THE SOLUTIONS SPOT

OAUG Buyer's Guide

2015-2016 EDITION

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Wands

Reportswand
Excel query & reporting tool for Oracle

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From E-Business Suite with Love:
An Excel-Based Reporting Alternative to Oracle Discoverer

Our Excel-based ad hoc reporting tool for E-Business Suite is shaken, not stirred and is empowering users around the world with self-service reporting. See why Reports Wand is a viable alternative to Discoverer and a much less complex option than migrating to OBIEE. Friendly to end users, our solution installs in minutes without consultants or heavy IT resources and allows for greater flexibility and customization with reporting.

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excel4apps.com/mission

- **The User Who Loved Me**
  Empower users with an ad hoc query and analysis tool for all EBS modules

- **Spreadsheets are Forever**
  Develop highly customizable reports in Excel and refresh to real-time data
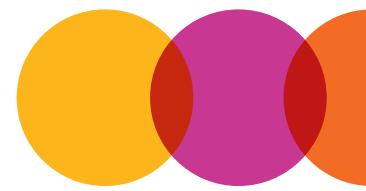
- **License to Drill**
  Drill to further detail or extend existing GL Wand drill downs

excel 4 apps
Excel based solutions for Oracle

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The 2015 OAUG Buyer's Guide is a publication of
the Oracle Applications Users Group (OAUG).
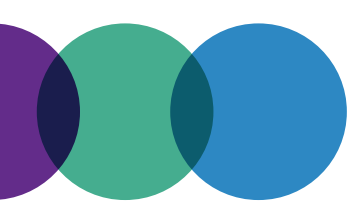
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**The OAUG
Buyer's Guide**
is online, searchable and
updated regularly with
product announcements
and news.

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Nanometrics Incorporated Saves More Than 160 Hours Per Year on Excel-based Reporting Tasks

By Global Software Inc.

INTRODUCTION

Nanometrics Incorporated is a leading provider of advanced, high-performance process control metrology and inspection systems used primarily in the fabrication of semiconductors and other solid-state devices, such as data storage components and discretes including high-brightness LEDs and power management components.

SNAPSHOT

Customer:
Nanometrics Incorporated

Customer Since: 2014

Users: 12

ERP: Oracle R12

Products:
Spreadsheet Server

Nanometrics Incorporated was incorporated in California in 1975, has been publicly traded since 1984 and is listed on NASDAQ (NANO). The company has been a pioneer and innovator in the field of optical metrology.

Nanometrics Incorporated has an extensive installed base of more than 6,500 systems in over 150 production factories worldwide. Their major customers and original equipment manufacturer (OEM) partners include the largest semiconductor and process equipment manufacturers in the world. Nanometrics Incorporated uses Oracle E-Business Suite (EBS) R12.

Situation and Strategy

Prior to using Global Software, Inc.'s Spreadsheet Server for use with Oracle®, Nanometrics relied on Oracle FSGs and "canned" Oracle reports. It was a very manual and cumbersome process to retrieve or drill-down to data in Oracle. Performing ad hoc reporting or drilling down to sub-ledger detail proved exceptionally difficult.

Nanometrics moved to Oracle EBS R12 in January 2014. At that time they began an extensive and comprehensive search for reporting solutions that would replace their FSGs, provide detailed account analysis across sub-ledgers and provide the

> "Before Spreadsheet Server, we relied heavily on FSGs and "canned" Oracle reports. It was a cumbersome process, and it was very difficult for us to get any detailed information. Thanks to Spreadsheet Server, our Excel-based challenges are a thing of the past."
>
> Scott Murcray,
> VP Finance, Nanometrics Incorporated

ability to drill-down within those sub-ledgers, such as AR, AP and Cost Management, from within Excel. They also wanted to have the ability to create dashboard views to review live and dynamic results from Oracle.

The Nanometrics search team selected Spreadsheet Server over other Excel- and non-Excel-based reporting solutions. Spreadsheet Server proved to be the most ideal option due to its user friendliness and quick time to deployment.

Results

After implementing Spreadsheet Server successfully for their reporting environment, Nanometrics has saved tens of hours in their reporting processes:

- Saved 14 hours per quarter in cash flow reporting.
- Saved 12 hours in trial balance reporting.
- Saved 1-2 hours in income statements and balance sheet reporting.

