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**Edition-Based Redefinition:
Testing Live Application Upgrades (Without
Actually Being Live)**

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What Problem Are We Trying to Solve?



PL/SQL Application Upgrades that Require Downtime (and Testing ...)

- Not possible to obtain long (or frequent) downtime windows
- The testing window during downtime can be inadequate
- An upgraded application can be difficult to back out of, if necessary



Edition-Based Redefinition: Edition Object Type and EBR Features

Available in 11gR2 on up



It's free! Won't cost you any extra!

- EBR is not a priced option
- Nor is it even restricted to just the Enterprise Edition
- Available with any licensed version of Oracle Database 11g Release 2, or later



New Paradigm: Edition Object Type

- 11.2 introduces the new object type, *edition* – each edition can have its own private occurrence of “the same” object
- A database must have at least one edition (by default this is `ora$base`)
- You create a new edition as the child of an existing edition (and an edition can’t have more than one child)



Ready Your Application for Editions and EBR



Edition-Based Redefinition Features

- Edition
- Editioning View
- Cross-edition Trigger
- Code changes are installed in the privacy of a new edition (namespace addition)
- Data changes can write to new columns or tables (and not be seen by old edition)



Namespace Addition?

- Edition
- Editioning View
- Cross-edition Trigger
- Code changes are installed in the privacy of a new edition (namespace addition)
- Scott.EMP_Pkg (pre 11gr2)
- Scott.Ed_1.EMP_Pkg (11gr2)
- Scott.Ed_2.EMP_Pkg (11gr2)
- Both can be available at the same time



Pre-Upgrade implementation model

Trigger

Procedure

Function

Package

ora\$base edition –
App v1



Edition Setup

As of 11gR2, each database has at least one edition

```
CONN / AS SYSDBA
```

```
SELECT property_value  
  FROM database_properties  
 WHERE property_name = 'DEFAULT_EDITION';
```

```
PROPERTY_VALUE
```

```
-----
```

```
ORA$BASE
```



Patch a PL/SQL Application

- Your most common PL/SQL application change will be for PL/SQL objects (in other words, **editionable objects**)
- You can always double-check in which edition you are currently logged on

```
SQL> SELECT SYS_CONTEXT('USERENV', 'SESSION_EDITION_NAME')  
2 AS edition FROM dual;
```

```
EDITION
```

```
-----
```

```
ORA$BASE
```

Patch a PL/SQL Application

- Common patching involves changing a PL/SQL object (Version 1)

```
SQL> CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION sal_increase
2           (p_increase IN VARCHAR2,
3           p_employee IN NUMBER)
4           RETURN NUMBER
5           IS
6           v_new_salary NUMBER := 0;
7           BEGIN
8           SELECT (salary * p_increase) + salary
9           INTO v_new_salary FROM employee
10          WHERE employee_id = p_employee;
11          RETURN v_new_salary;
12          END;
```



Original Edition of Your Schema Objects

```
SQL> select object_name, object_type, status, edition_name
2      from user_objects;
```

OBJECT_NAME	OBJECT_TYPE	STATUS	EDITION_NAME
-----	-----	-----	-----
EMPLOYEE	TABLE	VALID	
SAL_INCREASE	FUNCTION	VALID	ORA\$BASE



Edition Setup

- You need the CREATE ANY EDITION or DROP ANY EDITION system privilege to create or drop editions

```
SQL> create edition app_edition_2
      2 as child of ora$base;
Edition created.
```

```
SQL> select * from dba_editions;
```

EDITION_NAME	PARENT_EDITION_NAME	USA
ORA\$BASE		YES
APP_EDITION_2	ORA\$BASE	YES



Edition Setup

- Alter your application user to be *editions-enabled* and grant them the ability to *use* the newly-created edition

```
SQL> grant use
      2  on edition app_edition_2
      3  to app_user;
Grant succeeded.
```

```
SQL> alter user app_user
      2  enable editions;
User altered.
```



Switch to the New Edition to Make Code Changes

```
CONN app_user/pw
```

```
SQL> alter session  
  2  set edition = app_edition_2;  
Session altered.
```

```
SQL> SELECT SYS_CONTEXT('USERENV', 'SESSION_EDITION_NAME')  
  2  AS edition FROM dual;
```

```
EDITION
```

```
-----
```

```
APP_EDITION_2
```



