Oracle9*i*

Application Developer's Guide - Object-Relational Features

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Oracle9i Application Developer's Guide - Object-Relational Features, Release 1 (9.0.1)

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Preface

Oracle9i Application Developer's Guide - Object-Relational Features describes how to use the object-relational features of the Oracle Server, Release 1 (9.0.1). Information in this guide applies to versions of the Oracle Server that run on all platforms, and does not include system-specific information.

This preface contains these topics:

Audience

Oracle9i Application Developer's Guide - Object-Relational Features is intended for programmers developing new applications or converting existing applications to run in the Oracle environment. The object-relational features are often used in multimedia, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and similar applications that deal with complex data. The object views feature can be valuable when writing new applications on top of an existing relational schema.

This guide assumes that you have a working knowledge of application programming and that you are familiar with the use of Structured Query Language (SQL) to access information in relational database systems.

Organization

This document contains:

Chapter 1, "Introduction to Oracle Objects"

Introduces the key features and explains the advantages of the object-relational model.

Chapter 2, "Basic Components of Oracle Objects"

Explains the basic concepts and terminology that you need to work with Oracle Objects.

Chapter 3, "Object Support in Oracle Programmatic Environments"

Summarizes the object-relational features in SQL and PL/SQL; Oracle Call Interface (OCI); Pro*C/C++; Oracle Objects For OLE; and Java, JDBC, and Oracle SQLJ. The information in this chapter is high-level, for education and planning. The following chapters explain how to use the object-relational features in greater detail.

Chapter 4, "Managing Oracle Objects"

Explains how to perform essential operations with objects and object types.

Chapter 5, "Applying an Object Model to Relational Data"

Explains object views, which allow you to develop object-oriented applications without changing the underlying relational schema.

Chapter 6, "Advanced Topics for Oracle Objects"

Discusses features that you might need to manage storage and performance as you scale up an object-oriented application.

Chapter 7, "Frequently Asked Questions About Using Oracle Objects"

Provides helpful hints for people getting started with object-oriented programming, or coming to Oracle with a background in some other database system or object-oriented language.

Chapter 8, "Design Considerations for Oracle Objects"

Explains the implementation and performance characteristics of Oracle's object-relational model.

Chapter 9, "A Sample Application Using Object-Relational Features"

Demonstrates how a relational program can be rewritten as an object-oriented one, schema and all.

Related Documentation

For more information, see these Oracle resources:

- *PL/SQL User's Guide and Reference* to learn PL/SQL and to get a complete description of this high-level programming language, which is Oracle Corporation's procedural extension to SQL
- *Oracle9i Application Developer's Guide - Fundamentals* for general information about developing applications
- *Oracle9i JDBC Developer's Guide and Reference* and *Oracle9i Java Stored Procedures Developer's Guide* to use Oracle's object-relational features through Java
- *Oracle Call Interface Programmer's Guide* describes how to use the the Oracle Call Interface (OCI) to build third-generation language (3GL) applications that access the Oracle Server
- *Pro*C/C++ Precompiler Programmer's Guide* for information on Oracle's Pro* series of precompilers, which allow you to embed SQL and PL/SQL in 3GL application programs written in Ada, C, C++, COBOL, or FORTRAN
- Oracle Developer/2000 is a cooperative development environment that provides several tools including a form builder, reporting tools, and a debugging environment for PL/SQL. If you use Developer/2000, then refer to the appropriate Oracle Tools documentation.

- *Oracle9i SQL Reference* and *Oracle9i Database Administrator's Guide* for information on SQL.
- *Oracle9i Database Concepts* for information on basic Oracle concepts

In North America, printed documentation is available for sale in the Oracle Store at

`http://oraclestore.oracle.com/`

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`http://www.oraclebookshop.com/`

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To download free release notes, installation documentation, white papers, or other collateral, please visit the Oracle Technology Network (OTN). You must register online before using OTN; registration is free and can be done at

`http://technet.oracle.com/membership/index.htm`

If you already have a username and password for OTN, then you can go directly to the documentation section of the OTN Web site at

`http://technet.oracle.com/docs/index.htm`

Conventions

This section describes the conventions used in the text and code examples of the documentation set. It describes:

- Conventions in Text
- Conventions in Code Examples

Conventions in Text

We use various conventions in text to help you more quickly identify special terms. The following table describes those conventions and provides examples of their use.