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Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer Statement of Direction

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Executive Overview

Oracle's Business Intelligence Discoverer is an ad-hoc query and analysis reporting tool oriented for end users to have easy access to relational and multi-dimensional data. Oracle BI Discoverer enables business users at all levels of an organization to make faster and more informed decisions by focusing on a business view of data, hiding the complexity of the underlying data structures and enabling the delivery of the analytic content through portal, desktop and browser based report viewers.

Oracle's strategic direction for enterprise business analytics is the Oracle Business Intelligence Foundation Suite. While the Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer will receive on-going support investment based on the Oracle Business Intelligence R1 (11.1.1.7) code base, Oracle's resources will focus on Oracle Business Intelligence Foundation Suite for the Fusion Middleware 12c timeframe and Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer will no longer be updated in line with this portfolio update.

Oracle's customers have a considerable investment in the use of Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer tools and frequently ask questions regarding the commitment to this product, the on-going support and the future strategy. The intent of this document is to summarize the questions relating to Oracle's business analytics strategy, the impact on Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer customers and specific recommendations to customers who are using this product.

This document is structured in three parts: In the first section, we discuss Oracle's software support strategy for Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer. In the second section, we discuss Oracle's support policy and time lines for specific releases of this product. In the third section we provide specific recommendations to customers on the use of Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer.

Oracle's Product Strategy

Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer

Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer has been non-strategic since 2006 and Oracle has been supporting and maintaining Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer including Discoverer Plus, Discoverer Viewer, Discoverer Portlet Provider and Discoverer Web Services with a focus on establishing a long term environment for continued operations for those customers who have a commitment to this product. Releases based on the Oracle Business Intelligence 11g R1 release stream have been addressing bug fixes, supporting upgrades and addressing platform support, in accordance with Oracle's Lifetime Support Policy. Discoverer 11g release 11.1.1.7.0 is the terminal release of Discoverer.

The latest versions of Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer can be found at:

<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/developer-tools/discoverer/downloads/index-095113.html>

Oracle E-Business Suite

Oracle E-Business Suite customers who are using Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer prepackaged content are advised to consider Oracle Business Intelligence Applications as a long term strategy. There has been an on-going investment into the Oracle Business Intelligence Applications for Oracle E-BS, which includes features such as direct integration and drill through from Oracle Business Intelligence Applications to Oracle E-Business Suite.

Oracle Business Intelligence Foundation Suite

The strategic direction for enterprise business analytics continues to be with Oracle Business Intelligence Foundation Suite. This suite is built on a technology stack that leverages Oracle's capabilities in the area of operations management, data storage, query performance, information visualization, mobile delivery and integrated user actions.

More critically, the unique capabilities of the Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer product have been instrumental in guiding the feature set and roadmap of the Business Intelligence Foundation suite. This has included the introduction of Oracle Smart View for Office, a self-service reporting option which allows end users to create their own reporting content in Microsoft Office. A further example includes the Oracle Mobile Application Designer, a tailored product environment for authoring and deploying purpose built mobile applications and finally the rapid expansion of the Oracle BI Publisher product which supports the ability to directly access the operational data sources for creating analytic content, as well as the production of pixel-perfect operational reports.

Future Investment

Oracle continues to invest in building innovative technologies around the Business Analytics platform and solutions delivering full spectrum of analytics need for our customers.

Oracle's Support Policy

Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer has a large and active installed base, with reports and dashboards forming the core analytic option for many businesses. Oracle recognizes this considerable investment and remains committed to the support of this product.

Oracle's Lifetime Support Policy

Oracle's Lifetime Support Policy defines the support levels and dates for Oracle products. The support timelines for the products referenced in this document are defined here:

<http://www.oracle.com/support/library/brochure/lifetime-support-middleware.pdf>

The details for Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer is as follows:

Product	Version	GA Date	Premier Support Ends	Extended Support Ends	Sustaining Support Ends
Portal 11gR1, Forms 11gR1, Reports 11gR1 and Discoverer 11gR1 (11.1.1.x	11.1.1.x	Jun 2009	Jun 2014	**Jun 2017	Indefinite

** Oracle has waived the Extended Support fee for Discoverer for the first year.

Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer

The last major feature updates to Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer product occurred as part of the 11g R1 releases. Since then, there have been limited new features added to the product in 11gR1 release stream for Discoverer. Development efforts for Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer have focused on the stability of the product and bug fixes. Oracle does not plan to release Oracle Business Intelligence Discoverer as part of the Oracle Fusion Middleware 12c portfolio release and Oracle BI Discoverer (11.1.1.7) release is the terminal release of Discoverer.

Oracle E-Business Suite customers should consider Oracle Business Intelligence Applications for E-Business Suite as a long term solution for pre-packaged analytics content

Oracle's Recommendations to Customer

Recognizing that our customers who are using Oracle Business Intelligence are looking to Oracle for specific recommendations on their business intelligence strategy, in this section we provide specific guidance:

Upgrade to the latest Discoverer 11g releases

Protect the investment you have in your existing Discoverer technology by upgrading to the latest release ensuring the best possible support. However, no new features or enhancements will be made to Discoverer beyond 11.1.1.7.0.

License migration to Oracle Business Intelligence Foundation Suite

Oracle Business Intelligence Foundation Suite provides a broad set of features tailored to every aspect of the business analytics market place. Oracle recommends Discoverer customers to do a license migration to Oracle BI Foundation Suite. Please contact Oracle Sales Account teams for details.

Oracle E-Business Suite Customers

Oracle recommendation for Oracle EBS customers using Discoverer prepackaged content is to replace their Discoverer implementation with the Oracle BI Applications.

Conclusion

Oracle's strategic direction for business intelligence and reporting is with the Oracle Business Intelligence Foundation Suite. Oracle recommends migrating to our strategic business intelligence offering by June 2015. Please contact Oracle Sales Account teams for details.



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Hardware and Software, Engineered to Work Together