

What's Old is New Again: Oracle Forms 11g R2 New Features

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Objectives

- Learn the latest features available in Oracle Forms 11gR2
- Become familiar with the monitoring and administration features of Forms 11g R2
- Now how to improve HTML interaction using new window, menu, and image features

Who Am I?

- John King – Partner, King Training Resources
- Oracle Ace 
- Providing training to Oracle and IT community for over 20 years – <http://www.kingtraining.com>
- “Techie” who knows Oracle, SQL, Java, and PL/SQL pretty well (along with other topics)
- Leader in Service Oriented Architecture (SOA)
- Home is Scottsdale, Arizona
- Member of ODTUG (Oracle Development Tools User Group) Board of Directors

Who Are You?

- Oracle Forms Developer
- How Long?
 - Oracle Forms 11g
 - Oracle Forms 10g / 9i (Web Forms)
 - Oracle Forms 6i (Client-Server / Web Forms)
 - Oracle Forms 4.5 – 6.0 Forms
 - Oracle Forms 4
 - Oracle Forms 3
 - Oracle Forms 2.0 – 2.3
 - IAF / IAG



How Did We Get Here?

WEAC
SQL*Forms 2.0 & 2.3

SQL*Forms 3.0

Oracle Forms 4.0

Oracle Forms 4.5 & 5.0
Oracle IDS Forms 6i & 6i Web Forms

Oracle 9i Forms & 10g Forms

Oracle Forms 11g

Oracle Forms 11g R2

#Kscope

Is Forms Going Away?

- NO, NO, NO, NO, NO
- Oracle is committed to supporting Oracle Forms for many years to come
- A new version of Oracle Forms (12c) is on the way!

Introduction

- Oracle Forms 11g Release 2 provides a few new features
- I consider it a minor release designed to:
 - Improve integration with other tools
 - Improve developer productivity
- Docs:
http://download.oracle.com/docs/cd/E24269_01/index.htm

Forms 11g R2 Documentation

ORACLE Fusion Middleware
11g Release 2 (11.1.2.0.0)

SEARCH OTN
ORACLE TECHNOLOGY NETWORK

Documentation
GO

CONTACT
THE DOCUMENTATION TEAM
GO

ORACLE FORMS AND REPORTS

<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> - INSTALLATION GUIDES </div> <div style="padding: 2px;"> Installation Guide for Oracle Forms and Reports </div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> - UPGRADE GUIDES </div> <div style="padding: 2px;"> Upgrade Guide for Oracle Forms and Reports Upgrading Guide for Oracle Forms 6i to Oracle Forms 11g </div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> - RELEASE NOTES </div> <div style="padding: 2px;"> Release Notes </div>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> - OTHER GUIDES AND TUTORIAL </div> <div style="padding: 2px;"> Deployment Guide for Oracle Forms Services Publishing Reports with Oracle Reports Services User's Guide for Publishing Reports Tutorial for Reports Forms and Reports System Requirements and Specifications </div>
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Gartner Report on Forms

- Check out this link to see what Gartner has to say about Oracle Forms migration

<http://www.gartner.com/technology/reprints.do?id=1-198LN9P&ct=120208&st=sb>

Oracle Forms 11g R2

- Uses Oracle WebLogic Server 11gR1 (10.3.5)
- Uses Oracle Fusion MiddleWare 11gR2 tech-stack (11.1.1.5.0)
- Integration with Oracle Access Manager
- Smaller Footprint
- Performance Management & Monitoring
- Real User Experience
- Developer Features

Integration with Oracle Access Manager

- Oracle Access Manager provides centralized authentication:
 - Policy-based Authorization
 - Auditing

What is Oracle Access Manager?