Spreadsheet Server allows Nanometrics to develop reports on the fly, create complex reports with ease for management reporting and customize reports as needed. They also find the content library of SmartPak queries provided in Spreadsheet Server's QueryExchange to be invaluable in areas such as AP, AR, Fixed Assets and Cost Management. They use Spreadsheet Server's Distribution Manager feature to increase efficiencies and save time in report distribution. Distribution Manager allows them to get key business information to users faster.

GLOBAL SOFTWARE INCORPORATED®

ABOUT GLOBAL SOFTWARE INC.

Global Software, Inc. is the No.1 provider of Microsoft® Excel-based reporting solutions for Oracle® E-Business Suite. Global's tools enable spreadsheet users to gain live access to Oracle EBS data within Excel for secure financial and operational reporting, budgeting and automated report delivery. www.globalsoftwareinc.com

why belong to the

{ OAUG? }
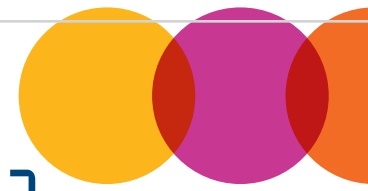
Oracle Applications Users Group (OAUG) members are equipped to improve efficiency, enhance problem solving, and spark innovation through opportunities for education, networking and influence.

Through OAUG involvement, members can:

- Share best practices.
- Learn from others users' challenges, successes and lessons learned.
- Stay current on patches, upgrades and new functionality.
- Find quality education and training on new products or versions.
- Discover answers through thousands of case studies and presentations from real users and expert consultants.

One of the greatest strengths of the OAUG is connecting members with others who can provide tips, ideas, best practices and real-time solutions. OAUG members are connected with thousands of colleagues and counterparts in hundreds of other companies who are facing the same issues.

96% **of OAUG members would recommend membership. Here's why:**

"**O**AUG is THE group for the Oracle user community. Opportunities abound for education and networking among your peers."

"**A** bargain and essential membership for anyone who uses Oracle Applications."

"**U**sers of Oracle Applications should all participate in the organization due to the benefit in networking and education."

"**G**reat users group for anyone who uses, develops or manages any of the Oracle product line."

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oracle applications users group
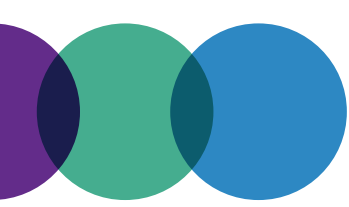
Oracle Customers Choose appAUGMENTER™ for Their Personalization Requirements

The right tool for extension/personalization of OAF Pages without programming.

By Stephen Rivet, Director, Chain-Sys

A gold mining company had unique requirements to extend OAF Pages in Enterprise Asset Management (eAM) module. They chose appAUGMENTER™ to provide a mechanism for deploying extensions, which simplified the management of complex Work Orders and Meter Readings. Without this tool, they would have been forced to manually verify each step, a time-consuming and error-prone process.

A global engineering firm needed to increase productivity and workflow in iExpenses. The goal was to introduce more dynamic interaction in EBS with individual business users by including tool-tips, error notifications and data entry validation. They avoided the costly and time-consuming method of creating customized screens that requires extensive maintenance and regression testing with every patch or upgrade and deployed appAUGMENTER™.

A large appliances manufacturer wanted to reduce ongoing maintenance of OAF Pages while improving the user experience. The ability to execute concurrent programs was critical in their decision, as an alternative to programmed page extensions. appAUGMENTER™ eliminated the need for extensive custom coding.

Why Personalize?

Organizations need to modify user interfaces (UI) in their ERP Environments:

- Governance, risk and compliance (GRC).
- Improving user experience.
- Business process improvement and productivity.
- Data quality management strategies.

Challenges with Traditional Personalization and Extensions Methods

Oracle E-Business Suite (EBS) supports limited personalization and changes to the UI from within an OAF Page. These augmentations are not dynamic (condition based) and cannot be applied to multiple sublevels; there is no provision for a zoom function or to convert text fields to list of values (LOV).

