

Overview and Frequently Asked Questions

■ OVERVIEW

Oracle Buys Open Source Software Company Sleepycat - Expands Embedded Database Product Line with Berkeley DB

Oracle has expanded its embedded database offerings through the acquisition of Sleepycat Software, Inc., a privately held supplier of open source database software for developers of embedded applications.

With the proliferation of new applications, devices, appliances, Web Services and highly available Software as a Service (SaaS), there is significant and growing demand for embedded databases. In addition to Oracle Database Lite Edition for mobile devices and Oracle TimesTen In-Memory Database for highly dynamic, standards-compliant applications, Oracle now adds Berkeley DB database products for developers of tightly embedded, highly customized applications. Berkeley DB is added to the Oracle product line through the acquisition of Sleepycat Software.

Oracle's portfolio of embedded database technologies provide customers with a range of technical options to meet their diverse needs, with the backing of a global support organization. Oracle and Sleepycat's complementary products, expertise and resources will help accelerate innovation and provide customers with richer, more complete solutions. Oracle currently intends to continue Sleepycat's dual license model and plans to continue to invest in the Berkeley DB products and support offerings, and to utilize Oracle's global channel reach to service even more customers.

In conjunction with the expansion of available embedded database options, Oracle has formed a global initiative focused on marketing, selling and servicing the Oracle Lite, TimesTen and Berkeley DB products. This will include support procedures and product release cycles tuned to the rapid-response needs of embedded systems developers, and packaging and pricing flexibility that adjusts to the needs of Oracle's partners.

■ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

OVERVIEW QUESTIONS

Q: Who is Sleepycat?

A: Sleepycat Software makes Berkeley DB, the most widely used open source embedded database in the world with over 200 million deployments. Through a dual licensing model, Berkeley DB gained very broad adoption through open source distribution and, at the same time, Sleepycat was able to fund further development and growth through commercial licenses and support revenue. Sleepycat's customers include telecom and networking leaders such as Cisco, Motorola and Ericsson, computing giants such as Sun, HP, Hitachi and Fujitsu, e-business cornerstones such as Google, Amazon.com, AOL and Yahoo, and storage leaders such as EMC and Symantec. Berkeley DB is also widely used in open source projects, including all versions of Linux and BSD UNIX, OpenLDAP, sendmail, Kerberos, various Apache projects, Subversion, MySQL, OpenOffice and many others.

Sleepycat's key customer deployments include:

- Telecommunications
- Internet and enterprise infrastructure software
- Storage and systems management
- Security
- Financial Services
- E-business

In these segments, applications addressed by Berkeley DB share a common set of requirements:

- Low latency and high throughput under extreme load
- Unattended operation
- High availability and automatic failure recovery
- Local, in-process storage, not remote or network based storage
- Predictable access patterns (static queries over dynamic data)
- Low cost of ownership

The Oracle TimesTen In-Memory Database, acquired in June of 2005, also supports embedded applications - those requiring the flexibility and standards of a relational database and the SQL query language. Together, Berkeley DB and Oracle TimesTen,

along with Oracle Lite Edition for mobile devices, encompass a more complete range of embedded database applications, and complement Oracle's family of enterprise database systems. Oracle's database offerings now address a broader range of requirements, from mobile devices to embedded and "edge" systems to large-scale transactional systems, content managers and data warehouses.

Q: What products does Sleepycat develop and support?

A: The Berkeley DB family consists of three products:

Berkeley DB

Transactional storage engine for un-typed data in basic key/value data structures.

Berkeley DB Java Edition

Pure Java version of Berkeley DB providing nearly identical features, but with a different architecture optimized for the Java environment.

Berkeley DB XML

Native XML database with XQuery-based access to documents stored in containers and indexed based on their content. Berkeley DB XML uses Berkeley DB as its underlying storage engine.

Q: What is embedded database software?

A: Embedded databases are distinguished from conventional, client/server databases by the fact that they store data locally instead of on a separate server, run in process with the application and do not require human administration. Embedded databases do not require a separate installation, configuration or administration, since the applications in which they are embedded automatically perform those functions. Embedded databases are found in a broad range of areas, but are generally invisible to users. These include devices, appliances and equipment, inside desktop software and enterprise software, within telecommunications and networking gear, in the distributed components of a Service Oriented Architecture, and in highly available websites that deliver software as a service. Many embedded applications are in industries that require 24x7 system availability and very high performance – and thus require such provisions in the embedded database as well.

■ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How will Berkeley DB complement Oracle’s database products?

A: Berkeley DB, Oracle TimesTen and Oracle Lite Edition are all embedded database products with different design goals. Both Oracle TimesTen and Berkeley DB are designed for use in server-based, multi-user systems, however Berkeley DB is optimized for “edge” applications, such as those in network routers and gateways, network management systems, security and search appliances, and mobile services. Berkeley DB is best used for predictable, static queries against dynamic data. Because Berkeley DB can store data in-memory and on-disk, it can manage very large databases.

Oracle TimesTen implements the relational model and SQL query language in an embedded database footprint, with a focus on dynamic queries and Oracle compatibility. Oracle TimesTen holds data entirely in-memory, and optimizes performance for that condition to achieve very fast, “real-time” speeds. However, the database must fit entirely in RAM, which means a practical limit of tens of gigabytes in size. In addition to its use in stand-alone systems, Oracle TimesTen is often used in conjunction with an Oracle Database for real-time caching of the most active Oracle data.

Oracle Lite is designed for use in mobile devices, generally for single-user applications that are often disconnected and must be periodically synchronized with corporate data.

Q: How is the combination of Oracle and Sleepycat expected to benefit customers?

A: Customers will have a broader range of options to meet their needs. Oracle’s complementary products, expertise and resources will help accelerate innovation and provide customers with richer, more complete solutions. Oracle intends to continue to invest in and expand the Berkeley DB products and support offerings, and to utilize Oracle’s global channel reach to service companies that Sleepycat was unable to target. In the future, Sleepycat customers will have access to Oracle’s global services organization with over 6,000 support staff in 16 support centers around the world. Many of Sleepycat’s customers are also users of other Oracle products. Now they will have a single point of contact to cover a broader range of their software portfolio.

BUSINESS CONTINUITY

Q: Can I still purchase Sleepycat products?

A: Yes. Currently, there are no plans to discontinue any of Sleepycat’s products. Please see www.sleepycat.com for additional information.

Q: Will Sleepycat’s software continue to be available under the open source license?

A: Yes, Oracle currently intends to continue Sleepycat’s dual license model and to make the source code available for all Berkeley DB products. Oracle has been involved in open source projects for many years, and views the addition of Sleepycat’s open source products and community as an important part of this strategy. Sleepycat’s presence in so many open source projects and strong reputation in the open source community are very important to Oracle.

Q: Will Berkeley DB continue to be included in the many open source projects that include it today?

A: Those decisions are up to the owners of those projects, but Oracle intends to fully support these relationships and encourage the continued use of Berkeley DB in open source projects.

Q: Can Sleepycat customers continue to call Sleepycat for support, professional services and sales?

A: Yes. Oracle’s primary goal is 100% customer satisfaction. Oracle will ensure customers have continuity in support and services. Customers should continue to use existing contacts for support, professional services, and sales to address immediate and ongoing needs. Should there be any changes in the future, Oracle will communicate all changes and transitions well in advance through these familiar channels.

■ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is the acquisition integration timeline?

A: The transaction has already closed, and Oracle expects that all Sleepycat employees will transition to Oracle. Over the next few months, some employees and business functions will be merged into their respective Oracle organizations. Most of these moves will be largely invisible to Sleepycat partners and customers, and are targeted at leveraging the scale and efficiencies of existing Oracle functions. The Sleepycat website will remain the primary interface to the community for the foreseeable future.

Q: Will Sleepycat customer contracts be honored?

A: Yes. Oracle intends to continue to honor the terms and conditions of existing Sleepycat agreements.

Q: What is the purchase price?

A: The terms are confidential and will not be publicly disclosed.

Q: What happens next?

A: We plan to continue communicating with Sleepycat customers and partners throughout the integration process to deliver timely updates. Please continue to contact your Sleepycat representative. If you would like to speak with Oracle or have questions about the acquisition, please email us at contact.oracle@oracle.com. Or, call the Oracle customer care line at 1-800-633-0925; outside the US and Canada dial 1-650-633-4490, or visit our website at oracle.com/sleepycat.

The above is for informational purposes and may not be incorporated into a contract.