1. Flashback - the Rewind button for your database

McDonald C

Independent Consultant

There is a remarkable human condition where you can be both cold AND sweaty at the same time. It comes about 3 seconds after you press the Commit button and you realise that you probably needed to have a WHERE clause on that "delete all rows from the SALES table" SQL statement. Or it might come just after you run "drop table" on the Production database, when you were just so sure that you were logged onto the Test system. This session will discuss how you can use the FLASHBACK features in 10g and 11g to overcome this uniquely human condition

2. Designing for disappointment - A light hearted look at some perennial problems

Elder J, **Joint P**

[1] RTI, [2] Embarcadero Technologies

This paper will be of interest (and amusement) to anyone involved in Database systems design or Database management.

3.   Principles Based Oracle EBS Implementation - A Case Study

Simpkins D

Asparona Limited

This paper details, with the aid of a case study of a large Oracle EBS 'green fields' implementation, an approach to defining and implementing best business practices by applying fundamental business and systems principles.

This approach allows best practices to be individually defined for each unique implementation. It also ensures that the solution being implemented will unlock significant business value, is inherently sound and will be as robust as possible.

The rationale for using each of the principles will be highlighted, with its desired result discussed. Relevant examples from the case study and other experiences will be used throughout the presentation.

Many of these principles have evolved from some of the popular management philosophies of recent years, including Supply Chain Management, the Theory of Constraints and LEAN. These are supported by other key business and systems principles gleaned from over 25 years' business and ERP experience.

5.   Manukau City Council PeopleSoft Bank Reconciliation

Morrison M, Nguyen S

Manukau City Council

The aim of the bank reconciliation is to analyse discrepancies between the corresponding transactions an organisation and its bank have recorded. There are many ways to accomplish this, from a fully automated approach to one in which you manually compare transactions.

PeopleSoft Banking delivers a library of reconciliation rules as part of its auto-reconciliation process. Reconciliation rules pertain to records in PeopleSoft. Manukau City Council implemented PeopleSoft 8.4 in July 2003 and has expanded these reconciliation rules to meet our reconciliation requirements. Rules are developed by determining the various data sets from the source modules of PeopleSoft and are refined and developed further as the system matures and as data sets change over time.

The way the rules have been written has also been adjusted to enable verification of balancing transactions and efficiency in the automatic reconciliation process. Sql fixes have been incorporated into the bank statement load. Reports have also been written to aid reconciliation.

6.   11g SQL - What's new for you

Woolfe K

This hands-on presentation looks at new features that have been introduced in Oracle 11g, such as the powerful searching capability of regular expressions SQL Developer – Oracle's free SQL tool – will also be discussed and participants will work through a series exercises using SQL Developer.

7.   Real Application Testing and Active Data Guard

Hodges B

ORACLE NZ

Enterprises continue to make sizeable investments in hardware and software infrastructure as they strive to meet ever-changing business demands and remain competitive. Confidently evaluating the benefit and impact of such investments is fraught with risk and uncertainty. Despite extensive testing, unexpected problems are frequently encountered when a change is finally made in the production system due to the artificial and incomplete nature of test workloads. As a result Data centre managers are reluctant to adopt new technologies and adapt their businesses to rapidly changing competitive pressures.

This session will demonstrate the value of Oracle's 11g's Real Application Testing suite as it addresses these issues head-on with Database Replay and SQL Performance Analyzer. The demonstration of these tools will leverage Oracle's Snapshot Standby technology. In doing so, Data centre managers will see another way that they can better leverage their investment in the standby environment.

8.   BPEL or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb

Remmer D

LogicalTech Australia

The Business Process Execution Language (BPEL) is a core technology in Oracle's Fusion Middleware architecture, and is touted as the premiere approach to services integration.

In theory, development of systems to support business processes is greatly simplified by using standards-based BPEL to orchestrate component service functionality. In reality, BPEL sits near the top of a pile of technical dependencies; any of which – if not handled with care – can greatly magnify downstream problems.

Adoption of BPEL is most effective if there is clarity and surety around infrastructure, component services, information models, and exchange protocols; not to mention specialised developer skills, methodologies, effective channels of communication, and approaches to project management for SOA-based development.

This session will explore these issues against (a case study of) an enterprise-scale implementation of Oracle's BPEL suite; developed to deliver new customer-facing business products at a large financial institution.

9.   Business Intelligence De-Mystified

Bor B

Ministry of Health

Business Intelligence is all about gaining business advantage by utilizing the enterprise data assets. Here we explain the main principles of Business Intelligence, explore the market needs and look at market trends. We explain the relationship between Business Intelligence and Data Warehousing, look at Data Warehousing architecture, then explain Data Mining, OLAP, Data Quality and metadata. We learn how Oracle tools help in Data Warehousing and Business Intelligence and mention areas where other tools may add value.