The OAF used in Oracle EBS R12 is metadata driven and provides extensible business logic capabilities. This allows for extension of the page controller to modify the business logic. Though Oracle's OA Page Controller can be extended by using traditional programming methods for requirements beyond the scope of personalization, the downside is inability to survive upgrades or patches. Business logic for the Extended Controller is written in Java Class files, which may have potential dependency on the Base Controller logic and are often negatively impacted with systems changes.

The Right Tool

appAUGMENTER™ extends the existing Page Control by creating dynamic controller classes. The extended Controller is registered as a personalization in the Meta Data Service (MDS) to modify business logic without the need for programming. When the user makes a request from the browser, the tool simply invokes the Extended Controller from the MDS and the extension for that specific page is rendered as an HTML.

All business logic remains within the appAUGMENTER™ database and has no dependency on the Base Controller Logic. Augmentations are not lost if the implementation of the existing Base Controller is changed.

- Provides simple, rapid and cost effective mechanism to extend OAF Pages without touching native code.
- Replace many customizations with conditional logic based augmentations.
- Augmentations survive patches and upgrades.
- Administration of all augmentations (turn on/off etc.).
- Simple migration of augmentations to a newer instance.
- Rapid implementation of preventive GRC.
- Establish DQM at the screen level.
- Supports EBS modules including iProcurement, iExpense, iSupplier, self-service HR, Projects and eAM.
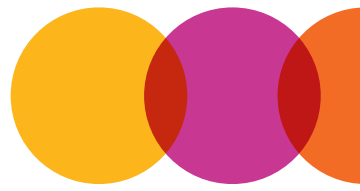
Augmentations

- Edit existing or create LOVs from static fields.
- Change fields to mandatory, non-editable, change case, disable based on user/role/group/other data field values.
- From any EBS screen, zoom into EBS master data screens, third-party applications, access info via Web services or trigger data interfaces to other applications.
- Dynamic validations.
- Launch concurrent jobs.
- Disable OAF field areas.
- Data masking/scrambling.
- Notifications.

Conclusion

This tool eliminates costly OAF page customizations, offering flexibility to make Oracle Applications meet your organization's unique requirements.

ABOUT CHAINSYS

Oracle Platinum Partner. Tools include **appMIGRATE™** for Data Conversion/Migration, Profiling, DQM, Reconciliation & Maintenance; **appINTERFACE™** for Data Interfaces between ERP Applications, **appMDM™** to Build/Maintain Robust MDM Solutions; **appBI™** for prebuilt Dashboards, Data-Marts & Data Connectors. Contact 1.855.appLOAD or www.chainsys.com or info@chainsys.com.

CHAIN•SYS
appLOAD™ suite - Data Mgmt for EBS
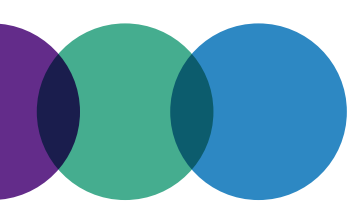

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For the most current list of Oracle Validated Integrations, please visit
http://www.oracle.com/us/partnerships/solutions/index.html.

Oracle Item Conversion and Maintenance Made Easy: No Longer a Technical Undertaking

By More4Apps

See how Nuance found an easy way to manage large volumes of Master Item Data.

Nuance Communications is a global computer software company that provides speech and imaging applications used by nearly two-thirds of fortune 100 companies along with over 5 billion mobile phones and 70 million cars.

Nuance faced a problem. Newly acquired companies had a diverse and varied product offering, and for each acquisition they made, they had to do large amounts of data conversion.

Given the large scale operations within Nuance Communications, they needed to somehow standardize the item creation and update process, eliminate the need for manual data entry and avoid having to continually use technical resources to get the job done.

Nuance called for a 'friendly' end-user data load tool that could be rapidly deployed into their company's day-to-day running. It had to be end-user controlled and easy for the users to self-train. This data load tool had to optimize their resources and time, while also maintaining the quality and accuracy of the data.

Nuance Communications found their solution within the More4Apps range of products.

