We logged a SR on this and got the following response from Oracle Support:

- Select the responsibility "Functional Administrator"
- Select "Core Services" tab then the "Caching Framework" sub-tab
- Select "Global Configuration" then the "Clear all cache" button to clear all of the Java Caches

Preliminary testing of the solution looks good – but obviously there are performance implications (and possibly other implications) of clearing the cache. The Self Service forms need to re-establish themselves after the cache clearing which takes time and server resources so you probably wouldn't want to be doing it too often. It just doesn't seem like a "real" solution to have to clear the Java Cache every time we disable a user or responsibility. Have you any suggestions?

Answer: We see three options – the solution Oracle Support recommended is one. Another way around this issue is to bounce the Apache server. Either way cache is cleared and there is an impact as it reloads.

The third option is granular control for clearing the framework cache. As Functional Administrator, select Core Services->Caching Framework->Cache Components. Enter "Application Object Library" and click "Go". Then select "Clear Cache" for:

```
RESP_ID_CACHE  
SECURITY_GROUP_ID_CACHE  
SECURITY_GROUP_INFO_CACHE  
USER_ID_CACHE  
USER_INFO_CACHE
```

We tried end-dating a user on our SB Vision environments (Release 11.5.10 baseline, Release 11.5.10.2 patched) and we could not reproduce your problem. As soon as we end-dated a user with Sysadmin, we logged out and then tried to login as the user but got the following message:

Your account does not exist or has expired. Please contact the Web Master or System Administrator.

Since we cannot reproduce the issue, we can't say if the granular clear cache will address the issue. We actually think there's something else causing your problem and suspect you may be behind on the tech stack and/or AOL patches (ATG.H, RUP #3 or RUP #4).



Question: I am unable to run some reports in Payables because the reporting context parameter is not being populated; specifically, the Payables Account Analysis report. This parameter is driven by the MO: Top Level Reporting profile option which is set to Operating Unit. We converted our existing Release 11.0.3 instance to multi-org functionality with one organization and then upgraded to Release 11.5.10.2. I'm encountering problems in upgraded Release 11.5.10.2 environment.

Answer: Running the multi-org conversion in Release 11i post upgrade means that hundreds of tables are affected by the org_id and must seamlessly be updated for a successful conversion – remember there are over 300,000 total database objects in Release 11i. We have encountered issues with multiple Release 11i upgrades in the past where the org_id column was NOT processed properly by the multi-org conversion utility.

Running the multi-org conversion JUST prior to the upgrade – and we do mean as part of the pre-upgrade processing – means that far fewer objects (only 30,000 or so in 11.0.3) need to be properly converted, albeit not every object has the org_id column. The number of module difference between the two is also enough to convince us (Release 11.0 – 50 and Release 11i – 200+) that the applications footprint is much simpler in Release 11.0.X.

We've run it both ways several times. What finally convinced us to do it just before the upgrade is that there were never any issues in the mature Release 10.7 and 11.0 environments ASSUMING the whole multi-org conversion tasks were performed from start to finish and NOT just the DBA conversion task (which is mid-way through the multi-org conversion checklist).

We know this approach works. With all of the patch current activities that now must be performed ON TOP of Release 11i to bring it current, it's just not worth the risk to hope that all of the Release 11i module tables with org_id have no issues during the multi-org conversion.

Diagnostics 2.5 Available (Patch 5679259)

According to MetaLink Note 412686.1, *Oracle Diagnostics 2.5*, “The Oracle Diagnostics framework provides a test repository, execution engine, and user interface for clients, support analysts, and developers to plug-in diagnostic test tools/scripts. Customers, quality assurance analysts, database administrators and support analysts can run these tests, either for troubleshooting or for simply sanity checking the Oracle Application instance periodically. Each execution of a test tool/script generates an output report which is rich in information for troubleshooting.”

Read about the latest E-Business Suite Support – Diagnostic Tools in MetaLink Note 167000.1. Oracle warns that this new version “**introduces significant changes in the security configuration of diagnostic tests. Please review MetaLink Note 409141.1 for more details.**” Diagnostics 2.5 REQUIRES a minimum of Release 11.5.9, plus ATG_PF.H RUP 4. Oracle offers an older patchset, the November 2006 Support Diagnostics Patch, for customers who are running E-Business Suite Release 11.5.4 or higher, but not the minimum of Release 11.5.9 with ATG_PF.H RUP 4.

