



An Oracle Communications White Paper
December 2014

Serialized Asset Lifecycle Management and Property Accountability

Disclaimer

The following is intended to outline our general product direction. It is intended for information purposes only, and may not be incorporated into any contract. It is not a commitment to deliver any material, code, or functionality, and should not be relied upon in making purchasing decisions.

Introduction	2
Solution	3
Phased-Approach.....	4
Conclusion	5

Introduction

Many large enterprise companies provide a comprehensive set of communication and enterprise services to their departments and offices over a country or across the globe, and in that capacity operate like any telecommunications service provider. Attaining and maintaining an integrated view of the life cycle of its network and IT serialized assets across the enterprise is essential to meeting business and regulatory requirements.

While much work has been done over the years to incorporate and accommodate the asset tracking systems using unique serial number so-called Serialized Asset Management, over 80% of Chief Financial Officers are still dissatisfied with their organizations' physical asset management performance and their organizations' ability to track asset utilization¹. There are multiple tools that perform a piece of the serialized asset management lifecycle such as warehouse systems, maintenance, the finance/accounting systems and the Network. What is missing is the capability to bring all those disparate sources of data together and provide the full complement of Serialized Asset Management automation. This will allow the business users and network operational users to gain a comprehensive picture of its assets to provide more accurate and efficient property accountability.

The benefits of implementing Serialized Asset Lifecycle Management automation include:

- Full “Book to Floor” and “Floor to Book” property accountability
- Cost avoidance and cost savings
- Improved reconciliation capability
- Automated feeds of data to/from a master data repository to improve accuracy
- Asset transfers accurately tracked across all systems of record
- Asset existence testing and proof of existence records
- Improved visibility of assets under construction and implementation
- Improved audit ability
- Increased productivity through repeatable automation

To address asset tracking challenges and meet SOX-type compliance, it is important to unify and integrate network data with financial systems and other data sources especially in managing explosive network growth. To implement an integrated, serialized asset lifecycle management solution, the Oracle Communications Network Integrity application forms the commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) product basis of a Serialized Asset Lifecycle Management Automation solution to provide serialized asset accuracy for network operations, planning efforts and financial control within an enterprise.

¹ source: CFO Enterprise's Research Services survey

This whitepaper addresses the work associated with deploying the solution into the existing IT environment, including integration of the target software assets already owned by the enterprise and expansion of the solution to incorporate additional data sources as defined by enterprise.

Solution

The solution centers on the implementation of the Oracle Communications Network Integrity COTS product, which will be the interface for data collection, provide reconciliation of discrepancies and provides the capabilities needed by enterprise to support asset management processes. The asset accountability and discrepancy processes this solution will improve include:

- Book to Floor Audit
- Floor to Book Audit
- Hand Receipt Support
- Survey Incidents Reporting Support

Typically the serialized asset lifecycle management solution will focus on four data sources:

- Property and utilization data
- Warehouse data
- Finance data
- Network and computing asset data from the current solutions

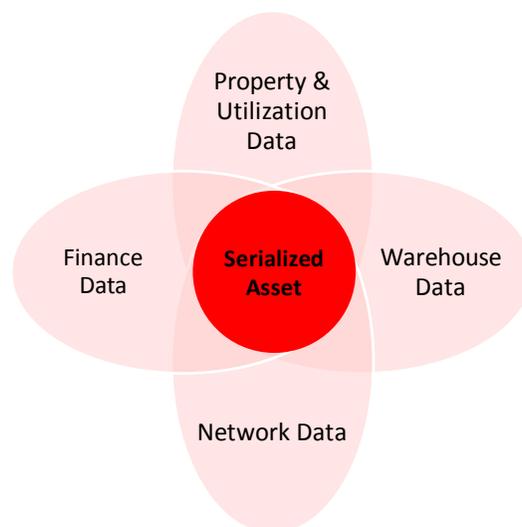


Figure 1 - Serialized Asset Lifecycle Management Automation Data Overview

Some of the Oracle Communications Network Integrity product capabilities include: industry standard common data model; web user interface for display of asset and property data and attributes; display and reporting of discrepancies and associated details; flexible and configurable data acquisition and mapping; and an out of the box discrepancy detection engine.

