An Oracle White Paper
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Delivering Value with PeopleSoft Enterprise 9.1:
Financial Management

Executive Overview

Long before these recessionary and uncertain times, finance organizations have been on a path to transform themselves into a more strategic partner to the business. To combat the affects of globalization, organizations have been driving towards centralization and standardization, which will result in simplification. Globalization is an inescapable force in doing business today, whether it's about pursuing new markets and customers or responding to a new set of global competitors or standards. The global economy offers a tremendous opportunity for growth, but at the same time presents management with some tough challenges. Finance is no exception, as it faces diverse financial reporting and tax standards, increased regulatory and security requirements, and a push to locate goods and services in lower cost markets.

The severity of the current global recession is creating extraordinary uncertainty among business executives across all industries and geographies. Executives are looking for ways to cut costs and IT budgets are under the microscope. No better time exists than during a recession to challenge mindsets about managing operations, especially finance operations and practices. Organizations should seek to create a strategic agenda that will result in driving efficiency and productivity while reducing complexity across the enterprise without hindering future growth opportunities. This strategic agenda should seek cost reductions and make selected investments that inherently support these objectives.

With PeopleSoft Enterprise 9.1, Oracle delivers on its Applications Unlimited commitment, the long-term plan to provide continuing enhancements to existing investments in Oracle applications. PeopleSoft Enterprise 9.1 is based on extensive customer feedback, industry best practices, analysts' research and Oracle's own commitment to thought leadership, resulting in three key drivers:

- Increase Productivity
- Accelerate Business Performance
- Lower Cost of Ownership

This whitepaper is intended to provide guidance in regards to the types of benefits that may be realized through an upgrade or implementation of PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials 9.1. For those customers that are considering a move from an 8.8, 8.9 or 9.0 implementation directly to Release 9.1, this white paper calls out the significant value add enhancements from Financials Release 9.1.

Introducing PeopleSoft Enterprise Financial Management 9.1

Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise Financial Management solutions are designed to help our customers address today's challenges and to support their business opportunities. Today's opportunities focus on supporting profitable growth and business expansion. Today's workforce, suppliers, and customers are global. They cross regions and business lines. This creates challenges that revolve around reducing costs at every level and supporting ever increasing compliance requirements, both internal and external, in efficient and effective ways.

To reduce costs, a finance organization can streamline financial processes by supporting best practices, consolidating systems, standardizing charts of accounts, and so on. Supporting compliance and control requirements efficiently involves automating tasks, maintaining organizational policies, and having the tools to audit financial activity against those policies. Supporting profitable growth involves providing the right information to the right people at the right time. Enterprises need real time, actionable data in the context of specific financial tasks to better manage and execute their business decisions. PeopleSoft Financial Management solutions help our customers improve efficiencies, comply with regulations, and add value to their enterprise. With today's challenges and opportunities in mind, PeopleSoft Enterprise Financial Management Solutions 9.1 focuses on the following areas:

- Dramatically improve the period close

- Maximize cash and reduce liabilities

- Further automate compliance and financial control

"PeopleTools 8.50 is one of the most significant Tools releases in some time. The end user will experience real benefit. They're going to be excited to see productivity improvements, with new features including modal lookup prompts, mouse-over pop-ups, and the search-ahead feature."

"Overhaul Your Financial Close and Reporting Process", Deloitte Consulting, 2007.

Dramatically Improve the Period Close

Organizations are under increased pressure to control and streamline financial processes in order to improve their bottom line. Senior finance executives continue to focus on reducing time spent on period end close processing while reducing risks, costs and allowing the finance community to spend time on value add analysis of business performance with strategic planning.

With PeopleSoft Enterprise General Ledger 9.1, we've delivered many enhancements that focus on improving the overall period close process. The following section discusses the benefit and value of the top enhancements and features across the PeopleSoft Financial Management solutions that have a direct impact on improving the critical period close process.

Increased Processing Flexibility in Allocations

Customers continue to be challenged with long and manual closing cycles that include accounting for all overhead costs. Historically, this has been a cumbersome manual process that uses multiple tools such as spreadsheets. PeopleSoft General Ledger Allocations provides a robust solution that has provided customers with flexibility, automation, accuracy and control in distributing costs, revenues and other metrics across the enterprise. In PeopleSoft General Ledger 9.1, we've further enhanced allocations to provide customers with greater configuration flexibility, maintenance and processing efficiency, and allocation methodology control. To provide the ability to refine criteria, we have added the flexibility of using exclusion logic for the pool and basis, thus reducing the need for multiple steps. In order to support internal as well as external compliance requirements, we've also provided effective-dating of the allocation group, which allows companies to track the historical basis of the financial data that results from allocation processing in the ledger.