If you haven't installed Diagnostics, you need to. Oracle requires Diagnostics output to be uploaded with SRs to help resolve customer problems.

8.1.7.4 Desupport Redux

Oracle has previously announced desupport dates for RDBMS Version 8.1.7.4. Below are some of the critical dates to be aware of:

8.1.7.4 Desupport Non-Apps – ECS 12/31/2004, ES 12/31/2007, EMS (for an additional fee) 12/31/2006

8.1.7.4 Desupport with Release 11.0.3 – ECS 2/28/07, ES 1/31/09

8.1.7.4 Desupport with Releases 11.5.1-11.5.6 – ECS 7/31/06, ES 7/31/07

ECS – Error Correction (Bug Fixes)

ES – Extended Support (No New Fixes)

EMS – Pay Extra Money for a Longer Support Window

John Stouffer, Solution Beacon

JInitiator 1.3.1.x, Sun JRE, ATG RUP #4, Developer Patchset 18 and IE7

Sun JRE for Release 11i Early Adopters

It appears that the Sun JRE can be used instead of JInitiator for Release 11i, but ONLY as an early adopter, and there are known documented issues. If anyone is participating as an early adopter Solution Beacon would love to hear more details about your experiences.

Readers that would like to try the Sun JRE for Release 12 can log on to Solution Beacon's new Release 12 Vision instance at http://www.solutionbeacon.com/tools_vision.htm, since Release 12 requires the Sun JRE.

JInitiator 1.3.1.x and ATG RUP #4 Required for IE 7

Both Certify for JInitiator 1.3.1.x and Steven Chan's blog say that JInitiator Version 1.3.1.x and ATG RUP #4 are required for IE 7. This is still the status based on Certify and MetaLink Note 285218.1:

Microsoft Internet Explorer 7 is certified for Oracle Applications Release 11.5.10 or later, with Oracle Developer 6i patchset 18 (6.0.8.27.x) or later (MetaLink Note 125767.1) and with Oracle Applications Technology 11i.ATG_PF.H Rollup 4 (RUP 4) (Patch 4676589).

This note also contains other details for using IE 7, including default security settings requirements in the browser that are different from those of IE 6.



Articles from Steven's blog, which is the **premier source** of Oracle Applications information, cover these topics:

ATG Rollup 4: <http://blogs.oracle.com/schan/2006/08/07>
Dev6i Patchset 18: <http://blogs.oracle.com/schan/2006/05/10#a164>
JRE Early Adopter Program: <http://blogs.oracle.com/schan/2006/04/18#a23>
IE 7: <http://blogs.oracle.com/schan/newsItems/departments/desktopClients/2006/12/1>

John Stouffer and Balu Kulandaisamy, Solution Beacon

Fusion Corner

What a Busy 2007!

It's only February, but 2007 has already been a very busy year for Oracle Fusion. Let's take a moment to catch our breath with a review of recent and upcoming events.

OAUG Continues to Deliver On The Demystifying Fusion Series

Tim Dexter, from Oracle's XML Publisher team, gave an outstanding presentation for OAUG's "Community Thursday" session on Demystifying Oracle Fusion in January. In February, Innwave Technology's Basheer Khan delivered an excellent presentation titled "Web Services Fundamentals for Fusion".

You're really missing out on a good thing if you're not joining the Demystifying Fusion series. There is a strong emphasis in these sessions on getting into the nuts and bolts of various Fusion Architecture components, with quite a few "driving live" demos. I should also point out that these sessions are free to all OAUG members.

The next Demystifying Fusion session is scheduled for March 15th. Solution Beacon's Paul Cyphers will present "Business Process Execution Language (BPEL) – Wave To The Future".

