

ORACLE®



Oracle Forms

**Bringing a Sleeping Application to Life
Working Smarter with Features**

Michael Ferrante
Oracle Principal Product Manager
May 2015

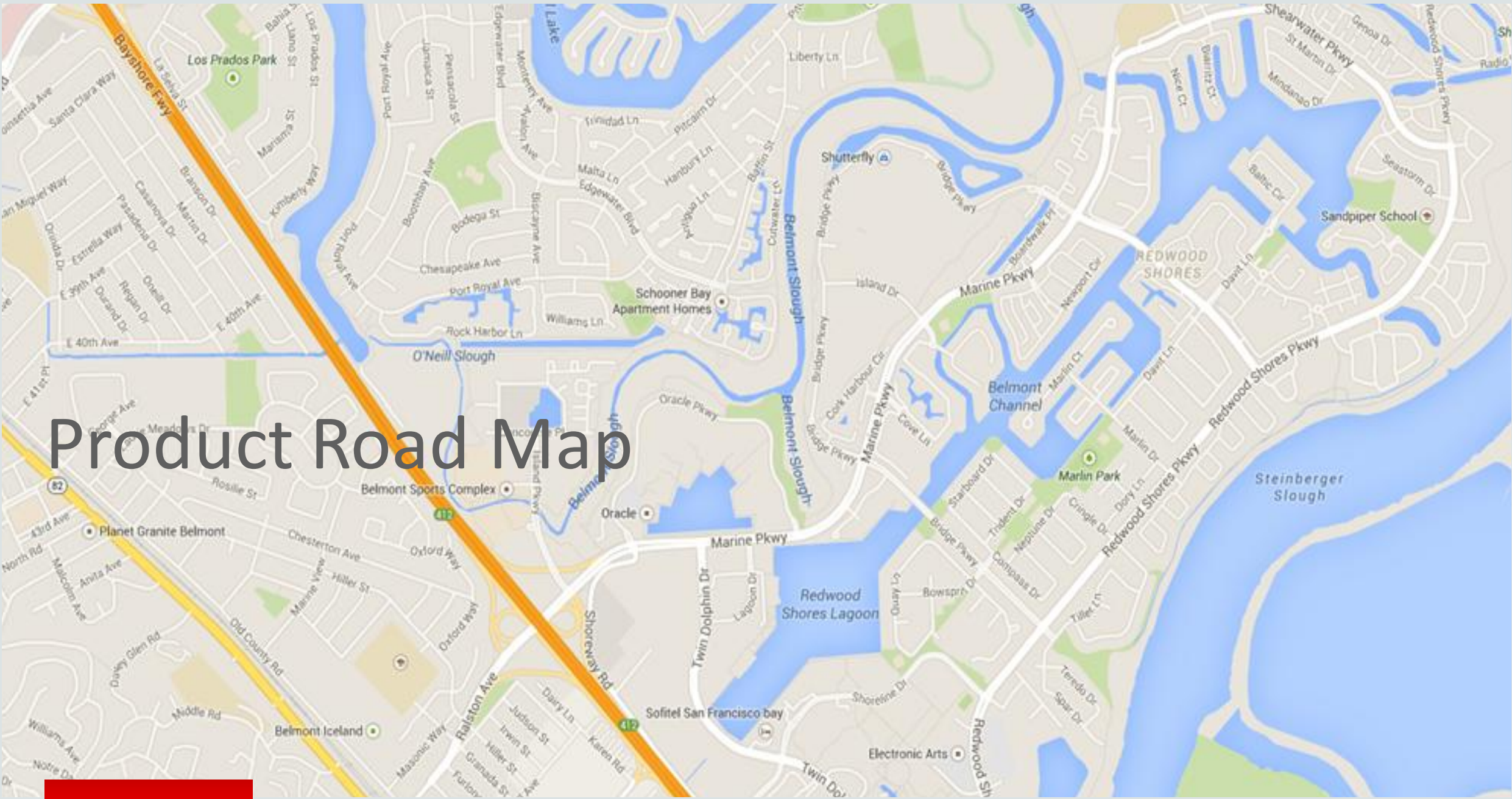
Safe Harbor Statement

The following is intended to outline our general product direction. It is intended for information purposes only, and may not be incorporated into any contract. It is not a commitment to deliver any material, code, or functionality, and should not be relied upon in making purchasing decisions. The development, release, and timing of any features or functionality described for Oracle's products remains at the sole discretion of Oracle.