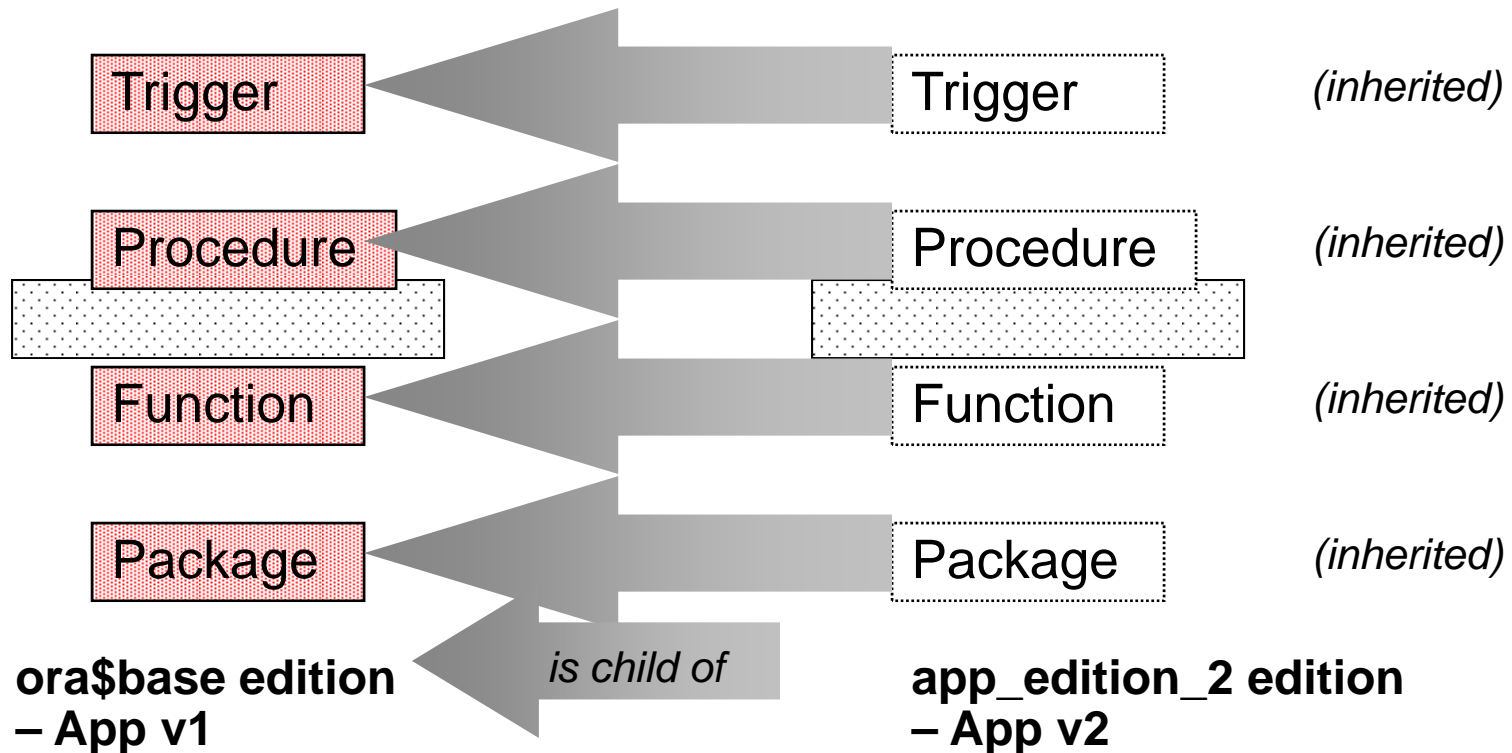
New Edition of Your Schema Objects

(no difference because ... no change yet)

```
SQL> select object_name, object_type, status, edition_name  
2      from user_objects;
```

OBJECT_NAME	OBJECT_TYPE	STATUS	EDITION_NAME
EMPLOYEE	TABLE	VALID	
SAL_INCREASE	FUNCTION	VALID	ORA\$BASE

Editions: implementation model



Patch a PL/SQL Application

- Common patching involves changing a PL/SQL object (Version 2)

```
SQL> CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION sal_increase
2           (p_increase IN VARCHAR2,
3           p_employee IN NUMBER, p_hire IN DATE)
4           RETURN NUMBER
5           IS
6           v_new_salary NUMBER := 0;
7           BEGIN
8               SELECT (salary * p_increase) + salary
9               INTO v_new_salary FROM employee
10              WHERE employee_id = p_employee AND hire_date <= p_hire;
11           RETURN v_new_salary;
12           END;
```