The Release of E-Business Suite Release 12

Well, the Oracle E-Business development teams did it. Oracle quietly made E-Business Suite Release 12 generally available for purchase from the Oracle Store and for download from Oracle Product E-Delivery on January 25th. The About Documents that came with earlier releases have been consolidated into a single document, MetaLink Note 394692.1. You can find information about the Release Content Documents ("RCDs") that describe the new features in Release 12 for each product family in MetaLink Note 404152.1.

Transparent Data Encryption Certified With E-Business Suite Release 11i

Transparent Data Encryption ("TDE") is now certified with the E-Business Suite. TDE allows encryption of selected columns in the E-Business Suite database tables, but is transparent to the Applications



during runtime and requires no additional patches. However, Oracle Wallet is required for backing up files utilizing TDE. Prerequisites include E-Business Suite Release 11.5.9 CU2 and RDBMS 10gR2 database version 10.2.0.2. You can read the full story on using TDE in MetaLink Note 403294.1.

Rumors and More Rumors

I really couldn't wrap up a "catch up" article for any significant period of time without addressing some Oracle rumors, now could I? If nothing else, they're good for a smile and a chat around the office water cooler. Among those recently heard:

- According to IT Week, Oracle's next acquisition target is Business Objects. You can read the full story at <http://www.itweek.co.uk/itweek/news/2173705/oracle-rumoured-eyeing-business>. This rumor comes up once or twice a year, so I'd take it with a grain of salt...
- Oracle will soon offer support for MySQL, much in the same way they're doing so for RedHat Linux. You can read all about it at <http://developers slashdot.org/article.pl?sid=07/01/29/168235&from=rss>.
- Oracle will soon make an offer for SAP (no kidding, I really read this) at <http://www.ecommercetimes.com/rsstory/55425.html>)

Floyd Teter, Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Fusion Council Activities

OAUG's Fusion Council now provides a three-step roadmap guide for Demystifying Fusion Applications via webinars and at every *Road to Las Vegas*sm EXTREME event.

Stay current with OAUG Fusion Council activities at: <http://oaug.org/resources/fusioncouncil/index.html>

John Stouffer and Randy Giefer, Solution Beacon, and Floyd Teter, JPL

Linux Series in OAUG Insight Magazine

Solution Beacon will be presenting a three-part series of articles about Linux Architecture for the E-Business Suite for the next three OAUG Insight editions. Watch for the first article in the Spring issue of OAUG Insight, available in April.

Brian Bent, Solution Beacon



From Asia to Australia and Back Home Again; Solution Beacon Presents the OAUG – Three Step Program to Demystifying Fusion



John Stouffer, Senior Solution Beacon Architect, spoke to OAUG groups in the Pacific Rim about the OAUG Fusion Council's Roadmap to *Demystifying Fusion – A Three Step Program*. As the Co-Chair for the OAUG Fusion Council, John has extensive experience in the nuances of the most current cutting-edge technology available to Oracle Applications users today.

John took his message across the Pacific Rim to a wide range of Oracle Applications users. In Tokyo, he spoke to an intrigued group; and through multiple translators, John was able to offer his insight and expertise about the

intricacies of delivering Fusion Middleware in a real world environment. He spoke extensively on how to leverage Oracle Fusion Middleware now as an integration point for legacy systems including older Oracle Application releases especially those with significant customizations and extensions.

As John navigated his way across the Pacific Rim, he spoke with Oracle Application customers in Taipei, Taiwan, and Singapore, creating significant interest for upgrades, implementations and the deployment of the necessary tools required for the proper management of Oracle Applications E-Business Suite.

“Tools automation will be critical to the day to day management of Oracle Applications going forward, as resources become more and more constrained while data growth and application complexity continues at a staggering pace. Instead of retaining the information in core production systems, and therefore impeding system performance with inactive data, it is necessary to understand how tools including data archiving tools like HP RIM for Databases work to retain information for compliance purposes while moving the inactive data to more cost effective storage solutions” said John Stouffer.

While in Australia, John also presented the OAUG Fusion Council *Demystifying Fusion* presentation to the AUSOUG. The meeting was held at the Oracle offices in Sydney, New South Wales Australia.

