



In This Issue

Important Changes to Release 11i	1
ATG RUP 5	
Release 11.5.7 and 11.5.8 Desupport	
IE7 Now Certified with Release 11.5.9	
AutoConfig Rollup Patch P	
April 2007 Critical Patch Update (CPU) Patch Impact Analysis	
Solution Beacon Blog	1
Oracle Diagnostics – Troubleshooting Help For Functional Users	2
Apps DBA 101: Release 11.5.10.2 Post-Install Checklist ..	6
After Express ... What's Next?	8
Where is My XML Output?	10
Ask the Solution Beacon Experts	11
Stump the Experts: JInitiator Crashes IE	12
Release 12 Oracle Integration Repository (iRep)	13
Release 12 Users – Make Sure You're Using the RIGHT Version of JRE!	16
Fusion Corner	17
OAUG News	18
DOUG Meeting	19
AZOAUG Meeting	19
Solution Beacon Foundation Update	20
The Road to Las Vegas SM EXTREME Encore Workshop – Worcester, MA	20
Release 12 Webinars	21
Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle E-Business Suite Applications Release 11.5.10+	22
Release 12 Primer Coming in October!	22
Vendor Corner: Noetix	23
Upcoming Solution Beacon Events	24

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 E-Business Applications topic, please send your contact information, topic, and a short abstract to SBNewsletter@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 SBNewsletter@solutionbeacon.com.

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

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

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

Important Changes to Release 11i

ATG RUP 5

ATG RUP 5, also known as 11i.ATG_PF.H.delta.5, (Patch 5473858) was released recently. RUP 5 includes bug fixes as well as new features, including a new version of XML (BI) Publisher (Version 5.6.3).

Release 11.5.7 and 11.5.8 Desupport

Premier Support for Release 11.5.7 ends 5/31/2007 and for Release 11.5.8 on 11/30/2007.

IE7 Now Certified with Release 11.5.9

IE7 has been certified with Release 11.5.10 since December and now it's finally certified with Release 11.5.9 as well. See our article 'Stump the Experts: JInitiator Crashes IE' – just because it's certified doesn't mean you won't have issues.

AutoConfig Rollup Patch P

TXK (FND and ADX) AutoConfig Rollup Patch P (Patch 5759055) was released recently. It is included in ATG RUP 5 and features, amongst other things, fixes for cloning.

Check out Steven Chan's blog:

<http://blogs.oracle.com/schan/> for more on these enhancements and other topics.

April 2007 Critical Patch Update (CPU) Patch Impact Analysis

Integrigy provides free, detailed analysis of the impact of the CPU patches as well as the security impact of ATG RUP 5 on their website at: <http://www.integrigy.com>

Solution Beacon Blog

Don't miss our BLOG – finally, Solution Beacon is joining the blogosphere, with the launch of <http://solutionbeacon.blogspot.com>. This site will complement our newsletters, with the goal of providing more interactive communications with our clients.

Oracle Diagnostics – Troubleshooting Help For Functional Users

Oracle Diagnostics provides tests accessible within the E-Business Suite to analyze application setup, configuration and data issues. In many cases, these tools allow functional users to proactively avoid problems or reactively resolve problems in a shorter timeframe without involving technical resources or Oracle Support. In earlier releases, these tests were available only to run as a script from the operating system (i.e. UNIX) or directly from SQL. Now many of these tests are available within the Applications to enable users with the ability to correct the problem access to the tool to diagnose the problem.

Security for diagnostics allows users to run tests only for applications for which they have an active responsibility. For example, running the *General Ledger General Setup* test is only allowed for users who have a *General Ledger* responsibility. Additionally, with the exception of a few tests only available to the SYSADMIN responsibility, Diagnostic tests do not report data that would be considered private, such as tax ids or bank account numbers.

For all users, grant access to Diagnostic reports by assigning the responsibility *Oracle Diagnostics Tool*. The users will be able to view all available report options, but remember, they will only be able to run reports for which they have an associated responsibility.

Other paths to the Diagnostics Tool include:

- Oracle Applications Manager (OAM) → Diagnostics
- CRM HTML Administration Responsibility → Setup → Diagnostics
- http://<domain_name>/OA_HTML/jtflogin.jsp

Key features of the diagnostics tool include:

- Basic and Advanced Tests - Run tests as needed to troubleshoot issues or validate data and settings.
- Test Sets – Run a seeded test set or create a custom test set. For example, create a test set to run the period close report for applications that are fully installed.
- Alerts – Create alerts to report errors or warnings from test results.
- Scheduling – Schedule tests or test sets as needed.
- Upload to support – Save and upload any test to an open support request.

Run Reports/View Report Results Example

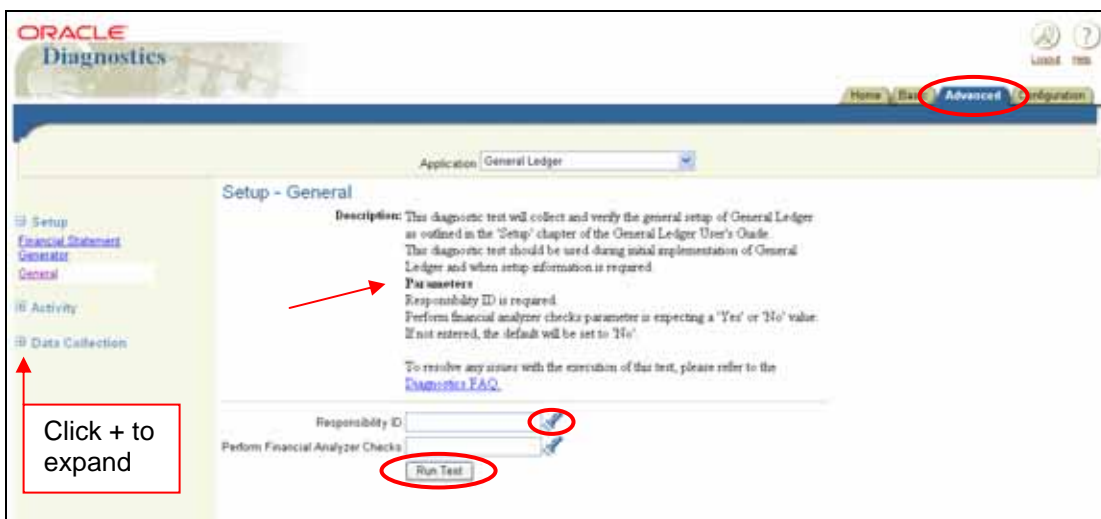
- Access the Diagnostics Tool
- Click on the Advanced Tab
- Choose the application → General Ledger
- The number of tests is a hyperlink to the tests for the functional area specified. On the following page, you can choose the General Ledger Application by clicking on the 9 next to the General Ledger Application or using the drop down list of values.



The screenshot shows the Oracle Diagnostics Summary page. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Home, Basic, Advanced, and Configuration. Below these is a sub-navigation bar with Summary, LogViewer, Search, Batch Process, and Test Sets. The Application dropdown menu is set to 'HTML Platform'. A red arrow points to this dropdown. Below the navigation is a 'Diagnostics Summary' section with a description. Two tables are displayed: 'Test Summary' and 'Failures in Past Week'. A red arrow points to the 'General Ledger' entry in the 'Test Summary' table.