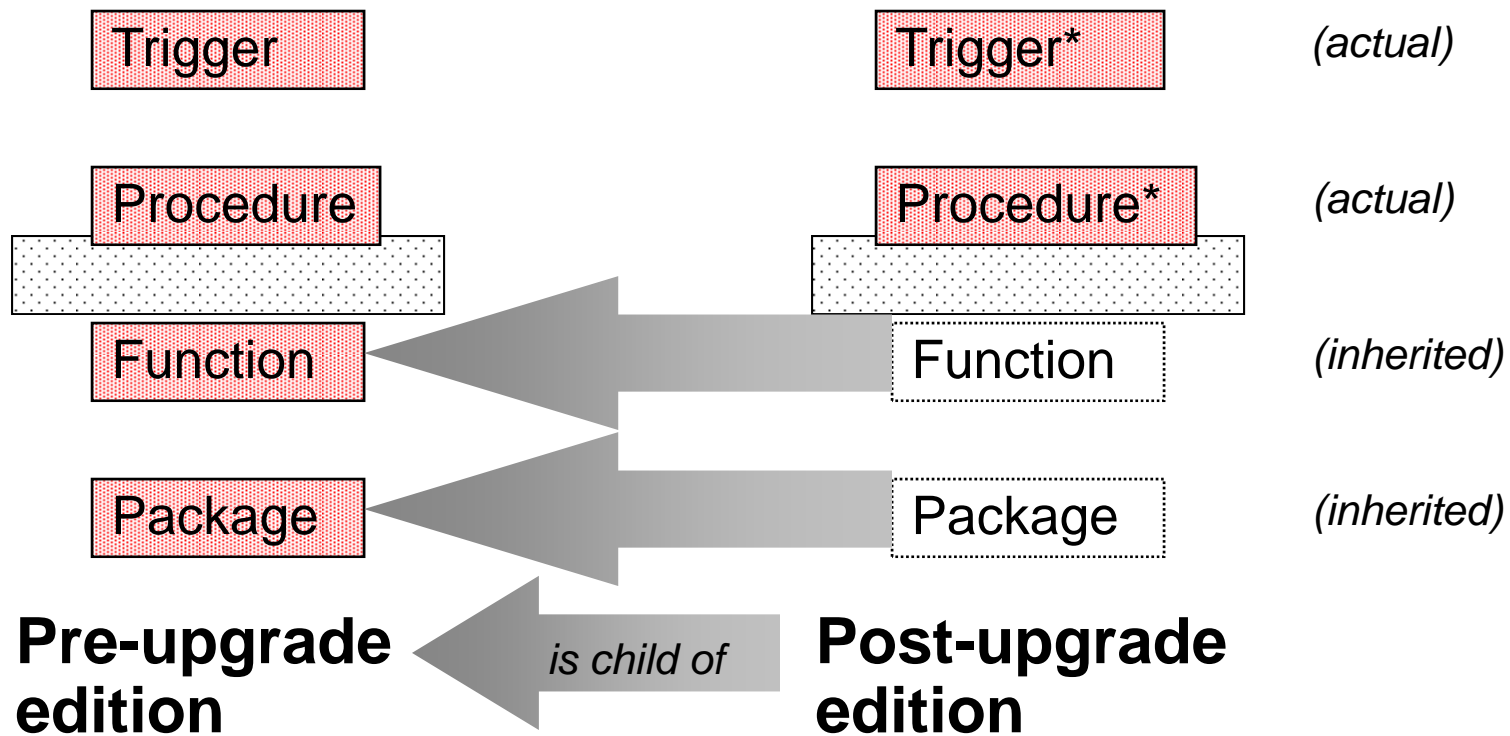


New Edition of Your Schema Objects (function is *actualized* in new edition)

