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DRILLING DOWN TO INFORMATION

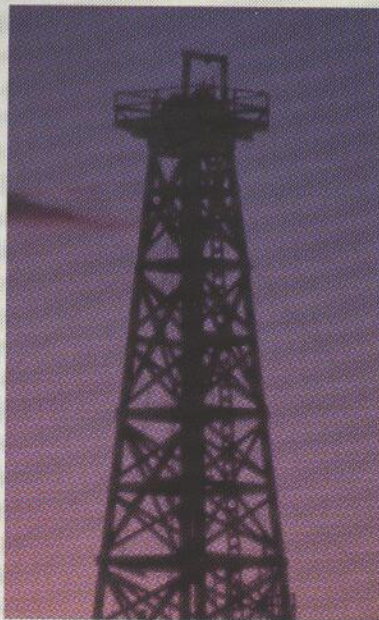
ENTERPRISE
WORKGROUP
COMPUTING

ORACLE
CDE TOOLS
WITH DB2



EXPLORATION
ENGINEERING
PRODUCTION
MARKETING
ACCOUNTING
INTEGRATED
INFORMATION

COVER STORY



28 Drilling Down to Information: An Integrated Client/Server Solution

BY JOCELYN AUDETTE

Bow Valley Energy, Inc., an international gas and energy exploration firm, shut down its mainframe computer in January 1993 and moved its operations to open systems. In just five months, with cooperative participation from five different hardware and software vendors, Bow Valley's rightsizing project created a mission-critical production system that cut IS costs by 40 percent. The company made this bold move as part of its efforts to create an integrated corporate-wide information system that improves data access and accuracy.

ABOUT THE COVER:

Photo by Henley & Savage/The Stock Market. Graphic and photo manipulation by Nancy Lynn Guttesman.

APPLICATIONS

34 Open Communication

BY REBECCA HICKMAN

Cellular One, a leading-edge cellular communications provider, needed systems that were flexible and open to integrate external and internal data sources. The company uses Oracle Financials applications to make corporate information a working asset and to manage rapid growth.

38 Toward the Paperless Office

BY CHERYL J. GOLDBERG

Nationwide Insurance, a \$13.7 billion U.S. insurance giant, is making the transition from paper to electronic systems. The company uses client/server Oracle systems that connect all of its IBM platforms—including mainframe, UNIX, and OS/2 machines—to speed processing and improve responsiveness.

44 When Less Is More

BY CHERYL J. GOLDBERG

The U.S. Department of the Army ships cargo around the world. It needed a system that streamlined application development, cut costs, and was portable across multiple platforms. The Worldwide Port System (WPS), prototyped in Rotterdam, also provides more timely access to data. Over time, WPS will be deployed globally at 66 ports in a distributed Oracle7 system.

PERSPECTIVES

7 Rethinking Document Management

BY ANN M. PALERMO, IDC

Documents are important corporate assets that often are not integrated into corporate information systems. Bringing unstructured information into the enterprise is key to successful automation of many business functions, including sales and customer service. Electronic document management systems can help corporations achieve a higher level of work flow automation and improve productivity.

112 Flattening Corporations through Collaborative Computing

BY DAVID YOCKELSON, META GROUP

Business process reengineering (BPR) helps streamline corporate practices, creating a market for "groupware" applications that enable collaborative computing. What does this mean to businesses? That geographic and functional boundaries can be crossed, making companies more nimble and adaptable.

INTERVIEW

21 Ed McCracken, President and CEO, Silicon Graphics, Inc.

BY JULIE GIBBS

Silicon Graphics has pioneered a number of key computing technologies: computer graphics, reduced instruction set computing (RISC), symmetric multiprocessing (SMP), and video capabilities. Here, Ed McCracken talks about visual computing, digital media, and what it takes to be a world-class product company.

EDITOR'S NOTE

On page 105 of this issue, we are providing an index of the articles that appeared in *Oracle Magazine* in 1993. The index lists articles by department. Respondents to our 1992 Reader Survey suggested this addition—we hope you will find the index useful.



DEPARTMENTS

NEW PRODUCTS

- 11 Oracle Applications Release 10
- 13 Oracle Office Version 2.0
- 15 Oracle Browser Version 2.0

UPDATE

- 17 New Oracle Products and Services Announcements

TECHNOLOGY

- 49 Enterprise Workgroup Computing

BY RICHARD SKRINDE AND
CHERYL J. GOLDBERG

Companies worldwide are struggling to integrate scattered business functions and improve productivity. Enterprise Workgroup Computing, which combines messaging and electronic mail, document management, and database systems, can improve communication and productivity throughout the enterprise. This article discusses the enabling technologies, business benefits, and key vendor directions in the EWC arena.

USER HELP

- 57 Integrating Online Help and Documentation

BY KEVIN LONEY, ASTRA/MERCK AND
JACK F. MYERS, WYETH-AYERST

*Oracle Forms application developers take heart—you can integrate application documentation with online help. This article shows you how to use SQL*TextRetrieval 2.0 to index external files and build an integrated help system, and includes the authors' prototype system.*

- 70 An Elegant Approach to Report Generation

BY WILLIAM SMEDLEY,
WYETH-AYERST

Producing reports using Oracle data is easy—but making them adhere to a "corporate" style requires a different approach. William Smedley combines Oracle with WordPerfect to create sophisticated reports while lessening the burden on IS.



METHODOLOGY

- 75 Using CDE Tools with DB2

BY SATYA YENIGALLA, ORACLE CDE
MARKETING DIVISION

IBM's DB2 is the database of choice for many shops using mainframe MVS systems. Integrating those DB2 data stores with other corporate data and applications is difficult. This article explains how you can use Oracle's CDE tools and Transparent Gateway technology to create applications that directly or indirectly access DB2.

OPERATING ENVIRONMENTS

- 81 Digital: Oracle7 for Alpha AXP
- 89 Minicomputers: Oracle Parallel Server for AViiON Cluster Configurations
- 93 Open Systems: Supporting Thousands of Users with Oracle Parallel Server
- 97 Desktop: Introducing OracleWare

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

- 101 Improving Ad Hoc Access to Data

105 ARTICLE INDEX

107 USER GROUPS

109 VALUE ADDED

111 ADVERTISERS INDEX

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