- Oracle Access Manager combines identity management and access control services providing:
 - Centralized authentication
 - Policy-based authorization
 - Auditing
 - Identity administration
- Oracle Access Manager is part of Fusion Middleware and is based upon Oracle Enterprise Manager

Reduced Installation Footprint

- Installation may be tailored to components needed reducing memory and processing requirements
- Reduced but still not small

Performance and Monitoring

- Several features allow for improved performance management and monitoring
- Pre-start Forms Runtime based upon time and number of users
- NetworkStats provides network performance monitoring
- Performance metrics may be logged to a database

Platform Certification

- Oracle Forms 11g R2 includes new platform certifications including Windows 64 bit support
- The complete spreadsheet of certified browsers, JRE, databases, and operating systems is on the Oracle Technology Network www.oracle.com/technology at <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/middleware/ias/downloads/fusion-certification-100350.html>

Need Help Installing ?

- Be forewarned:
Windows 64-bit Forms can be difficult to install
- Grant Ronald (from Oracle) suggests on his blog that you refer to Mia Urman's (OraPlayer) documentation on installing Oracle Forms 11g R2 on Windows 64-bit machines:
- <http://oracleformsinfo.wordpress.com/2012/03/07/tips-and-tricks-the-dummies-guide-to-installing-oracle-forms-11g-r2-on-64-bit/>
 - Shopping List of software required
 - Complete Install Notes

