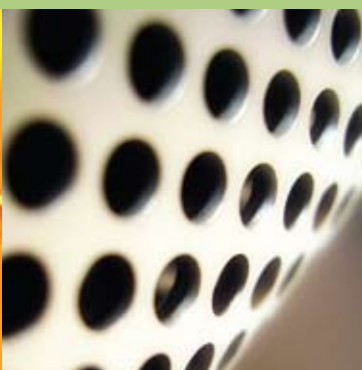


ON TARGET WITH HIGH CALIBER ORACLE SOLUTIONS



Zirous is a system integrator, established 1982. Our mission is to provide high quality technical solutions that meet the business needs of our clients. We fulfill our mission, establish great working relationships with clients, and have experienced *success* through our:

Quality Solutions. Experience. Team.



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ORACLE CERTIFIED PARTNER



Avi Thakur
System Architect

Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning

Partner Solution for Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning

The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) initiative, sponsored by the Governor and the Chief Justice, is being administered by Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP), a division within the Iowa Department of Human Rights. The CJIS initiative is intended to standardize and implement an electronic exchange process for approximately 600 documented exchanges that move among various departments and agencies within the criminal justice community in the State of Iowa.

A plan commissioned by the CJIS Advisory Committee noted that data and document exchanges between numerous departments and agencies took various forms and was not as effective as it could be. After the plan was finished, the CJIS Advisory Committee concluded that a scalable, standards-based Enterprise Service Bus solution (ESB) would be the most effective option for an electronic exchange of data and documents. After an intensive RFP process, the CJIS Advisory Committee chose Zirous's proposed ESB implementation using Oracle's SOA Suite.

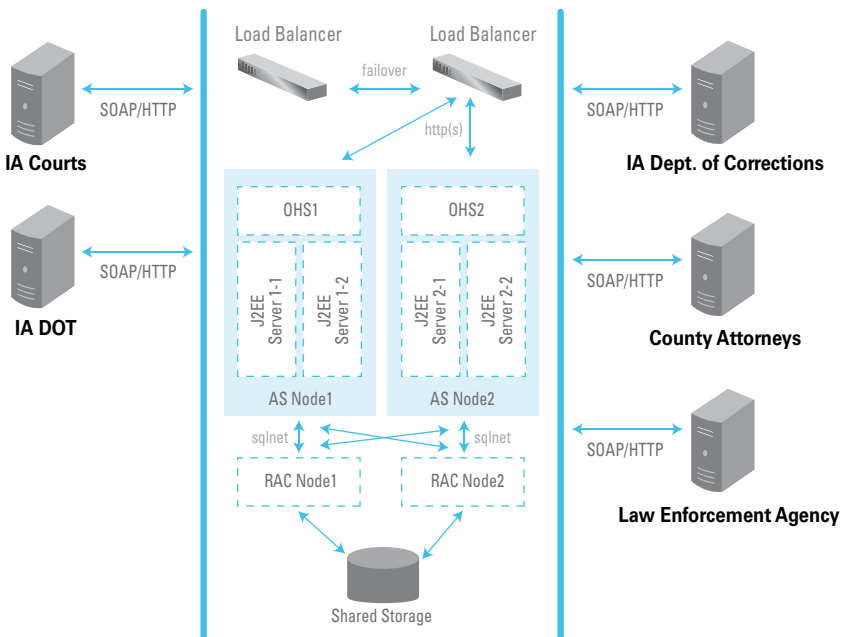
Solution Details:

Zirous's proposed architecture included two Oracle BPEL Process Managers deployed in a two-node HA installation supported by a two-node RAC database. The architecture also included a set of active-passive Cisco load balancers fronting the ESB.

As specified by the CJIS Advisory Committee, document exchanges (services) were standardized using GJXDM (Global Justice Xml Data Model) and endpoints were standardized using Web Services supporting SOAP over HTTP. As with any ESB, the services were expected to perform schema and business validation, data transformation, notification, routing (static/dynamic) and both automatic and human intervened fault handling. Zirous accomplished this by implementing Oracle SOA Suite and used only the Suite's out-of-the-box functionalities, a testament to the software's capabilities.

The initial exchanges (services) involved document and data exchange among CJJP, Iowa Department of Transportation, Iowa Department of Public Safety, Judicial Branch, county attorneys, Iowa Department of Corrections and state and local law enforcement agencies.

CJIS ESB
(Oracle SOA Suite)



Enterprise Single Sign On

What Can It Do For You?



