Oracle® DBA Management Pack

Features Overview

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PRODUCT SUMMARY

Day-to-day administrative tasks have become the hallmark of a database administrator's job description. Repetitive tasks such as adding users, performing backups, adding space, and monitoring systems are common, yet essential tasks for managing any environment. While important, these task tend to be somewhat mundane, requiring mostly time and little expertise to accomplish. Unfortunately, performing these day-to-day administrative tasks can hinder an administrator from performing more complex tasks operational tasks such as database tuning, capacity planning, or application upgrades.

To relieve administrators from these repetitive mundane tasks, the Oracle Enterprise Manager DBA Tools are included as a free utility bundled with every copy of the Oracle dataserver.

ORACLE ENTERPRISE MANAGER STANDARD DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR TOOLS

The database administration tools help automate and simplify common DBA tasks. All the tools provide an intuitive graphical user interface, wizards, and a common look-and-feel, along with easy-to-use features, to minimize training costs. These tools allow administrators to specify what they want to do — rather than how to do it — and focus more on accomplishing tasks rather than writing complex syntax.

The DBA Tools provide a basic/advanced mode feature which allows both the novice and advanced user to work from either the basic mode, which provides more default information for most parameters, or from the advanced mode, which allows the administrator to provide more detailed information for customization.

In addition, the database administrator tools support the new administrative features in the Oracle7™ and Oracle8™ databases, such as advanced password management and partitions.

The standard administration tools include the following:

Schema Assistant

With Schema Manager administrators can manage and examine all schema objects such as tables, indexes, and index organized tables. A navigator tree lists all the schema objects grouped by schema or by object depending on the preferred view chosen by the administrator. Also product factoring is supported by Schema Manager, for example are array types, object types, and table types only displayed in the navigator tree, if the object option is installed. If the parallel server or the partitioning options are installed all the supported features are enabled by Schema Manager.

Oracle® Security Assistant

With Security Manager administrators can administer users, roles, privileges, profiles, and password management. Using the password management features, the administrator can set an expiration date for a password, define their own verification routines, and define a password history either within a specified time frame or within a specified number of password changes. Another feature of the Security Manager is the drag-and-drop functionality, that makes it very easy for an administrator to grant new privileges to a user or a role by simply drag and drop the selected privilege from one user to another or from one role to another.

Instance Assistant

With Instance Manager administrators can start up and shut down databases, manage initialization parameters, save configurations, manage in-doubt transactions, and manage user's sessions. For example, the administrator can kill a session immediately or kill it after the session has finished its current transaction. Instance Manager also allows the administrator to put the database in archive log mode by simply checking a menu item. Also the current status of the databases is displayed to the administrator, such as values of parameters, destination of archive logs, size of the System Global Area (SGA), and resource limits. The state of the database is shown graphically with a traffic light where red equals shut down, yellow equals mounted, and green equals started and open.

Storage Assistant

Storage Manager enables administrators to manage tasks associated with database storage. These tasks include managing tablespaces, rollback segments, redo logs, and datafiles. For example is it very easy to add a new datafile to a tablespace, multiplex the redo logs, or take tablespace offline or online.

SQL Worksheet

SQL Worksheet allows administrators to dynamically enter SQL statements, PL/SQL™ code, and Server Manager DBA commands. The administrator can also run scripts from SQL Worksheet. And because the SQL Worksheet maintains a history of commands that have been entered, the administrator can use it to edit and re-execute earlier commands without having to retype them.

Wizards

The database administration tools offer a number of wizards that make it easy to execute database administration jobs, such as defining backup strategies, defining load of data from external files, exporting or importing data within Oracle databases, analyzing tables, and creating statistics and new tables.

The database administration wizards for performing backup, restore, and recovery, also support the Oracle8i Recovery Manager utility which comes with the database.

ENHANCEMENTS TO ORACLE ENTERPRISE MANAGER ADMINISTRATION TOOLS

With Oracle8*i*, the database for the Internet, all the database administration tools are Java™ based and can be launched from a browser or from different environments, if there is a running Java engine.

The tools are designed in a three-tier architecture, where the second tier is the Oracle Management Server. The Management Server processes all system management tasks, administers the distribution of these tasks across the enterprise, and provides scalability across the system. The Management Server uses the Enterprise Manager Repository — which maintains system data, application data, and the state of managed entities distributed throughout the environment — as its persistent back-end store. When launching the database administration tools through the management server, the administrator has access to multiple databases within the administrator's domain.

The database administration tools support the new Oracle8*i* features. Among them is summary management, which makes it easy to define resources and materialized views in a data warehouse environment. Another Oracle8*i* feature is the monitoring of job progress, which shows the administrator the progress of a long-running job, such as creation of a large index or a full table scan. The tools also support locally-managed tablespaces and index-organized tables.

The tools also provide a new data browser, which allows the administrator to insert, update, or delete data, as well as query data in the database using a simple point-and-click interface.

ORACLE ENTERPRISE MANAGER PRODUCT FAMILY

Also part of the Oracle Enterprise Manager product family are the Oracle® Diagnostics Pack, Oracle® Tuning Pack, Oracle® Change Management Pack, Oracle® Management Pack for Oracle8*i*, Oracle® Management Pack for Oracle Applications and Oracle® Management Pack for SAP/R3. All are fully integrated into the Oracle Enterprise Manager Console and framework, and provide a unified system management framework for end-to-end management of your Oracle environment. Built upon open Internet standards such as Java, Corba, and IIOP — these products provide the first management framework designed to support Internet computing — all applications can be accessed from anywhere a browser is available.

A reliable and scalable multi-administrator repository allows leverages your administrative staff by providing cooperative management. Using the OEM product family, administrators and IT managers can insure higher-productivity, deliver better services, and reduce the overall cost of their information systems.

Key Database Administrator Tools Features

- Graphical ease-of-use management tool providing wizards for complex administration tasks

- Graphical interface to execute commands quickly and conveniently by pointing and clicking rather than manually entering complex SQL, PL/SQL, or RMAN syntax

- Centralize database administration tasks for both local and remote databases

- Manage and view schema objects in the databases

- Maintain stored configurations, start up and shut down of databases

- Monitor sessions and in-doubt transactions

- Manage users, passwords, privileges, roles, and profiles

- Manage database storage, allocating tablespaces, data files, roll-back segments, and redo logs

- Automate Oracle8*i* Recovery Manager backup jobs

- Implement backup strategies

- Import or export data from Oracle databases or load data from external files

Key Oracle8*i* Enhancements

Functionality

- Support for locally-managed tablespaces

- Support for new summary management features for data warehouse environments

- Progress monitoring of long-running jobs, such as a full table scan

- Support for stored procedures coded in Java

- Support for index-organized tables

Management/Ease of Use

- Centralized administration of multiple databases in the same domain

- More database administrator tool wizards

- Data browser for querying, but also insert, update, or delete of data

Configurations

- Thin-client applets that can be run in a Java environment or from a browser.