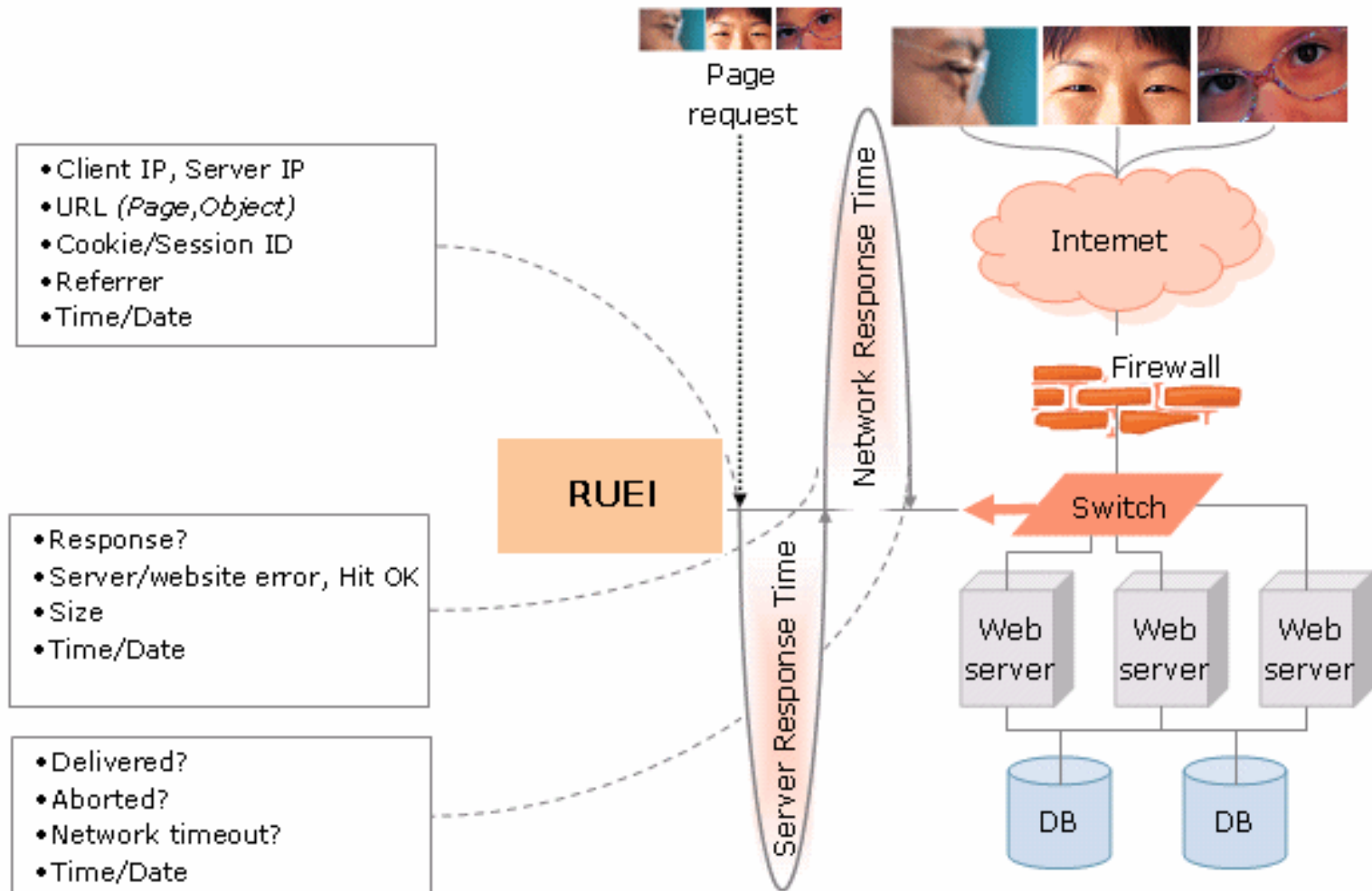
Real User Experience Insight

- Oracle Real User Experience Insight (RUEI) provides non-intrusive monitoring of user-application interactions allowing fine-grained collection of user experience data including:
 - User page visits
 - Length of time users spend on page
 - Task completion time

What is Oracle Real User Experience Insight?

- Oracle Real User Experience Insight (RUEI) provides non-intrusive monitoring via Network Protocol Analysis (NPA) technology
 - No modification of applications required
 - No instrumentation added to application
 - Passive monitoring

RUEI in Action





RUEI Management Screen

Dashboard | Reports | Browse data | KPI overview | Configuration | System

» Dashboard

Shop | Medrec | EBS | Siebel | WLP Avitek | JDE | PSFT | Fusion Apps | Fusion overview

Edit | Save as template | Open in new window | Remove | Add item | Reload

Session origin

KPI

Name	Value	
EBS		
E2E time p page	213.11	+56.01
E2E time p page for Login App	2,634.00	0.00

Responsibility

Object Library module
System Administrator
iExpenses
sion Operations (USA)
Release Management
System Administrator
ces, Vision Enterprises
Application Developer
Item Manager
iProcurement

Page views: 3,000

Top usage per user-id

User ID/ID	Web site error page views	Server error page views	Network error page views	Content error page views	Page views
services	0	0	0	76	2,435
MFG	8	6	0	21	1,021
payables	23	0	0	35	553
netherlands	22	0	0	10	279
operations	4	0	0	0	90

Framework server time

Total server time (ms)

Total: 18,486,215

Module Performance

End to end time per page (ms)

Applications BIS
System Administration
Oracle iProcurement
Advanced Product Catalog
Release Management
Advanced Supply Chain Planning
itt
Payables
Projects
Supply Chain Intelligence

Legend

- Frustrating page views
- Tolerable page views
- Satisfactory page views

Legend (EBS framework/Name)

- resp-based
- form-based
- jsp-based
- other-content
- servlet-based

Legend

- Dynamic server time per page (ms)
- Static server time per page (ms)
- Dynamic network time per page (ms)
- Static network time per page (ms)

Error category

Page views

Total: 26,004

Legend (Page delivery/Detail)

- no errors found
- http-not-found (404)
- error code FRM-40202: Field must be entered.
- error code FRM-40400: Transaction complete: 1 records applied and saved.
- error code FRM-40350: Query caused no records to be retrieved.
- (rest)

Top applications

Application/Name	Page views	Hits
Application Object Library(EBS)	1,285	2,370
Human Resources(EBS)	543	1,297
Learning Management(EBS)	502	571

Most Used Forms

EBS form name/Name	Page views	Hits
Login	1,514	6,173
Define Activity	502	571
SEGMENT VALUES	281	294

Other Features

- PL/SQL Editor Line numbers
- Maximizable Forms Window
- Dynamic URI for Read_Image_File and iconic buttons
- Optional Display of Menus and Decorations
- Improved NCHAR
- Font Anti-Aliasing

Forms Features You Might Have Missed, 1

- Uses WebLogic like other FMW products
- Can be managed from Enterprise Manager (Enterprise Manager Fusion Middleware Control): configuration, session monitoring, session management, logging, security
- Integrated with Oracle Access Manager
- Supports database proxy users
- Adds new PJC's (Pluggable Java Components) client-side