Hope Malone, Solution Beacon



OAUG News

OAUG Presents Free Siebel Web Series

The OAUG, in partnership with Oracle, announces a free Web series for the Siebel community. These online sessions will be conducted by Oracle and OAUG partners, and will be hosted on Wednesdays and Thursdays until COLLABORATE 07: Technology and Applications Forum for the Oracle Community, April 15-19, 2007.

Series topics include:

- Siebel 8.0 Upgrading Training
- Siebel CRM On Demand for PeopleSoft ERP Users
- Best Practices for Performance and Scalability

For more information about the free Web series or to register, visit the OAUG Web site at www.oaug.org/usercommunities/siebel/index.html.

COLLABORATE 07: Register Today! COLLABORATE 07: Technology & Applications Forum for the Oracle Community April 15-19, 2007. Mandalay Bay Resort and Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV.

COLLABORATE 07, featuring the OAUG Forum, promises to be one event you can't afford to miss. In fact, the OAUG Forum agenda is bigger and better with over 400 scheduled sessions! The OAUG Forum will feature more sessions than ever before. Oracle E-Business Suite, Oracle Retail, PeopleSoft, Siebel, Oracle Communications Billing and Revenue Management (formerly Portal Software) and other acquired Oracle Applications users will enjoy in-depth discussions led by industry leaders on an incredible breadth of topics.

New for COLLABORATE 07, you may [search the entire collection of OAUG Forum sessions](#) using multiple search options. OAUG Forum session abstracts are now available for review, so [start your search today!](#)

The [COLLABORATE 07 OAUG Web site](#) also highlights Oracle Corporation participation, geographic and special interest group meetings, pre- and post-conference workshops and details regarding several new conference additions, including the OAUG Golf Classic and an exciting new Exhibitor Showcase feature, THEgame.

For more information or to [register](#), visit the [COLLABORATE 07 OAUG Web site](#). **Early-bird registration rates are only available until March 16, 2007 — a savings of USD \$200!** Hotel rooms in Las Vegas are filling up quickly, so you are encouraged to [register today](#) to secure your accommodations during the conference. Visit the [OAUG COLLABORATE 07 hotel information page](#) for hotel options and rates.

Robin Dahlen, Meeting Expectations



The Road to Las Vegassm EXTREME Workshop Series

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

Completed

Dallas, TX – SCO AUG, September 25, 2006
 Santa Clara, CA – NorCal, January 17, 2007
 Cincinnati, OH – OVO AUG, January 26, 2007
 Denver, CO – CO AUG, February 22, 2007

Remaining

Atlanta, GA – AtIO AUG, March 16, 2007
 Detroit, MI – MI-O AUG, March 22, 2007
 Encore workshops to be announced!

O AUG, Solution Beacon, HP, and Oracle 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 Vegassm 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.

The *Road to Las Vegassm EXTREME* Release 11i/12 workshop is coming to a city near you! For locations, dates, agendas, abstracts, and more, please visit our website at: <http://www.solutionbeacon.com/rtvindex.htm>

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 Execution 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



The Road to Las Vegassm EXTREME Workshop – Cincinnati, OH

The *Road to Las Vegas* EXTREME continued on to Cincinnati, Ohio, in January, where the turnout was a strong 80+ attendees. As the elite group of Solution Beacon Solution Architects and Consultants presented the material with professionalism and authority, the attendees left each room with more information and tactics on success than when they first entered.

I attended the 'Discoverer 10g and XML Reporting – Part of the BI Suite presentation and found it not only informative, but I also learned new things available in Discoverer. Tim Sharpe was extremely knowledgeable and did an excellent job presenting the materials. – *Thomas Michael, System Analyst, Dayton Power & Light*

Lance Reedy kept his audience on the edge of their seats with the useful and specific information presented in **Oracle Applications Framework (OAF), Foundations with Java**; “I only wish we had more time to spend with the subject, we only scratched the surface,” said one attendee.

And the Winner Is...

Congratulations to Lorraine Powell of Kenton County Airport Board, the winner of an American Express \$50 Gift Card at the booth giveaway!

Congratulations to Donna Baker, Emerson Power, and Melinda Broughton, Intelligrated, the winners of the *Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle E-Business Suite Applications Release 11.5.10+* book giveaway!

