

Oracle Scene Issue 23 - And finally column

Oracle now Podcasting

I discussed in my last column the concept of podcasting and was please to see that Oracle is now podcasting. You can find the OTN Techcasts here - <http://www.oracle.com/technology/syndication/techcasts/index.html>. Some of the topics covered are:

- Understanding Oracle's New Eclipse EJB 3.0 Tools
- Oracle on Apple Mac OS X: The Power and the Glory
- Using Oracle Developer Tools for Visual Studio .NET
- Dr. DBA, What's New in Release 2?
- BPEL: What It Is, What It Isn't
- Ask Tom: One on One with Tom Kyte (incidentally, Tom now has a blog you can read at <http://tkyte.blogspot.com>)

As can be seen most of the topics have a technical orientation. Hopefully in the future, some more functionally oriented casts will be produced.

Oracle Applications Forums

A very useful way to interact with other members of the Oracle community, share your knowledge or learn from others is via online forums. To date I am aware of the following online Oracle Applications forums which I believe are useful to participate in: -

1. ITtoolbox - the ORACLE-APPS-L discussion group is for the technical and functional discussion of Oracle Applications. This forum has a membership base of +2,500 and an average of 6 - 20 posts a week.
2. Oracle Technology Network (OTN) - although OTN has a technical orientation they actually have a forum for E-Business Suite which has categories according to industry and module.
3. Oracle Applications User Group (OAUG) - OAUGNet provides a listserv forum for discussing all aspects of implementing and using Oracle Applications. The only down side to this forum is it's not web based although a recent e-mail I received indicates they're about to upgrade.
4. Metalink - Login to Metalink and click on the Forums button. Here there are forums for most of the modules within E-Business Suite. Your chances of getting an answer to any of your questions are fairly good since the forum are monitored by Oracle Support.
5. OracleFans - here there are several technical and non-technical discussion forums, the most useful one for persons with "functional" skills being the Oracle Applications Forum.
6. SearchOracle.com - here there is an E-Business Suite discussion Forum.
7. Tek-Tips Forums - here there are many IT related forums and Oracle forums. The best Apps related discussion area is the Oracle ERP Solutions forum.
8. Oracle FAQ - many Oracle Message Boards, Apps implementor's should visit the E-Business Suite Forum.

You can obtain the URL's for all of these forums at the following URL on the OracleAppsBlog <http://www.oracleappsblog.com/index.php/weblog/oracle-applications-e-business-suite-forum-listing1/>

More recently, I have started up a dedicated Oracle Apps Forum on the OracleAppsBlog which can be accessed here <http://www.oracleappsblog.com/index.php/forum> The forum offers a number of features not available in other forums I have used to date. Two quite useful features that come to mind are the ability to conduct polls and the facility to upload attachments (such as CV's, presentations, white papers or sample documentation). The discussion forum also has really good support for private messaging between members

participating in the forum. Lastly, it also has an RSS (Rich Site Summary) feed which when subscribed to will allow you to keep up to date with the most recent entries.

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