

Workflow SIG

Oracle OpenWorld 2012

September 30, 2012

Moscone West, Room 3008

12:15 – 1:45

<http://workflowsig.oaug.com>

John Peters

JRPJR, Inc

john.peters@jrpjr.com

<http://jrpjr.com>



Introduction

- **John Peters**, Independent Consultant

Workflow SIG Coordinator

JRPJR, Inc

john.peters@jrpjr.com

- **Karen Brownfield**, Consultant

Rolta

We don't work for Oracle but we both have extensive experience with the
Oracle Workflow product



Agenda

- Future of Workflow
- Current Workflow Functionality
- Future Workflow Enhancements
- Other resources for Workflow Information
- Questions and Answers



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Wednesday, October 3

12:00 – 12:30 pm PDT

Level 3 of Moscone West, Overview 3B Room

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Details online at collaborate.oaug.org

This Presentation is Posted

- I will reference many Metalink Notes, but don't worry about writing them all down. Just get one of these two URL's.
- This presentation is on the OAUG Workflow SIG web site:
<http://workflowsig.oaug.org/>
As well as my web site:
<http://jrpjr.com>
In fact that is what I am using here for this presentation



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Future of Workflow



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Future of Workflow

- De-supported as an Oracle product for standalone use.
<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/middleware/ias/workflow-sod-089843.html>
- No longer part of the 11G DB install. Will be installed as a patch as part of the Apps Tech Stack.
- Still heavily used in R12 and will be supported by Applications Technology Group.
- R12 SubLedger Accounting use is on the rise replacing the Account Generators.
- Will not be used in Fusion.



Primary Replacement

- BPEL (Business Process Execution Language) Process Manager is the primary replacement for Workflow Technology.
- You can use BPEL Process Manager today with your 11i and R12 Applications.
- This is part of the Oracle SOA Suite, licensing might be required.
- Attend some of the BPEL sessions at OpenWorld to get some exposure to this powerful tool.



Workflow to BPEL Migration

- There will be no automated conversion/migration available.
- A good reference on migrating to BPEL is:
Migrating to BPEL from Oracle Work Flow
An Oracle White Paper
March 2008
<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/middleware/ias/owf2bpel-132189.pdf>



OpenWorld BPEL Sessions

- CON8601 - Oracle SOA Suite, the Most Capable Tool for Every Possible Integration Challenge
Monday, Oct 1, 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM - Moscone South - 102
- CON8284 - Business Success with BPM: Customer Experiences
Monday, Oct 1, 4:45 PM - 5:45 PM - Moscone South - 308
- CON5117 - Humans Are (Not) a Service? Lessons from a Journey to Oracle Business Process Management Suite
Tuesday, Oct 2, 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM - Moscone South - 305
- CON3251 - Accelerating an Implementation of Complex Worldwide Business Approval Rules
Wednesday, Oct 3, 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM - Moscone South - 305
- HOL10021 - Hands-on Introduction to Oracle Business Process Management Suite 11g
Wednesday, Oct 3, 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM - Marriott Marquis - Salon 3/4



OAUG BPEL References

- BPEL Process Manager: Tips and Techniques
Hilal Khan, COLLABORATE 07
- BPEL for Workflow Developers
Jerry Ireland, COLLABORATE 08
- From Workflow to BPEL, Prepare for the Future
Arian Stijf, COLLABORATE 12
- Oracle BPEL 11g Training
Basheer Khan, COLLABORATE 10



OAUG SubLedger Accounting

- Introduction to the Subledger Accounting Engine in Oracle R12
Thomas Simkiss, COLLABORATE 08
- Let Subledger Accounting Custom Sources Release You From Account Generator Workflows
Manoj Menon, COLLABORATE 12
- Transitioning from Account Generators to the R12 Subledger Accounting Engine
Alyssa Johnson, COLLABORATE 10
- Turbo-Charge Your Accounting With the Release 12 Subledger Accounting Engine
Alyssa Johnson, COLLABORATE 12
- Demystifying the new Release 12.1 Subledger Accounting Engine
Alyssa Johnson, OAUG Connection Point - Austin 2012