Incremental Consolidation Processing

Customers that have multiple entities, lines of business, or global businesses must consolidate their financial results according to GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles) using entity hierarchies that accurately reflect the business activity to meet external (SEC, IAS and regulatory) and internal reporting requirements. The PeopleSoft General Ledger consolidations capability is

robust, leveraging PeopleSoft Trees for building hierarchies to manage the consolidation process. In PeopleSoft General Ledger 9.1, consolidations have been enhanced to provide incremental processing of entities, thereby reducing processing time during the critical period-end close. Customers can then consolidate each node on the hierarchy and store the results.

Consistent Chart of Accounts Validation

Organizations today are challenged with managing financial data amid continuously changing organizational structures. They must also reduce reconciliation efforts between the financial books and the underlying transactional activity. Combination editing allows customers to control the accuracy of data entry up front, thus reducing the reconciliation efforts between the GL and transaction systems. Combination editing has been enhanced over multiple releases to continually provide customers more flexibility, performance, and control.

To reduce error review and correction times, customers require sufficient information within the error messages across applications to begin the troubleshooting process. With Release 9.1, we've improved usability and control by providing the same level of details in error messages in the subsystems as is currently provided within PeopleSoft General Ledger. Providing consistency in error messaging across all applications that support combination editing will provide greater control of data accuracy early in the cycle at transaction entry, rather than later in the cycle when reconciliation requires more time and resources.

Real-Time General Ledger to Subsystem Reconciliation

Reconciling the ledger to subledgers is a control and audit requirement for all organizations as part of regular financial processing. It is especially critical and time consuming at period end. Generally, it is a manual process to ensure that ledger balances agree with the appropriate subledger balance totals. In PeopleSoft General Ledger 9.1, we've improved the subsystem reconciliation to support online and automated balancing of the ledger to Payables and Receivables control accounts. Incremental updates from the feeder systems reduces the volume of data for more efficient processing. Online views reduces batch processes to create reports and embedded logic easily allows you to tie the ledger control account balances to the subsystems balances.

Enhanced Expense Analysis and Control

Organizations must optimize resources across their enterprises to effectively and efficiently manage their bottom line. Real-time expense analysis and control is becoming vital to every organization's financial health. PeopleSoft's best of breed solution, Commitment Control, continues to offer opportunities for additional savings and enhanced management of funds. For a more in depth discussion on the capabilities introduced in 9.1 for Commitment Control, please refer to Public Sector in the Industries and Integrations section.

Automate Accruals Processing for Liabilities

Creating accrual accounting entries is a critical part of period closing to properly reflect the activity in the financial results. To further automate closing tasks, PeopleSoft Financial Management 9.1 automatically accrues expense reports and cash advances that have not been fully processed in PeopleSoft Expenses with the option to accrue for My Wallet transactions that have not been processed in expense reports. Furthermore, automatic accrual of payables invoices that have not been fully processed can also be automatically accrued with the reversals properly applied within PeopleSoft Payables. The accrual accounting entries can be viewed within the source and corrected before they are sent to PeopleSoft General Ledger. If leveraging Commitment Control, then accrual documents that affect encumbrance and expense budgets can be budget checked with the balances reflected against the Commitment Control ledgers.

Efficiently Manage Cash Transactions While Traveling

For organizations that have employees who travel frequently, handling cash transactions for their employees' expenses can be a time-consuming, inefficient process. Oracle iReceipts for the iPhone allows PeopleSoft Expenses users to scan receipts and populate cash transactions from their iPhones while they are on-the-go, increasing productivity and improving accuracy.

Oracle iReceipts leverages the iPhone's sleek, intuitive, and simple user interface, allowing users to quickly and easily enter their cash transactions. Users can promptly submit cash receipt line items with seamless integration to PeopleSoft Expenses even while disconnected from a computer or the Internet. Once cash line items are submitted, users receive real-time status updates of their submitted cash transactions.

Oracle iReceipts incorporates many of the iPhone's innovative applications. Users can use the iPhone Camera to take pictures of their cash receipts and upload those images as their scanned receipts to PeopleSoft Expenses. With the GPS technology in the iPhone, users can automatically have their transactions tagged with their location without any manual input.

Simplified Project Costing and North American Payroll Integration

'Simple yet efficient' describes the improved integration between PeopleSoft Project Costing and PeopleSoft General Ledger. The Project Costing Distribution Status is now available at the journal line level rather than only at the journal header level. Customers can create journals that pass some lines to Project Costing but not others. This improved integration greatly simplifies the journal entry function by reducing the number of journals that need to be created and processed.

The ability to capture and charge payroll costs to projects via the full set of Project Costing ChartFields is a key business requirement of project-driven enterprises. While recording direct and indirect payroll costs to a project occurs outside of PeopleSoft Project Costing, users and administrators of PeopleSoft Project Costing should be aware that PeopleSoft North American Payroll 9.1 now provides the ability to record direct payroll costs and payroll adjustments to the full set of Project Costing ChartField values. Furthermore, it offers validations of Project Costing ChartFields on the PeopleSoft Time and Labor application pages. The result: increased consistency in ChartFields usage between PeopleSoft Human Capital Management and Financials applications that streamlines the flow of business data and improves the granularity of reporting and analysis.