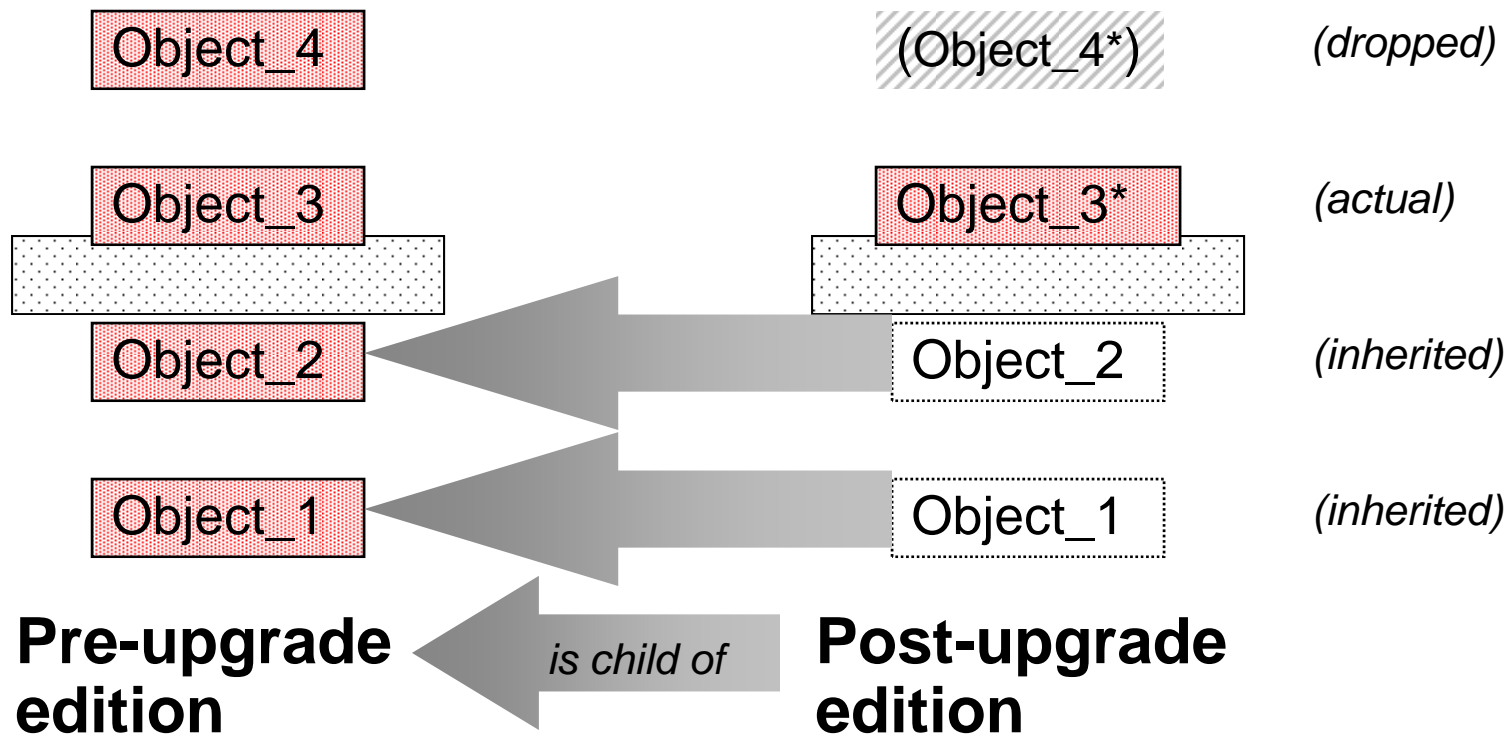
```
SQL> select object_name, object_type, status, edition_name  
2      from user_objects_ae;
```

OBJECT_NAME	OBJECT_TYPE	STATUS	EDITION_NAME
EMPLOYEE	TABLE	VALID	
SAL_INCREASE	FUNCTION	VALID	ORA\$BASE
SAL_INCREASE	FUNCTION	VALID	APP_EDITION_2

Editions: implementation model



Editions: implementation model





Editable and non-editable object types

- Not all object types are editable
 - Private synonyms, views (not materialized views), grants, and PL/SQL units of all kinds (including triggers, procedures and packages) are editable
 - Objects of all other object types – for example, tables – are **non-editable**
- However, you *can* achieve the goal of table-editing with an editing *view*. You version the structure of a table manually.