OAUG Presentations

- In order to access the OAUG Conference Presentation database you must be an OAUG Member
- One more reason to be an OAUG Member Company



Current Workflow Functionality



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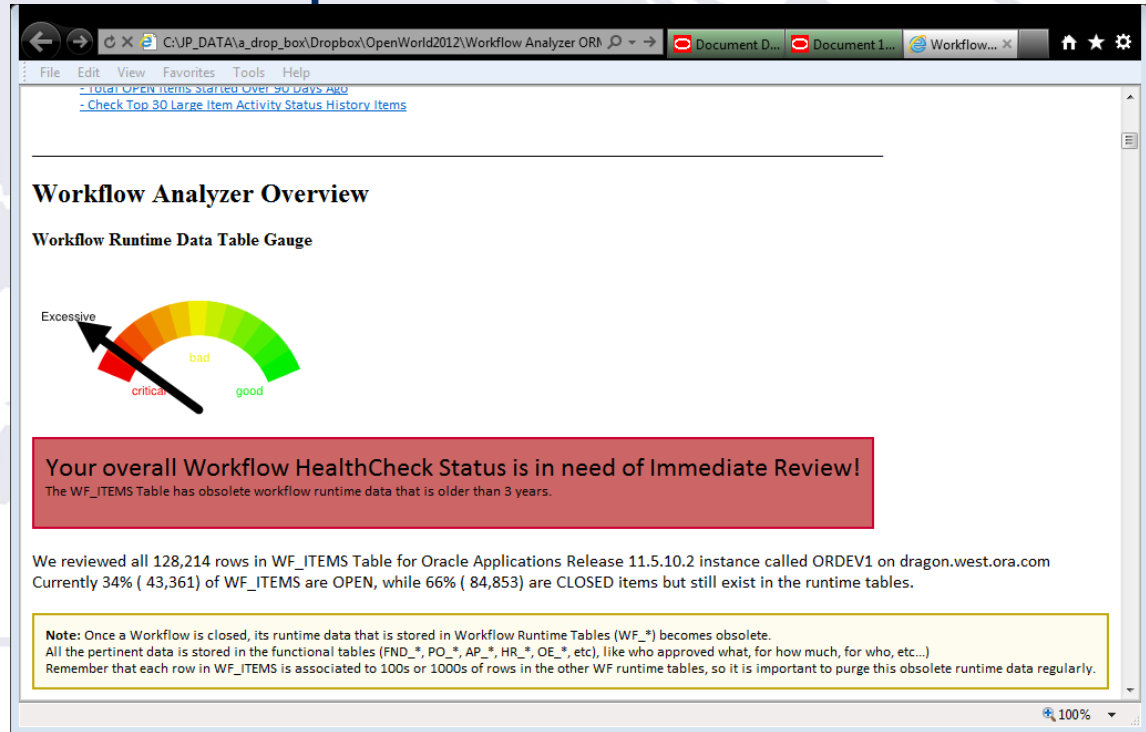
Workflow Analyzer Script

- **Workflow Analyzer script for E-Business Suite Workflow Monitoring and Maintenance [ID 1369938.1]
Latest Version (v4.06)**
- **How to run EBS Workflow Analyzer Tool as a Concurrent Request [ID 1425053.1]**
- **E-Business Suite Applications Technology Group (ATG) Advisor Webcasts [ID 1186338.1]**
- **This is a non-invasive SQL Script you can run against you system it will provide some very good information to help you manage the workflow product.**




Workflow Analyzer Script - Example

- The following is an actual example.



