

QUICK TAKE



July 20, 2006

Oracle Application Express Helps Build Web Applications Quickly

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A lesser-known but powerful application development tool that comes freely bundled with an Oracle DBMS is Oracle Application Express. Over the past year, the adoption of Oracle Application Express has increased twofold mainly because it is easy to use, saves money when consolidating spreadsheets and desktop databases, and comes bundled for free with Oracle databases. Although Oracle Application Express is not a replacement for Java or .NET programming environments, it can help develop simple Web-based applications that access Oracle databases quickly.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Application development professional, enterprise architecture professional, chief information officer

APPLICATION EXPRESS IS AN EASY-TO-USE APP DEV TOOL

Over the past 12 months, Forrester interviewed 25 Oracle enterprises to find out their experiences using Oracle Application Express (APEX). All those interviewed found APEX to be an easy-to-use application development tool that helps to develop Web applications very quickly. Although APEX is unlikely to be the primary reason for customers to migrate from other DBMSes to Oracle, it does help customers consolidate many distributed desktop databases and spreadsheets to a centralized repository for improved data sharing, enforcement of higher data security standards, and enhanced manageability. Many customers are using APEX to develop Web applications that perform simple lookup of data, generate online reports, and implement data entry forms.

“We currently have 35 applications that use Oracle Application Express, and that’s likely to grow to 50 to 75 by the end of this year. These applications are key business applications including financial calculators, rate sheets, and loan and funding application processing. There are up to 5,000 users who are using these applications built using Oracle Application Express running on Oracle databases.” (Chase Home Equity)

Oracle Application Express is an application development tool for developing Web applications that access data from Oracle databases, whether it is read-only or transaction-related activity. All of the APEX components reside within the Oracle database, and therefore APEX integrates with regular DBMS roles and privileges. APEX not only comes with built-in wizards for easy point-and-click application