



ORACLE COLLABORATION SUITE 10g DISCUSSIONS OVERVIEW

Enterprise-wide Discussions

Oracle Discussions is a new feature in Oracle Collaboration Suite 10g that enables users to post messages and questions, share answers and ideas on a particular theme or subject. These message exchanges are stored in the highly scalable and reliable Oracle 10g Database, taking advantage of Oracle's core competencies in providing access to, and securely storing and managing all types of information.

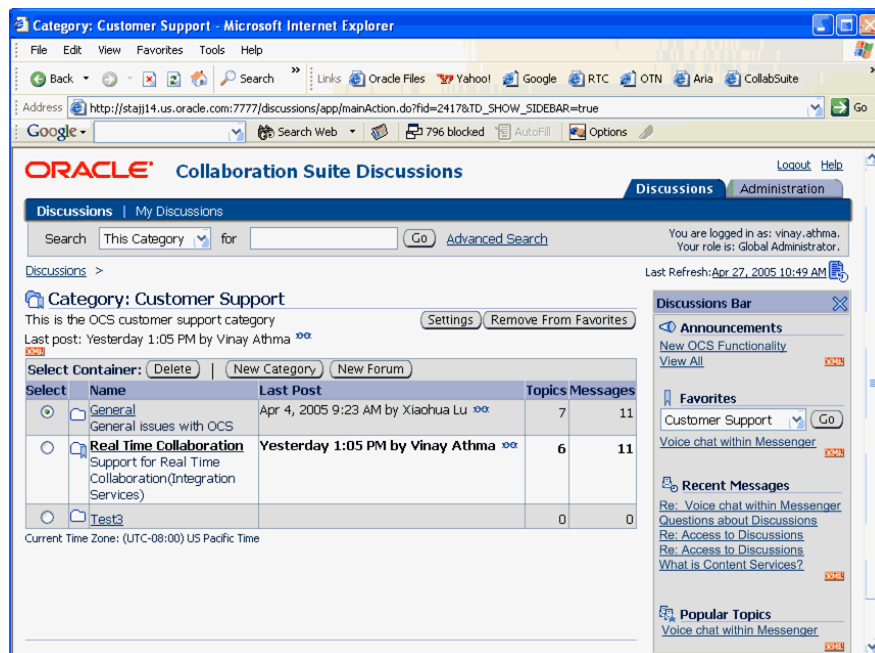
End-user Features

Users can fully participate in Oracle Discussions 10g through its web interface, while standard email client users have a limited read-only access.

Web Access to Oracle Discussions

Oracle Discussion 10g is an intuitive web-based application that enables users to participate in a running log of questions, responses, comments and opinions within the structure of categories, forums and topics. Some of the key features include:

- *My Discussions*: Select My Discussions to show Favorites, My Posts and Replies to My Posts to quickly access topics that particularly interest you. Favorites show the categories, forums and messages that the user has bookmarked.



- *Discussions Bar*: The Discussions Bar provides a snapshot view of Announcements, Favorites, Recent Messages and Popular Topics that will enable users to quickly navigate to any of these areas.

- *Discussion View:* Users can view the topic and replies either as a flat view or threaded view.
- *RSS Compatible:* Users can add categories, forums and topics to a standard RSS reader and browse the postings using the RSS reader.
- *Attachments:* Users can attach relevant document to their postings.
- *Search:* Postings are automatically indexed so users can use keywords to quickly search all the postings that they have access to. Advanced Search allows users to search using keywords, author, message size, number of replies and date ranges.

Support for Integration

In addition to the web interface, Oracle Discussions can be made accessible through other applications like portals and websites. Users will be able to collaborate within the business context for increased personal productivity.

Email Integration with Discussions

Oracle Discussions tightly integrates with Oracle Mail so that users can use Discussions from within email.

- *Email enabling a forum:* With Oracle Discussions, a Forum can be email-enabled so that users can send an email to the forum email address and the contents of that email will be automatically posted on the Forum.
- *Browse Discussions using an email program:* Oracle Discussions stores categories and forums as shared IMAP folders in the email repository. Similarly, postings are stored as messages. Because of this, standard email program like MS Outlook, Thunderbird or Oracle's Web Access Client can be used to browse the postings on any forum by accessing the shared folder for that forum.
- *Email Notifications:* Users can subscribe to forums and receive an automatic email notification whenever there is a posting on the subscribed forum.

Administrator Features

Administration Usability

Oracle Discussions Administration will provide an easy to use interface to set policies, membership defaults, email capabilities and web interface defaults. Some of the key features include:

- *Public Access Policy:* An administrator will be able to set policy for public access to forums. There are three levels of public access – no public access, public access without anonymous postings, public access with anonymous postings.
- *Incoming Email Policy:* An incoming email policy will determine which email messages can be posted in the forum. Forum postings from email can be open to all, restricted to certain types of users or ignored so no incoming emails to the discussion are posted.
- *Message Attachments Policy:* An administrator can set a policy that prevents or allows users to attach files to their postings. The administrator can also limit the size of the attachment.
- *Web User Interface Defaults:* The Administrator can set defaults for the web user interface for the Discussion Bar, the Topic view and the default editor.

Storage and Security

All Discussions content is stored in the Oracle Database 10g, the leading database for manageability, performance, availability, scalability, and value. Users and Administrators can search and retrieve information from Discussions using powerful search technology. Discussions content can be secured at both the storage level and the access level. This is accomplished through email access and public access settings as well as root category creation rights.

Oracle Collaboration Suite 10g

Collaboration Suite provides customers with a suite of enterprise-class communication and content management applications on an enterprise platform for reduced total cost of ownership while increasing user productivity. Oracle Collaboration Suite is the only collaboration platform offered today that addresses the broader problem of efficient, scalable, and reliable enterprise communications and content. With 10g, Collaboration Suite will provide a wide range of features and enhancements that will create end-user delight, enable ease of administration, and provide developers with tools to extend Collaboration Suite and also integrate with other applications.

For more information on Oracle Collaboration Suite, visit <http://otn.oracle.com/products/cs>.

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