The presenter uses several case studies from his international experience to illustrate various points during the presentation.

12. Building in Application Express - easy & breezy

Woolfe K

This award winning training session looks at Application Express – Oracle's highly acclaimed development tool for building database-oriented web applications. Working with simple instructions and hands on practice, participants will be guided through the process of creating a basic APEX application. This session is ideal for people who wish to gain an insight into what APEX can do and how it might be of use in their organisation.

13.   Boost performance with PL/SQL programming best practices.

Hall T

So your application has performance problems and you know where they are, but how do you fix them?

This 45 minute presentation describes the current PL/SQL programming best practices that will enable you to get the maximum performance from your applications. It will also introduce some alternative methods for boosting performance, when optimized code is still not quite fast enough.

15.   Enterprise Content Management - What Web2.0 Means to Your Business

Ricketts P

The world of information management is changing on a daily basis and organisations are struggling to keep up with user demand for interactive services - both internally and externally. The demand for information is also driving other challenges for an organisations IT department, the growth in unstructured information has resulted in almost 85% of all corporate information living outside of the database and of this - almost 99% is considered historical or archive. In this presentation, you will learn about Oracle's Enterprise 2.0 offerings - providing an insight into the world of modern corporate information management, how you can manage information from both internal and externals sources, how you can streamline your information management processes and how IT can begin to handle the increased volume of unstructured information in a controlled and efficient manner.

16.   Upgrading to Receivables R12? - What you need to know.

Chin A

Hewlett-Packard New Zealand

Thinking of migrating to R12, and you currently use Receivables? The collections workbench in Oracle Receivables has been obsoleted in R12, and is now replaced by some Advanced Collections functionality.   The collections workbench comprises functionality such as customer account overviews, customer balances, dunning letters, statements and call tracking, and customer aging. This session will provide an overview of and tips on migrating to Receivables R12, changes and enhancements in the user interface, and new functionality introduced with the release.

17.   PeopleSoft Alternate Approval Workflow

Nguyen S

Manukau City Council

Manukau City Council PeopleSoft Alternate Approval Workflow

Local Government Act 1974 requires the Councils to adopt system of delegated authorities to monitor and manage financial transactions. A major benefit of implementing the PeopleSoft solution at Manukau City Council is the ability to use workflow to facilitate the approval process for various financial transactions by the delegated approving officer.

However, there is a need to provide a new workflow solution that can support the business process of approving expenditure transactions in the events that the delegated approving officer is not available. This process is referred to as "Alternate Approver". The alternate approver can review and approve financial transactions on behalf of the intended approving officer. The objective of this workflow solution is to maintain the efficiency in the approval process through its life cycle. In addition, we are looking to provide system generated notifications and escalation notices to the appropriate person(s) as needed.

18.   Top Ten RAC Lessons You Can't Do Without.

Tocker J

Red Rock Consulting

The typical New Zealand business is not on scale with a World Wide enterprise that would that would deploy a large scale geographically separated RAC environment. While businesses do have a requirement for high availability and scalability any RAC solution comes at a high cost for the typical NZ firm. Since there is little room for error the identification of solution requirements and a full solution package is critical when deploying a successful Oracle RAC solution.

Many RAC projects often overrun their scheduled implementation timeframe, with significant costs in terms of resources and monetary value. Also because all RAC configurations differ there is never a 100% proof installation guide for the DBA which makes a lot of the installation experimental.

This paper explores ten lessons to keep in mind when deploying a RAC solution and the technology decisions the project must make in regards to Oracle and Vendor hardware and software partnerships. It covers:

-The differences between RAC and Dataguard.
-The cost of RAC? Or the cost of not deploying RAC?
-Selecting the full Oracle implementation or using 3rd Party technology stacks to manage disk and clustering.
-ASM, Veritas or status quo for disk? And who will support you.
-What Best Practices can help you in a real world implementation.

19.   High Performance PL/SQL

Harrison G

Quest Software

Each release of the Oracle RDBMS is associated with dramatic improvements in PL/SQL performance. However, the ultimate performance of any PL/SQL program is still in the hands of the PL/SQL programmer. In this presentation we'll examine trends in PL/SQL performance, look at tools to identify and tune problematic PL/SQL and examine PL/SQL performance best practices.   The presentation will include discussions of profiling, code optimization, in-lining, native compilation and the new 11g function cache.

20.   Streamline Your Oracle Financials Close Process

Chen G

Manual processing bottlenecks within the Financial Period Close process can significantly reduce its efficiency and effectiveness in many organizations. A sub-optimal Close can cause a number of business issues to surface. Human intervention results in data entry and execution errors, and often in costly recovery efforts. An unreliable financial close delays information reaching executives, postponing key business decisions. Technical and functional employees spend a disproportionate amount of time getting existing processes to work, correcting errors and "baby sitting" processing. Applications function in silos, making it difficult to automate entire processes without doing extensive custom development. Manual processes, no matter how well documented, are difficult to "prove" during compliance audits.