Edition-based Redefinition Features

- Edition
- Editioning View
- Cross-edition Trigger
- Exposes a different projection of a table into each edition to allow each to see just its own columns (*think of it as an API to your table*)
- Instead of *changing* a column, you *add a replacement* column
- A *view* is *editionable*



Editing Views

- Physical *Table* = Scott.Emp_T
- Logical *View* = Scott.Emp ([editioning view](#))
- Scott.[ora\\$base](#).Emp <> Scott.[app_edition_2](#).Emp
- If Scott owns Emp_T, then Scott must also own Emp
- All Application code refers only to Scott.Emp (NOT Scott.Emp_T)
- Drop existing DML Triggers from Emp_T and Recreate them on Emp



Readying the application for editions

- “Slide in” an editioning view in front of every table
 - Rename each table you want to *edition* (e.g. *rpm* becomes *rpm_t* (to distinguish it now as a *table*, *_t*, as opposed to an *editioning view*, which *rpm* will become))
 - alter table rpm rename to rpm_t;
 - Create an editioning view for each table that has the same name that the table originally had
 - create editioning view rpm as select * from rpm_t;
 - **NOTE:** *You will need an outage to create your editioning views.*



Readying the application for editions

- Alter your *real and actual* tables as needed:
 - alter table *rpm_t* add (vers1 number(10), vers2 number(10) rel1 number(10), rel2 number(10) ...);
- “Move” DML triggers to the editioning views ... (*next slide*)
- Revoke privileges from the tables and grant them to the editioning views
- Move VPD policies to the editioning views



Readying the application for editions

- Of course,
 - All indexes on the original *RPM* table remain valid but *User_Ind_Columns* now shows the new values for *Table_Name* and *Column_Name*
 - All constraints (foreign key and so on) on the original *RPM* remain in force for *RPM_T*
- However,
 - Triggers don't fully "follow" the rename
 - Just drop the trigger and re-run the original create trigger statement to "move" the trigger onto the editioning view

**Case study –
The edition-based redefinition
exercise proper**





Case study

- The Oracle Linux RPM packages, downloadable when Unbreakable Linux Network Support is purchased, are stored as four components in four columns:

Name	Epoch	Version	Release
kernel	(null)	2.6.32	100.21.1.el5
kernel	(null)	2.6.18	92.1.6.el5

- It is necessary to *parse* those “dot-delimited” parts of the version and release strings into their own separate components in order to evaluate and compare one kernel RPM to another, to determine which is more recent



Case study (continued)

- So we want a uniform representation with as many version-related and release-related columns as necessary (for purposes of brevity, this example includes only versions and releases with four *parts*):

Name	Epoch	V1	V2	V3	V4	R1	R2	R3	R4
kernel	(null)	2	6	32	(0)	100	21	1	el5 (000)
kernel	(null)	2	6	18	(0)	92	1	6	el5 (000)

- This way, instead of comparing Varchar2 strings, we can compare individual numeric values

Altering Your Underlying Table(s)

- Put your replacement columns in place

```
SQL> alter table rpm_t add
      2      (ver1 number, ver2 number, ver3 number, ver4 number,
      3      rel1 number, rel2 number, rel3 number, rel4 number);
Table altered.
```

(You can successfully avoid the error message, ORA-00054: resource busy and acquire with NOWAIT specified)

- Prepare to migrate the relevant data to these newly added columns
- You will do so in your child (next version) edition

```
SQL> alter session set edition = uln_edition_2;
```



**Many, if not Most, of Your Application
Upgrades Can Be Completed Just By
Using Editions and Editioning Views**



Here is Where it Starts To Get Tricky ...



What if DML cannot stop during upgrade?

- If the upgrade needs to change the structure that stores transactional data – like the RPM data customers use with ULN – then the installation of values into the replacement columns must keep pace with these changes
- Triggers have the ideal properties to do this safely
- Each trigger must fire appropriately to propagate changes to pre-upgrade columns into the post-upgrade columns – and vice versa



Edition-based Redefinition Features

- Edition
- Editioning View
- Cross-edition Trigger
- Propagates data changes made by the old edition into the new edition's columns, or (in hot-rollover) vice-versa