Program Agenda

- 1 Product Road Map
- 2 Features in Action
- 3 A Look into the Future – What Next
- 4 Contact Information
- 5 Q & A

Product Road Map



The Time to Act is Now

Product support timeline

Release	GA Date	Premier Support Ends	Extended Support Ends	Sustaining Support Ends
Application Server 10gR2 (10.1.2.x) *	Jan - Oct 2005	Dec 2011	Not Available	Indefinite
Portal 11gR1, Forms 11gR1, Reports 11gR1 and Discoverer 11gR1 (11.1.1.x) ****	Jun 2009	Jun 2014	Jun 2017	Indefinite
Forms and Reports 11gR2 (11.1.2.x)	Oct 2011	Dec 2016 😊	Dec 2018 😊	Indefinite

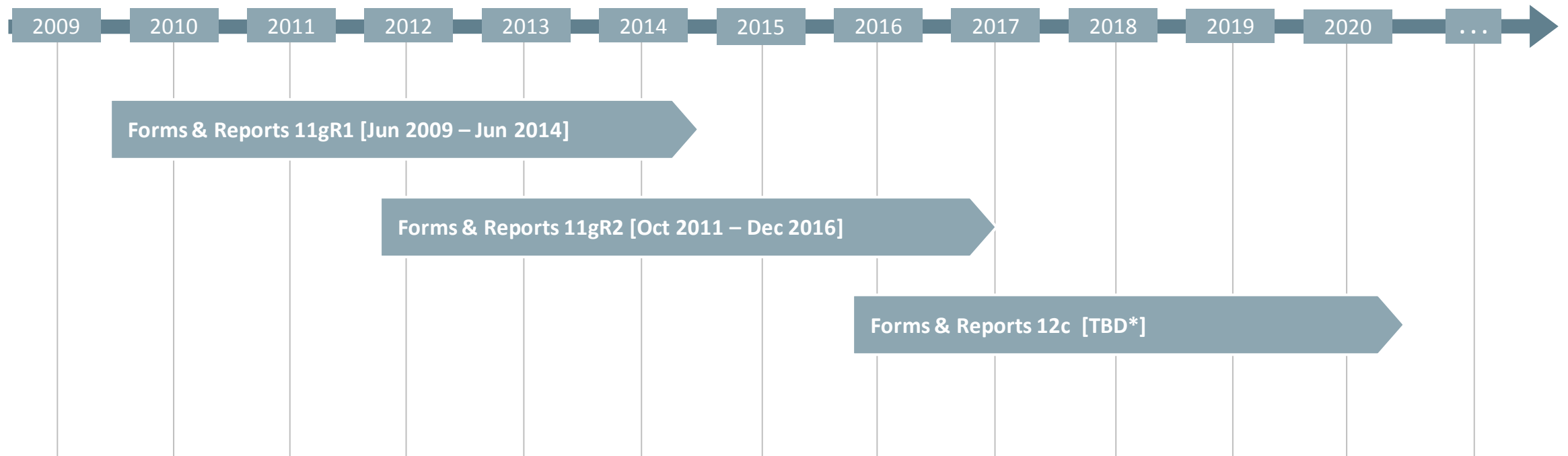
Note: The next version (e.g. 12c) will be added to the Lifetime Support Policy after it has been released.