Maximize Cash and Reduce Liabilities

In economically challenging times, organizations need to find ways to manage costs and reduce the liabilities on the balance sheet to drive short and long term growth. With PeopleSoft Financial Management 9.1, we've delivered many enhancements that focus on maximizing cash from financial operations by reducing liabilities. The following section highlights the benefit and value of the top enhancements and features across PeopleSoft Financial Management solutions that have a direct impact on improving your working capital.

Centralized Management of Credit and Collections

Receivables users need tools that can help them manage their workload and perform their collection management job efficiently and effectively. In Release 9.1 of PeopleSoft Receivables, the Credit and Collections Workbench provides a central point for receivables users to review action items, analyze customer information, and perform appropriate actions to increase the efficiency of their collections. Risk-based scoring on collections for customers and items enables users to work on the highest priority or risk items first to maximize their results.

Improve Days Sales Outstanding with Direct Debits Prenotes

Companies incur charges due to incorrect account information in a direct debit payment. They need to reduce these charges and improve days sales outstanding. Confirming the account information prior to making an actual payment reduces the administrative costs associated with resolving direct debit account errors and associated bank charges.

PeopleSoft Receivables 9.1 provides the option to prenote direct debits to confirm the account information prior to making a payment. This includes setting the wait time period to set a realistic timeframe for each customer. The customer can then generate a zero dollar prenote payment for the direct debit payment method and process it through Financial Gateway, PeopleSoft's single payment platform that is part of the PeopleSoft Cash Management.

Offer Automated Discounts with Dynamic Discounting

One area that organizations can increase their working capital is by recognizing discounts on liabilities. Suppliers are now making this even more attractive by offering more discounts for early payments. In PeopleSoft eSettlements 9.1, Dynamic Discounting provides suppliers more flexibility when offering automated discounts to buyers who elect to pay their invoices early. Suppliers now have the option to sell receivables to factoring companies or other lenders, eliminating the need for third-party intermediaries to give suppliers more direct access to funds. Suppliers gain greater control over their invoicing policy and can better manage their receivables-based working capital by reducing their days sales outstanding (DSO) and ensuring on-time payment by giving buyers an incentive to pay invoices sooner. From a buyer's perspective, Dynamic Discounting offers the ability to recognize additional discount rates thus reducing the liabilities on the balance sheet and costs on the P&L.

In PeopleSoft eSettlements 9.1, we've also delivered a discount analysis tool for suppliers and buyers. Suppliers and buyers can search for scheduled payments and create or accept offers with the least discount to support their working capital objectives.

Improve Liquidity with Cash Sweep

The goal of the treasury function is to provide liquidity for a business while still earning a good return on its cash. To set up efficient liquidity solutions for an entire organization, many treasurers select banks that have wide geographical coverage and are in a position to offer unified cash management structures in multiple countries. This utilization of multiple banks and bank accounts adds to the complexity of cash management.

In PeopleSoft Cash Management 9.1, Cash Sweep allows customers to transfer funds from one account to another, enabling treasurers to gain better control and visibility of their liquidity. They can also deploy liquidity prudently and take advantage of market opportunities using target balances, threshold controls, or zero balance accounts enabling treasurers to benefit from higher yields and lower bank fees.

Greater Visibility into Cash Position with Treasury Dashboards

Organizations face complex challenges in controlling and streamlining financial processes in order to improve the bottom line. Treasurers' lack of visibility into cash positions and daily operational tasks has created a need for dashboards to efficiently manage their return on cash.

The new dashboards in PeopleSoft Treasury Management 9.1 allow managers and treasurers a unique view of the organization's cash position with a central place to monitor the cash position, payments and investments. The dashboards provide cash position by bank or by currency, investment mix, department mix and payment by source. The dashboards become a necessary business intelligence tool that allows managers and treasurers to effectively manage cash within their organizations, saving them time and money.

Improved Book to Bank Reconciliation

Book-to-Bank Reconciliation is a high-volume process that was introduced in PeopleSoft Cash Management 8.8.The Book-to-Bank Reconciliation compares bank-reported balances in the bank statement to the general ledger balances for a specified fiscal period. The current Book-to-Bank Reconciliation functionality integrates with General Ledger, Payables, Receivables, and Treasury.

In PeopleSoft Cash Management 9.1, the Book-to-Bank Reconciliation now includes transactions from PeopleSoft Expenses through PeopleSoft Payables. In addition, we've improved performance of this high-volume process by rewriting the Book-to-Bank process in Application Engine.

Bi-Lateral Netting

Payment terms that are different in a vendor relationship from those in a customer relationship, even though the customer and the vendor are the same, is a common scenario. This scenario provides challenges in the netting of payments where organizations are not realizing the overall discount terms. In PeopleSoft Cash Management 9.1, we've improved the netting functionality that rationalizes the payables and receivables discount terms to effectively support bi-lateral netting. Organizations can realize increased savings and financial value through this capability.