More4Apps' Item Wizard and Item Extension Wizard allows workbook configuration that easily simulated the Oracle Item Master form so the transition to Excel was easy for their users. The More4Apps Wizards are "out-of- the box" end-user, supported software solutions. With just a few clicks, Nuance Communications was able to expose all necessary columns and column definitions, eliminating unused item attributes, therefore providing their end users with simple concise worksheets. They created separate workbook tabs for Item Master, Category, Organization and Status Updates and separated the Create and Update functions, providing efficient population of the workbooks.

Now the Item Wizard and Item Extension Wizards are Nuance Communications primary tools for creating and updating items. Both the Wizards have reduced the reliance on manual maintenance and expensive technical resources. Data management is now quicker, easier and more accurate.

The success of these Wizards from More4Apps' Manufacturing and Inventory suite of products has piqued the interest of other Nuance Communications departments who have seen the dramatic increase in efficiency and are showing an interest in the More4Apps product suites for Human Resources, Order to Cash and Procure to Pay.

With the help of More4Apps, Nuance has a very happy end-user community. You too could empower your end users just like Nuance Group.

ABOUT MORE4APPS

More4Apps's product suite is a range of MS Excel-based products that help you load data into Oracle Applications more quickly and accurately, enabling you to slash data entry costs and improve the accuracy and currency of reporting information. www.more4apps.com.

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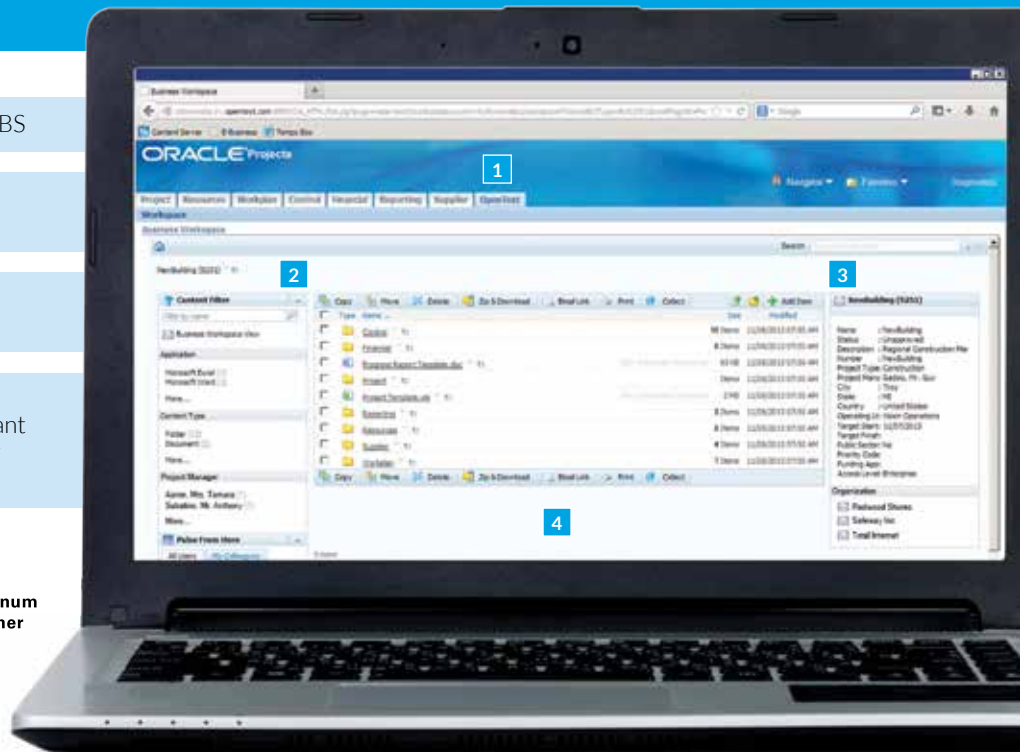| 1 | OpenText ECM is **integrated** in EBS |
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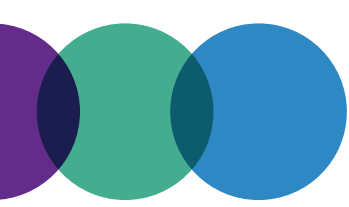
The Four Components of Successful Divestitures

By Helene Abrams, CEO, eprentise

Spin-off, demerger, or divestiture: No matter what you call it, the act of selling a part of a business is fundamentally different from acquiring or merging with another. Yet, divestitures and acquisitions are similar in that they are often different sides of the same transaction, and both are used to maximize shareholder value.