For detailed desupport information about 6i (6.0.8), refer to MOS Note 228666.1

<http://www.oracle.com/us/support/lifetime-support>

Updated April 2015

Product Roadmap



This roadmap represents the time between General Availability and the end of Premier Support.

Refer to the [Oracle Lifetime Support Policy](#) documentation for the latest dates.

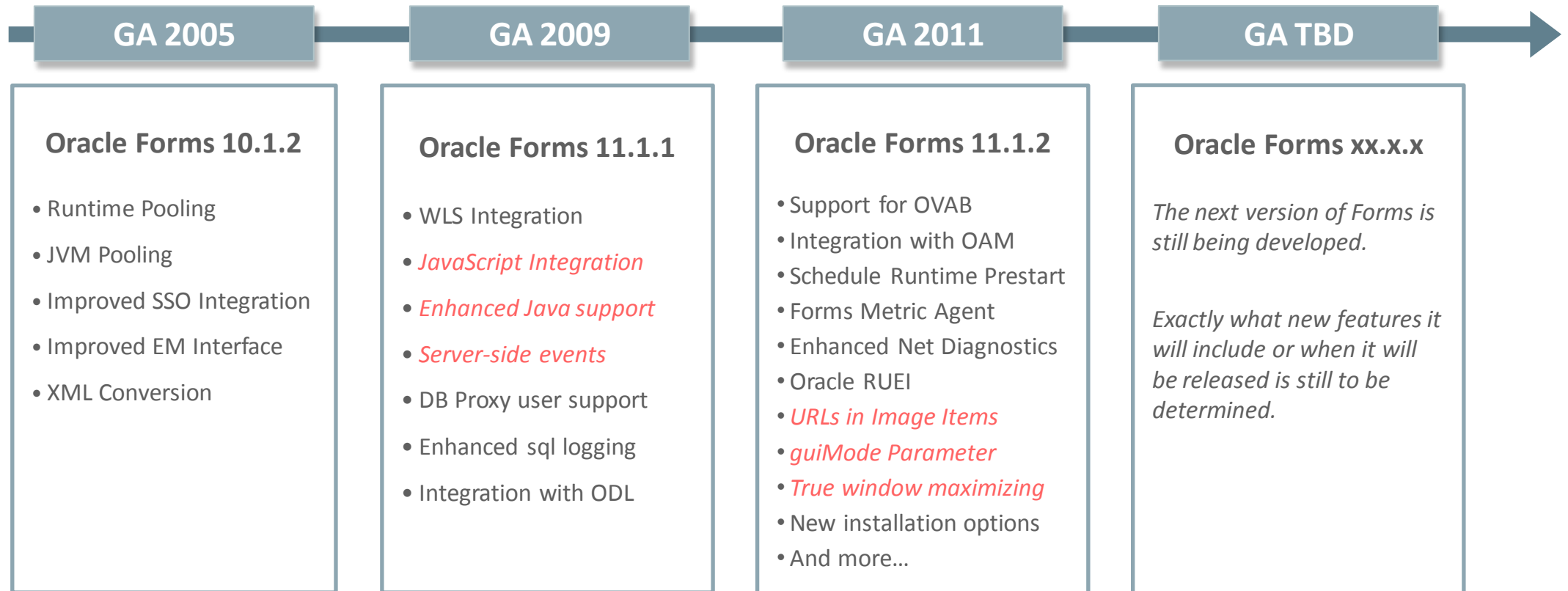
**Exact date for the release of 12c is still to be determined. Dates shown in this slide are for illustration purposes only.*

Features in Action

New and old

Oracle Forms

Highlighted features



Note: Items in red are functional features that can be used to enhance an application's UI and integration with other technologies.

