Telecom Industry Calls on Oracle - Faster NT Data Marts

# ORACLE

VOLUME XI/NUMBER 6

MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1997 \$4.95

# Retwork Computing

Playing to Win in the New Global Market





#### ontents

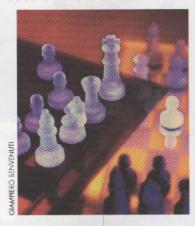
VOLUME XI/NUMBER 6 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1997

#### Features

COVER STORY

#### 41 The Network Computing Rule Book: Playing to Win

By Philip I. Gill. There's a new game in the high-stakes world of information management, and it's called network computing. The game board is the entire universe of information. The pieces are a wealth of new and existing technologies that can move and interact in a variety of ways. Oracle Publishing Contributing Editor Philip Gill tells you how to position yourself for a winning game.



#### 43 E-Commerce: The Fourth Channel

Because using the Web is simple and cheap, a Web-based commerce system can give your company the competitive edge.

#### 44 A 21st-Century View of Education

New York Institute of Technology's network computing project takes education into the next century.

#### 46 Network Computing Architecture

Oracle's framework for developing network computing applications relies on open standards and published application programming interfaces.

#### www.nc.oracle.com

Oracle launches a new Web site to provide in-depth, up-to-date information about network computing.

#### Bringing the 'Net Home

Thomson/RCA and NetChannel merge the Internet and TV, bringing the world of network computing to the mass market of consumers.

#### 52 Enabling the Age of Network Computing

Oracle subsidiary Network Computer Inc. is creating the building blocks for the age of network computing.

#### Network Computing in Full Bloom

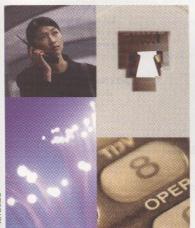
1-800-FLOWERS replaces dumb terminals with 2,500 NCs, reducing purchasing costs and operating expenses while positioning the company for flexible growth.

#### 56 Tools for Building a Winning Strategy

Network computing presents developers with new challenges, such as delivering the expected functionality and supporting existing client/server systems as companies migrate to the new technology or adopt it piecemeal. Oracle provides a toolbox for moving successfully to network computing environments and global deployment.

#### 58 Oracle Applications on the Move

With Oracle's Developer/2000 Web Cartridge, Oracle Applications customers can now migrate from a client/server environment to a network computing environment.

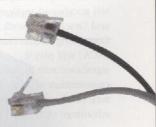


**TELECOMMUNICATIONS** 

#### Wired for [More Than] Sound

By David Baum. In the telecommunications industry, the forces of deregulation, convergence, and globalization are shaping a new commercial environment that is making it harder than ever for companies to get a fix on the future. New technology is driving tremendous change and upheaval as the boundaries among wireline, wireless, and a variety of emerging technologies become blurred.

In this fast-moving industry, identifying business trends and speeding products to market are essential to success. Telecom companies New Brunswick Telephone, Northern Telecom, Sprint PCS, GTE, and Ameritech, among others, are using Oracle products to become more nimble, shift their strategies, and learn to sell a wide variety of value-added services in a convenient, economical way.



#### Departments

FROM THE EDITOR

#### 9 Networking: More Than a Job

By Leslie Steere

INDUSTRY INSIGHT

#### 11 Why Network, Why Now?

By Rich Finkelstein

Network computers will, without a doubt, replace PCs as the standard desktop computing device, and here's why.

#### 15 Product News

Designer/2000 Release 2.0, Object Database Designer, Oracle Proxy Server 1.0, NCA cartridge news, Oracle on Microsoft Windows NT in the financials industry, and more.

#### **32** Value Added

Constellar Hub 2.0, Uniscape DesignAssist for Designer/2000, Mercury Test Director, and more.

TOOLBOX

# 75 Building Internet-Enabled Business Applications

By Rich Niemiec

The Internet will change the way we do business and the way we buy and sell goods and services, and Oracle's Network Computing Architecture (NCA) will play a



significant role in making those changes. This examination of some basic features puts you well on the way to understanding how to take advantage of NCA.

#### CLIENT/SERVER

#### 87 Extending Oracle8 with Objects

By Steve Bobrowski

Use Oracle8's new object types to create nested tables and complete object schemas. Part 2 of an excerpt from Steve Bobrowski's new book shows you how.

DATA WAREHOUSING

#### 93 How to Create a Good Test Database

By Wayne Linton

You don't want to put your live warehouse at risk by using it as a testing ground for new reports and programs.



Here's how to extract a referentially intact subset of data for testing the waters in a smaller environment.

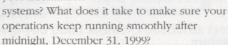
YEAR 2000

# 103 A Management Perspective on Handling the New

Millennium

By Jeff Bloom

Are you ready for the turn of the century? Are your information



DATABASE ADMINISTRATION

### 114 Using Parallel Query to Improve Windows NT Data Mart Performance

By Edward Whalen

Data marts are the perfect application for Oracle's parallel query and Microsoft's Windows NT. Here's how to set up your system for maximum performance.

121 User Groups

122 Advertisers' Index

124 Career Marketplace

132 1997 Editorial Index

#### ORACLE MAGAZINE

(ISSN 1065-3171)
is published bimonthly with a free
subscription price by:
Oracle Corporation
500 Oracle Parkway, Box 8BP-1
Redwood Shores, CA 94065 1600

Oracle Magazine is mailed at Periodicals Postage Paid at Redwood City, CA and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to: Oracle Magazine 500 Oracle Parkway, Box 8BP-1 Redwood Shores, CA 94065-1600

#### © Oracle Corporation 1997

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reprinted or otherwise reproduced without permission from the editor. Oracle does not provide any warranty as to the accuracy of any information provided through Oracle Magazine. Oracle shall not be liable for any damages incurred as a result of reliance on any information provided herein.

Oracle is a registered trademark of Oracle Corporation. Various products and service names referenced herein may be trademarks of Oracle Corporation. For a full listing of Oracle trademarks and registered trademarks, please consult Oracle's web site at www.oracle.com or send a request to trademar@us.oracle.com. All other product and service names mentioned may be trademarks of their respective owners.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are complimentary for qualified readers who complete the subscription card found in each issue. For change of address, mail in label with the new address. For information, contact:

Oracle Magazine Customer Service phone +847.647.9630 fax +847.647.9735 e-mail clusk@us.oracle.com www.oramag.com

#### **ORACLE PRODUCTS & SERVICES**

+800.672.2531 or +650.633.4000

Printed in the U.S.A. by Brown Printing Co. Prepress by Applied Graphics Technologies.