Like acquisitions, divestitures are complex procedures, but executives often underestimate the necessary steps required for a change of such caliber. Mergers and acquisitions are relatively better understood and prepared for than divestitures, but more companies have switched gears to take advantage of the capital and streamlined operations provided by the latter.

The key question becomes, "Is it the right time to sell my business?" The answer is complex, but there are fundamental steps that should be taken to maximize value, should you decide to sell your business.

Successful divestiture strategies have four components:

1. **Prepare early.**
   Determine the value of each area of the business. Evaluate weaknesses and strengths, and capitalize on those that provide the greatest value to prospective buyers. Also prepare a "due diligence" package for each part of the company.

2. **Create a transition team.**
   The transition team will work to develop a plan. Speed and momentum are important. The sooner the entities are operating separately, the quicker the returns. However, the divested entity may need to operate on its own at first, so it will need to have its own systems in place. Additionally, contracts and agreements need to be renegotiated, communication strategies need to be developed, systems need to be separated and assets need to be divided.

3. **Focus on core processes.**
   Revenue growth adds value and creates positive dynamics that help retain customers and talented staff. Uphold the quality of products and services during the transition. Present a consistent face pre- and post-split. And give priority to customer-facing processes.

4. **Remember, it's not over when the sale is complete.**
   The two resulting companies, the parent company and the divested entity, must be carefully managed from initial divestiture through independent stability. The companies must continue working together to minimize disturbances and operate without interruption.

Divestitures are indeed a great alternative to mergers and acquisitions for increasing capital, streamlining operations and focusing an organization's efforts. By subtracting, both the parent company and the divested entity can add value and improve performance.

ABOUT EPRENTISE

eprentise serves the Oracle® E-Business Suite (EBS) community with transformation software that improves business agility, supports changing requirements and eliminates the need for a reimplementation. With eprentise software, companies can receive access to complete, consistent and correct data. www.eprentise.com

Modernize your business with cloud technology.

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Organizations must continually refine business models in response to disruptive threats and competitive opportunities.
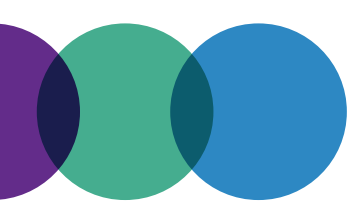
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How to Become Self-sufficient in Creating Reports from the Oracle E-Business Suite Using Excel-based Tools

By Tim Colleran, Solution Engineer, Excel4apps

With Oracle's strategic move away from Business Intelligence Discoverer, organizations need new reporting and ad hoc query options to use with Oracle E-Business Suite (EBS). While Oracle recommends Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition (OBIEE) for these functions, it has a steep learning curve and high implementation costs. Excel-based tools like Reports Wand from Excel4apps are a cost-effective alternative that installs easily and empowers users with real-time access to EBS data. Here, Excel4apps answers questions commonly asked by users transitioning from Discoverer.

WHICH OBIEE ALTERNATIVE ALLOWS USERS TO INDEPENDENTLY CREATE OPERATIONAL REPORTS?

OBIEE can be costly to implement and difficult to learn, leaving users reliant on IT for report creation. With Excel-based Reports Wand, users easily access and format live operational data from various EBS modules through a familiar interface. It links directly to underlying database tables and views using SQL queries customized for operational reporting requirements. Also, Reports Wand is installed on the existing Oracle Application server and doesn't require additional hardware or a data warehouse.

HOW CAN USERS QUICKLY CREATE QUERIES IF THEY DON'T KNOW SQL AND IT SUPPORT ISN'T AVAILABLE?

Reports Wand offers seeded SQL report definitions for EBS modules, but it's also available with NoetixViews – a collection of database views that simplify access to EBS modules. Installed within the Oracle database, NoetixViews mask complex SQL needed to reach base tables. They also map cryptic Oracle column names to understandable business terms, so users see "customer name," for example, instead of abbreviated, underscored variable names. When integrated with Reports Wand, NoetixViews let users independently create highly-formatted, refreshable reports with real-time EBS data through Excel.