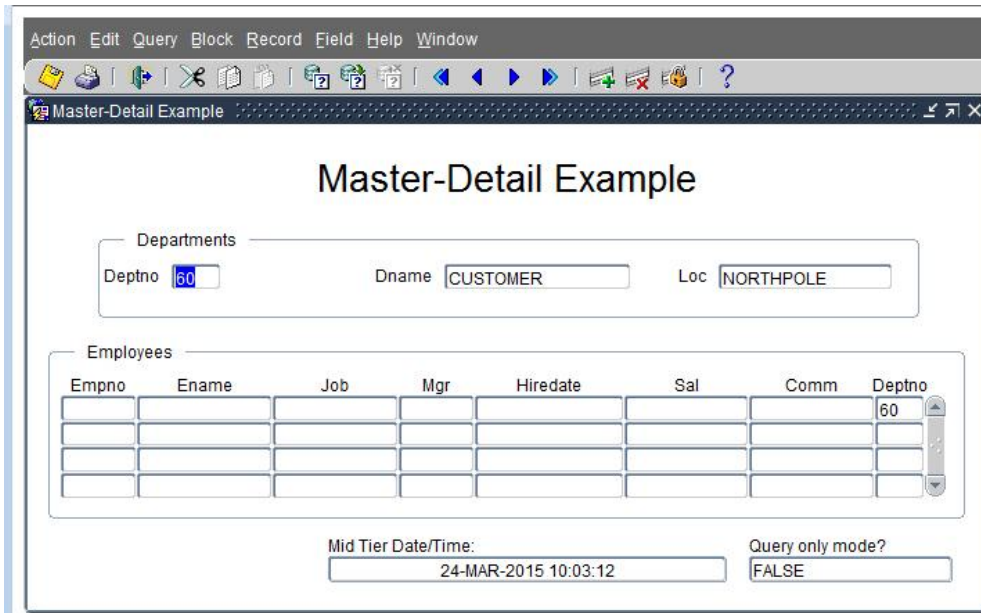
Working Smarter

Time saving tips

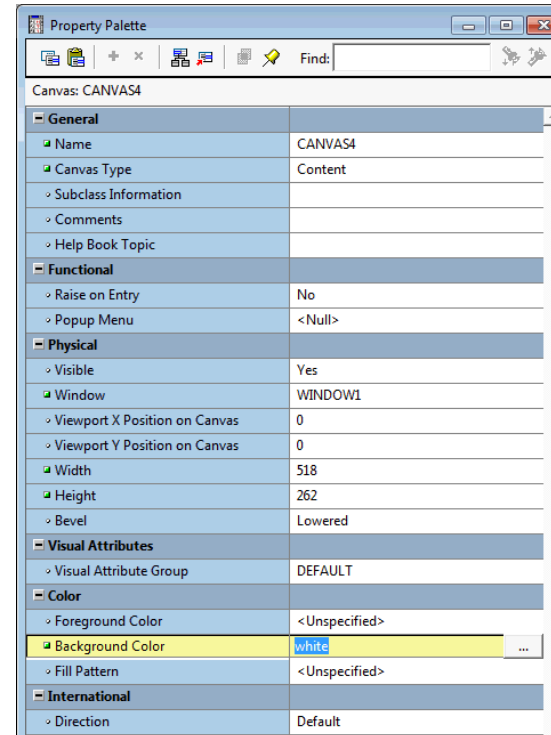
Form Builder

Single Property Inherit – available in all versions

Take advantage of default behavior. Don't hardcode visual object properties. Use defaults to give the end-user control over how the app looks. Use the applet parameter colorScheme.