Ty Kirk
Manager

Oracle Infrastructure & Security Services

The Oracle Enterprise Single Sign-On Suite (eSSO Suite) is a proven solution that works with all of your applications without a lengthy and complex implementation effort. Whether you are deploying strong authentication, implementing enterprise-wide password initiatives, or simply focusing on your user's password challenges, Oracle's eSSO architecture supports your technical requirements and computing environment. This simple solution simultaneously provides huge usability improvements for end users, indirect cost savings from decreased employee downtime, and high ROI through direct savings in helpdesk costs, while providing vastly improved security for all the applications in the enterprise.

It is no wonder the biggest user complaint with computers is passwords. According to Gartner, an average password reset call costs a company about \$20; another estimate is that those password resets comprised more than 50 percent of help desk call volume. One of the biggest security weaknesses in computer networks is poor password selection and management. With the Oracle eSSO Suite, users logon once and eSSO does the rest, automating every password management function, including logon, password selection, and password change and reset. In delivering Single Sign-On to all of your applications, Oracle eSSO eliminates the security risks brought about when employees write passwords down on sticky notes or store them in PDAs. ■

“One of the biggest security weaknesses in computer networks is poor password selection and management.”

Reduced Costs	Improved Security	Better Compliance	Increased Productivity	Enhanced User Experience
Automation of manual processes Less need for calls to help desk	Streamlining of passwords Immediate deactivation when users leave	Prevention/detection of violations Electronic trail	Elimination of helpdesk calls for multiple-password issues Access from any location	No need to remember multiple passwords Single login for multiple resources Self-service password resets

eSSO users can enjoy the benefits of sign-on to all of their applications, whether they are connected to the corporate network, traveling away from the office, roaming between computers or working at a shared workstation.

If you are interested in minimizing your password-related issues, contact Zirous and we'll demonstrate what eSSO can do for you.

zirous certification update:

Congratulations to Ty Kirk, Bob DeLarm, Scott Warren and Micah Knutzen for becoming Oracle Application Server Certified Professionals, and to Luke Wenz and John Steege for becoming Sun Certified Java Programmers.

Ty, Bob, Scott, and Micah were amongst the first group of individuals to take and pass the Oracle Application Server Certified Professional Exam.

Identity and Access Management Suite

PRICE BREAK ANNOUNCEMENT

Oracle slashed pricing for its Identity and Access Management Suite through May 31, 2008, and Zirus is following suit by offering our first-class implementation services also at a reduced rate.

Bundles starting at \$141,000*



*Some limitations may apply.
Contact Zirus for details.

- Manage end-to-end user identity life cycles across all enterprise resources, both within and beyond the firewall.
- Deploy applications faster.
- Apply the most granular protection to enterprise resources.
- Automatically eliminate latent access privileges.
- Fulfill all of your identity management requirements from a single, industry-leading vendor.

Take the next step with Zirus and capitalize today on great pricing for industry-leading software and Zirus's service guarantees.

ETL vs ELT:

Don't worry, Oracle's got them both!

A debate is taking center stage over two similar, yet very different, data integration methods: ETL (Extract, transform and load), the crafty veteran of the market, versus ELT (Extract, load and transform) the up-and-coming rookie. So what are the differences? Why should you choose one over the other? And, more importantly, does Oracle provide tools to perform each task?

The most obvious difference between the two is the acronym discrepancy (who knew one letter could mean so much). ETL is an approach that relies primarily on a separate, proprietary engine being deployed between the source and target systems. Thus, the "transformation" takes place between source and target while the data is still on the move. In other words, data is extracted from the source, moved to this intermediate platform where transformation logic (business rules, data cleansing, etc.) takes place, and finally, the data is loaded in the target system. ELT, on the other hand, erases the need for this separate platform, and performs all of the complex transformation logic on the target system itself.

With the obvious advantages of ELT, it is important to know that ETL still out-shines ELT when:

- Volumes are medium to low sized.
- The time-line for loading the data is not super critical.
- The source systems provide data slower than 60,000 rows per second - or the networks are restricting data flow.
- The target system won't perform at more than 50,000 or 60,000 rows per second, even if it's been tuned.
- Code and reference tables are needed to populate default values or provide simple data replacement through key matching.
- Small micro-bursts of data are arriving in real-time, and transformation needs to be in-line between systems, or between queue's¹.

So which method/tool should you choose?

Well the short answer is that it depends. Your choice of tool depends on:

- The amount of data you're pushing from source to target.
- Where you can afford to put your system load.
- Where you can place your resources (employee, money, etc.).

