Tired of Oracle’s SQL* Plus? Try SQL Developer!

Chris Grabowry
Agenda

- Several slides
- Demo!!
Chris Grabowy has been working in the IT field for over 20 years.

Chris Grabowy has been a DBA for over 18 years; ten years with the Oracle database.
Not an expert...
Audience

- Has anyone heard of SQL Developer?
- Has anyone used SQL Developer?
- Has anyone used or is familiar with Toad? SQL Navigator? Tora?
What is SQL Developer?

- A free graphical tool that increases productivity and simplifies database development tasks.
- A graphical “replacement” for Oracle’s SQL*Plus.
- Developed by Oracle Corporation. Most likely in response to many similar 3rd party products dominating the market, i.e. Toad, SQL Navigator, etc.
Version

- Currently available as production release 1.0.0.15.57
- Schedule for future releases:
  - 1.1 2\textsuperscript{nd} half of 2006
  - 1.2 1\textsuperscript{st} half of 2007
How do I get SQL Developer?

- The easiest way to find and download SQL Developer is to Google for it.
- Go to www.google.com and search for “Oracle SQL Developer”.
- But for the record, SQL Developer is available on OTN.
- Hopefully, in the future SQL Developer will be available on the actual Oracle CD.
Feature Comparison Matrix

TOAD

- Lots of features.
- $870.00 per user

SQL Developer

- Some features

FREE!!!!
Free?

- SQL Developer is free, but support is provided via Metalink, therefore you need a valid Oracle license.
- Google – “oracle sql developer pricingfaq”
- Currently, Toad is still $870.00 per seat. How long can Quest keep charging that much? And what of the other products/vendors?
- “Big News about TOAD this fall”
Installation

- Very simple installation.
- Unzip the downloaded file.
- Execute SQL Developer.exe from the unzipped folder.
- Does not require any Oracle client software.
- So how do you then inventory your clients?
Oracle Versions?

- SQL Developer is supported and certified for Oracle versions 9.2.0.1 and up.
- How will this compare with 3rd party products that support Oracle versions as far back as 7?
- But SQL Developer will work to a certain degree with older Oracle versions.
Developed

- Written in Java using J Developer
- Uses “self contained” JDK 1.5
- Uses JDBC thin driver to connect to Oracle
SQL Developer Extensions

- Extensions allow anyone to add additional features to SQL Developer.
- Use JDeveloper to write extension.
- Google – “Oracle SQL Developer extensions”
GeoSQL Developer

- “The purpose of GeoSQL Developer project is to extend Oracle SQL Developer development tool with additional functionality that is needed by database administrators of Oracle Spatial data, ESRI ArcSDE administrators or advanced GIS user.”

- Google - “GIS extension for Oracle SQL Developer”
GeoSQL Developer Screen Shot
Client platforms

- Windows
- Linux
- Mac OS X
- Solaris

http://forums.oracle.com/forums/thread.jspa?messageID=1170942#1170942

- AIX

http://forums.oracle.com/forums/thread.jspa?messageID=1157185#1157185
My implementation experiences
...so far.

- SQL Developer is an Oracle add-on, not freeware/shareware/free.
- RAPTOR_USER_DIR
- Data dictionary queries
- Connection account issue?
- Benthic software. $50,000 per software evaluation.
Passwords!!!

- Why are the passwords within the SQL Developer subfolders??
- IDEConnections.xml
- RAPTOR_USER_DIR
- Network installation? Consider setting the `SetUserHomeVariable` in the `sqldeveloper.conf` file to `$HOME`?
Some useful websites...

- Sue Harper’s blog
- Kris Rice’s blog
- Simply use Google...
- Yes, I own Google stock
- No, I don’t any Oracle stock.
Demo time!!

(please contact Chris Grabowy for a demo)
Future Enhancements

- Source code control
- Query jobs
- Current session, including kill
- Data import tool.
- “oracle sql developer statement of direction”
  (Google for it...yeah!!)
Questions?

- Has anyone used SQL Developer? Do you have any positive or negative experiences that you would like to share?
- Any other questions?
Learn anything?
Thanks...

Chris Grabowy

chris.grabowy@lmco.com