Empno	Ename	Job	Mgr	Hiredate	Sal	Comm	Deptno
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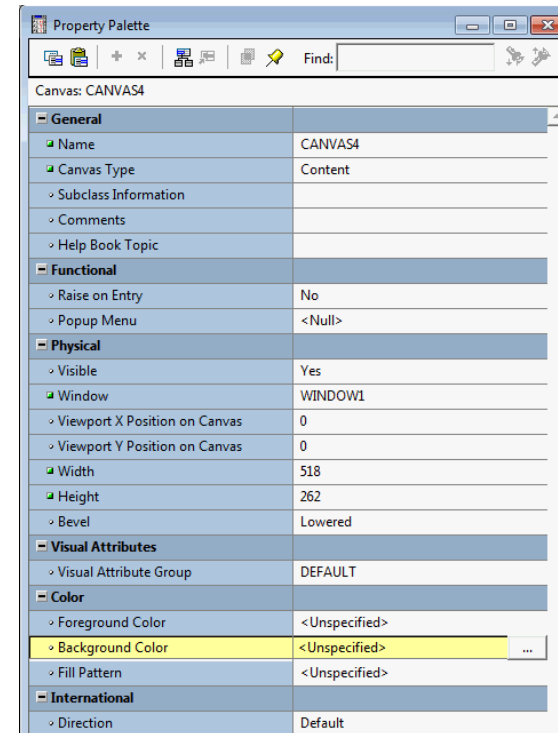
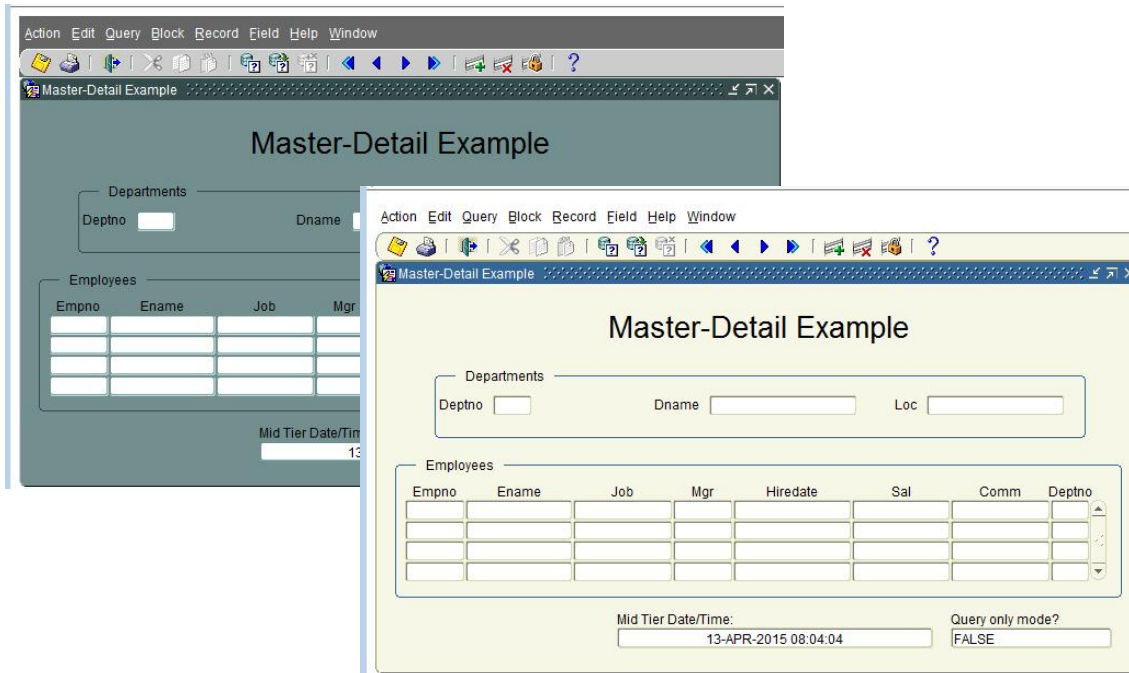


Property	Value
General	
Name	CANVAS4
Canvas Type	Content
Subclass Information	
Comments	
Help Book Topic	
Functional	
Raise on Entry	No
Popup Menu	<Null>
Physical	
Visible	Yes
Window	WINDOW1
Viewport X Position on Canvas	0
Viewport Y Position on Canvas	0
Width	518
Height	262
Bevel	Lowered
Visual Attributes	
Visual Attribute Group	DEFAULT
Color	
Foreground Color	<Unspecified>
Background Color	white
Fill Pattern	<Unspecified>
International	
Direction	Default

