Oracle Database and Sun Systems
Ready for Alliance 7

As SWIFT is implementing its 2015 strategy, the banking landscape is re-arranging dramatically. Market conditions, changing competition and regulatory measures have led to a wave of mergers, acquisitions and spits. As a result, financial organizations from banks to market infrastructures are looking at consolidating and re-organizing their SWIFT Alliance infrastructure platforms.

This coincides with the upcoming mandated upgrade to Alliance 7, another reason to take another look at the infrastructure underneath the Alliance suite.

Overview
The Oracle Sun systems range of products is particularly fit to support your SWIFT requirements.

With a focus on mission-critical business environments, Oracle provides best-of-breed technology solutions that are open, integrated, and complete. We deliver unique value for customers through the integration of server, storage, networking, and software to deliver some of the most scalable, reliable, and secure products available today. Our integrated software and hardware solutions are optimized to improve transactional efficiencies and deliver performance levels that are unmatched in the industry. And because Oracle systems are built on open standards, they can be deployed in the datacenter as individual components, or as complete solutions that are integrated from applications to disk.

Specifically to your SWIFT processing environment, Oracle has invested in the adoption of SWIFT requirements in a series of products.

- SWIFT’s Alliance software product line is qualified on Oracle Solaris. Oracle Solaris is the #1 Enterprise OS and the best platform to run your mission-critical applications. It can help you with performance and scalability, reliability, security and virtualization.
Oracle’s complete portfolio of mission-critical servers are engineered to deliver record-breaking performance, simplified management, and cost-saving efficiencies. Our systems are optimized to run Oracle Solaris and other leading operating and virtualization platforms with greater performance and efficiency.

With the introduction in SWIFT’s Alliance, of the new database structure based on Oracle, the combination the Oracle database and the Oracle Sun systems becomes an interesting one. It is now possible to host the Alliance Access database within your Oracle infrastructure. This allows you to use existing Oracle-based resiliency and disaster replication tools. The current embedded Oracle database model will be complemented with a new option, supporting the configuration of the Access database on an external, customer provided Oracle instance. This is mainly beneficial for those customers who manage their own Oracle infrastructure, and want to re-use investments made in tools such as Oracle Real Application Clusters and disaster replication features such as Oracle Data Guard.

**Oracle Database**

Being able to reuse your own Oracle database infrastructure for Alliance software opens the door to the usage of some of the interesting Oracle Database Options. This range of options, combined with Oracle Database’s extensive out-of-the-box capabilities, make Oracle’s the world’s #1 database.

- Oracle Real Application Clusters (Oracle RAC) enables a single database to run across a cluster of servers, providing unbeatable fault tolerance, performance, and scalability with no application changes necessary

- Oracle Active Data Guard enhances quality of service by offloading resource-intensive activities from a production database to one or more synchronized standby databases. Oracle Active Data Guard enables read-only access to a physical standby database for queries, sorting, reporting, Web-based access, and so on, while continuously applying changes received from the production database

- The Oracle in-memory database cache, TimesTen, can be configured to accelerate existing Oracle Database applications. When you need the power and functionality of the Oracle Database, but need even faster response times, Oracle In-Memory Database Cache has the speed

**Oracle Fusion Middleware**

Oracle Fusion Middleware is the #1 application infrastructure foundation available today. It enables enterprises to create and run agile, intelligent business applications while maximizing IT efficiency through full utilization of modern hardware and software architectures.

- Oracle’s complete SOA offering, Oracle SOA Suite 11g, is an integrated, best-of-breed suite of products that helps you rapidly design and assemble, deploy and manage, highly agile and adaptable business applications. This 100 percent standards-based, hot-pluggable infrastructure interoperates with your existing IT investments lowering your upfront costs. Many Oracle customers have succeeded in deploying high-volume, mission-critical SOA systems by leveraging the industry's best
service bus, Oracle Service Bus, combined with Oracle's renowned extreme-scalability on a grid computing infrastructure.