The Road to Las Vegassm EXTREME Workshop – Denver, CO

The Denver RTV event was another stellar production with a registration of over 100 COAUG members and potential members. Throughout the day attendees were astonished by the informative and helpful presentations. It was standing room only as Tim Sharpe and Naren Thota presented **Discoverer 10g and XML Reporting**. Richard Butterfield of HP presented **Database Growth: Problems and Solutions** to an eager audience.

I have learned so many different key tools and information that I will be able to take back to work and begin using immediately. This was really worth the time away from work. Thank you for bringing us the presentations! – *Reggie Thurn, Senior Business Analyst, Larimer County*.

And the Winner Is...

Congratulations to Debbie James of Affordable Residential Communities, the winner of an American Express \$50 Gift Card!

Congratulations to Sue Ellen Berkimeyer of National Renewable Energy Laboratory, David Camacho of EchoStar and Reggie Thurn of Larimer County, the winners of the *Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle E-Business Suite Applications Release 11.5.10+* book giveaway!

More information about the remaining shows and all the presentations of past shows can be found on our website at <http://www.solutionbeacon.com/rtvindex.htm>



Solution Beacon Foundation Update

We've just finished assisting with the build for the **FIFTH (!)** solar-powered computer center in heart of Kenya. Steve Peifer's programs to feed and educate children continue to grow. Steve is an ex-Oracle Applications consultant and brings a unique perspective to project management, Kenya style. Recently, students in the programs that Steve supports were accepted to Harvard, Yale, Stanford and the Air Force Academy. Totally Cool!!

Below is a thought provoking article recently written about Steve and his computer program:

From: steve peifer [<mailto:peifer@kijabe.net>]
Sent: Sunday, December 03, 2006 11:05 AM
Subject: Technology: Why we have to move faster/thought you would like to see this

Technology: Why We Have to Move Faster

by Vincent Obiro Orute

Were somebody to ask me to state categorically what I consider to be the greatest challenge facing African countries, I would say without fear of contradiction, technology.

Forty years after independence, technological advancement remains far from experiencing the restructuring needed to put African countries on a sustainable technological growth path.

Worse, we appear to be losing the momentum for technological advancement and economic reform. Consider for example, a small rural school, Karima. The surrounding area around this school has never seen a telephone or powerline for years. The children of this school, like millions of their rural counterparts across the land, had until recently never seen or touched a computer, let alone use one. We all know that without computing knowledge these children can not acquire the required knowledge and skills in the modern world. We also know that we can not claim to be educating our children for the betterment of their lives if we do not equip them with the necessary skills. But what to do? Shall the children of Karima school wait for the grand roll out of rural electrification programmes? Shall the children of Karima school wait for the right incentives in the telecommunications industry so that the rural teledensity finally hits the rural Karima school? Shall the children of Karima school wait for the national ICT strategy to sweep them all to the computing world in a winged chariot?

Steve Peifer, a tourist who worked as a technologist for Oracle Corporation in the USA met the children of Karima school during his adventure in East Africa and saw their innocent and eager desire to learn new and modern things. He saw them packed into classrooms without any adequate learning or teaching aids. Steve did not shake his head in despair and walk away. He decided to do something about it.

His strategy did not involve knocking on the doors of ministries or government departments. He simply devised an alternative plan, and set out to make it work. Step one was to go back to America to raise some money. After raising some money he came back to East Africa, bought a 20 foot used shipping container, 10 refurbished laptop computers, a solar power supply unit and some building materials. He then cut windows and a door into the sides of the container, laid a concrete foundation and built a roof. He wired up some solar panels from the roof to the power supply unit and connected all the 10 laptop computers. He spruced everything up, planted a few flowers around the new structure, and bang! The 21st century finally hit Karima school with a storm. Karima school



now has a modern computer lab with neat and fully clean functional computers whirring away, powered by nothing other than the usual African sun which shines everywhere across the land. And if you happen to visit Karima school as I did myself, you will meet busy little children tapping away on the keyboards with their eagerness shining on their faces. You will even be told by Steve Peifer, that some of these kids queue up for two hours from 5.30am in the morning, just to get a chance to learn to type on the computers before normal classes begin at 8.00am in the morning. You will come away from Karima school, as I did, with a song in your heart and hope unbounded, knowing that you might just have glimpsed the future of rural education in East Africa.