Form Builder

Single Property Inherit – available in all versions

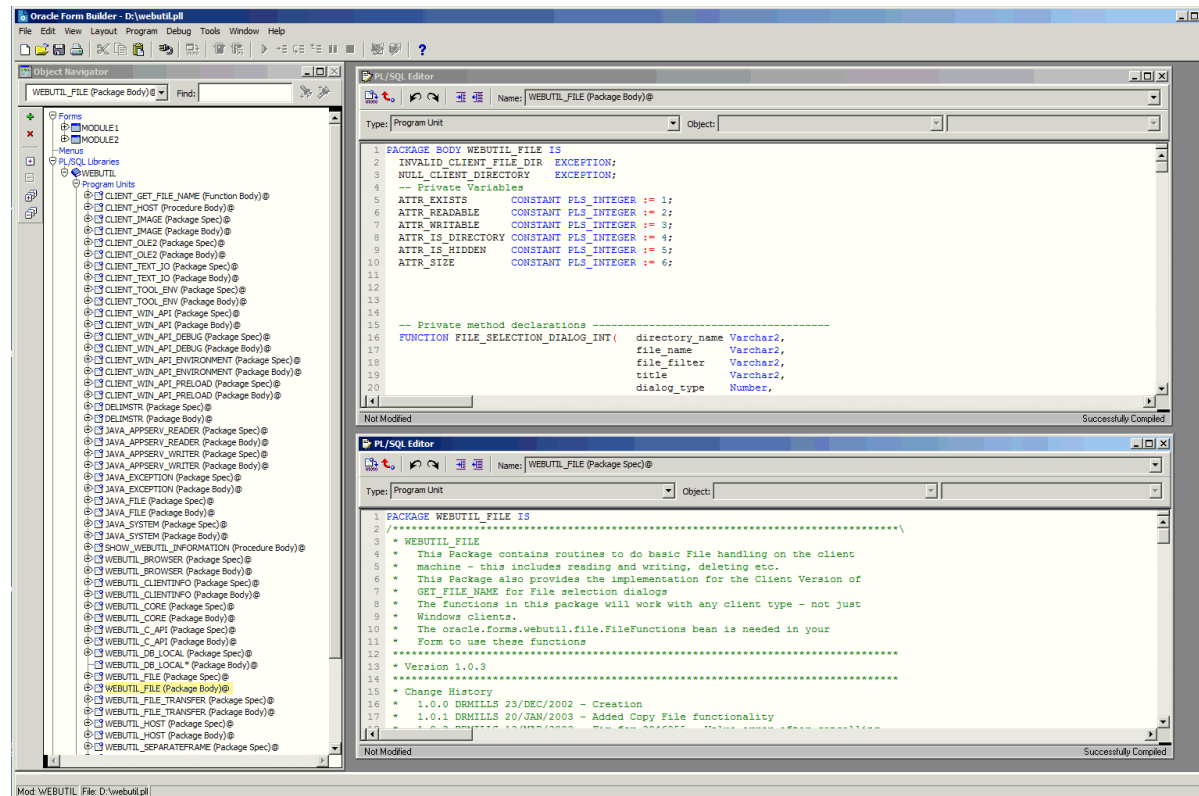
Take advantage of default behavior. Don't hardcode visual object properties. Use defaults to give the end-user control over how the app looks. Use the applet parameter colorScheme.