Further Automate Compliance and Financial Control

PeopleSoft Financial Management 9.1 lowers the cost of compliance and controls through new capabilities that automate the management of increasing regulations and control requirements.

Configurable Financials Audit Tracking

To increase accountability and visibility for financial transactions, customers need increased audits and controls for various transactions in the system with the ability to track updates by user. With PeopleSoft Financial Management 9.1, the Financials Audit Framework provides efficient tracking and auditing of transaction processing resulting in greater visibility while managing system resources usage. The framework provides a centralized structure to identify the statuses of transactions that need to be tracked and audited according to the needs of each organization. For example, an organization may not need to track who matched the invoice, but it may need to track who unposted the journal. Online views into the audit results that can be accessed by source, transaction and user are also provided. In addition, the framework provides archiving for the audit log, which provides better management of system resources. In this release, the framework is extended to the following transaction flows: General Ledger for journal processing; Payables for vouchers, drafts and payments; Receivables for items, drafts and payments; Asset Management for additions, cost adjustments and transfers, depreciation,

retirements/reinstatements, inter-unit transfers, re-categorizations, asset copy, and revaluation and Billing from invoice entry to adjustments to posting.

Make Informed Decisions with Risk Scoring and Assessment

Approvers don't often have enough information to make an informed decision during the approval process. In PeopleSoft Expenses 9.1, Risk Assessment provides the ability to assess the risk of an expense report and the detail lines from a non-compliance perspective. Customers can define the risks of non-compliance for amounts or out-of-network merchants; they can also define risk templates and associate risk levels to expense transactions to control spending and enforce corporate travel policy. Risky expense reports can then be properly routed via workflow for proper audit and approval.

Email Approvals from Mobile Devices

For a company to remain competitive during this era of globalization, it is imperative that its business systems keep pace with its corporate and financial goals. Managers are working around the globe with the need to work not only from a computer but also on their smart phones. With PeopleSoft Expenses 9.1, we've delivered the ability to approve expense reports via email, streamlining the approval process by reducing the time and the cost associated for approvals.

Level Three Processing for External Data Sources

Organization need the ability to itemize the detail costs of certain expense types such as hotel and car rental; however, itemizing these expenses can be a very time consuming process. In PeopleSoft Expenses 9.1, we now support receipt of level three data, providing a breakdown of the hotel charge through the credit card feeds. The users no longer need to manually itemize expense details thereby reducing the time to create an expense report and improving the user's experience.

Increased Control with Transaction Level Security

Organizations want to be able to control access to financial data at a more granular level. Currently, the PeopleSoft architecture provides a robust security infrastructure that allows customers to manage access to specific menus, components, and pages throughout the enterprise solution. It is complemented by an application security layer that further allows customers to

manage access to specific control data such as business unit, paycycle, project, asset book, and others within the applications. In Release 9.1, ChartField Security has been added, a framework that allows customers to control access for up to two ChartFields for specific high-exposure entry functions and most inquiry functions. Customers can use the power within PeopleSoft tree nodes and ranges, permission lists, and roles to configure ChartField security rules. The enhanced ChartField security supports these sample entry functions: purchasing entry, voucher entry, and journal entry.

Calculation of Use Tax on Free Goods

As companies work to expand their revenue base, they take advantage of free promotional items. A tax requirement exists in certain geographic regions that require the selling company to pay use tax on free items sent to customers. Currently, free promotional items have zero taxes calculated because their extended amount is zero. In PeopleSoft Billing Release 9.1, we now calculate tax of free goods to allow you to specify whether taxes are calculated by the seller on free items on customer invoices. If users select this option, PeopleSoft Billing passes the tax basis amount to a third party tax application that saves the calculated tax amount. For invoices that are generated in PeopleSoft Order Management or Inventory, Billing receives the cost of the item and uses that value to calculate the use tax amount.

Approval Framework

Customers have been leveraging the Approval Framework (formerly known as Approval Workflow Engine) for PeopleSoft eProcurement, PeopleSoft Expenses, and other applications throughout PeopleSoft Supply Chain Management, Financials, and Human Capital Management.

PeopleSoft Financial Management Release 9.1 extends the use of the Approval Framework within the Financials applications of Payables (vendors and vouchers), Receivables (receivables write-offs), Billing (credit and re-bill), and General Ledger (journals), to tighten internal controls and further standardize approvals throughout your business processes. To enforce tighter controls of receivables write-offs, the approval workflow engine has been extended in PeoopleSoft Receivables 9.1. When approvers receive emails with details of the write-off transaction, they can approve or deny the write-off directly on the email, bypassing the need to sign in to the PeopleSoft Receivables. Additionally, if they have questions, they can push the write-off back to the previous approver for clarification and even add ad hoc reviewers and approvers as needed.