Application	Registered Tests
HTML Platform	9
Advanced Pricing	3
Alert	1
Application Object Library	91
Applications DBA	11
Assets	5
CRM Foundation	41
Cash Management	2
Collections	1
Contracts Core	1
Cost Management	8
Email Center	10
Field Service	2
Field Service/Laptop	6
Field Service/Palm	7
General Ledger	9
Global Accounting Engine	3
Grants Accounting	2
Human Resources	19

- Expand the group by clicking on the + next to the group name and select a test. On the next page, all tests provide a brief description about the purpose of the test and details about required and optional parameters.
- Enter required and optional parameters. Click the flashlight to select valid responsibilities with authority to run this test. Enter any other parameters if necessary.
- Click *Run Test*






The screenshot shows the Oracle Diagnostics Setup - General page for the 'General Ledger' application. The 'Advanced' tab is selected and circled in red. The page contains a description of the diagnostic test, its parameters, and a 'Run Test' button. A red arrow points to the 'Run Test' button. A red box highlights the 'Click + to expand' instruction, with an arrow pointing to the '+' icon next to the 'Data Collection' section in the left-hand navigation pane.

- When the test completes, results will be returned to this page.
- Click on the report icon to view the report:

Results

Test failed

Test Name	Run#	Status	Time (mil sec)	Values	Report
General	1	FAIL	35135	Responsibility ID = 20434; Perform Financial Analyzer Checks = Yes;	

- Reports with errors or warnings contain detailed information regarding fixes. Specific MetaLink notes are often referenced. Following are some excerpts from the failed General Ledger Setup report.
- Choose to Print, Save or Upload to Support if desired or review the results from this page.
- Near the top of the report, look for the number of errors and warnings.
- The summary contains hyperlinks to different sections of the report. A  is displayed next to sections with warnings. The  indicates an error in the section.

General Report

Current Execution
 Date: 2007-02-27 23:37:22.0 Time Consumed: 35135 milliseconds Status: Failed






Version Info:
 oracle.apps.izu.base.diag.DBUtility 115.14
 oracle.apps.izu.base.diag.DiagBase 115.18
 oracle.apps.izu.base.diag.SessionHelper 115.6
 oracle.apps.izu.base.diag.TextUtility 115.14
 oracle.apps.izu.base.diag.YesNoLov 115.2
 oracle.apps.izu.fnd.diag.FHDIRIRTY 115.25
 oracle.apps.izu.general.diag.DiagnosticPackInfo 115.8
 oracle.apps.izu.gl.diag.GLUtility 115.15
 oracle.apps.izu.per.diag.PERUtility 115.12

Inputs:
 Responsibility ID= 20434
 Perform Financial Analyzer Checks= Yes
 Diagnostic Test Executed By= SBEHII

Error:
 1 error and 7 warnings were found.

Help:
 Please review the test summary for more information.

Summary:

Oracle Diagnostics Information	Product Installation Status and Patchset Level	Parameters
Key Profile Options	Set of Books 	Chart of Accounts = Operations Accounting Flex (Id = 10) 
Accounting Calendar	Functional Currency	Budgetary Control Details
Budgets	Oracle Financial Analyzer Setup	Global Intercompany System (GIS) Details 
Miscellaneous General Ledger Details 	General Ledger Profile Options	FSG Profile Options
ADI Profile Options 	References	

- Drilling down to the section in error displays the error condition, corrective action and a MetaLink note reference.

ERROR - There are overlapping child ranges and/or children with multiple parents
ACTION - Review the following table to identify the overlapping child ranges. For further information refer to note: [118130.1](#)

Overlapping child ranges							
Value Set Name	Rollup Group Parent	Immediate Parent	Low	High	Immediate Parent	Low	High
Progress_Object	40000	41210	41211	41299	41200	41220	41299
Progress_Object	41200	41210	41211	41299	41200	41220	41299
Progress_UK_Account	00002	44199	41000	42400	41999	42000	42002
Progress_UK_Account	00002	44400	44421	44422	44420	44421	44422
Progress_UK_Account	00200	44199	41000	42400	41999	42000	42002
Progress_UK_Account	00200	44400	44421	44422	44420	44421	44422

6 rows retrieved

- Drilling down to the references section provides additional relevant MetaLink notes.

References [\[Top\]](#)

- Note [131471.1](#) Self Service Tool Kit for General Ledger
- Note [116495.1](#) FSG PRT Financial Statement Generator Printing
- Note [136633.1](#) General Ledger Budgets FAQ
- Note [136685.1](#) General Ledger Document Sequencing FAQ
- Note [149019.1](#) How can I define my first MRC Period?
- Note [108236.1](#) FSG Financial Statement Generator FAQ
- Note [135433.1](#) General Ledger Open/Close Period FAQ

Summary

Diagnostic testing is not only the first step in troubleshooting, it's also a good tool to proactively check and maintain the health of the E-Business Suite Applications. Oracle has moved toward giving the capabilities to manage the system to the owners of the data, which is the business team, and not letting this responsibility lie with the technical team. The example provided is only a very small fraction of what is available now within the applications. We encourage all functional users to run all the available reports. Diagnostic reporting does not update any data. It is only a reporting tool. With the security described in this article, there is no reason to restrict access to this valuable tool.

How to download support diagnostic tools

The latest version of currently available support diagnostic tools can be downloaded from the MetaLink Doc. ID: 167000.1, "eBusiness Suite Support – Oracle Diagnostics Support Pack Installation Guide".

How to install support diagnostic tools

Installation instructions are available in the MetaLink Doc. ID: 167000.1 and in step-by-step demos and on-line training available in the MetaLink Doc. ID: 232116.1

How to execute support diagnostic tools

Execution instructions are available in the MetaLink Doc ID: 167000.1 and in step-by-step demos and on-line training available in the MetaLink Doc. ID: 232116.1, "Oracle Applications: Support Diagnostics Tools Training Material".

For additional information, download the white paper for functional users presented at Collaborate 07 from our web site. The white paper for Oracle Diagnostics for DBAs, Developers and Super Users will be available after the presentation at ODTUG in June.

