How *Not* To Be A DBA –

Top 20 Career-ending Mistakes

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Backup and Recovery

➢ Don't bother backing up your database, after all, your disks are RAID 5 anyway

➢ You're backing up the database nightly, don't bother with exporting data as well

➢ Never test recovery procedures -- you don't want to take the production system away from the users

Are you SURE the backups are good?

Backup and Recovery

Monitoring/Tuning

➢ Monitoring is unnecessary, your users will let you know about problems

➢ Only use cache hit ratios instead of wait events to monitor performance

➢ Always increase your shared pool when performance is not optimal

When's the last time you analyzed your tables?

Monitoring/Tuning

Database Standards

- ➢ Don't change any Oracle-supplied defaults
  - ✓ Tablespace storage (pctincrease, initial extent, next extent)
  - ✓ Init.ora parameters
  - ✓ Passwords on the Oracle-supplied accounts

- ➢ Recreate tables as soon as they have more than 5 extents

- ➢ Index every column in every table just in case

We don't need no stinkin' standards!

Database Standards

➢ Fix space problems by turning autoextend on every datafile in every tablespace

➢ Don't analyze tables or generate statistics, Oracle's optimizer will figure out the best path without them

➢ Grant everyone connect, resource and dba and leave their default and temporary tablespaces as SYSTEM

➢ To retrieve space from a tablespace, just drop the datafile and delete the file from disk

Tested recovery lately?

Database Standards

User/Developer Standards

➢ Only have one user account in the database for everyone to use

➢ Implement critical fixes to production without testing

➢ Don't keep a source code repository - what's in dev.<app_schema>.user_source is current

Maybe you should do a weekly export, just in case?

User/Developer
Standards

➢ Give the developers unrestricted access to the production database
  ✓ Allow the programmers to design all tables, after all, they know the application needs
  ✓ Let the programmers code business rules and referential integrity into the application code rather than into triggers and/or constraints on the tables
  ✓ allow developers to directly modify production tables and data

You *do* have a backup and recovery plan, don't you?

User/Developer Standards

General Practices

➢ Assume every environment/database/application has the same set of code

➢ Don't script anything and don't save or document what you've done, you'll never do it again anyway

➢ When new releases come out:
  ✓ always upgrade immediately and use ALL the new features in each release. Since Oracle provides them, you must really need them.
  ✓ do upgrades in place -- there won't be any problems, bugs or "undocumented features"
  ✓ never read the release notes before installing

It's 10PM, do you know where your backups are?

General Practices

Questions???

Information Sources

➢ technet.oracle.com

Online source for documentation, product downloads, discussion forums

➢ **metalink.oracle.com**

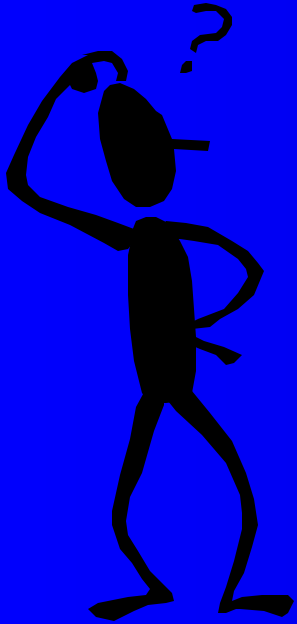MetaLink – patches, technical forums, bug database, iTARs, platform-specific documentation, white papers

➢ **http://www.oracle.com/education/oln/index.html**

Online Oracle education – recorded presentations

➢ Newsgroups/Email Lists
   ✓ comp.databases.oracle.server
   ✓ ORACLE-L email list
   ✓ www.lazydba.com

Information Sources

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