HOW CAN WE CONVINCE MANAGERS CONCERNED ABOUT SPREADSHEET USE THAT REPORTS WAND IS THE RIGHT TOOL?

Reports Wand uses real-time data directly from the Oracle EBS transactional database for operational reporting and can be easily refreshed. Operational reports shouldn't be delayed by once-daily data exports to a warehouse. Users need real-time access to EBS data within a familiar interface to quickly make time-sensitive decisions. The key to successfully accomplishing this is to start and end in Excel using data that is kept within the database to ensure report accuracy.

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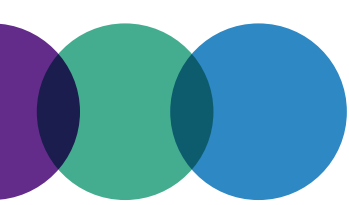
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oracle applications users group

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Through the OAUG, you can find numerous opportunities to access and exchange information, build knowledge and capabilities, and find solutions. OAUG members have unlimited, first-hand access to tips and tricks, case studies and problem-solving information from real users and expert consultants.

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OAUG conferences provide unparalleled opportunities for you to increase your knowledge. During these events, you'll learn about best practices, hear from real users and discover tips for improving efficiency.

The annual COLLABORATE conference features real-world, in-depth education presented in hundreds of sessions over just a few days. Plan now to attend COLLABORATE 16, April 10-14, 2016, in Las Vegas. Save the date, and watch for announcements in the autumn of 2015.

Conference Paper Database

When you need a quick answer right away, the OAUG Conference Paper Database is the place to turn. All of the papers and presentations from COLLABORATE and OAUG Connection Point® conferences are easily accessible in the all new Conference Paper Database. You can quickly and easily search by topic or key word or browse through papers from a particular event.

Everyone can view and search the Conference Paper Database, but only OAUG member organization employees can download the papers and presentations.

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Convenient, relevant and free for OAUG members, OAUG eLearning brings exceptional educational content to your desktop or mobile device. Each hour-long webinar is presented live by a subject matter expert. Participants in the live webinars can ask questions and interact with the presenter. In addition, recordings of each session are available online following the presentation.

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If your organization is not an OAUG member yet, please join online or contact the membership staff at +1 404.240.0897 or membership@oaug.org so that you and your co-workers can take advantage of the educational opportunities available to OAUG member organization employees.

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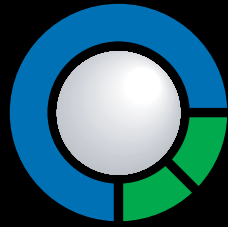
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MPL6
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Release 9
Release 10
Release 11
Release 11i
Release 12
Release 12.1
Release 12.2

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Vertex Inc.

E-Business Suite

E-Business Suite
API Wizard
Business Technology Services (BizTech)
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Chain-Sys Corporation
ConfigSnapshot - Rookery Software
Core Services
eprentise
Excel4apps
Global Software, Inc.
Lexmark
Magnitude Software (formerly Noetix)
More4Apps
O2Works
OneNeck IT Solutions
OpenText
Paymetric, Inc.
Rimini Street, Inc.
SoftArt Solutions Inc.
Spinnaker Support
Thirdware Inc.
Thomson Reuters
Tier1, Inc.
TriCore Solutions
Vertex Inc.
Zebra Technologies

Fusion Middleware

Zebra Technologies

Hyperion EPM

Chain-Sys Corporation
Tier1, Inc.
The Bean Consulting Group

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Global Software, Inc.
OneNeck IT Solutions
Paymetric, Inc.
Rimini Street, Inc.
Spinnaker Support
Zebra Technologies

OBIEE

API Wizard
Thirdware Inc.

Oracle Retail

Zebra Technologies

PeopleSoft Enterprise

AT&T
Rimini Street, Inc.
TriCore Solutions

Siebel CRM

Rimini Street, Inc.
Spinnaker Support

The Buyer's Guide Product Category listings provide a snapshot of the Oracle products each company supports.