Susan Behn, Solution Beacon

Apps DBA 101: Release 11.5.10.2 Post-Install Checklist

We thought it would be helpful to update our list of post-install steps necessary for Release 11.5.10.2. Here's what our Solution Beacon DBAs came up with:

1. Download a current copy and run `patchsets.sh`
2. Upgrade the Operating System to the current Oracle certified version
3. Upgrade the Oracle RDBMS to the current Oracle certified version (currently Version 10gR2)
4. Upgrade Oracle Developer to the current Oracle certified version (currently 6.0.8.27.0 Patch 18)
5. Upgrade JInitiator to the current Oracle certified version (currently 1.3.1.28)
6. Upgrade Java to the current Oracle certified version (currently J2SE 5.0 and JDK 1.5.0)
7. Patch to current family pack levels (per the results of post-installation task #1 above)
8. Execute a tech stack validation to ensure current, certified levels
9. Apply CPU (Critical Patch Update) patches (currently Apr2007 CPU)
10. Apply patches from the MetaLink "recommended" list
11. Apply and test the latest Diagnostics (currently Oracle Diagnostics 2.5 RUP A)
12. Apply Help patches
13. Disable startup of Discoverer 4i (`s_discostatus = disabled` in context file)
14. Install/configure the latest Oracle certified Discoverer 10g (currently Version 10.1.2.0.2)
15. Implement Forms Listener Servlet (optional)
16. Set Workflow Administrator to a responsibility in the context file
17. Configure Workflow Mailer

18. Configure custom top directories (use `topfile.txt`)
19. Download and run `patchsets.sh` again to verify all installed family packs and pseudo products are patched current
20. Archive all of the `*.req` files under `$APPL_TOP/admin` to a different directory and compress the `adpatch` logs
21. Run `adadmin` (generate forms/reports/messages, etc.)
22. Resize tablespaces to accommodate expected growth
23. Resize the `sga` (`shared_pool`, `pga` aggregate, `db cache`, `processes`) for appropriate growth patterns
24. Change apps and schema passwords from defaults (even for non-production environments)
25. Implement pinning (use Oracle's `pinnd` toolkit via MetaLink Doc. ID: 301171.1)
26. Check profile options for debug and trace settings
27. Change `APPLPTMP` in context file from `/usr/tmp` to new directory (e.g.: `$ORACLE_BASE/<sid>tmp`)
28. Change `init.ora`'s `utl_file_dir` parameter to match #25
29. Setup / define printers (and print drivers if necessary) from the SYSADMIN responsibility
30. Run `adadmin` "Maintain Snapshots" job
31. Load / apply latest `InfoBundle11i.zip` driver
32. Schedule recurring concurrent manager jobs (gather stats, purges, etc.)
33. Run `autoconfig` to make sure everything is working correctly and all config files are correct
34. For non-OATM (Oracle Applications Tablespace Management) instances, confirm that product tablespaces are in "AUTOEXTEND" mode and resize/reduce tablespace footprints for un-used tablespaces.
35. Execute all the Rapid Clone steps to make sure the clone process actually works
36. Configure timeouts (context file, custom templates)
37. Set E-Business Suite Timeout Parameters and Profiles:
<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/security/bps/bp7.htm>
38. Set Application User Signon Profile Values:
<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/security/bps/bp6.htm>
39. Restrict Network Access - Set Password on Database Listener:
<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/security/bps/bp9.htm>
40. Secure Default Database Accounts:

<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/security/bps/bp13.htm>

41. Print a current patch list/patch matrix
42. Get a full backup of database and server(s).

James Morrow, Jeff Holt, Michael Barone, Geordie Coates, Randy Giefer, Solution Beacon

After Express ... What's Next?

This is a follow-up to a presentation made by Chris Sauer during Collaborate 07.

Background

The Express Multidimensional Database technology was purchased by Oracle from IRI in 1996. It was immediately re-branded as Oracle Express Database. While a standard Oracle database stores data in tables, Express stores data in cubes, resulting in a very different database.

The main applications accessing the Express Database were OFA – Oracle Financial Analyzer and OSA – Oracle Sales Analyser (no typo). OFA allowed Read / Write for the end user, while OSA allowed Read Only for the end user. The majority of OFA implementations sourced data from the Oracle Applications GL module and were utilized for reporting financials, and performing and reporting on budgeting.

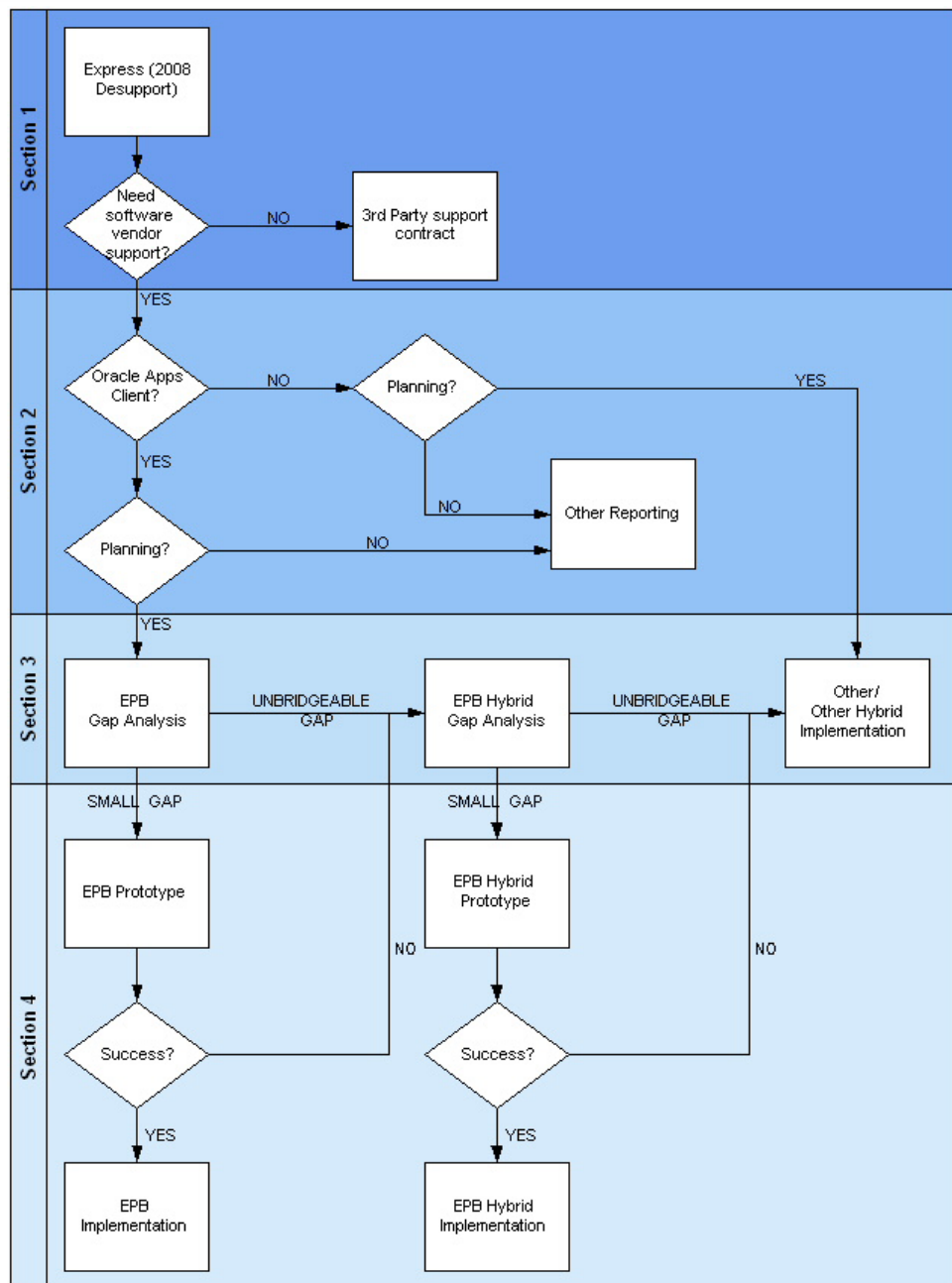
The Oracle9i database incorporated the Express Multidimensional DB engine into the standard Oracle database. This was improved on in the Oracle10g database. The Express functionality is incorporated into the Analytical Workspace of the Oracle database, which is a separate section that stores the multidimensional structures and data. Oracle Express, OFA and OSA are slated for desupport on December 31, 2007.