Workflow Analyzer Overview

Workflow Runtime Data Table Gauge



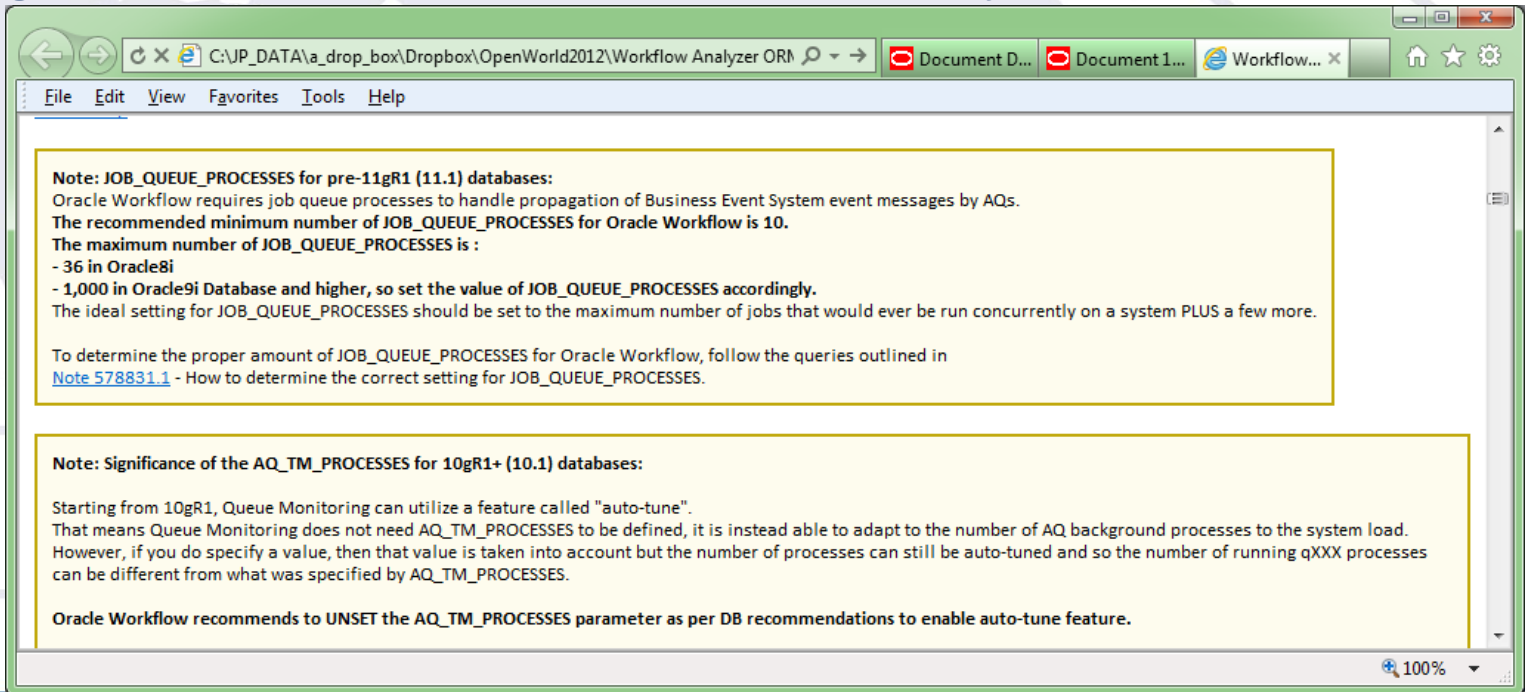
Your overall Workflow HealthCheck Status is in need of Immediate Review!
The WF_ITEMS Table has obsolete workflow runtime data that is older than 3 years.

We reviewed all 128,214 rows in WF_ITEMS Table for Oracle Applications Release 11.5.10.2 instance called ORDEV1 on dragon.west.ora.com
Currently 34% (43,361) of WF_ITEMS are OPEN, while 66% (84,853) are CLOSED items but still exist in the runtime tables.

Note: Once a Workflow is closed, its runtime data that is stored in Workflow Runtime Tables (WF_*) becomes obsolete.
All the pertinent data is stored in the functional tables (FND_*, PO_*, AP_*, HR_*, OE_*, etc), like who approved what, for how much, for who, etc...
Remember that each row in WF_ITEMS is associated to 100s or 1000s of rows in the other WF runtime tables, so it is important to purge this obsolete runtime data regularly.