23.   Getting more out of APEX - using AJAX advanced features

Sinclair S

Sarah is a WAHM, Oracle consultant for several Hamilton and Auckland based clients with over 15 years experience in the IT industry. Her current area of expertise is advanced APEX features. This paper will show how APEX can use AJAX to incorporate database DML and report refresh without page submit, incorporate Spry components and do inline report editing

24.   Next Generation Database Systems

Harrison G

Quest Software

For the first time in more than 20 years, credible alternatives to relational databases for enterprise application data storage are emerging.   Examples of non-relational databases include the cloud databases (SimpleDB, BigTable, SSDS), column-oriented databases such as Vertica and Michael Stonebraker's H-Store. This presentation will examine the market and technology trends driving the development of these new database types and provide a technical overview of each. Finally, we'll examine Oracle's outlook with regard to these new database types.

25.   Analytic functions in SQL

McDonald C

Independent Consultant

Analytics have been there since 8.1.6, but they are still dramatically underused by application developers. This session looks at the syntax and usage of analytic functions, and how they can supercharge your SQL skillset.

26.   Siebel and New Zealand Inland Revenue

Udy D

Inland Revenue

As part of our strategic direction, Inland Revenue aims to target and tailor service delivery to the address the changing needs of our customers. The adoption of case management principles through eCase supports this aim by enhancing the performance of our people, technology and processes to revolutionise service delivery across our business areas. Oracle's Siebel Public Sector Suite presents the best fit with Inland Revenue's business requirements, including 'out of the box' capability and ease of administration. While there are a number of challenges, including the ability of Siebel Systems to interface with our legacy systems, our organisation has recognised the potential for improved operational consistency and increased flexibility. This is aided by the system's support of our medium-term objective of providing staff with a single customer view, including requests submitted on-line. Inland Revenue is also working with Oracle to establish if the Siebel Public Sector Suite could complement our existing customer relationship management business processes.

27.   Remote DBA: Just Another Tool in the Shed.

Edwards C

Blue Gecko, Inc.

Remote DBA services and outsourcing in general have been revered as both a cost-saving hero and job-killing villain. The truth is, remote DBA services, when used properly, enhance the value and job satisfaction of in-house DBAs and provide critical organizational stability, all without threatening a single job. Chuck Edwards, President and co-founder of Blue Gecko, will provide a front-line, candid overview of what works and doesn't work when working with remote DBAs; hard questions to ask a potential provider; and the top-10 reasons every Oracle DBA and Oracle DBA manager should want to partner with a remote DBA firm.

28.   Java is Dead, Long Live Groovy!

Brown B

Transentia Pty. Ltd.

Java is Dead, Long Live Groovy!
Many industry pundits now talk about Java as a venerable "has been" language, no longer trendy enough for the "young guns" out there and no longer suited to modern, agile development practices. The cleverer industry pundits talk about Groovy!
This session will introduce the Groovy language and associated "goodnesses." You will learn that Groovy is an agile and dynamic language for the Java Virtual Machine that builds upon the strengths of Java but has additional power features inspired by languages like Python, Ruby and Smalltalk. You will see how Groovy makes modern programming available to Java developers via a very small learning curve. You will see how Groovy amplifies the use of commonplace technologies such as XML and Jakarta Ant.
Best of all, you will see how Groovy keeps the best bits of Java intact, so that you can move forward without having to retool and throw away past investments.

30.   Application Server Upgrade - A New Zealand Case Study

McDonald J [1], **Sekaran S** [1], **Mercer A** [2]

[1] HP New Zealand, [2] Telecom New Zealand

Application Server Upgrade – A New Zealand Case Study
Performing upgrades can always be challenging. This case study examines the highs, the lows and the ultimate benefits from the upgrade from technology, process and business perspectives.

32.   A Discussion on Security Products for the Oracle Database

Keys S

Oracle New Zealand

Data security has been a focus at Oracle ever since the company was founded in 1977.

It's interesting to note that during the first two decades many of the security requirements originated from our high security government customers.

However, in the past ten years we've seen the number and sophistication of security requests coming from our commercial customers base meeting or exceeding the requests we use to get from our traditional security customers.

Last year we released Oracle Database Vault, our most powerful access control product. Just last May we release Oracle Audit Vault, our latest product in the monitoring space. We've also made huge advancements in the area of encryption with the addition of Transparent Data Encryption to the Oracle Advanced Security option in Oracle Database 10g Release 2. Oracle Database 11g introduced TDE Tablespace Encryption, SecureFile Encryption, Encryption of DataPump exports. In November 2007 we released a new Data Masking capability in EM 10.2.0.4. This is an exciting new addition to our data security offering.