- Oracle Service Bus for financial services is a SWIFT certified, proven and lightweight SOA integration platform for financial messaging. It is designed for connecting, mediating and managing interactions across monolithic back-office financial applications and addressing complex connectivity requirements for SWIFTNet (FIN, InterAct, FileAct) and other financial networks over native MQ transport and WS-XML open standards. Oracle Service Bus for financial services provides a rich, re-usable and regularly updated message library for financial messaging standards such as SWIFT, FIX, SEPA etc. that allows financial institutions and corporates to reduce both the time and cost of standards compliance.

Oracle Service Bus for financial services has been awarded with the SWIFTReady 2010 Financial EAI label by SWIFT

**Oracle Solaris, preferred Alliance platform**

Oracle Solaris is a preferred platform for Alliance and supports

- Running several products like Alliance Access, Gateway and Web Platform on the Oracle Solaris operating system
- Using Solaris Clustering for enhanced resilience
- Using Oracle Solaris virtualization techniques to better organize your system resources

Oracle Solaris is the #1 Enterprise OS and the best platform to run your mission-critical applications such as your SWIFT environment. Oracle Solaris provides industry-leading performance and scalability while the proven reliability of Oracle Solaris gives customers built-in fault tolerance through features such as ZFS, DTrace and Predictive Self Healing. Solaris brings the highest levels of enterprise-class security with Common Criteria Certification and is supported by more than 11,000 third-party applications and over a thousand systems—more than any other enterprise operating system.

Oracle Solaris Cluster, built on the solid foundation of Oracle Solaris, offers the most extensive Oracle enterprise High Availability and Disaster Recovery solutions for the largest portfolio of mission-critical applications, in physical and virtual environments, for local to global data centers.

Leveraging the Oracle Solaris Containers feature and Oracle VM Server for SPARC to consolidate multi-tier applications and databases, Oracle Solaris Cluster raises the bar of high availability in virtualized environments. Customers can reduce software licensing fees, system management overhead, and hardware costs for mission-critical application deployments that are in the protection of security isolation, resource management, and fault isolation.

While Solaris Cluster has been updated to provide active support for Alliance 7 Access, Gateway and Integrator, these products run very well with in the Solaris Containers environment.
Oracle Sun Systems

Alliance 7 runs best on Oracle Sun SPARC M-Series Enterprise Servers.

Oracle’s Sun SPARC Enterprise M-Series servers running Oracle Solaris deliver the highest levels of performance, scalability, and availability for mission-critical applications. They provide an ideal platform for system consolidation and offer the highest level of investment protection.

- Highest Performance and Scalability: Deploy from 1 to 64 processors for mission-critical, complex application workloads, including OLTP, data warehouse, and ERP
- Ideal Consolidation Platform: Reduces complexity and overhead with built-in virtualization
- Most Affordable High Availability: Delivers mainframe-class availability features at a fraction of the cost
- Assured Investment Protection: Provides hardware and operating-system upgrades that work with your existing systems

Bringing it together: Exadata

Being able to reuse your own Oracle database infrastructure for Alliance software opens the door to the usage of Oracle Exadata.

The Oracle Exadata Database Machine is the only database machine that provides extreme performance for both data warehousing and online transaction processing (OLTP) applications, making it the ideal platform for consolidating onto grids or private clouds. It is a complete package of servers, storage, networking, and software that is massively scalable, secure, and redundant. With Oracle Exadata Database Machine, customers can reduce IT costs through consolidation, manage more data on multiple compression tiers, improve performance of all applications, and make better business decisions in real time.

The introduction of Oracle Exadata Database Machine X2-8, which comes complete with two 8-socket database servers, 14 Oracle Exadata Storage Servers and InfiniBand switches, extends the family of Exadata Database Machines, offering customers an ideal consolidation platform for very large OLTP and Data Warehousing applications.

Oracle Exadata Database Machine X2-2 (formerly known as V2) includes eight 2-socket database servers, 14 Oracle Exadata Storage Servers and InfiniBand switches, and is available in a choice of configurations that scale from a quarter rack to a full 42-unit rack.

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