For payables invoices, approvals can also support pushback to a previous approver for an invoice that has to go through multiple approval levels. .

"This release of PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials and Supply Chain Management will help companies operate more efficiently, saving time and money," said Paco Aubrejuan, Oracle's vice president and general manager of PeopleSoft." We developed PeopleSoft 9.1 based on feedback from customers and have responded to their needs by adding functionality that helps them improve financial processes and better manage their supply chains."

Industries and Integrations

Historically, implementing, integrating and managing multiple applications across an enterprise have taken considerable time and effort, as well as cost. Oracle is committed to helping our customers leverage acquired solutions and meet unique industry needs with industry specific solutions. PeopleSoft Enterprise 9.1 continues to demonstrate this commitment by delivering deep industry functionality and key integrations for key industries.

Public Services

State and local governments, higher education and healthcare organizations that receive public funds must manage spend to pre-authorized budgets. They are challenged by inefficiencies in managing capital programs through various systems and methodologies. Today's public services organizations have improved their bottom line and decision-making process through proactive management of spend and recognition of revenues.

General Ledger and Commitment Control

Real-time expense analysis and control is becoming vital to every organization's financial health. PeopleSoft's best of breed solution, Commitment Control, continues to offer opportunities for additional savings and enhanced management of funds. There are several enhancements in the area of budget maintenance and spend management.

Efficient Budget Maintenance

For some organizations, the budgeting process is an ongoing maintenance challenge that uses valuable analytical resources and time. Organizations need to reduce these time and resource costs and target the strategic budget planning that is required to successfully execute their business mission.

With PeopleSoft General Ledger 9.1, we've enhanced the budget maintenance function by reducing the time needed to create budget rules and definitions. Customers can use account ranges when they define account exclusions for budget definition

Additionally, to facilitate continual creation of new budgets to support different fiscal years, customers can now copy the entire Budget Definition setup, including the creation of Commitment Control Ledgers, Ledger Groups, and Budget Definitions. The combined effect reduces the time spent on entry, maintenance, and error correction tasks.

Enhanced Management of Spend

Public entities that receive public funds are challenged by inefficiencies in managing capital programs through various systems and methodologies. Organizations can improve their decision-making capabilities through enhanced control, management, and visibility into the spending of funds in Financials and HR with the following:

- Check Only Capability

  With PeopleSoft General Ledger 9.1 we've enhanced the management of spend by allowing customers to check a transaction against budgets using what-if scenarios that do not actually commit the funds against any budget. This capability also provides pre-validation of the transaction data against budget definitions.

- Real-Time Budget Checking for HCM

  One of the largest costs to an organization can be its people. To support budgetary constraints, ongoing position management must be tracked and controlled in real time. In PeopleSoft General Ledger 9.1, we now have real-time budget checking of position data from PeopleSoft HCM. Requisitions for positions are validated against budgetary rules in PeopleSoft Financials and recorded as pre-encumbrances; position offers are booked as encumbrances. As position data, such as bonuses and salaries, change, it is validated and booked against the budget as appropriate.

- Auto Override for System Sources

  For specific source transactions, such as Payroll, the continuous need to override budgetary error results can be time consuming. With PeopleSoft 9.1, Commitment Control provides the option to automatically override at the source level. If the source allows budgetary results to be overridden and the Auto Override setting is enabled, then the budget processor processes the transaction with only a warning.

- Budget Line Status

  Additional visibility is needed to understand if specific transaction lines affect budgets. With PeopleSoft 9.1, we've provided an additional option for budget line status equal to B (Bypassed). This option means that the transaction is valid but did not affect any budget.

- Enhanced Tracking for PO Closing Entries

  Customers have requested a detailed debit/credit entry for the closing of purchase orders. With Release 9.1, users can now create a credit to the encumbrance ledger for the balance of a purchase order, providing relief of an encumbrance balance.

Distribute Costs across Multiple Funding Sources

State and local governments as well as educational institutions need to distribute costs associated with a particular project to several funding sources such as federal, state and local funds for billing purposes. A common example is a large-scale state government-managed highway construction project in which United States Federal Department of Transportation (Federal Highway Administration) grant funds that are committed to cover a portion of every dollar spent on the project, and state operating funds are expected to make up the difference. The distribution of these cost transactions can be subject to complex rules in which costs are distributed to the funding sources based on percentages and priorities. To date, state and local governments have been challenged to handle this complex scenario. With PeopleSoft Project Costing, Contracts, and Billing 9.1, Oracle continues to demonstrate its commitment to the Public Sector by providing Multiple Funding Support for projects that require the distribution of costs across several funding sources based on complex contract terms.

Financial Services

Many organizations, particularly the financial services industry, deploy multiple legacy and/or industry specific systems to manage their day to day operations. These organizations have challenges that include difficulty enforcing enterprise-wide standards with redundant accounting rules for each subsystem and reconciling accounting with the source systems.