For a complete list of products and additional information about each company, please visit the Company Listings section beginning on page 22.

SERVICES

Consulting

Centroid
Data Communication Solutions
O2Works
Perficient
The Bean Consulting Group

Hardware

OneNeck IT Solutions

Hosting Services

Core Services
Secure-24
SoftArt Solutions Inc.
Tier1, Inc.
TriCore Solutions

Implementation

SoftArt Solutions Inc
Thirdware Inc.

Managed Services

Business Technology Services (BizTech)
Centroid
Core Services
Data Communication Solutions
Secure-24
SoftArt Solutions Inc.
Spinnaker Support
Tier1, Inc.
TriCore Solutions
Vertex Inc.

Software

ConfigSnapshot - Rookery Software
Lexmark
Magnitude Software (formerly Noetix)
More4Apps
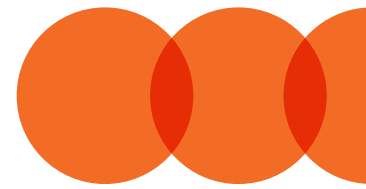OpenText
Thomson Reuters

Systems Integration

Chain-Sys Corporation

The Buyer's Guide Services listings provide a snapshot of each company's service offerings.

For a complete list of services and additional information about each company, please visit the Company Listings section beginning on page 22.

SOLUTION AREAS

Application Strategy & Upgrades

ConfigSnapshot - Rookery Software

Big Data / Master Data Management

Chain-Sys Corporation

Business Intelligence / Analytics

Excel4apps
Global Software, Inc.
Magnitude Software (formerly Noetix)
Perficient
Thirdware Inc.

Cloud Management

AT&T
Core Services
OneNeck IT Solutions
Secure-24
Tradeshift

Customer Relationship Management

Perficient

Enterprise Performance Management

Excel4apps
Global Software, Inc.
OneNeck IT Solutions
Perficient
The Bean Consulting Group

Financials Management

Evosys
Excel4apps
Global Software, Inc.
Lexmark
O2Works
OpenText
Paymetric, Inc.
Thomson Reuters
Tradeshift

Human Capital Management

Evosys

Security, Risk, & Compliance

AT&T
ConfigSnapshot - Rookery Software
Paymetric, Inc.
Secure-24
Thomson Reuters

Supply Chain Management

Data Communication Solutions
Global Software, Inc.
More4Apps
O2Works
Tradeshift
Zebra Technologies

Value Chain Planning

Zebra Technologies

The Buyer's Guide Solution Area listings provide a snapshot of each company's areas of expertise.

COMPANY LISTINGS

API Wizard
Sales Contact: Richard Volpitta
1127 High Ridge Road, Number 238
Stamford, CT 06905
Phone: 800-691-8714
Toll Free Phone: 800-691-8714
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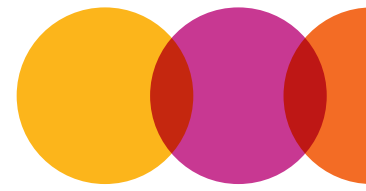**Toll Free Phone: 877-BizTech**
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ConfigSnapshot is the most comprehensive and flexible configuration management software for the E-Business Suite; reducing time, cost and risk at all stages of the application lifecycle.

Document – Analyse – Compare – Monitor – Plan – Migrate – Track – Comply

Highlights include: Automatic setup documentation and comparison; setup planning and migration; change tracking and audit; customization and patch impact analysis; security and access control; segregation of duties reporting. Contact us for a demonstration and free trial to understand how ConfigSnapshot can transform your approach to application management.
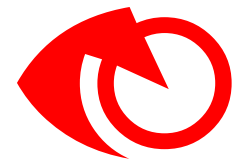
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Core Services Corporation delivers Oracle Cloud, Oracle Managed Services and Oracle Consulting solutions to its global client base. An Oracle Platinum Partner, Core Services solutions span the entire technology stack and include Remote Oracle ERP and Database administration, Oracle E-Business Suite upgrade and implementation solutions, Fusion Middleware Services, and proprietary monitoring and network architecting solutions. Founded in 1990, Core Services is headquartered in Somerset, New Jersey and has offices in India and Argentina.