During this presentation I will discuss these security products and provide overview demonstrations for installation and configuration.

33.   Logging, or no logging: That is the Question

Munoz Alvarez F [3]

[1] Datacom Systems, [2] CLOUG - Chilean Oracle Users Group, [3] NZOUG - In process

The main question about NOLOGGING I hear all the time is: does creating a table with the NOLOGGING option means there is "no generation of redo ever", or just that the initial creation operation has no redo generation, but that DML down the road generates redo? How and when can the NOLOGGING option be employed?

Redo generation is a vital part of the Oracle recovery mechanism. Without it, an instance
will not recover when it crashes and will not start in a consistent state. Excessive redo
generation is the result of excessive work on the database.

This presentation covers the subject of reducing redo generation using LOGGING and NOLOGGING options, the differences between them, how it happens, how to reduce it and when to use. Also, you will find examples and tips regarding each one of them.

34. Just how do you get invoices loaded into Payables using Microsoft Excel?

Sayer B [1], **Sayer B** [2]

[1] Environment Waikato, [2] More4Apps NZ Ltd

It's all very well to request supplier invoice data electronically, but without re-keying how do you get it interfaced into Oracle Payables when each supplier sends you their invoice information in totally different formats?

Learn how to quickly streamline your Oracle Payables invoice entry process with this practical guide on how we use a combination of Excel formulas, macros and the payables invoice wizard to import our invoices. We receive files via email or download them ourselves from on-line applications, drop them into and validate and upload the data using the wizard without the need for interface development. Anyone with a beginner's knowledge of Excel macros, like me, can achieve these results in no time at all.

37.   11g New Features for PL/SQL developers.

Hall T

ORACLE-BASE.com

PL/SQL is still the language of choice for data processing in Oracle databases. A situation that is demonstrated by the continued evolution of the language. This 45 minute presentation will help you keep your programming skills current by describing the new features in Oracle 11g for PL/SQL developers.

38.   Application Express within New Zealand Post

Thornburrow D

New Zealand Post

NZ Post's goal is to have quality address data services.   The National Postal Address Database (NPAD) is the single source of accurate address data, however updating alternative address information in a timely manner can be a complex database task. Application Express was utilised to create NPAD Data Attributes Maintenance (NDAM). This is integrated with the NZPOST business directory and updates data in real time. The implementation has drastically reduced resource requirements and provides improved control over quality. What a time saver, want to know more?

Application Express has also been used, quickly and effectively to develop an application for users (proto-typing) while the production application is still being built. Movers Address Listing Tool (MALT) application is this proto-type. The MALT application provides a web based interface allowing internal users to interact and query database information to provide an accurate list of people and addresses according to the criteria required by NZ Post customers. Want to know how?

40.   What is coming in Oracle Application Express and SQL Developer

Peake D

What is coming in Oracle Application Express and SQL Developer
This session will preview the new features currently being developed including
Oracle APEX Forms Migration and Websheets together with SQL Developer
Migrations.
You will get a first hand demonstration of these exciting new capabilities directly from
the development team.

41.   The Best of Oracle OpenWorld 2008

Hodges B

Oracle NZ

OpenWorld 2008 will be the world's largest gathering of Oracle customers, partners, developers, and technology enthusiasts. This session will focus on the key announcements made during OpenWorld, in particular those of relevance to the New Zealand Oracle user community.

Due to the highly confidential nature of the key announcements that will be made at OpenWorld, specific details of what will be discussed in this session cannot be specified here. By the time the NZ Oracle User Group Conference 2008 gets underway however, those key announcements would have been in the public domain for the best part of a month.

The benefit of this session is the opportunity to hear a bit more about key announcement detail – including roadmaps, possibly tentative timings and of particular interest consideration of how the rubber will meet the road.

42.   How to create a Technical Disaster Recovery Implementation plan.

Visser A

Avisit Solutions Limited

A Technical Disaster Recovery Implementation plan is a plan of the actual implementation of the hardware and software at the disaster recovery location. This plan ensures there are no unforeseen surprises when building the disaster recovery solution and that all critical systems and their components have been accounted for. This paper focuses mainly on Oracle centric applications in Unix/Linux environment.
The Technical Disaster Recovery Implementation plan includes:
*   Creating a technical register of applications and servers.
*   Creating application consistency groups (different application must work together consistently to guarantee integrity in the data).
*   Define a server mapping (either one-to-one or many-to-one). Will each primary server have its own disaster recovery server, or will several primary servers be consolidated to one disaster recovery server.
*   Creating a configuration register for each primary server including OS, patches, firewall rules, etc.
*   Software licenses and media considerations.
*   Synchronisation methodology.
*   Oracle standby database implementation.
*   Best practise primary servers.
*   Best practice standby servers.