Current Situation

Oracle released a product called EPB (Enterprise Planning and Budgeting), as a replacement to OFA. It does most of the OFA functionality and has extensive additional capability. It is an application, part of the Oracle Financials Suite. It links to Oracle Applications GL through the FMS Balances group of tables.

Presentation at Collaborate

The main thrust of the presentation was a flowchart that guides current implementation users on a suggested path going forward.



Walking through the flowchart, the alternate paths seem to highlight suggested end results, including EPB. Unfortunately several end results of the flow chart are non-Oracle-based solutions. The key to all this is the gap analysis and comparison of what is available in the EPB suite vs. what had been implemented in the Express / OFA installation.

Conclusion

EPB may be a viable solution for some, especially those utilizing Oracle Financials as the source for their data. The migration path is less obvious for other sources. In fact the majority of end points are a

solution other than EPB. Conspicuously absent from the solution set are Oracle options for native users of Express that do not use OFA. This path has many branches and different routes. As always it is dependent on customer requirements which need to be fully understood before suggesting a direction to follow.

Acknowledgements

The flowchart is copyrighted by Chris Sauer, Cyrulean Systems, and used with permission.

Afterthought

About a week after Collaborate 07, Oracle announced the acquisition of Hyperion. This opens up the use of another multidimensional database – Essbase. Essbase with Hyperion tools may be a viable option for native Express database users or highly customized Express, OSA and OFA users. July 1st is the target date to merge the two companies. Until then the Hyperion product set is independent. The merger of the product suite may take several months more. Watch this space for further news.

Business Intelligence Team, Solution Beacon

Where is My XML Output?

Are you having problems viewing output for XML reports? Do you get the following errors?

"Unable to find the published output for this request"

"No output file exists for request XXXXXX"

Try the following solutions:

1. When submitting a request do not use the copy functionality. Submit a new request.
2. Do not link multiple employees to the same user record. This will cause problems specifically in purchasing XML reports, but possibly others as well.
3. Download the XML template and re-upload.
4. Output Post Processor - see MetaLink Doc. ID: 291792.1 and 352518.1
 - a. Navigate to Concurrent --> Manager --> Administer. Make sure the Output Post Processor is active.
 - b. Increase the value (in seconds) for the profile option 'Concurrent:OPP Response Timeout'
 - c. Increase the number of processes or threads (or both) of the OPP via Oracle Applications Manager Patch. The latest version is 5.6.3.
5. Check out the XML Publisher forum at:

<http://forums.oracle.com/forums/forum.jspa?forumID=245>

Susan Behn and George Govathoti, Solution Beacon

Ask the Solution Beacon Experts

Question: I'm upgrading from RDBMS Version 9.2.0.5 to 9.2.0.8, and got the following error:

```
SQLPLUS fails when the code you are trying to execute contains the
statement "WHENEVER OSERROR EXIT FAILURE ROLLBACK" if you attempt to
connect to the local database instance via sqlplus '/as sysdba'
```

I researched the problem on MetaLink, and it said to apply patch 5495695. That still didn't resolve the issue.

Answer: Apparently you need to take one more step after applying the patch:

1. Backup \$ORACLE_HOME/bin/sqlplus executable
2. Copy \$ORACLE_HOME/sqlplus/lib/sqlplus to \$ORACLE_HOME/bin

Question: I am looking for a consolidated information point for all changed objects (tables, views, etc.) between Release 11.5.8 and Release 11.5.10.2 for GL, AP, AR, FA, CM, Projects, OM, PO, INV, and Treasury. Do you have any idea where I can get this information?

Answer: Unfortunately, there is no utility or single document provided by Oracle that outlines the various Release deltas. We'd start with the eTRMs for each Release. Another source for determining the differences is MetaLink Doc. ID: 163400.1, "Release Content Documents and Features Summary Matrices". The top of the note has links to the Release Content Documents (RCDs) for all the Release 11i point releases and Family Packs that supersede Release 11.5.10. The RCDs list new features, but not new/changed components. If you scroll down to the 'About' Documents you will see, by product family, a document for each Family Pack. These "About" documents do have a "New and Changed Modules" section that will help you identify the changes.

This does require knowing which Family Pack you are currently on. For Financials (GL, AP, AR, FA, CM, Treasury), Release 11.5.8 is Family Pack C, so you would need to read about Family Packs D, E, F, and G. For Projects, Release 11.5.8 is Family Pack J, so you would need Family Packs K, L, and M. For Purchasing and Inventory and Order Management, Release 11.5.8 is Family Pack H, so you would need Family Packs I and J (note: Inventory and Purchasing and Order Management (ONT) are rolled into Supply Chain Management for J).

MetaLink Doc. ID: 163400.1 does not contain the links to Order Management Family Pack I. That information is in MetaLink Doc. ID: 227724.1, "About Oracle Order Management in Oracle Order Management Family Pack I".

Alternatively, if you have a tool like "Integra Apps" (<http://www.applimation.com> - although these tools were recently purchased by Logical Apps), you could run it against a Release 11.5.8 environment and then against an upgraded Release 11.5.10.2 environment and it would tell you EXACTLY what changed between the two releases. Unfortunately, these tools are not free. :(Good luck and please let us know if you find something in your search.

Question: Randy Giefer gave a presentation on Release 11*i* security at Collaborate 07 wherein he mentioned a paper he had pulled together that included a listing of accounts to be secured as well as all forms allowing SQL input that should be locked down. Unfortunately, I'm not able to track down the paper he is referring to. Would you be able to assist me in finding this document?

Answer: The whitepaper you are referring to should be on the conference proceedings CD. It's also available to OAUG members on the OAUG website at <http://www.oaug.org/conferencePaper.aspx>. We maintain the most current version on the Solution Beacon Security Portal, which is:

<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/security>

The best practices that address your questions are:

<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/security/bps/bp13.htm>

<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/security/bps/bp16.htm>

Stump the Experts: JInitiator Crashes IE

Although as consultants, we'd like to say that we've never hit an issue with the E-Business Suite that we couldn't resolve, we have to admit that there are a few problems that we're still working on. This JInitiator issue is one that we hit quite a bit, so we thought we'd describe the problem and what we do to try to resolve it.

From Vicki Howard, who helps maintain our free public Release 11*i* and Release 12 Vision instances, available at: http://www.solutionbeacon.com/tool_vision.htm, we have these pearls of wisdom:

For Internet Explorer 7.0 issues with Oracle Applications, disable the following add-ons in Internet Explorer:

- Windows Live Sign-in Helper
- Windows Live Toolbar Helper

Problem: Applet does not load and IE7 crashes.

