Database Licensing

Typical Database Software Environments

- Production Environment
- Test Environment
- Development Environment

Why are there different environments?

Today’s software environments are complex, particularly with the integration of the web, the proliferation of corporate extranets, and the increased usage of corporate self-service applications. To ensure data integrity and security, companies often utilize multiple database instances to manage their application development environments.

Database Environments

As a general rule, Oracle’s pricing practices do not restrict the number of database instances a customer installs on a server, nor do they differentiate between single server and networked environments. Multiple environments may be installed on the same server. All users of all environments must be properly licensed.

Development Environment: Customers may use Oracle Full Use licenses in a development environment. Customers also may download Oracle Database products from the Oracle Technology Network (OTN) at http://otn.oracle.com. In order to download the Oracle Database product from OTN, customers must accept the terms of the OTN License Agreement. Subject to the full terms of the OTN License Agreement, this limited license allows the user to develop applications using the licensed products as long as such applications have not been used for any data processing, business, commercial, or production purposes. Customers may not use Oracle Database, as licensed under the OTN License Agreement, in connection with any classroom activity, internal data processing operations, or any other commercial or production use purposes.

The OTN License Agreement is a limited license, and is not part of any other Oracle agreement such as the Oracle Master Agreement (OMA) or Oracle License and Services Agreement (OLSA). If a customer wants to use Oracle Database, as licensed under the OTN License Agreement, for any purposes other than the limited development rights granted by that license, including deployment of an application developed under an OTN License Agreement, he will need to contact Oracle, or an authorized Oracle reseller, to obtain the appropriate licenses.

Test Environment: All programs used in a test environment must be licensed under an OMA, OLSA, or other appropriate Oracle (or Oracle authorized reseller) license agreement.
Production Environment: The environment used by end users for business or other operations is called a production environment. All programs used in the production environment must be licensed under an OMA, OLSA, or other appropriate Oracle (or Oracle authorized reseller) license agreement.

Database Metrics

The Oracle Standard Edition 2 and Enterprise Edition of the database can be licensed using the Named User Plus metric or the Processor metric. The Personal Edition can only be licensed using the Named User Plus metric. In this section, we review the benefits associated with each metric.

Named User Plus: This metric can be used in all environments. Different minimums apply depending on the Database edition:

- Oracle Database Standard Edition 2 may only be licensed on servers that have a maximum capacity of 2 sockets. When used with Oracle Real Application Clusters, Oracle Database Standard Edition 2 may only be licensed on a maximum of 2 one-socket servers. In addition, notwithstanding any provision in Your Oracle license agreement to the contrary, each Oracle Database Standard Edition 2 database may use a maximum of 16 CPU threads at any time. When used with Oracle Real Application Clusters, each Oracle Database Standard Edition 2 database may use a maximum of 8 CPU threads per instance at any time. The minimums when licensing by Named User Plus (NUP) metric are 10 NUP licenses per server.
- The Enterprise Edition requires a minimum of 25 Named User Plus per Processor licenses or the total number of actual users, whichever is greater.

Example: A customer who wants to license the Database Enterprise Edition on a 4-way box will be required to license a minimum of 4 processors * 25 Named User Plus, which is equal to 100 Named User Plus.

When licensing the Oracle Database by Named User Plus, all users who are using the Oracle Database, as well as all non-human operated devices that are accessing the Oracle Database must be licensed. The following licensing rules apply:

- If non-human operated devices such as sensors are connecting to the Oracle Database, then all devices need to be licensed.
- If human-operated devices such as bar code scanners are connecting to the Oracle Database, then all humans operating these devices need to be licensed.
- If non-human operated devices and human-operated devices are connecting to the Oracle Database and are mutually exclusive, then all non-human devices and all humans operating devices need to be licensed.

Processor: This metric is used in environments where users cannot be identified and counted. The Internet is a typical environment where it is often difficult to count users. This metric can also be used when the Named User Plus population is very high and it is more cost effective for the customer to license the Database using the Processor metric. The Processor metric is not offered for
Personal Edition. The number of required licenses shall be determined by multiplying the total number of cores of the processor by a core processor licensing factor specified on the Oracle Processor Core Factor Table which can be accessed at http://oracle.com/contracts. All cores on all multicore chips for each licensed program are to be aggregated before multiplying by the appropriate core processor licensing factor and all fractions of a number are to be rounded up to the next whole number. When licensing Oracle programs with Standard Edition One, Standard Edition 2 or Standard Edition in the product name, a processor is counted equivalent to a socket; however, in the case of multi-chip modules, each chip in the multi-chip module is counted as one occupied socket.

For example, a multicore chip based server with an Oracle Processor Core Factor of 0.25 installed and/or running the program (other than Standard Edition One programs or Standard Edition programs) on 6 cores would require 2 processor licenses (6 multiplied by a core processor licensing factor of .25 equals 1.50, which is then rounded up to the next whole number, which is 2). As another example, a multicore server for a hardware platform not specified in the Oracle Processor Core Factor Table installed and/or running the program on 10 cores would require 10 processor licenses (10 multiplied by a core processor licensing factor of 1.0 for ‘All other multicore chips’ equals 10).

**Note on Minimums:** Product Minimums for Named User Plus licenses (where the minimums are per processor) are calculated after the number of processors to be licensed is determined, using the processor definition.