

Volume 2008-12

Published: Dec. 18, 2008

www.dbaOnline.org

Email: admin@dbaOnline.org

Current Vol. Editor: April Cai

DBA ONLINE

美國數據管理協會

Newsletter

*DBA Online - On the front line of database administration
DBA Online powers Oracle DBA*

DBA Online

Contents

Summary of DBA Online's Dec 2008 Seminar	1
Oracle Maximum Availability Architecture	4
Configuration Management in OEM	4

DBA Online's December 2008 Seminar

American DBAOnline held a *Special Interest Group (SIG)* meeting in the afternoon on Saturday, 12/13/2008 at Crowne Plaza Hotel in Edison, NJ. We had an unexpectedly high turnout. The Lincoln conference room was fully packed with over 70 Oracle professionals. This SIG meeting focused on the subject of Oracle Data Warehouse and included three interesting presentations: all given by senior Oracle DBAs from within the American DBAOnline association based on their own experiences. The meeting was hosted by DBAOnline committee member Stanley Ma, who is a senior Oracle DBA at Citibank.



With the backdrop of a once-in-a-century financial crisis and recessionary economy worldwide, resultantly comes a very gloomy job market. There are far more layoffs than hiring



nowadays. And the situation is expected to deteriorate before it gets better. How to differentiate yourself from others? How to make yourself more marketable in case you unfortunately lose your job? Stay on top of what you do to make a living! This simple and essential rule of thumb was

proven by the huge crowd who attended the SIG meeting on Saturday: our member DBAs never stopped improving their technical skills, even more so during bad times. And American DBAOnline always strives to bring good topics and excellent speakers to our seminars and meetings!

With more data collected and available online for increasingly longer period of time, and businesses slicing & dicing their data from different angles, we see more and more data warehouses built today. Given their big sizes, performance, backup and maintenance all become challenges. This SIG meeting revolved around data warehouse. The three presentations covered the grounds of initial requirements gathering & designing, backup and on-going performance tuning.

The SIG was kicked off by a presentation given by DBAOnline president Mr. David Wang. His topic was “Be a Master of Your Database Backups”. David shared his experiences on using different backup methods for different databases, and reviewed the options that you might consider to optimize your database backup jobs. He also went over some new 10g/11g features and "tricks" in database backup with RMAN for Data Warehouse databases.



The second presentation was given by Mr. Jeff Zheng. His topic was “A Dimensional Approach to Financial Data Warehouses”. Jeff works as a senior Oracle DBA at a hedge fund company. Jeff’s presentation was based on a case study of financial data warehouse that he personally worked on, from designing, implementation details to the final outcome: a Business Intelligence (BI) platform. He articulated the Star Schema design characteristic of data warehouses. His in-depth experiences with the project made his presentation animating and simplistic.

The last presentation was given by Mr. Qi Wang. His topic was “Experiencing the Data Warehouse (II)”. As the title implies, this was a sequel to a previous presentation given by Qi. Qi is a technical manager at Oracle Corporation. His presentation was also based on a case study for one of his clients. As you might have heard, many companies have experienced performance impact on their legacy applications

after Oracle 10g upgrades. For the legacy applications that generate SQL statements on the fly, the application developers might feel that they have their hands tied up under this situation because there is no way to alter the



SQL statements. Generally, to fix such kind of problems, the application vendors would demand an enormous amount of money that is not in your boss's budget. Qi showed us how we could smartly use Oracle's free Outline feature to overwrite the execution plans of certain types of SQL statements that are generated on the fly, thus efficiently and cost effectively solve the performance problems. The trick may make you a hero of your team, especially under the current environment. And that may help you gain an edge for your job security.

All presentations were very well received by the audience. Absolute majority of the attendees were interested to stay till the end of the 3-hour meeting. They even lingered around to chat and consult with the speakers afterwards. We were glad to be of service to our members.

It's that time of year again. We wish all of our sponsors, speakers and members happy holidays! And we look forward to your continued support in year 2009!

DBA Online Committee



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DBAONLINE

Oracle Maximum Availability Architecture

Oracle Maximum Availability Architecture (MAA) is Oracle's best practices blueprint based on proven Oracle high availability technologies and recommendations. The goal of MAA is to achieve the optimal high availability architecture at the lowest cost and complexity.

- MAA best practices span Oracle Database, Oracle Application Server, Oracle Applications and Grid Control.
- MAA considers a range of business requirements to make these best practices as widely applicable as possible.
- MAA leverages lower-cost servers and storage.
- MAA evolves with new Oracle versions and features.
- MAA is hardware and OS independent.

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Oracle Extends Configuration Management Capabilities in Oracle Enterprise Manager

Building on Top-Down Application Management Capabilities

Oracle Configuration Management Pack enhances Oracle Enterprise Manager's unique top-down approach to application management by providing a comprehensive configuration management solution out-of-the-box. Through proactive change detection and configuration policies for the entire application environment, Oracle Enterprise Manager delivers a richer perspective on the health of business applications.

Highlights of the Oracle Configuration Management Pack with new Configuration Change Console include:

- Real-time configuration change detection across the enterprise -- allows customers to detect and monitor configuration changes in a broad range of IT

components including servers, databases, middleware, applications and individual point-of-sale devices;

- Out-of-the-box configuration compliance policies and framework -- facilitate the customer's ability to define and implement controls in accordance with regulatory and industry standards as well as best practices including Sarbanes-Oxley, PCI and ITIL;
- Discovery and asset tracking -- enables configuration information to be automatically collected in real time and accessible from a central console, providing a comprehensive view of all heterogeneous components in the data center;
- Analytics and reporting -- provides a consolidated view of all changes and a rich set of standard and ad-hoc reports and search capabilities that enable administrators to view all aspects of configurations across the enterprise;
- Integration with popular Change Management Systems -- enables customers to leverage their existing investments when using popular change management systems such as BMC Remedy BMC Remedy IT Service Management. Provides closed loop reconciliation on change requests identifying authorized and unauthorized changes; and
- Open and Extensible Solution -- helps customers to greatly reduce the time and the cost of managing configuration compliance in heterogeneous environments by utilizing Oracle Enterprise Manager's extensibility framework, out-of-box capabilities, user-defined policies and groups to automate manual scripts, reports and processes.