- Start Internet Explorer 7.0
- Click on Tools / Manage Add-ons / Enable or Disable Add-ons
- Disable the following add-ons in Internet Explorer:
 - Sign-in Helper
 - Live Toolbar Helper
- Exit Internet Explorer
- Start Oracle Applications: If loading applet fails and IE 7.0 crashes:



- Disable all Google and Yahoo add-ons
- Exit Internet Explorer

James Morrow, another of Solution Beacon's senior consultants, tried every solution Vicki threw at him, but in the end found that he had to search for and remove vendor-supplied software that had come in through an update. In particular, for his IBM Laptop, he had to uninstall the "Client Security Solution".

One of our clients found information in MetaLink Doc. ID: 430359.1, "Internet Explorer Crashes When Forms Is Launched" that said the likely cause of the issue is an incompatibility between JInitiator and a 3rd-party browser extension. The note suggested verifying this by disabling 3rd-party browser extensions as follows: Open IE, click on Tools, choose Internet Options, then choose Advanced and uncheck 'enable third-party browser extensions'.

Another option that worked for this client was to re-enable the "Enable Third party browser extensions", then select "Tools" and then "Manage Add-ons" and disable the two Google add-ons. This approach seems better because you don't have to disable all installed third party add-ons that may be used by other applications.

Currently MetaLink Doc. ID: 430359.1 sums up with three options:

1. Disable the plugin
2. Use a different browser like Firefox
3. When JRE is certified with Release 11*i*, use JRE

If you've come across any other solutions for this problem, please, let us know so we can share it with others.

Vicki Howard, James Morrow and Brian Bent, Solution Beacon

Release 12.0.1 Available!

Oracle E-Business Suite 12.0.1 Release Update Pack is available via patch 5082400. See MetaLink Doc. ID: 417917.1.

Release 12 Oracle Integration Repository (iRep)

As an Oracle developer, have you always wanted to be able to view all the interfaces in the E-Business Suite in one convenient location? Oracle has developed a comprehensive integration repository that serves as the single source of truth and comes packaged in Release 12. This repository describes all of the Oracle endpoints whether they are Business to Business (B2B) or Application to Application (A2A). With the appropriate responsibility, users are able to both view and deploy the interfaces as needed. The following interface types are described in the repository:

- PL/SQL – includes a list of procedures and functions that are part of the interface package. Clicking on the procedure/function takes the user to a detailed description including the signature and parameter list.
- Concurrent Programs – information includes description and parameter list
- Open Interfaces – always tied to a concurrent program, these interfaces include a parameter list and the associated tables/views. Users can further drill down to the tables/views where a complete list of columns including type, length, and description can be found.
- Interface Views - details the source file information and the columns that make up the view.
- Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Message Transactions – this is an industry standard that facilitates interfaces between the Oracle e-Commerce Gateway and trading partners. The repository provides a description and source file information.
- XML Gateway Message Maps – includes links to online documentation and the associated Method. If the map can be exposed as a Web Services, it is documented on a tab on this page and details the Web Services Description Language (WSDL) used.
- Java Methods – contains the description, source information and methods of a Java package. Drilling down on the method lists the signature and parameters of the method.

There is an additional interface type that can only be accessed if a user has the appropriate responsibility (typically SYSADMIN login) because services can be deployed from within the repository for this interface. The Java Service Interface supplies access to service oriented architecture (SOA) services to enable the integration between Oracle Applications and trading partners. They can be used directly or exposed as Web services.

Interfaces can be queried in two different ways. The program opens up in browser mode where users can drilldown to specific interfaces by product family, or interface standard. Note: if accessing internally, users can also view by interface type. If viewing by product family, interfaces are arranged by product family, then product and finally business entity. The following screen shots show the interfaces associated with the Payables Invoice business entity, as well as the drill down to the Payables Open Interface Import.

ORACLE Integration Repository

View: Product Family

- Advanced Planning
- Applications Technology
- Contracts Suite
- Discrete Manufacturing
- Exchange Suite
- Financial Globalizations Suite
- Financial Payables Suite
- Financial Receivables Suite
- Financials
 - Assets
 - Cash Management
 - Collections
 - Credit Management
 - Federal Financials
 - General Ledger
 - Internet Expenses
 - Latin America Localizations
 - Lease Management
 - Payables
 - AP PAYMENT REMITTANCE
 - Asset
 - Journal Entry
 - Payables Invoice**
 - Supplier
 - Supplier Contact
 - Supplier Payment
 - Supplier Sub

Payables Invoice

Export Previous 1-10 Next ID

Name	Internal Name	Product	Type	Status	Description
Create Credit Card Issuer Invoice	APXCCINV	Internet Expenses	Open Interface	Active	The Create Credit Card Issuer Invoice program creates invoices for your credit card issuers in the Payables Open interface tables.
Export Lease Payments to Payables	FALPEXPT	Assets	Open Interface	Active	The Export Lease Payments to Payables process exports the lease payment data to the Oracle Payables interface tables.
IN Invoice (010)INVOIC	AP INI	Payables	EDI	Active	This is the source file to support the inbound invoice transaction.
IN Invoice (010)INVOIC	ECEINI	Payables	Open Interface	Active	Extracts the invoices in the EDI flat file and populates it into the Payables Open interface tables and submits the Payables Invoice Import concurrent program.
Invoice Notification XML Message	CLNNTFYINVC	Supply Chain Trading Connector	Web Service	Active	This RosettaNet Invoice Notification XML Message is used to consume the invoice notification information received from the trading partner, within Oracle Accounts Payable.
Invoice Notification XML Message	CLNNTFYINVC	Supply Chain Trading Connector	XML Gateway Map	Active	This RosettaNet Invoice Notification XML Message is used to consume the invoice notification information received from the trading partner, within Oracle Accounts Payable.
Invoice Reject Notification XML Message	CLNINV_REJECT_NOTIF_OUT	Supply Chain Trading Connector	XML Gateway Map	Active	This RosettaNet Invoice Reject Notification XML Message is used to publish information on a rejected invoice from the buy side instance, or Oracle Accounts Payable.
OUT Application Advice (024)APERAK	ECEADVO	e-Commerce Gateway	Open Interface	Active	Extracts the Application Advices to communicate the status of inbound documents back to the Trading Partner.
Pay Invoices Transfer to AP Invoice Interface	OKL_PAY_INVOICES_TRANS	Lease Management	Open Interface	Active	Executes the open interface for transferring Lease Management payable transactions and their distributions for the Payables Import Program to process.

ORACLE Integration Repository

View: Product Family

- Advanced Planning
- Applications Technology
- Contracts Suite
- Discrete Manufacturing
- Exchange Suite
- Financial Globalizations Suite
- Financial Payables Suite
- Financial Receivables Suite
- Financials
 - Assets
 - Cash Management
 - Collections
 - Credit Management
 - Federal Financials
 - General Ledger
 - Internet Expenses
 - Latin America Localizations
 - Lease Management
 - Payables
 - AP PAYMENT REMITTANCE
 - Asset
 - Journal Entry
 - Payables Invoice**
 - Supplier
 - Supplier Contact
 - Supplier Payment
 - Supplier Sub

Payables Open Interface Import

Internal Name: **APXIMPT** Status: **Active**
 Type: **Concurrent Program** Scope: **Public**
 Owing Product: **Payables**
 Business Entity: **Payables Invoice**
 Online Help: [Submitting the Payables Open Interface Import Program](#)
 Source File: **patch/115/import/US/apanocp.idt**
 Source Version: **115.2**
 Source Product: **AP**

Description
 This process executes the Open Interface for Accounts Payables Invoices. It uses AP_INVOICES_INTERFACE and AP_INVOICE_LINES_INTERFACE tables.