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Data Communication Solutions has focused solely on EDI and e-commerce since 1991. Our partnerships with Oracle, SAP, Infor, IBM, GXS & others allows us to help our customers. Free assessment: www.dcsedi.com or Vicki Gohman, Vice President-Sales & Alliances at 612-940-7866.

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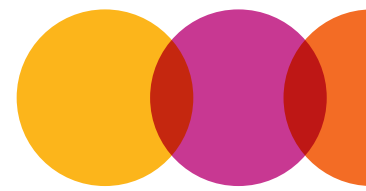
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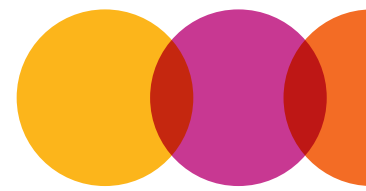
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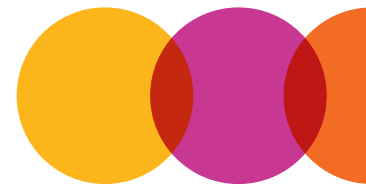**Toll Free Phone: 888-885-0206**
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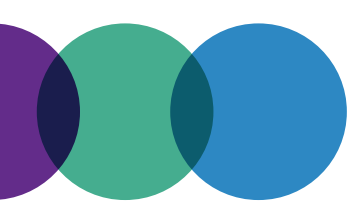**Phone: 617-774-5442**
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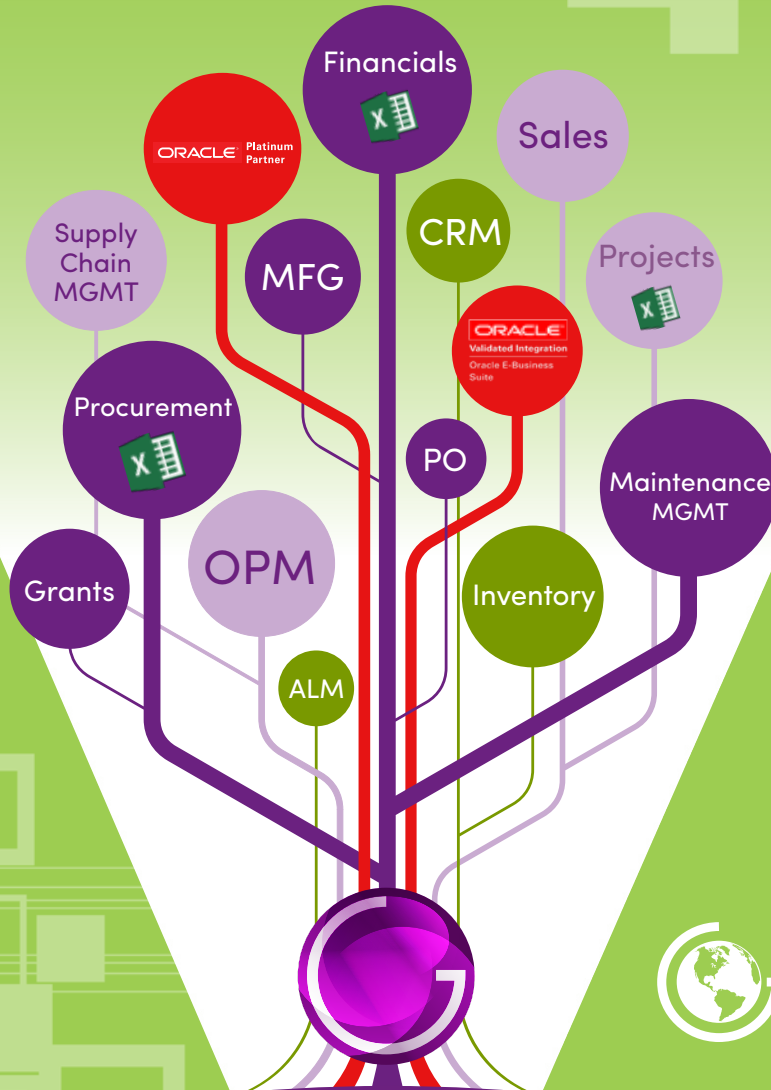
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