Integration with Financials Accounting Hub (FAH)

Oracle Financials Accounting Hub centralizes the definition and maintenance of accounting rules in a business user-orientated repository. Accounting journals are created with a rules transformation engine, validated, and stored in an auditable format in a single location. Your organization can enhance legal and management reporting, efficiently account for any subsystem, strengthen internal controls and simultaneously meet diverse and mutually exclusive accounting requirements through multiple representations.

The Oracle Financials Accounting Hub Integration Pack for PeopleSoft General Ledger process integration pack (PIP) delivers a pre-built best practice integration process that is also configurable and extensible to meet your unique processing needs. Based upon open, standards-based Service Oriented Architecture (SOA), it is designed out-of-the-box to enable seamless synchronization of your enterprise reference data and integration of accounting entries between Oracle Financials Accounting Hub to PeopleSoft General Ledger 9.1.

Retail

As part of its ongoing commitment to deliver value to leading retail businesses and offer them competitive advantage, Oracle has delivered end-to-end business process integration for customers using the Oracle Retail Merchandising Suite and Oracle's PeopleSoft Enterprise Financial applications.

Integration with Retek

The Oracle Retail Merchandising Integration Pack for PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials is built on Oracle's Application Integration Architecture (AIA), the most complete integration solution for orchestrating agile, user-centric business processes across enterprise applications. By integrating the Oracle Retail Merchandising applications with PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials, retailers can more effectively address critical visibility challenges facing merchandising and accounting managers today. This includes achieving synchronization among various operating groups, knowing when financial postings occur and ensuring that supplier payments take place. The integration pack also addresses retailers' challenges around maintaining and extending integration environments between applications, often due to costly point-to-point integrations or the custom mapping of data attributes.

Integration of Oracle Retail Merchandising Suite® and PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials offers customers a pre-configured, supportable and upgradeable integration of the retail merchandising execution applications with the financial operation control applications. This integration pack is part of an overall strategy to provide a comprehensive solution footprint for the retail industry based on Oracle's best of breed applications using Oracle's Application Integration Architecture (AIA).

Integration to Enterprise Performance Management

Gaining competitive advantage in today's market requires a combination of operational and management excellence. To achieve management excellence, organizations need to standardize, automate, and integrate their management processes and implement the right software solutions to optimize them. While ERP and other business applications can be used to optimize operational processes, EPM systems are needed to fully optimize your management processes.

Oracle's EPM system includes a suite of performance management and business intelligence (BI) applications, a common foundation of BI tools and services, and a variety of data sources—all integrated using Oracle Fusion Middleware. Easy to use, easy to manage, and the lowest in cost to deploy, it's the most comprehensive and flexible EPM system in the marketplace today. In fact, thousands of organizations around the world are using Oracle's EPM system to define their strategy and objectives coordinate planning to meet those objectives, consolidate and analyze enterprise-wide information, monitor performance against plans, and deliver the insights to drive the best decisions, actions, and processes throughout their enterprise. Using the Oracle approach,

they can align decisions with strategic goals, reduce financial reporting and planning cycles, compare operational results to plans in real time, and drive decisions from "insight to action" with lower costs and less complexity than nonintegrated solutions.

Oracle Hyperion Financial Management

Oracle Hyperion Financial Management (HFM) is a financial consolidation and reporting application. It helps financial managers rapidly close and report financial results across heterogeneous environments, meet global regulatory requirements and reduce the cost of compliance—all with complete confidence in the numbers.

To help finance organizations ensure the quality of internal controls in their reporting processes, Oracle Hyperion Financial Data Quality Management (FDM) allows business analysts to develop standardized financial data management processes and validate data from any source system—all while reducing costs and complexity. Fully integrated with Oracle's performance management applications, Oracle FDM is the only enterprise-class system for managing the quality of financial data.

PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials customers can easily integrate with Oracle Hyperion Financial Data Quality Management, allowing them to bring data from PeopleSoft Enterprise General Ledger and other sources into Oracle's Enterprise Performance Management (EPM) applications. When the user drills into EPM applications, such as Hyperion Financial Management (HFM), Oracle Essbase, or Hyperion Strategic Finance, they can drill to PeopleSoft Enterprise General Ledger to view account balances and drill further to the original transaction data.

Oracle Hyperion Planning

Having a successful budget cycle depends on having accurate financial information that serves as the basis of the budget plan. PeopleSoft General Ledger 9.1 Feature Pack March 2011 provides an automated integration of financial data to Hyperion Planning that moves financial data from PeopleSoft General Ledger to Hyperion through Oracle Data Integrator. As budget preparation concludes in the Hyperion solution, data is integrated back to PeopleSoft General Ledger for budget to actual reporting.