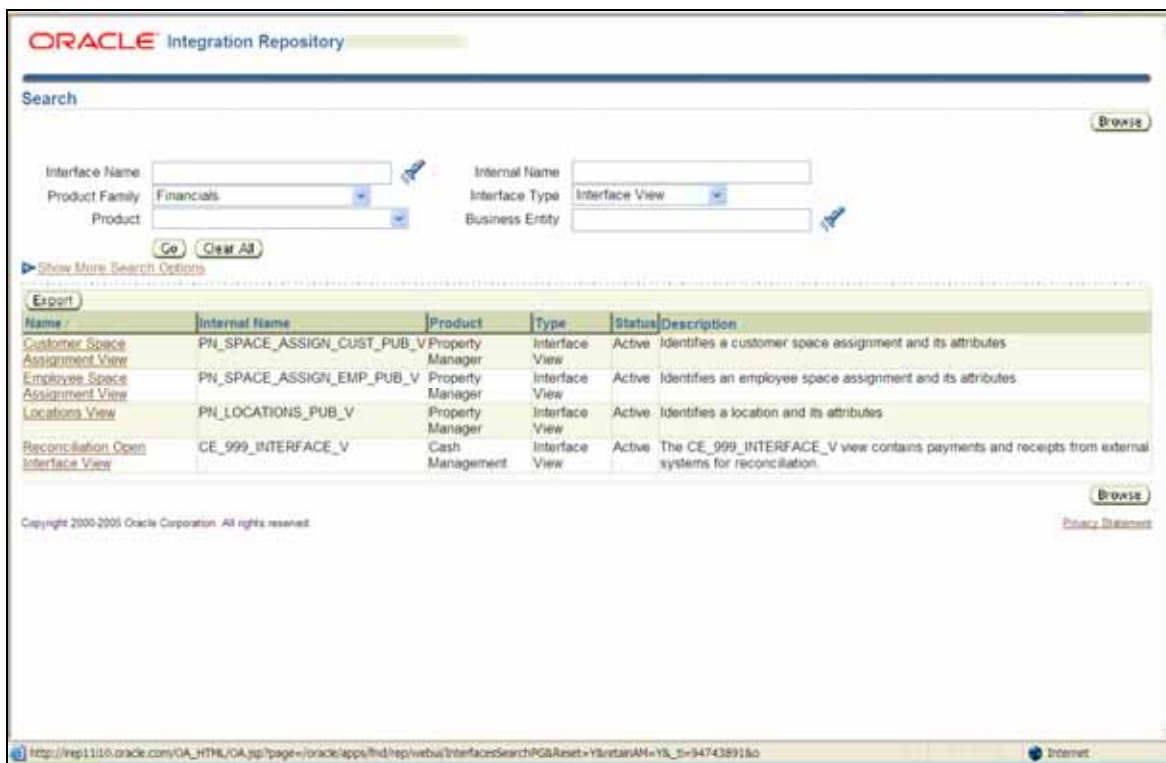
Parameters

Name	Type	Required	Displayed	Description
Source	AP_SRS_OPEN_INTERFACE_SOURCE	Yes	Yes	Source
Group	AP_SRS_GROUP_ID	Yes	Yes	Group
Batch Name	AP_SRS_30_CHAR_ALPHANUMERIC	Yes	Yes	Batch Name
Hold Name	AP_SRS_HOLD_CODE	Yes	Yes	Hold Name
Hold Reason	AP_SRS_HOLD_REASON	Yes	Yes	Hold Reason
GL Date	AP_SRS_INVOICE_END_DATE_STANDARD	Yes	Yes	GL Date
Purge	AP_SRS_YES_NO_OPT	Yes	Yes	Purge
Trace Switch	AP_SRS_YES_NO_OPT	Yes	No	Trace Switch
Debug Switch	AP_SRS_YES_NO_OPT	Yes	No	Debug Switch
Summarize Report	AP_SRS_YES_NO_OPT	Yes	Yes	Summarize Report for Audit report
Commit Batch Size	AP_SRS_NULL_NUM	Yes	No	Commit Batch Size
User ID	AP_SRS_30_NUMERIC	Yes	No	User ID
Login ID	AP_SRS_30_NUMERIC	Yes	No	Login ID

Open Interface Tables/Views

Name	Direction	Status	Description
AP_INVOICES_INTERFACE	Inbound	Active	AP_INVOICES_INTERFACE stores header information about invoices that you create or load for import.

Users can access the Search screen by clicking on the Search button on the Browse page. The example below show all the Interface Views in the Financials product family



The repository can be accessed via the System Administrator responsibility. Profile options can be set to allow users to view externally all interface types except the Java Services Interface. Oracle users can access the external view of the repository for the 11i/10 version by navigating to <http://irep.oracle.com>.

Alyssa Johnson, Solution Beacon

Release 12 Users – Make Sure You’re Using the RIGHT Version of JRE!

We told you about Oracle’s move from JInitiator to Sun’s JRE in our March Newsletter in the article, “Look Mom, No JInitiator!” We were a little worried, though, about which version of JRE to use. After further discussion with Steven Chan, Oracle’s Director of Applications Technology Integration, he clarified that we should be using the JRE that comes **with Release 12**. This version, j2se 1.5.0_10-erdist is **not** the same as Sun’s Version 1.5.0_10!

So for those of you who are trying out Solution Beacon’s public Release 12 environment, you’ll need to double check that you are running Version 1.5.0_10-erdist. Steven describes the types of problems you might encounter if you are running the wrong version and how to check your version in his note “Will the Real JRE Please Stand Up?” located at:

<http://blogs.oracle.com/schan/2007/05/03#a1484>

If you have accepted a download to Version 1.5.0.11 you should de-install Version 1.5.0.11 and download and apply Version 1.5.0_10-erdist (J2SE Runtime Environment 5.0 Update 10). After you remove Version 1.5.0_11, you should be able to force applying the Oracle version by trying to log into a Release 12 instance.

To de-install a J2SE plugin version from your desktop:

1. From the Windows desktop 'Control Panel', click on 'Add or Remove Programs'.
2. Select the appropriate version of 'Java 2 Runtime Environment' and click 'Remove'.
3. Select the appropriate options in the dialogs which follow.

When you log into a Release 12 instance after de-installing JRE, you'll download the correct version automatically from the Release 12 instance. Check MetaLink Doc. ID: 393931.1, "Upgrading Sun J2SE (Native Plug-in) with Oracle Applications 12.0 for Windows Clients" for more details.

Fusion Corner

I Can See Clearly Now...

