



Solution Note

Oracle® Grid Control: Data Collection and Management Plug-ins



BEZVision for Oracle Databases™ is a predictive analytical management tool that is designed to provide IT management with the necessary information to make critical decisions about Oracle service delivery. Unlike other performance management tools that help technologists quickly isolate and fix problems and tune the Oracle infrastructure at great depth, BEZVision for Oracle Databases is a management solution for helping IT to:

- Anticipate and avoid service delivery problems within their Oracle infrastructure
- More effectively apply IT resources to support the goals of the company now and into the future
- Understand the repercussions of both planned and unplanned changes to the Oracle environment
- Understand the impact of and plan for new business initiatives
- Help make intelligent people and resources decisions
- Foster meaningful collaboration between management, users, and IT

BEZVision provides a business-oriented view of Oracle resource utilization, performance, and service delivery that covers the complete time spectrum from the past into the future. BEZVision allows IT organizations to proactively manage performance so that problems now and into the future can be avoided, resource planning may be done more cost-effectively, and IT can perform better as an enabler of business initiatives.



Harnessing the Power of Oracle Grid Control

In addition to its powerful native analytic and predictive capabilities, BEZVision for Oracle Databases integrates with and extends advanced native features of Oracle Enterprise Manager Grid Control (EMGC) – such as the Access Advisor (part of the Enterprise Manager Tuning Pack) and detailed performance metrics sourced by ASH (a component of the Enterprise Manager Diagnostic Pack). By leveraging data from these advanced Oracle features, the joint solution provides BEZVision users with a powerful, full-featured management environment capable of effectively managing change and optimizing Oracle performance and service delivery - past, present, and future.

EMGC was built using an open architecture that allows extensions, known as Management Plug-ins, to be built and readily integrated. Management Plug-ins can be imported and exported directly from the EMGC console and can be deployed to any number of Agents at once by using a built-in 'Group' function.

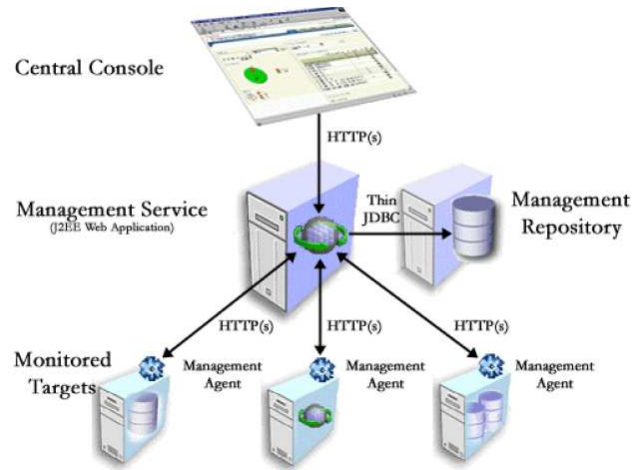


The Database Performance Profile Management Plug-in (DPP) developed by BEZ and certified by Oracle is shipped with BEZVision for Oracle Databases and utilizes data gathered via Oracle's ASH (Active Session History) facility. This requires that the

monitored instance(s) be licensed with the Enterprise Manager Diagnostic Pack. Additionally, BEZVision's database advice feature integrates with the Oracle Access Advisor, which in turn requires that the Enterprise Manager Tuning Pack be installed as well.

“Just backing up the view that we’re moving from a very reactive organization to one that’s proactive and actually sees what needs to be done. I can’t speak highly enough of BEZVision; it’s been quite fantastic for us.”

Jason Fichtl
Senior DBA



Oracle Enterprise Manager Grid Control Architecture

The BEZ DPP Plug-in provides all necessary data collection for BEZVision to automatically build profiles for each workload (application/line-of-business). These workloads provide a detailed view of resource consumption, data usage, response time and throughput. Once a profile is built, IT management can easily ask “what-if” questions regarding the performance and capacity of their Oracle environment. BEZVision will automatically produce performance predictions for the next 12 months or IT may use their own planning horizon. New predictions exploring load, infrastructure variations and options, and application mixes can be produced in a matter of seconds. IT can easily explore server configurations, server consolidation, storage combinations and RAC.

DBAs, System Architects and Designers, Application Managers and other IT management professionals can ask important “what if” questions regarding the performance impact of Oracle environments, such as:

- How will the current environment scale according to my application growth plans?
- How will the production environment run if I decide to re-host my applications on different servers to reduce cost and complexity?
- Are there any potential performance breaches lurking on the horizon? If so, where are they and what impact are they likely to have on response time and throughput?
- Will the Oracle performance optimizer help or hurt and are there any tuning activities, such as adding an index, which will help maintain good performance and meet agreed upon service levels?

A Solid Solution for Today and Tomorrow

BEZVision addresses immediate tactical problems and longer term strategic service management issues:

Current: tactical, reactive use – Problem isolation and remediation

BEZVision profiles complex database processing to understand resource consumption and workload response



time and throughput. BEZVision provided automated notification of both current, and future potential performance issues, and provides a guided process to help identify, and proactively resolve service-level problems quickly.

Future: Proactive Performance Management

BEZVision forecasts performance, resource utilization and data usage at an application workload level, and predicts when service levels for individual lines of business will not be met and business growth will be affected.

BEZVision can also be used while migrating to Oracle 10g (*or later*), to evaluate a possible consolidation of two or more small servers onto a single larger server or quantify a possible OS change, for example, from UNIX to Linux. Once the migration is complete, BEZVision can be used to ensure ongoing acceptable Oracle database service as the business continues to change and grow.

Summary

BEZVision for Oracle Databases provides a powerful solution for accurately assessing the performance and capacity needs of complex Oracle environments. It also provides realistic expectations and minimizes the risk of unpleasant surprises. Built-in automated functions, such as 'set and forget' monitoring and hands-free "As-Is™" predictions minimize the time and effort required to build models and ask "what if" questions regarding the performance impact of change and growth.

With BEZVision, IT can:

- *Anticipate and mitigate* problems before they occur
- *Accurately profile* resource consumption and performance of the Oracle environment
- *Evaluate* the performance of production applications
- *Quantify* the impact of changes to the Oracle environment (re-hosting, consolidating, shift from UNIX to Linux) before they are made
- *Perform "what if" analysis*, including predicting the impact of workload growth, database cardinality, and index creation to pinpoint system changes that will ensure ongoing delivery of acceptable performance

About BEZ Systems

BEZ Systems is an innovator in the emerging market for predictive analytics solutions. Predictive analytics provide a line-of-business view of application and database resource utilization that allows the enterprise to accurately profile both current and future application performance, compare change and growth alternatives, forecast results to set expectations and verify actual performance results versus predictions. BEZ Systems empowers IT to manage change, set realistic expectations, justify provisioning actions and ensure the delivery of consistent, uninterrupted data service to the business at the lowest cost.

BEZ Systems, Inc. ♦ 355 Congress St., Boston, MA 02210 ♦ USA
617.206.9610 ♦ info@bez.com ♦ www.bez.com

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"By providing plug-in connection to performance information in the Oracle Enterprise Manager Grid Control repository, BEZVision simplifies and extends the ability to optimize the current performance of applications that use Oracle Grid-based data, as well as analyzing and predicting performance requirements for workload growth in the future".

Tim Grieser,
VP of Enterprise System
Management Software Research
IDC