OBI Apps - Financial Analytics

Oracle BI Applications provide a single, pre-integrated view of enterprise information, enabling greater insight and alignment across business functions. Oracle BI Applications help people at all levels of the organization better understand how their business is performing. Oracle delivers pre-built adapters and ETL (Extraction, Transformation and Loading) maps for PeopleSoft Enterprise Release 8.9, 9.0 and 9.1. Oracle BI Applications uniquely support PeopleSoft Enterprise releases with tight integrations, including support for SSO (Single Sign On),

PeopleSoft Trees, and PeopleSoft specific security at the user, object and data layers. Additionally, Oracle BI Applications leverage PeopleSoft ChartFields and have pre-built "Action Links" allowing Oracle BI Apps users to securely access appropriate content and drill to transactional detail within PeopleSoft Enterprise applications.

Oracle Financial Analytics, part of the Oracle BI Applications, provides organizations with better visibility into the factors that drive revenues, costs, and shareholder value. Oracle Financial Analytics provides hundreds of powerful financial metrics, alerts, reports, and dashboards to a broad range of users, such as financial professionals, executives and line of business managers, enabling them to receive timely information, gain insight and take appropriate actions. Tight integration with other applications in the Oracle BI Applications family delivers robust financial information across the company value chain to enhance customer, supplier, and workforce analysis to help managers fine tune strategies and improve performance. For example, Oracle Financial Analytics enables better insight into the General Ledger to better understand product or customer profitability or highlights how staffing costs and employee or supplier performance correlate with increased revenue and customer satisfaction. Moreover, Oracle Financial Analytics helps reduce the time it takes to generate reports for regulatory compliance (e.g., Sarbanes-Oxley) or periodic financial statements.

With Oracle BI Applications, PeopleSoft Enterprise users obtain the right information at the right time, so that corrective actions can be taken before issues escalate.

Integration with Oracle Governance, Risk, and Compliance Applications

Oracle Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) Solutions allow you to consolidate multiple requirements, automate risk and compliance activities, and embed preventive controls in the context of business operations—all within a single, integrated platform. The core policy and content management capabilities allow you to align multiple requirements with the same superset of controls and report on those controls in details. This eliminates duplication of documents and effort, providing the basis for a comprehensive view into GRC initiatives and their performance. With Oracle GRC, you can also automate critical GRC tasks and critical cross-industry GRC processes, such as documentation and communication of policies and procedures, assessments of your risks and controls; remediation of control violations as well as the certification process across the multiple levels of your organization. Lastly, Oracle GRC embeds controls into standard business processes to help you prevent control exceptions within the context of the business transaction itself. For or example, a coarse-grained control might prevent a purchasing agent from creating a new vendor and issuing payments. Oracle goes a step further with fine-grained controls that can prevent the purchasing agent from creating a new vendor and issuing payments to that same vendor.

Integration with Oracle Imaging and Process Management

Oracle Imaging and Process Management (Oracle I/PM) offers an end-to-end imaging solution to optimize process automation by coupling document capture and imaging technology with advanced workflow and process monitoring. Oracle I/PM is pre-integrated with Oracle PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials to alleviate the burden of processing high-volume paper-based processes, such as invoice processing or expense report management.

Oracle I/PM is an enterprise-wide imaging and workflow platform that content-enables not only PeopleSoft Enterprise, but also custom and third party applications on a single image repository. In addition, because the licensing is CPU-based, customers can start with one process, such as invoice processing in Oracle PeopleSoft Payables and then expand imaging to other applications and processes, such as PeopleSoft Expenses, PeopleSoft Receivables or PeopleSoft Contracts, as it fits their needs. As more applications and processes are image-enabled, companies can increase their ROI and continue to decrease costs and cycle times without increasing the cost of their imaging solution.

The Oracle I/PM integration is made possible via the PeopleSoft Enterprise Adapter for ECM, an out-of the box integration that has been certified with PeopleTools 8.49 and 8.50.

Top 3 Reasons to Upgrade

This release applies to all customers regardless of size or industry.. Here are the top 3 reasons to consider an upgrade to PeopleSoft Enterprise Financial Management Solutions 9.1:

1. Improved end user productivity

2. Greater flexibility in producing IFRS comparative reporting

3. Access to new capabilities and the latest technologies

Improved end user productivity

Simple, easy-to-use and efficient are qualities customers are looking for when it comes to boosting the productivity of transaction flows and end-to-end business processes.

PeopleTools 8.50 is the most robust and feature-laden release in the history of PeopleSoft. New Web 2.0 features and other enhancements provide additional avenues for improved productivity, employee engagement and user experience and lower your total cost of ownership (TCO). PeopleSoft Financials 9.1 includes over 11, 000 pages enhanced with Web 2.0 elements that reduce data entry time and effort to improve overall worker productivity.