The cost? A total of US \$15,000 from start to finish. For that very modest outlay, hundreds of school children now have access to computing knowledge. From these children may emerge those who will one day have the expertise to salvage Africa and its poverty situation. For only US\$15,000 hundreds of solar powered computers have been installed around. Steve Peifer, through his initiative and endeavors, has achieved what most Africans never will. He has brought meaningful progress to the lives of many children some of whom had never seen a computer, let alone touch or use it. And he did it for neither gain nor glory.

Steve Peifer is not an African and perhaps that is what helped him. For what would we have done in his place? Probably nothing. Most would have shrugged and turned away. Others may have approached an NGO to do something. Many would have looked for personal gain out of the whole thing. Most would have moved onto something more lucrative. I know there are Africans scattered through the continent who are not like that. Some have initiated wonderful micro-projects without necessarily waiting for outside help. But they are very thin on the ground.

"The superior man is modest in his speech, but exceeds in his actions", said Confucius. Steve Peifer is indeed a modest man and he is telling us something. He is telling us that we have the power to bring positive change in the lives of many people around us and that we don't have to be elected to power in order to do so. First we must learn how to give a damn gain. And then we must organise ourselves and just do it. Our economics lecturer in college once told us: "Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For indeed, that is all who ever have." Indeed, Steve Peifer and his American friends are caring people who should be emulated by many if meaningful development has to be achieved.

If we are to move forward and help those in need of help especially those living in wretched poverty, that may well be the best way to do it. We must all emulate Steve Peifer. It is now as plain as the nose on our faces that there is no African Bill Gates waiting to emerge in order to save Africa and its technological predicaments. Selfless and immediate action is all that we require to pull us from the abyss of poverty.

Vincent Obiro Orute is a seasoned banker and micro finance expert. <mailto:email:orutev@yahoo.com>

We have been trying valiantly for a couple of years to get Steve's message out. If anyone has any ideas on this topic, please feel free to contact us at: sbfoundation@solutionbeacon.net.

Please check out the Solution Beacon Foundation programs at:

<http://www.solutionbeaconfoundation.org/index.html>

Please check out Steve's programs at:

<http://www.solutionbeaconfoundation.org/stevepeifer.htm>

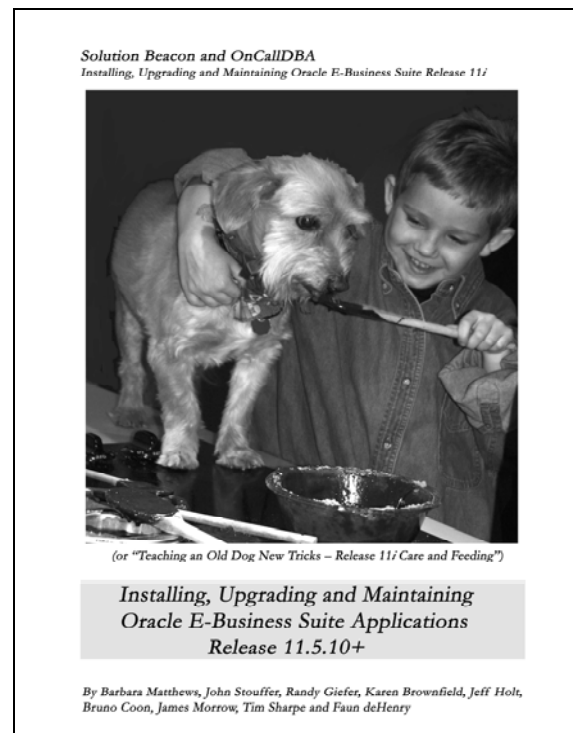
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Logical Apps: Vendor Corner

LogicalApps™, provider of embedded governance software for enterprise applications, recently announced it has acquired the Integra™ product line from Applimation™. Assets acquired in the cash transaction include all of the Integra intellectual property, client licenses and support contracts, as well as key employees who bring product, development, client support and domain expertise. The combined technology and market share – over 300 clients – solidifies LogicalApps as the undisputed leader of automated controls solutions for the Oracle market.