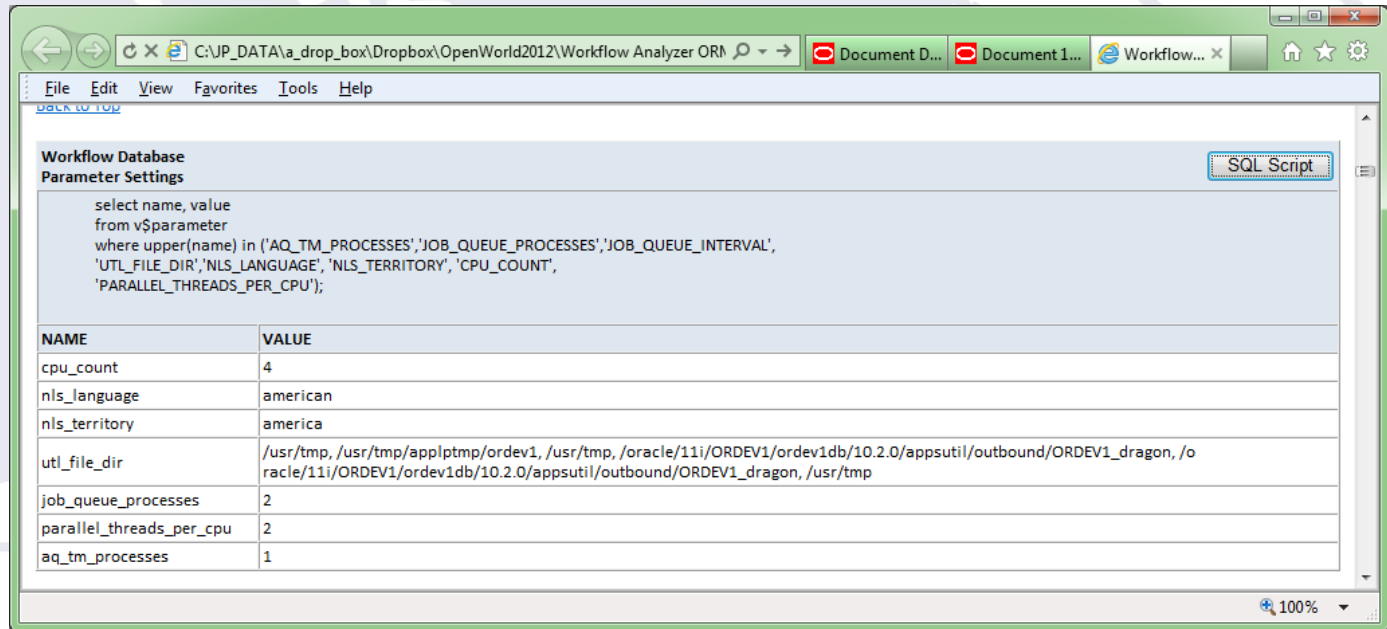
Workflow Analyzer Script - Example

- This script not only provides data it also has comments and suggestions in the output with references to My Oracle Support.



Workflow Analyzer Script - Example

- You can get the SQL that was run for each result (in case you want to drill deeper or filter differently).



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following content:

Workflow Database
Parameter Settings

[SQL Script](#)

```
select name, value
from v$parameter
where upper(name) in ('AQ_TM_PROCESSES','JOB_QUEUE_PROCESSES','JOB_QUEUE_INTERVAL',
'UTL_FILE_DIR','NLS_LANGUAGE','NLS_TERRITORY','CPU_COUNT',
'PARALLEL_THREADS_PER_CPU');
```

NAME	VALUE
cpu_count	4
nls_language	american
nls_territory	america
utl_file_dir	/usr/tmp,/usr/tmp/appltmp/ordev1,/usr/tmp,/oracle/11i/ORDEV1/ordev1db/10.2.0/appsutil/outbound/ORDEV1_dragon,/o racle/11i/ORDEV1/ordev1db/10.2.0/appsutil/outbound/ORDEV1_dragon,/usr/tmp
job_queue_processes	2
parallel_threads_per_cpu	2
aq_tm_processes	1

Future Workflow Enhancements



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R12.2 Changes

- **Deferring Worklist Response Processing**

You can defer user Worklist Responses to Workflow Background Process, allowing the users session to immediately return control to the user.