The solution: crossedition triggers

- Crossedition triggers directly access the table.
- The 11gR2 crossedition trigger has special firing rules
- You create crossedition triggers in the *Post_Upgrade* (child) edition
 - The paradigm is: don't interfere with the *Pre_Upgrade* (parent) edition
- The firing rules assume that
 - Pre-upgrade column values are changed – by ordinary application code – only by sessions using the *Pre_Upgrade* (parent) edition
 - Post-upgrade column values are changed only by sessions using the *Post_Upgrade* (child) edition



The solution: crossedition triggers

- A *forward* crossedition trigger is fired by application DML issued by sessions using the *Pre_Upgrade* (parent) edition
- A *reverse* crossedition trigger is fired by application DML issued by sessions using the *Post_Upgrade* (child) edition
- Both types of crossedition triggers are owned by the *Post_Upgrade* (child) edition

(even though, for a forward crossedition trigger, the session that fires it is using the *Pre_Upgrade* (parent) edition)



The solution: crossedition triggers

- Two simple rules to remember:
- Whether a crossedition trigger is forward or reverse it is always:
 - **A**: Created in the *Post_Upgrade* (child) edition, and
 - **B**: Created on the base table



Create Your Forward Cross-edition Trigger

Your cross-edition trigger is necessary for ongoing data migration/population during an online application upgrade

```
SQL> create or replace trigger rpm_fwdxedition
  2  before insert or update of version, release on rpm_t
  3  for each row
  4  forward crossedition
  5  declare
  6  v_verstring VARCHAR2(50) := '.'||:new.version||'.';
  7  v_relstring  VARCHAR2(50) := '.'||:new.release||'.';
  8  begin
  9      :new.ver1 := substr( v_verstring,
10          instr(v_verstring, '.',1,1)+1, instr(v_verstring, '.',1,2) -
11          instr(v_verstring, '.',1,1)-1);
12  ...
```



Create Your Forward Cross-edition Trigger

```
21      :new.rel1 := substr( v_relstring,  
22          instr(v_relstring, '.',1,1)+1, instr(v_relstring, '.',1,2) -  
23          instr(v_relstring, '.',1,1)-1);  
24      ...  
33      end;  
34      /
```

Trigger created.

Create your Reverse Cross-edition Trigger

- Your reverse cross-edition trigger is necessary for hot rollover purposes

```
SQL> create or replace trigger rpm_revxedition
  2  before insert or update of ver1, ver2, ver3, ver4, rel1, rel2,
  3  rel3, rel4, on rpm_t
  4  for each row
  5  reverse crossedition
  6  begin
  7    :new.version :=
  8      rtrim(:new.ver1||'.'||:new.ver2||'.'||:new.ver3||'.'||
  9      :new.ver4, '.');
 10    :new.release :=
 11      rtrim(:new.rel1||'.'||:new.rel2||'.'||:new.rel3||'.'||
 12      :new.rel4, '.');
 13  end;
```

Transform Your Data for New Columns

- Get the data from the old columns into the new columns
- You could do the following

```
SQL> update rpm_t
      2      set version = version,
      3      release = release;
```

- **Beware:** This action locks the entire table
- Consider DBMS_PARALLEL_EXECUTE if your tables are large

```
SQL> begin
      2  dbms_parallel_execute.create_task(
      3  'update rpm_t');
      4  dbms_parallel_execute.create_chunks_by_rowid
      5  ( task_name => 'update rpm_t',
      6  table_owner => user,
      7  table_name => 'RPM_T',
```

Transform Your Data for New Columns

```
8   by_row    => false,  
9   chunk_size => 10);  
10 end;  
11 /
```

PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.

- Running the task

SQL> begin

```
2   dbms_parallel_execute.run_task  
3   ( task_name => 'update rpm_t',  
4     sql_stmt   => 'update rpm_t  
5                 set version = version, release = release  
6                 where rowid between :start_id and :end_id',  
7     language_flag => DBMS_SQL.NATIVE,  
8     parallel_level => 2 );  
9 end;
```



Transform Your Data for New Columns

- When satisfied with the results, simply drop the task

```
SQL> begin
```

```
  2  dbms_parallel_execute.drop_task('update rpm_t');
```

```
  3  end;
```

```
  4  /
```

```
PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.
```