"By integrating Integra's configuration management, access controls and transaction monitoring features with the real-time preventative and detective controls of ACTIVE Governance, LogicalApps is making the best automated controls solution even better," said Chris Capdevila, founding CEO of LogicalApps. "This acquisition helps us accelerate availability of the leading embedded governance solution across an array of ERP platforms."

The Integra product line will continue to mature and be integrated into LogicalApps ACTIVE Governance family of solutions, which includes user access management, configuration management and transaction monitoring. This integration will create the industry's most robust and flexible solution for automating policy enforcement within enterprise applications to meet governance requirements and maintain sustainable compliance.

ACTIVE Governance™ is the first solution to embed governance policies and processes directly into the Oracle E-Business Suite. Delivering more than simple documentation and monitoring of controls, ACTIVE Governance prevents control violations from happening by automatically enforcing governance policies in real time. By reducing risks and tracking data and configuration changes, ACTIVE Governance is the only governance software that enables better business processes resulting in greater efficiency and improved financial integrity.



Solution Beacon LLC Named a Four Star Partner with OAUG



Solution Beacon LLC has been inducted into the Four Star Partner program with OAUG. This partnership has been developing steadily over the past three years. Solution Beacon initially joined the OAUG as a Rising Star Partner and each year has increased their level of participation with OAUG

"Being a Four Star Partner not only reflects Solution Beacon's long-standing commitment and support of the OAUG organization, it also allows us to group our marketing efforts into one cost-effective package price and deliver it directly to our target audience." said Kandi Zastro, Events Manager.

As a Four Star Partner Solution Beacon has access and opportunities to create a strong brand presence with Oracle Applications users. There are only eight Four Star Partners each year, so the benefits and recognition send a strong and powerful message throughout the year.



Upcoming Solution Beacon Events

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
ClearOrbit Xtended World – Sponsoring, Exhibiting, Presenting Discoverer 10g and XML Reporting (Part of the BI Suite) – Naren Thota, Solution Beacon	February 28 – March 2, 2007	Austin, TX
Higher Ed User Group (HEUG) – Alliance '07 – Exhibiting	March 11–14, 2007	Orlando, FL
NCOAUG – Lunch Sponsor, Exhibiting, Presenting A Technical Roadmap to Fusion, Release 12, and Oracle Fusion Applications – <i>John Stouffer</i> Release 11i/12 Features and Functionality – <i>Daryl Geryol</i> Upgrade Vs. Reimplementation Considerations, Release 12 – <i>Daryl Geryol</i> 10g-RAC-ASM-OCFS-RAW-PDQ Decoded – <i>Kevin Dahl</i> AutoConfig – <i>James Morrow</i> OAF, Foundations with Java – <i>Lance Reedy</i> Agenda can be viewed at www.ncoaug.org .	March 12, 2007	Chicago, IL
OAUG eLearning Presentation Business Process Execution Language (BPEL) – The Wave to the Future – <i>Paul Cyphers, Solution Beacon</i>	March 15, 2007	www.oaug.com
The Road To Las Vegassm EXTREME Release 11i/12 Workshop in conjunction with the Atlanta OAUG. Visit www.solutionbeacon.com to view a complete agenda	March 16, 2007	Atlanta, GA
The Road To Las Vegassm EXTREME Release 11i/12 Workshop in conjunction with the Michigan OAUG. Visit www.solutionbeacon.com to view a complete agenda	March 22, 2007	Detroit, MI
SROAUG – Exhibiting	March 23, 2007	Los Angeles, CA
TCOUG Presentation Business Process Execution Language (BPEL) – The Wave to the Future – <i>Paul Cyphers, Solution Beacon</i>	April 12, 2007	Eden Prairie, MN
Collaborate '07 – Sponsoring, Exhibiting, Presenting Visit www.solutionbeacon.com for more information!	April 15–19, 2007	Las Vegas, NV

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