

Dear Graham Keitch,

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Oracle

on Windows Zone

for the .NET community

www.oracleonwindows.co.uk

O-ZONE *Newsletter*

Issue No 6, November 2007

O-ZONE NEWS

Welcome to all new members who signed up during October. We look forward to welcoming more members in the months ahead. Please pass this newsletter and details about the O-Zone portal to any of your colleagues that have an interest in developing .NET applications for Oracle Database.

If you are an Oracle on Windows expert or have any relevant experiences you can share, we would like to hear from you please. If you are able to provide articles, a case study or can help in any other way, please contact me at grahamk@greymatter.com

WHAT'S NEW ON O-ZONE?

Oracle Database 11g Windows

The Windows edition of Oracle Database 11g was released on October 23rd. A number of technical papers have been added to the the Discover About... pages on O-Zone to introduce you to the Windows specific features of the new release. These cover development and deployment topics that will help kick start your education or evaluation process.

Oracle Data Access Components 11g Beta 2

The 11g Beta 2 release of Oracle Data Access Components (ODAC) has also become available recently. ODAC consists of a number of components that are important to those working with Oracle and .NET. The new Oracle Data Provider for .NET (ODP.NET) which connects .NET applications to the Oracle Database now has a smaller client footprint and improved facilities for connection pooling. The new Oracle Developer Tools for Visual Studio (ODT) allows .NET developers to work with Oracle from within the Microsoft Visual Studio IDE. This

has been improved to allow integration with the VS2005 Server Explorer, Data Sources Window, Dataset Designer, Table Adapter Configuration Wizard and more. The Oracle Provider for ASP.NET provides additional facilities specifically related to ASP.NET development. Please visit the O-Zone download page to obtain this latest release of ODAC.

EVENTS

A number of important events are taking place in the weeks ahead. For the latest details, please keep checking the O-Zone Events page which is frequently updated.

Oracle Open World

Oracle OpenWorld will be held in San Francisco at the Moscone Center November 11-16th, 2007. This year's conference has been expanded with specific programming for developers. The event is expected to be Oracle's largest to date, with more than 42,000 participants. The Events page has been updated with the latest schedule of events that will interest .NET developers working with Oracle on Windows.

UKOUG 2007 Conference and Exhibition

The UK Oracle User Groups will hold its 4-day annual conference at the International Conference Centre (ICC) in Birmingham, starting on December 3rd, 2007.

ORACLE NEWS

Oracle Database 11g for Windows

As mentioned above, the Windows release of Oracle Database 11g is now available. This follows a short delay after the general release of the Linux edition, for which there are good reasons. The Windows edition of Oracle Database 11g is not a straight port of the Unix and Linux code. It has been specifically re-engineered to take advantage of the Windows platform and includes support for Active Directory and Volume Shadow Copy. Windows is a thread rather than process-based server so Oracle Database is treated as a service. This requires additional enhancements to ensure the database automatically restarts upon system reboot. The Windows edition has been engineered for maximum performance and as reported in last month's newsletter and on O-Zone, Standard Edition One has set a new TPC-C price/performance benchmark world record.

MICROSOFT VISUAL STUDIO NEWS

Visual Studio 2008 available end of this month

The next version of Microsoft's .NET IDE, Visual Studio 2008, will be available to MSDN subscribers at the end of November. (MSDN is the subscription based version of Visual Studio that provides access to

new releases and is generally a better value solution for .NET developers). Microsoft made the announcement at the recent TechEd 2007 developer event in Barcelona, Spain a few days ago. Visual Studio 2008 will include the latest version of the .NET Framework, 3.5. Both Visual Studio 2008 (codenamed "Orcas") and .NET Framework 3.5 are currently at the Beta 2 stage, so this provides a short window for Microsoft to prepare them for release. A spokesman for Microsoft said that both VS2008 and .NET Framework 3.5 will be available for download on the release date and that "retail availability will occur soon thereafter."

Here are a few key highlights in the new release:

- Language Integrated Query (LINQ). LINQ defines standard query operators that allow code written in LINQ-enabled languages to filter, enumerate and create projections of several types of collections using the same syntax. This will make access to databases and XML faster and more efficient.
- Programming for Office 2007 will be enhanced with new tools, including some that address collaboration. These will be included with Visual Studio 2008 Professional Edition.
- Support for multiple versions of .NET will allow developers to build applications for .NET Framework versions going back to 2.0, without leaving the IDE.

Over the next few weeks we will be providing additional material on O-Zone to keep members up to date. Please check the Discover About... and Tutorials pages for the latest on Visual Studio 2008.

O-ZONE MANAGED EVALUATIONS PROGRAM

Is your interest in Oracle on Windows related to a requirement to complete a formal, managed evaluation or perhaps a .NET development and deployment project? If so, the articles, tutorials and downloads provided by O-Zone will assist with this. In addition, we can allocate a technical account manager to help manage the provision of the resources you need. This could involve answering questions, pointing you in the right direction or helping to enlist assistance from Oracle or third parties. If you have a serious Oracle on Windows requirement or would like to find out more, please contact me at grahamk@greymatter.com or call me direct on 01364 655129.

Regards,

Graham Keitch

(O-Zone, Oracle Technology Evangelist)



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