Move Your End-users to the New Edition

Set a logon trigger for sessions to use the new edition once they log on or reconnect

```
SQL> grant use on edition uln_edition_2 to public;  
Grant succeeded.
```

```
SQL> create or replace trigger set_edition_on_logon  
2 after logon on database  
3 begin  
4     dbms_session.set_edition_deferred( 'ULN_EDITION_2' );  
5 end;  
6 /  
Trigger created.
```




Move Your End-users to the New Edition

Or ... if you are using a connection pool

SQL> begin

```
    dbms_epg.set_dad_attribute('APEX', 'database-edition',  
    'ULN_EDITION_2');  
end; --If using the PL/SQL Embedded Gateway
```

In your dads.conf file: PlsqlDatabaseEdition*

--If using the Oracle Apache Http Server

Case study – continued

Rolling back the upgrade





Rolling back an online app upgrade

- Rolling back an application upgrade that's been installed classically is easy until you go live with the post-upgrade application
 - Presumably you took a backup at the start of the offline period and you just restore to that
- But once you go live with the post-upgrade application, you can't rollback to the pre-upgrade one
 - If you did this, you'd lose transactions made during the live use of the post-upgrade application
- It's just the same with online application upgrade
 - Without a hot rollover, your grace-period ends when you go live with the post-upgrade application



Rolling back an online app upgrade

- If you haven't gone live with the post-upgrade application
 - Drop the *Post_Upgrade* (child) edition (cascade)
 - Set any new replacement columns you created *unused*
 - At a convenient later time, recoup the space

EBR exercise vs offline upgrade: incremental extra effort

Proportional occurrence

editions

editioning views

forward crossedition triggers

reverse crossedition triggers

Very often	Change only editioned objects (<i>PL/SQL code changes</i>)	✓			
Often	Make only column add changes (<i>add Notes column, e.g</i>)	✓	✓		
Infrequent	Change the structure of transaction tables (<i>RPM example</i>)	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Very Seldom</i>	Support hot rollover	✓	✓	✓	✓



One Tidbit: What Does 12c Add?

Non-editionable objects like materialized views and virtual columns can now depend on editionable objects with the use of the *evaluation edition*

```
CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW refresh_sal_vals
  EVALUATE USING EDITION app_edition_2
  ENABLE QUERY REWRITE
  UNUSABLE BEFORE EDITION app_edition_2
  UNUSABLE BEGINNING WITH EDITION ora$base . . . ;
```



In Summary

- Online application upgrade is a high-availability sub-goal
- Edition-Based redefinition helps make that possible
- Not for the ease of the developer or administrator – definitely for the convenience of the end-user
- If as-close-to-zero downtime is one of your company mandates, then you can easily be brought closer with EBR
- And best of all, it's available to any user of any version of Oracle 11gR2 on up



References

- Bryn Llewellyn's OTN page:
<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/database/features/availability/ebr-455513.html>
 - Includes his white paper, a recorded presentation, a link to the documentation, a tutorial, and a self-contained EBR exercise
- *(12c documentation for EBR):*
http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E16655_01/appdev.121/e17620/adfnseditions.htm#ADFNS020
- The plethora of information available on the Internet 😊



Who's Using This?

- Boeing Corporation and Bank of America (so far ...)
- Oracle E-Business Suite 12.2:
<http://www.oracle.com/us/corporate/press/2016931>
- IT Convergence participated in the Early Adopter's Program:
 - *“Oracle E-Business Suite Release 12.2 Online Patching provides a smooth, predictable patching process that dramatically reduces maintenance downtimes while ensuring business continuity.”*
 - “When calculating the ROI of the Oracle E-Business Suite Release 12.2 upgrade, we counted the hours we've devoted annually to patching operations and the impact on our business. It was clear that an upgrade from Oracle E-Business Suite Release 12 to Release 12.2 was the right choice.”* Gustavo Gonzalez, Chief Technology Officer



Other Participants in the EAP

- Facebook, Inc.
- Dell Software, Inc.
- CISCO Systems, Inc.
- The Pythian Group, Inc.
- Starbucks Corporation
- Thomson Reuters
- Hitachi Consulting
- General Electric Company
- Deloitte Consulting LLC
- Fujitsu Services Limited
- AT&T Services, Inc.
- Noetix Corporation
- Ball Corporation
- HCL Technologies Limited
- Infosys Limited
- Vertex, Inc.
- [Wincor Nixdorf International GmbH](#)
- enrich IT, Inc.
- And 36 more ...



Q&A