I've spent some time recently attempting to develop a clear vision of Fusion Applications. It's a lot like piecing together a puzzle; although Oracle really has not come right out and described Fusion Applications in specific terms, there are numerous clues from different sources that fit together to provide an overall picture. Although the usual caveats apply, here is what I think I know:

1. The whole concept of Fusion, including Fusion Middleware and Fusion Applications, is an evolutionary journey rather than a set of specific product releases. Think iterative and incremental releases rather than single, "big bang" releases. And an iterative approach is a great thing for Oracle customers (see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/iterative_development to learn why this is a good thing).
2. Fusion Applications will be more process-centric than any of the Oracle Applications suites we know today. The frame of reference, rather than a suite of applications like Purchasing, will be collections of end-to-end business processes like Procure-To-Pay grouped into lifecycle buckets like Financial Management.
3. Most of the business processes will be pretty horizontal (i.e., industry generic) at first, with industry-specific vertical processes appearing as Fusion Applications continue to evolve.
4. Not all customers will need to move to Fusion Applications right away. For those customers who have generally good fits out of the box between their business processes and their current Applications product line, there won't be much incentive to move. These customers will get the greatest benefits from the Applications Unlimited commitment.
5. I'm very happy about the flexibility provided by the Applications Unlimited commitment but, because I do believe in the Law of Diminishing Returns, I doubt the commitment will last forever.

Sooner or later, all Oracle customers (whether they are Applications customers or not) will probably wind up on some type of Fusion technology stack.

6. For those customers moving to Fusion Applications, the best way to get going (in simple terms) is to eliminate as many customizations as possible, plan the migration of those customizations that simply cannot be eliminated, consolidate data (mainly to support the business intelligence functionality in Fusion Applications), and begin using Fusion technology components (such as BI Publisher aka XML Publisher) today.
7. A pretty good preview of Fusion Applications is appearing in the form of the Applications Integration Architecture. The Applications Integration Architecture may eventually be very close to the first release of Fusion Applications, with the user interface and the unified implementation of business processes being the biggest differentiators between the two products.
8. Although I may be stating the obvious, I'm doing so just to clear up any misconceptions. Customers will not need to move to Fusion Applications in order to utilize the Applications Integration Architecture. However, customers who do move to Fusion Applications will still be able to leverage the Applications Integration Architecture. It's not an "either or" choice.
9. I suspect that Fusion Applications, the Applications Integration Architecture, the E-Business Suite, PeopleSoft, JD Edwards, Retek, and the rest of the Oracle Applications product stable will all eventually incorporate the standardization of Enterprise Business Objects.
10. The greatest challenge to Oracle customers over the next few years will be to develop an understanding of the various choices Oracle has made available, so that each customer can make intelligent decisions about those choices based on the specific needs of their enterprise.

Yup, in the words of Johnny Nash, "I Can See Clearly Now"...or at least a little better than I could before.

Floyd Teter, Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Read more from Floyd on his blog, <http://orclville.blogspot.com>.

OAUG News

OracleDay 2007 in Pacific Northwest Region

The Puget Sound Oracle Users Group, in conjunction with the Oracle Applications User Group (OAUG), PeopleSoft Northwest Regional Users Group (PSNWRUG) and Northwest Oracle Users Group (NWOUG) are pleased to present OracleDay 2007 on Thursday, June 28, in Bellevue, WA. OracleDay 2007 will provide essential information on Oracle products and related technologies including the Oracle Database, Application Server, Fusion Middleware, Identity Management, E-Business Suite, PeopleSoft, JD Edwards, Siebel, TimesTen and more. Visit www.psoug.org for details.

Siebel Web Series Session Recordings Now Available

The OAUG and Oracle recently offered free educational and training sessions to the Siebel community via the *Siebel Web Series*. These online sessions were conducted by Oracle and OAUG partners. Series topics included Siebel 8.0 Upgrading Training, Siebel CRM On Demand for PeopleSoft ERP



Users and Best Practices for Performance and Scalability. Complete recordings of these sessions are now available on the OAUG Web site. (<http://oaug.org/usercommunities/siebel/siebelwebseries.html>)

DOUG Meeting

DOUG Meeting Attendees Learn “How to be an Apps DBA”

John Stouffer, Solution Architect with Solution Beacon, LLC, and Mike Towrey, VP of Knight Works, both presented at the most recent DOUG (Dallas Oracle Users Group) meeting. The meeting was hosted at the Oracle offices in Las Colinas, Texas with Solution Beacon sponsoring. Both John and Mike each spoke for approximately forty minutes on the nuances of being an Applications DBA. The attendees, mostly DBAs themselves, were very enthralled, and the question and answer period was an active and open exchange of ideas and different viewpoints.

At the conclusion of the afternoon, Chris Wilkinson, Account Executive for Solution Beacon, presented door prizes to the following people:

- Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle E-Business Suite Applications 11.5.10+ – Vijay Sirivore of Michael's
- *Your Pal, Steve* – Emily Gao of Fitz and Floyd
- \$50 American Express Gift Cheque – Prabhu Shankar of Chase Paymentech

Mark Your Calendars! DOUG will be hosting a Social event on June 20th from 5:00-9:00pm at Blue Mesa Grill in Addison, Texas.

AZOAUG Meeting

The May AZOAUG General Session took place at the University of Phoenix campus on May 18, with 83 attendees. As usual, Solution Beacon resources lead the way with the most well attended, substantive presentations of the day: The Release 12 Overview presentations consisted of a technical track lead by John Stouffer, and a functional track lead by Daryl Geryol. Numerous attendees came by the booth afterward to comment on how relevant and useful the presentations were. Thanks to Daryl, John, Jacki Cramer, and Lon White for assisting in the booth, and to newcomer (local CRM SME) Montella Alston for pitching in, on her birthday, no less! Carrie Grimes of Circle K won the giveaway.

Mark Your Calendars! AZOAUG will be hosting a Training Day on August 24th, with a full day of focused training on using XML(BI) Publisher within an Oracle Applications environment.

Solution Beacon Foundation Update

Sixth Computer Center Ready for the New Students in Kenya

As school began on May 7th, the children were thrilled to have the opportunity to begin learning in an entirely new way! Steve Peifer, the missionary in charge of getting the computer centers ready, has placed the sixth computer center in Kiambogo, Kenya. The headmaster told Steve, "When we have our opening, you will come and we will roast a goat like Africans do when we celebrate. You are a part of us."

Steve was also honored with being able to hand out awards to the children and teachers of the school in Kinungi on the last day of school. The teachers received "more cash than had ever been awarded" according to the Head of Education for the area. The total for all the teachers was not more than \$15.00, but they were all excited none the less.

As Steve handed out the awards to the top three students in each class, he longed to give them more; each student was given one pen, one pencil and one colored pencil. As each child eagerly accepted their award, Steve felt blessed. Blessed because of all that he is given each day; the opportunity to help children each day and introduce them to new learning methods.

It's a big world out there and many of us are blessed with our many toys, gadgets and gizmos. Even our very basic needs of food, clothing and shelter are such a luxury to the people Steve works with every day. Steve is coming back to the United States in July to enroll his son in college at Wake Forest and help him acclimate to life back in America. Steve will be touring across the country bringing his experiences and testimony to many colleges and churches. Visit our Solution Beacon Foundation website beginning in July to follow Steve through the end of the year, as he leaves us words of wisdom and wit about his speaking engagements and travels. We also invite you to attend one of his engagements if you are in the area.