¹ETL, ELT – Challenges and Metadata written by Dan E. Linstedt accessed on March 24, 2008 at http://www.b-eye-network.com/blogs/linstedt/archives/2006/12/etl_elt_challen.php.

²Information in the table is from: ETL, ELT – Challenges and Metadata

written by Dan E. Linstedt accessed on March 24, 2008 at http://www.b-eye-network.com/blogs/linstedt/archives/2006/12/etl_elt_challen.php.

³Oracle Corporation, Oracle Warehouse Builder site accessed on March 24, 2008 at: <http://www.oracle.com/technology/products/warehouse/index.html>.

TestNG:

Next Generation Java Testing



Brad Bukacek

Application Developer

Testing definitely isn't the most fun part of developing J2EE applications, but it is a necessary step none-the-less. What if you had a way to save time and increase the convenience of testing, while increasing the thoroughness of your Java application testing? TestNG is considered the next generation of Java testing and will help you do just that.

This new form of J2EE testing saves development time and results in easier testing by leveraging eXtensible Markup Language. XML saves testing development time because it contains all the data needed for defining which groups of Java methods and/or classes are to be run and prevents testers from having to recompile different tests. As well, not only do testers save time and produce more comprehensive function and systems test scripts, but they also enjoy the convenience of easier emailing and maintenance of the XML test files.

TestNG is revolutionary because it allows for more thorough functional or system testing against defining

business rules. Using business rules as test criteria means that applications are tested based on an end-user's perspective and that developers are no longer stuck using only unit tests, which validate small pieces of code or modules for functionality. With TestNG, developers can test an entire application for overall functionality. Another perk of using TestNG is that it allows for easier regression testing, which is used to determine why an application that had been functioning properly has suddenly stopped performing according to business requirements. Regression testing is easier with TestNG also because of XML and the fact that when an implementation does change, XML tests do not need to be recompiled like Java does.

To save development time and increase the convenience and thoroughness of your testing, consider exploring TestNG, the next generation of Java testing. It may just be what you're looking for. ■



Mark Roush

Business Intelligence Specialist

- About twenty to thirty other variables that only you have the answer for.

With either choice, Oracle has you covered. Oracle Warehouse Builder (OWB) is Oracle's comprehensive tool for ETL (extract, transform and load), fully integrated relational and dimensional modeling, data quality, data auditing, and full life cycle management of data and metadata³. Oracle Data Integrator is a comprehensive data integration platform that covers all data integration requirements — from high-volume, high-performance batches, to event-driven, trickle-feed integration processes, to SOA-enabled data services⁴. ■

If you're interested in learning more about Warehouse Builder, Data Integrator, or which technology is right for you and your business, contact Zirous.

⁴Oracle Corporation, Oracle Data Integrator site accessed on March 24, 2008 at: <http://www.oracle.com/technology/products/oracle-data-integrator/index.html>.

ETLPROS

- Can balance the workload with the RDBMS.
- Can perform more complex operations in single data flow diagram (maps).
- Can scale with separate hardware.
- Can handle partitioning and parallelism independent of the data model and architecture.
- Can process data in-stream on route between source and target.
- Captures huge amounts of metadata lineage today.
- Can run on SMP or MPP hardware.

ETLCONS

- Requires separate and equally powerful hardware in order to scale.
- Can "bounce" data to and from the target (could result in performance issues).
- Cannot perform slower ELT unless running twice the size of hardware.

ELTPROS

- Leverages RDBMS engine hardware for scalability.
- Keeps all data in the RDBMS all the time.
- Can achieve 3x to 4x faster throughput on appropriately tuned MPP hardware.

ELTCONS

- Relies on proper database tuning.
- Relies on MPP hardware.
- Can be resource intensive during processing.
- Cannot balance the workload.
- Could easily double, triple, or quadruple disk storage requirements.
- In some cases, is NOT 100% metadata lineage traceable.
- Can take longer to design and implement².

april

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may

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june

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29	30					

zirus calendar

april

15

Zirus Newsletter Released!
Stay tuned for quarterly updates from Zirus

13-17

COLLABORATE08
Technology and Applications
Forum for the Oracle Community
Colorado Convention Center
Denver, CO

30

OFMUG
Exclusive SOA Architect Forum
Benson Hotel
Portland, OR

may

13-14

Secure360° Conference
Evolving Threats, Practical Solutions
Saint Paul RiverCentre
St Paul, MN

june

9-12

Oracle's FY09 Sales Kickoff
Mark Your Calendar!
Mandalay Bay Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV

15-19

ODTUG
Oracle Development Tools User Group
Sheraton
New Orleans, LA



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