Enhancing the productivity of enterprise software means helping its users get more work done in a unit of time. Productivity is only one component of ease-of-use of a product, but an important one that has to be measured with an experienced user. PeopleTools 8.50 provides faster

navigation via redesigned menu navigation, in-context pop-ups and type-ahead text, which reduce clicks & load time. Customers will also enjoy rich, desktop power through new grids that give you spreadsheet-like capabilities and an inline rich text editor. And finally there is improved collaboration with Web 2.0 user experiences via chat, wiki, blog, tagging, and discussion capabilities. Key features delivered in PeopleTools 8.50 include type-ahead searching with auto-complete, drag-and-drop grid columns and objects, partial page refresh, and mouse-over menus.

Greater flexibility in producing IFRS comparative reporting

Companies transitioning to IFRS will inevitably find themselves having to report their financial results differently, ultimately impacting how they capture data. They may need to use new accounting definitions and valuations for certain balance sheet and income statement lines, obtain more comprehensive reporting from overseas operations, provide more detailed segment reporting, or comply with wider disclosure obligations.

Not only does management need to respond to the specific accounting policies and procedures laid down in IFRS, but it also needs to keep firm control of all of the other statutory requirements at the same time. It is this "multi-GAAP" view of the world that makes IFRS so challenging. When the U.S. incorporates IFRS more fully, public companies will need to support both U.S. GAAP and IFRS during a transition period, referred to as dual reporting or comparative reporting.

Oracle Applications provides an adaptable infrastructure to support diverse legal and business requirements worldwide. PeopleSoft Financial Management users can use the Book Code ChartField to identify a transaction as either local GAAP or IFRS. Users can then use the Ledger Code to produce local GAAP and IFRS reports. This allows organizations to ensure consistency with accounting and data gathering across the world, while at the same time recording transaction in compliance with local regulation.

Access to new capabilities and the latest technologies

New features and enhanced functionality delivered in PeopleSoft Enterprise 9.1 were designed based on extensive customer feedback, industry best practices, analyst research, and our own commitment to improve our applications. With a planned upgrade path to Fusion, PeopleSoft Enterprise 9.1 delivers the first benefits of Fusion planning and development. Leveraging "early" Fusion fundamentals, organizations can get comfortable with architecture and technology changes while planning a long-term applications roadmap. Enhancements throughout the release demonstrate that Oracle offers the most comprehensive and adaptable global business platform to support business growth at lower costs with more control and flexibility.

Conclusion

PeopleSoft Financials 9.1 is another milestone for customers looking to transform their finance organization. Not only does this release substantially drive efficiency while reducing complexity across the enterprise without hindering future growth opportunities, but it also takes advantage of technology available throughout Oracle's solutions. Additionally, one of the largest benefits in Financials 9.1 will be productivity gains that organizations will realize through redesigned functions and process flows or through Web 2.0 technology delivered through PeopleTools 8.50 and 8.51.

PeopleSoft Financials 9.1 was designed to help organizations dramatically improve the period close process, maximize cash and reduce liabilities, and further automate compliance and controls with long-term results.

For More Information

Find out more about PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials 9.1 from the following resources:

- My Oracle Support at support.oracle.com. (Please note that a login is required for all documents accessed from My Oracle Support).

  - PeopleSoft Financials and Supply Chain Mgt. 9.1 Feature Pack March 2011 Overview (FSCM 9.1 Feature Pack 1) [ID 1277493.1]

  - Release Notes for PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials and Supply Chain Management 9.1 (ID: 966247.1)

  - PeopleSoft Enterprise FSCM 9.1 Release Value Proposition: (ID: 876683.1)

  - PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials/Supply Chain Management 8.8x to 9.1 Upgrade (ID 965756.1)

  - PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials/Supply Chain Management 8.9 to 9.1 Upgrade 9 (ID 965832.1)

  - PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials/Supply Chain Management 9.0 to 9.1 Upgrade (ID 966042.1)

- PeopleSoft Enterprise Financials 9.1 on Oracle.com (http://www.oracle.com/us/products/applications/peoplesoft-enterprise/index.htm)

- Podcasts

  - Improve Cash position and Reduce Costs with PeopleSoft eBill Payment

  - PeopleSoft Reduces Payables Costs & Improves Supplier Relationships

  - Leverage New PeopleSoft Enhancements in Your 9.1 Environment

  - Maximize Investments and Reduce Costs with PeopleSoft Cash Management

  - Tired of Paper Invoices? Time to Go Electronic and Go Green!

  - Harnessing Effective GRC Controls and Change Management to Streamline Your ERP Upgrade

  - Leveraging Blueprints to Easily Extend the Value of Your Investment in Oracle GRC Applications

  - Oracle User Productivity Kit Best Practices for Upgrade Projects

  - Extending the Value of Your Oracle Financials Applications Investment with Document Capture, Imaging & Workflow

- White Papers

- – Oracle User Productivity Kit - Best Practices for Upgrade Projects
- – Delivering a Cost Efficient and Integrated A/P Automation Solution with Oracle Content Management

ORACLE®

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