Forms Features You Might Have Missed, 2

- Integrated with DBMS AQ via when-event-raised trigger; can push event to client; forms calls PL/SQL to publish AQ events (Form2Form)
- Java Importer allows middle-tier Java
 - HTML page raiseEvent JavaScript method on Applet object passes event (plus payload) to Form
(document.forms_applet.raiseEvent(event,payload)
 - Forms receives/processes when-custom-javascript-event trigger
 - Form can execute JavaScript in HTML page via Web.Javascript_Eval_Expr(expr,target) or Web.Javascript_Eval_Function(expr,target) return varchar2

Forms Features You Might Have Missed, 3

- Embed forms in ADF, APEX, Java
- CSS to create Web 2.0 “look and feel”
- Forms Look and Feel community project
[http://fdtool.free.fr/LAF/doc/
Oracle_Forms_Look_and_Feel_project.htm](http://fdtool.free.fr/LAF/doc/Oracle_Forms_Look_and_Feel_project.htm)
- PJC tools to style forms via CSS
- Integration with external services/events
(web services)

Using Oracle Forms in ADF

- Wilfred van der Deijl has created a great tool for including Oracle Forms in ADF

<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/articles/wilfred-adf-forms-099635.html>

Grant Ronald's "Ten Years Younger" Paper

- Oracle's Grant Ronald wrote an excellent paper showing what's possible with Oracle Forms available on OTN:

http://www.oracle.com/ocom/groups/public/@otn/documents/webcontent/459564_en-gb.pdf

“Future of Forms” Conference

- Lucas Jellema and AMIS (from Holland) sponsored a “Future of Forms” conference in May 2012 where many papers were presented and demonstrations given showing what Oracle Forms can do

Here’s a description:

<http://www.amis.nl/theme/amis/uploadedFiles/PDF/Future%20of%20Forms%20EN%20DAG.pdf>

Oracle Forms Look and Feel Project

- The “Oracle Forms Look and Feel Project” is a treasure-trove of examples for creating new and exciting applications with Forms (thank you Francois DeGrelle!)

[http://fdtool.free.fr/LAF/doc/
Oracle_Forms_Look_and_Feel_project.htm](http://fdtool.free.fr/LAF/doc/Oracle_Forms_Look_and_Feel_project.htm)

Oracle's Forms Page

- Oracle's home page for Forms has many interesting articles and links:

<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/developer-tools/forms/overview/index.html>

Blogs to Follow

- Here is a list of some blogs to follow if you are interested in “what’s hot” in the Oracle Forms world:
 - [Frank Nimphius](#)
 - [Grant Ronald](#)
 - [Shay Shmeltzer](#)
 - [Lucas Jellema](#)
 - [François Degrelle](#)
 - [Mia Urman](#)
 - [Wilfred van der Deijl](#)
 - [Scott Tiger](#)

Additional Examples

- Thanks to Mia Urman for the following list of Forms example URLs:
 - Forms Javascript with google maps demo
<http://iadviseblog.wordpress.com/2010/06/10/forms-11g-javascript-integration-call-others/>
 - Live demos of the look and feel project
<http://fdtool.free.fr/LAF/doc/demos.htm>
 - Some great slides of new features
http://oracleformsinfo.files.wordpress.com/2012/02/reach_for_the_clouds_final_web.pdf
 - **Running Oracle Forms on the mobile - Demo**
http://oracleformsinfo.files.wordpress.com/2012/02/reach_for_the_clouds_final_web.pdf

Wrapping It Up

- Oracle's support for Forms will continue for some time to come
- New development features in Forms are unlikely (product will be pretty static)
- Most new Forms features will provide integration with Fusion Middleware components or management/monitoring
- Oracle Forms is not going anywhere; it is not necessary to “convert” things to ADF or APEX (or anything else for that matter)

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www.rmoug.org



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Thanks for your attention!

Today's slides are on the web:

<http://www.kingtraining.com>