R12.2 Changes

- **Oracle Workflow E-mail Character Encoding Configuration**
Workflow Administrator can now specify the character encoding for each language in workflow notifications.



R12.2 Changes

- **Worklist Usability Enhancements**
 - You can now use the special message attribute #RELATED_HISTORY to include the action history of another notification within response-required notifications as well as within FYI notifications.
 - A user who receives a request for more information can now transfer that request to another user and include a comment to that user.
 - Improvements on the Date Sent for reassigned notifications now showing the date of the reassignment, not the original notification date.
 - Notification Details displays if the notification has been delegated or transferred along with any comment provided.



R12.2 Changes

- **So yes Workflow continues to live on, even though it has been desupported for standalone use.**
- **For more information:**
Oracle E-Business Suite Releases 12.1 and 12.2 Release Content Documents [ID 1302189.1]



Other resources for Workflow Information



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Workflow Related Sessions at OpenWorld

- UGF10403 - Workflow with Oracle WebCenter Content: Pick Your Poison
Sunday, Sep 30, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM - Moscone West – 2012
- CON9030 - Recommendations for Oracle E-Business Suite Performance Tuning
Thursday, Oct 4, 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM - Moscone West - 2018



Workflow Best Practices

- Oracle Workflow Best Practices Release 12 and Release 11i
[ID 453137.1]
- Kind of out dated now, I would really recommend the Workflow Analyzer
[ID 1369938.1]



Workflow PIC

- E-Business Suite: Oracle Workflow (WF)
Product Information Center (PIC)
[ID 1320509.1]



Web Resources

- **Workflow SIG Web Site**

<http://workflowsig.oaug.org/>

- **Workfow Blog**

<http://blogs.oracle.com/oracleworkflow>

- **Integration Blog**

<http://blogs.oracle.com/ebusinesssuiteintegration>



Karen Brownfield, ROLTA

- **List of Recommended Patches**

<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/Patches.pdf>

- **Workflow Performance Tuning**

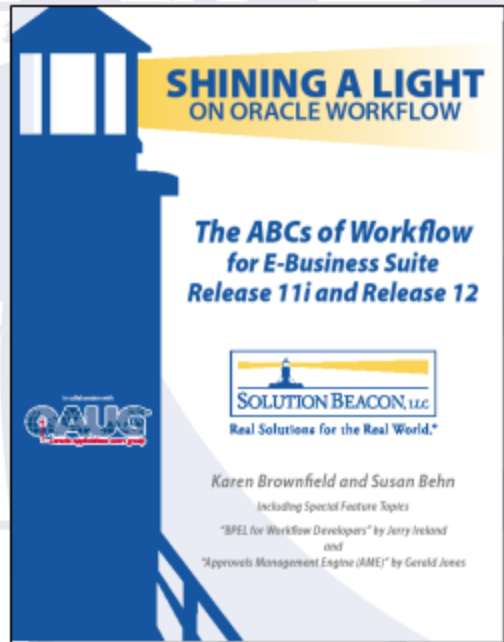
Slides: <http://www.solutionbeacon.com/WorkflowPerformanceTuning.pdf> WP:
<http://www.solutionbeacon.com/WorkflowPerformanceTuningWP.pdf>

- **Workflow Trouble Shooting**

Slides: <http://www.solutionbeacon.com/WorkflowTroubleshootingOAUG09.pdf>
WP: <http://www.solutionbeacon.com/WorkflowTroubleshootingOAUG09WP.pdf>



Karen Brownfields reference book on Workflow



**To purchase either the hard copy
or electronic book**

<http://lulu.com>

Search for:

The ABCs of Workflow for E-Business
Suite Release 11i and Release 12
\$69.99



Questions and Answers



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My Contact Information

- John Peters, JRPJR, Inc john.peters@jrpjr.com
- This paper is posted on my web site along with many others I have done over the years:

<http://jrpjr.com/>

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