

## ORACLE DESIGNER ANNOUNCES THE REPOSITORY OBJECT BROWSER

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### INTRODUCTION

Oracle Consulting bundled a selection of successful reusable components for Oracle Designer and Oracle Repository into one integrated suite called Oracle *i*Development Accelerators. These components are:

- **Oracle Designer Web Assistant 6i - Web Access to Oracle Repository**
- CDM Advantage 2.0 - Method Toolkit for Custom Development
- CDM RuleFrame - Business Rule Implementation Framework
- HeadStart Oracle Designer 6i - Productivity Suite for Oracle Designer
- HeadStart for Oracle Apps 11i - Extends Oracle E-Business Suite

Due to the enormous popularity of Oracle Designer Web Assistant (ODWA), Designer Product Development has productized much of the functionality available in ODWA. This new Designer component is called **Repository Object Browser (ROB)**, and is released as an integrated part of Designer, and therefore as part of Oracle9*i* Development Suite.

### WHAT IS ORACLE DESIGNER WEB ASSISTANT?

#### OVERVIEW

ODWA is a web-based reporting tool for Oracle Designer, releases 6*i* and 9*i*. With an intuitive navigator-based interface, ODWA offers a convenient way of publishing Designer repository meta-data to the web.

#### ODWA FUNCTIONALITY

ODWA is primarily a PL/SQL application that offers a dynamic browser-based UI to navigate Designer repository meta-data. ODWA consists of the following tools:

##### *REPOSITORY NAVIGATOR*

Repository Navigator offers the user a navigator-style interface to browse through repository workareas and configurations. It also supports check out, check in, undo check out, file download, and file upload.

##### *REPOSITORY REPORTS*

Repository Reports offers a number of reports based on the element types in Designer. For many element types, ODWA provides reports with all the relevant details of selected objects. Repository Reports also supports CDM-style objects. These are specific to full Oracle *i*Development Acceleration Suite implementations.

##### *REPOSITORY SEARCH*

Repository Search is a flexible, easy-to-use yet powerful tool to search the Designer repository. It also offers more complex search facilities such as searches based on version information.

##### *REPOSITORY OBJECT BROWSER*

Repository Object Browser is a read-only UI that provides similar functionality to the Repository Object Navigator (RON). Once an item is selected in the navigator, a panel displays the object's properties.

##### *MANAGEMENT FACILITY*

Repository Management offers tools to manage Designer repository security and the ODWA graphics sub-system.

The Repository Security Manager makes workarea management tasks, such as grant and revoke, simpler and easier.

#### *ONLINE HELP*

Online Help provides comprehensive information about all the functionality and components of ODWA.

#### **ORACLE iDEVELOPMENT ACCELERATORS**

ODWA will still be included with the Oracle iDevelopment Accelerators for Designer releases prior to:

- Oracle Designer 6i Release 4.6
- Oracle9i Designer 9.0.2.4

### **WHAT IS REPOSITORY OBJECT BROWSER?**

#### **OVERVIEW**

Repository Object Browser, like ODWA, is the solution for web-publishing meta-data stored in a Designer repository. An easy browser-based UI affords access to all the meta-data of your information systems. It now also gives you the opportunity to set up a web-based project collaboration environment with the Designer repository as its foundation. Without having to install, use or even know about Designer, project staff can check in and upload project documentation through an easy to use interface running in a standard web browser.

#### **ROB FUNCTIONALITY**

In the initial release, ROB functionality will be as close to that of ODWA as possible. There are some updates to the UI and a few other minor modifications. These are listed below. The tool remains primarily a PL/SQL application that offers a dynamic browser-based UI to navigate Designer repository meta-data.

The ROB consists of the following tools:

#### *REPOSITORY NAVIGATOR*

Repository Navigator offers the user a navigator-style interface to browse through repository workareas and configurations. It also supports check out, check in, undo check out, file download, and file upload.

#### *REPOSITORY REPORTS*

Repository Reports offers a number of reports based on the element types in Designer. ROB provides reports with all the relevant details of selected objects for many element types. Additional categories, such as Business Rule Design Definitions, one of the categories specific to the CDM RuleFrame objects, are also available.

CDM is the Oracle Custom Development Method, supported by Oracle Consulting for delivering custom computer application solutions. CDM and CDM RuleFrame are bundled in the Oracle iDevelopment Accelerators.

Additionally, ODWA delivered three types of entry points to the online reports. The reports are group by Element Type, CDM Classic task type and CDM Fast Track task type. Since not every customer is using one of these CDM approaches, ROB has preference settings that allow you to hide and display the CDM entry points and CDM RuleFrame report categories.

#### *REPOSITORY SEARCH*

Repository Search is a flexible, easy-to-use yet powerful tool to search the Designer repository. It also offers more complex search facilities such as searches based on version information.

#### *REPOSITORY OBJECT BROWSER*

Repository Object Browser is a read-only UI that provides similar functionality to the Repository Object Navigator (RON). Once an item is selected in the navigator, a panel displays the object's properties.

### *MANAGEMENT FACILITY*

The management facility allows users to view user access to workareas and applications. Additionally users can include diagrams and associate them with items, creating hotspots to allow the browser to navigate to the associated object. The ROB security manager allows you to grant and revoke privileges to Repository objects.

The ODA feature that allows users to create and delete roles is not available to the ROB.

### *ONLINE HELP*

Online help provides comprehensive information about all the functionality and components of the ROB.

### **RELEASE TO MARKET**

Repository Object Browser functionality is released in the following maintenance releases:

- Oracle Designer 6i Release 4.6
- Oracle9i Designer 9.0.2.4

Planned availability is February 2003.

### **LICENSING**

In order to use Repository Object Browser a user must have licensed access to:

- An Oracle database
- An HTTP server supporting mod\_plsql and optionally JServ or OC4J for uploading and downloading files.

The licensing requirements are therefore the same as for any other database application that uses an HTTP server. This HTTP server can either be that supplied with Oracle9iAS or the one installed with the Oracle8i or Oracle9i database.

Organizations already licensed to access the Oracle database are also licensed to use the HTTP Server supplied with the database. Similarly, existing Oracle9iAS licenses will deliver the required HTTP server requirements - especially if the Oracle9iAS licensing agreement is CPU-based (as opposed to user-based).

Users wishing to access the Designer repository using ROB alone do not require a Designer client install. In this case there is no requirement for any additional Oracle9iDS licenses. Such ROB-only users will however still require Oracle database licensing, and potentially 9iAS licensing.

The ROB includes the functionality that enables users to upload and download files. This functionality is optional and can be switched off. If a site elects to use this functionality, users also need access to JServ or OC4J.

All licensing questions and clarifications should be addressed Oracle Account Management.

*Designer Product Management*

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