

Upgrading to 11.5.8 Application and 9.2.0 Database in 24 hours

Abstract:

Described is an alternative method to upgrade the 9.2.0.2 database and 11.5.8 application with down time of one day, utilize the merge application approach to bring the technology stack to current version, and to prepare the upgrade in a private domain/network to reduce down time, mistakes and stress.

Executive Summary:

This presentation will show how with a 24-hour production cutover, JPL upgraded 800 gigabytes of data in an 11.5.5/9.0.1 environment to an 11.5.8/9.2.0 environment. As most of you know Oracle provides version upgrade instructions to 11i, but not for an 11i dot upgrade. Applying an 11.5.8 maintenance pack does not upgrade the technology stack. With an outdated technology stack applying the 11.5.8 maintenance pack will cause incompatibility issues. This session will explain an alternative method of merging the new 11.5.8 technology stack with our current application files & databases before applying the 11.5.8 maintenance pack. The initial upgrade proved to be successful and effective. Management requested a reduction in downtime from the initial 3 days. A method was developed to use the disaster recovery environment to prepare the upgrade. Because the disaster recovery environment is in a private domain/network, it has an exact copy of the production 11i instance. A method to allow the preparation of the upgrade in the disaster recovery environment to carry over to the production environment will be described. The application of all d-drivers to the production environment reduced the downtime tremendously. A demonstration will follow of how quickly and easily an 11.5.8 instance can be cloned using the Rapid Cloning Method to propagate the newly upgraded production instance to other environments.