**Interview Lab**

**IT 4300 – Introduction to Databases**

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**Background**

The case study white paper I read was from Shire about changes to their database. Shire is a biopharmaceutical company founded in 1986. Advans Technologies was the company that implemented Oracle technologies in Shire.

**Goals**

Shire’s main goal in incorporating oracle technology was to standardize their database tier for hardware and software across the entire company. They also wanted to standardize backup and recovery procedures. Since they are a growing global company they needed a system that can allow the perspective growth. They also want the new system to save them money. In addition since Shire is a biopharmaceutical company all changes had to be done while maintaining industry regulations in The United States of America and in Europe.

**Solution**

Advans solved these problems by first implementing Maximum Availability Architecture(MAA) for all technologies. They also virtualized the database tier so additional computers could be added online. They added automated monitoring, alerting, and reporting to reduce the need for manual intervention. They standardized the hardware and software platforms. They also provided a comprehensive disaster recovery solution that uses Shire’s three datacenters. Advans accomplished this by using MAA implementation and Oracle Real Application Clusters(RAC).

**Conclusion**

By virtualizing IT resources they were able to enhance scalability, performance, and reliability while lowering Shire’s total cost of ownership. Advans was able to reduce the number of database servers by about 50% while meeting or exceeding the response rate and uptime demanded by Shire.

**Reference**

Bradley, Kevin, & Manlove, Matthew. (Sep 2009). Shire Pharmaceuticals Deploys Oracle Grid Computing Model to Lower Costs and Increase Reliability. Retrieved from www.oracle.com/technetwork/database/features/availability/advans-maa-shire-131494.pdf