Phased-Approach

We recommend delivering the serialized asset lifecycle management automation solution using a multi-phase approach. The objective is to deliver immediate capabilities for a target department or team (such as the property management team), and then continue to automate asset tracking and accountability processes for the enterprise.

- Phase 1 – Deploy Oracle Communications Network Integrity platform to integrate with the current Property Management solution. Leveraging the COTS product, the solution will provide additional capabilities that will reduce time for users to support asset audit scenarios. The new capability will enable target users to streamline the validation and approval process. Before phase 1 is completed, the data integration and reconciliation requirements for Phase 2 can be started.
- Phase 2 – Improve the serialized asset lifecycle management processes and team productivity by automating interfaces with warehouse systems, maintenance, the finance/accounting systems and operational support system (OSS) through defined and standard-based integration design. Extend the solution to support asset tracking, reconciliation processes and additional reporting requirements.
- Phase 3 – Add integration with supply chain management and other network asset data repository. Improve asset tracking processes by integrate with network systems and support network based discovery and reconciliation.

Our approach leverages the same organizations and processes that are used today by most enterprise companies to collect data from the above mentioned groups/systems, and does not add more workload / complexity to daily processes. In fact, the new solution will automate the time consuming and inefficient manual processes and ad hoc tools used to date. In addition, as a COTS product, the Oracle Communications Network Integrity based solution can be made available to multiple users within the property management organization improving the organization's productivity in supporting asset management processes.

Once the Oracle Communications Network Integrity based solution is deployed, the team will continue to add additional data sources like Supply Chain Systems, and also support integration with Network and Data Center Systems to further improve asset tracking processes and enable discovery and reconciliation with the deployed network and data center assets.

Conclusion

Large enterprise companies need a unified and accurate serialized asset lifecycle management solution to track their valuable network assets and support their financial system to generate accurate financial reports and meet SOX-type compliance.

The implementation approach described in this document is mainly to represent some key interface touch points. Oracle Communications Network Integrity is a standard-based network discovery and reconciliation platform that is right for their business and to achieve the following benefits:

- Unified View of Network Asset
- Streamline Audits / Regulatory Compliance
- Work Management Execution Efficiency
- Maximize Asset Utilization / Cost Management

To better understand the capability of Oracle Communications Network Integrity, please contact us for more information – email comms-oss_ww@oracle.com.



Serialized Asset Lifecycle Management and
Property Accountability
Decemehr 2014
Author: Oracle Communications Product
Marketing

Oracle Corporation
World Headquarters
500 Oracle Parkway
Redwood Shores, CA 94065
U.S.A.

Worldwide Inquiries:
Phone: +1.650.506.7000
Fax: +1.650.506.7200

oracle.com



Oracle is committed to developing practices and products that help protect the environment

Copyright © 2014, Oracle and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved. This document is provided for information purposes only and the contents hereof are subject to change without notice. This document is not warranted to be error-free, nor subject to any other warranties or conditions, whether expressed orally or implied in law, including implied warranties and conditions of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. We specifically disclaim any liability with respect to this document and no contractual obligations are formed either directly or indirectly by this document. This document may not be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, for any purpose, without our prior written permission.

Oracle and Java are registered trademarks of Oracle and/or its affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective owners.

Intel and Intel Xeon are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. All SPARC trademarks are used under license and are trademarks or registered trademarks of SPARC International, Inc. AMD, Opteron, the AMD logo, and the AMD Opteron logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Advanced Micro Devices. UNIX is a registered trademark licensed through X/Open Company, Ltd. 0112

Hardware and Software, Engineered to Work Together