Steve and his mission have fed over ten thousand children this semester, thanks in part to the generous donations made to the Solution Beacon Foundation. 100% of all monies donated to any of the charities the Solution Beacon Foundation supports, as well as Solution Beacon employees' profits from Solution Beacon's technical books, are put directly towards the charity. To find out more about the other charities the Foundation supports visit www.solutionbeaconfoundation.org.

The Solution Beacon Foundation

The Road to Las VegasSM EXTREME Encore Workshop – Worcester, MA

Solution Beacon will be giving an Encore Performance to the Road to Las VegasSM EXTREME show in Worcester Massachusetts on June 11th with the NEOAUG. Visit our website for more opportunities for Encore Performances.

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 Newsletter Name Change!

We've changed our name! Safe Harbor News is the new name for our monthly newsletter that covers Release 11i/12 and much more. Enjoy!

The Editors

Release 12 Webinars

Why not spend the summer learning about Release 12? Solution Beacon's top consultants will be offering a number of webinars covering both technical and functional details about Release 12:

Release 12 The Global Business Release

Release 12 Technical Introduction

Release 12 Java Infrastructure

Release 12 Security Recommendations

Release 12 What's New in Financials?

Release 12 Multi-Org Access Control (MOAC) – An Inside Look

Release 12 Accounting Setup Manager 101

Release 12 Sub-Ledger Accounting Engine: What it is, What it does, and How to use it

Release 12 E-Business Tax Engine

Release 12 Oracle Payments: The Centralization of Payment Processing

Release 12 CRM Part I – Service Execution

Release 12 CRM Part II – Content Management

Release 12 CRM Part III – Ecommerce Orders

Release 12 Procurement Part I – Buyer Workcenter

Release 12 Supply/Chain Part I – Fulfillment and Manufacturing

Release 12 Supply/Chain Part II – Enterprise Planning

We'll be updating our website shortly with webinar descriptions, dates and times. Stay tuned!

GOT ORACLE? GET THE BOOK!

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

If you've been looking for a thorough technical book about Release 11.5.10+, then check out Solution Beacon's latest book, "Installing, Upgrading and Maintaining Oracle E-Business Suite Applications Release 11.5.10+".

You can preview the Table of Contents and Index at:

<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/BookPreview.pdf>.

The book is available as a soft cover, hard copy, or downloadable pdf.

Get the Book! Purchase your copy NOW at
www.solutionbeacon.com

Release 12 Primer Coming in October!

Yes, it's true, we just can't stop writing! Solution Beacon's top consultants are writing another book in collaboration with OAUG! This one will be a Release 12 Primer. Topics we're considering include: Introduction, Concepts, Features and Functionality, Technology, Security, Resources, and Fusion Applications.

If you'd like to be notified when the Release 12 Primer is available, send a note to Release12Primer@solutionbeacon.com.

Remember, all Solution Beacon employees' profits from all of our books are donated to The Solution Beacon Foundation!



Vendor Corner: Noetix

Simplifying the Complexity of Reporting

With the increased complexity of enterprise applications, access to operational data continues to be an ongoing challenge for IT and business users alike. The billions of dollars spent on these enterprise applications and subsequent query and reporting tools has left decision makers unable to answer their own business questions due to the complex nature of these systems.

About Noetix

Noetix was founded in 1994 to enable simplified access to enterprise application data from Oracle. Noetix's patent-pending technology automatically generates configuration-specific business intelligence metadata from enterprise applications, enabling customers to quickly access their application data for more informed decision-making.

The auto-generated metadata enables organizations to quickly create and maintain business terminology-to-database mappings that jump-start the report development effort. Noetix can regenerate a customer's metadata layer to keep it synchronized with their applications through changes and upgrades. This generated metadata is the foundation for the NoetixViews family of products.

NoetixViews is available across all the major modules of the E-Business Suite including: General Ledger, Payables, Receivables, Assets, Project Costing, Project Billing, Grants Proposal, Grants Accounting, HR, Advanced Benefits, Payroll (US, Canada, UK, and Australia legislations), Purchasing, Order Management, Discrete Manufacturing (Bill of Materials, Work in Process, Inventory, Master Scheduling / MRP, and Cost Management), and Process Manufacturing (Product Development, Process Planning, Process Execution, OPM Financials, and OPM Inventory).

As an Oracle Certified Advantage Partner, Noetix works closely with Oracle to provide solutions that extend the value of their applications and greatly simplify the report development effort for users. With more than 1,300 customers worldwide, Noetix has a global reputation for delivering fast, cost-effective access to Oracle E-Business Suite and Siebel Business Applications data by providing:

Unmatched ease of use — Requiring little or no user training, Noetix enables decision-makers to easily access information relevant to their line of business—allowing them to quickly create and share custom reports securely without the need of additional technical experts or IT staffing.

Rapid Implementation — Noetix automatically generates an extensive library of customizable reports, empowering decision makers to quickly access a reporting platform with answers to hundreds of the most common business questions.

Open architecture — Noetix Generators speed the deployment of business intelligence tools such as Oracle Discoverer, Cognos and Business Objects by automatically populating the reporting tool's metadata layer with business content, significantly reducing administrative and maintenance costs associated with BI tool deployment.



Upgrade protection — Noetix technology protects custom reports and queries by shielding them from data structure changes common to upgrade releases, providing customers with a reduced cost of ownership for their enterprise applications.

For more information on the Noetix solution, please visit our [Web site \(www.noetix.com\)](http://www.noetix.com).



Upcoming Solution Beacon Events

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
The Road to Las Vegas EXTREME Release 11i/12 Encore Workshop in conjunction with the New England OAUG Visit www.solutionbeacon.com for more information!	June 11, 2007	Worcester, MA
FY08 Oracle Sales Kickoff – Exhibiting	June 11-14, 2007	Las Vegas, NV
ODTUG – Presenting, Conference Pen Sponsor Application Security – What Are My Options? <i>Susan Behn, Solution Beacon</i> Oracle Diagnostics for Developers, DBAs and Superusers <i>Susan Behn, Solution Beacon</i> XML Publisher Quick Start Guide <i>Tim Sharpe, Solution Beacon</i>	June 18-21, 2007	Daytona Beach, FL
DOUG Membership Mixer – Silver Sponsor	June 20, 2007	Dallas, TX
South Central OAUG	September 17, 2007	Dallas, TX
Oracle OpenWorld	November 11-15, 2007	San Francisco, CA

The Road to Las Vegas is a servicemark of Solution Beacon LLC. All other names are the property of their respective owners.

Solution Beacon Newsletters are designed to help users of Oracle Applications and **Solution Beacon** makes no warranty for the accuracy, veracity, or completeness of any information herein, nor do they have any responsibility or liability for any losses or damages incurred as a result of reliance on any information provided herein or from the use of any program or program segment discussed herein. **Solution Beacon** assumes no responsibility for any errors that may appear herein. The information published herein is subject to change without notice.

Copyright © 2003-2007 **Solution Beacon, LLC**. All rights reserved. Any trademarks cited herein are the property of its owner. No part of this publication may be reprinted or reproduced without the prior written consent of **Solution Beacon, LLC**.