Form Builder

Working with the PL/SQL Editor

Use Shift+MouseDoubleClick to open a new PL/SQL Editor



Form Builder

Working with the PL/SQL Editor

Reviewing multiple areas of the same trigger code

```
1 PACKAGE BODY WEBUTIL_FILE IS
2   INVALID_CLIENT_FILE_DIR  EXCEPTION;
3   NULL_CLIENT_DIRECTORY    EXCEPTION;
4   -- Private Variables
5   ATTR_EXISTS              CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 1;
6   ATTR_READABLE           CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 2;
7   ATTR_WRITABLE           CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 3;
8   ATTR_IS_DIRECTORY       CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 4;
9   ATTR_IS_HIDDEN          CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 5;
10  ATTR_SIZE                CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 6;
11
12
13
14
15  -- Private method declarations -----
16  FUNCTION FILE_SELECTION_DIALOG_INT (   directory_name Varchar2,
17                                         file_name       Varchar2,
18                                         file_filter    Varchar2,
19                                         title           Varchar2,
20                                         dialog_type     Number,
21                                         select_file     Boolean,
22                                         multiselect    Boolean) return Varchar2;
23
24  FUNCTION GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT (           file_name       Varchar2,
25                                         attributeID     Pls_Integer) return Varchar2;
26
27
28
29
```

Not Modified | Successfully Compiled

Vertical Sizing Handle

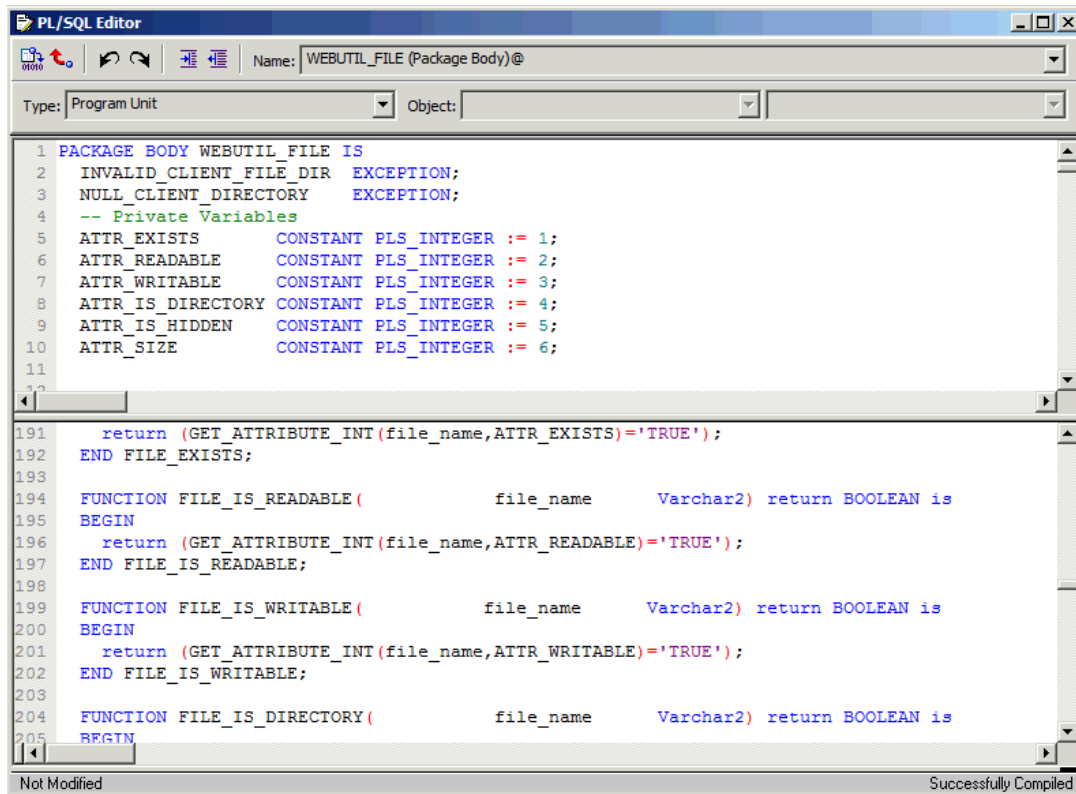
Horizontal Sizing Handle

Console Handle

Form Builder

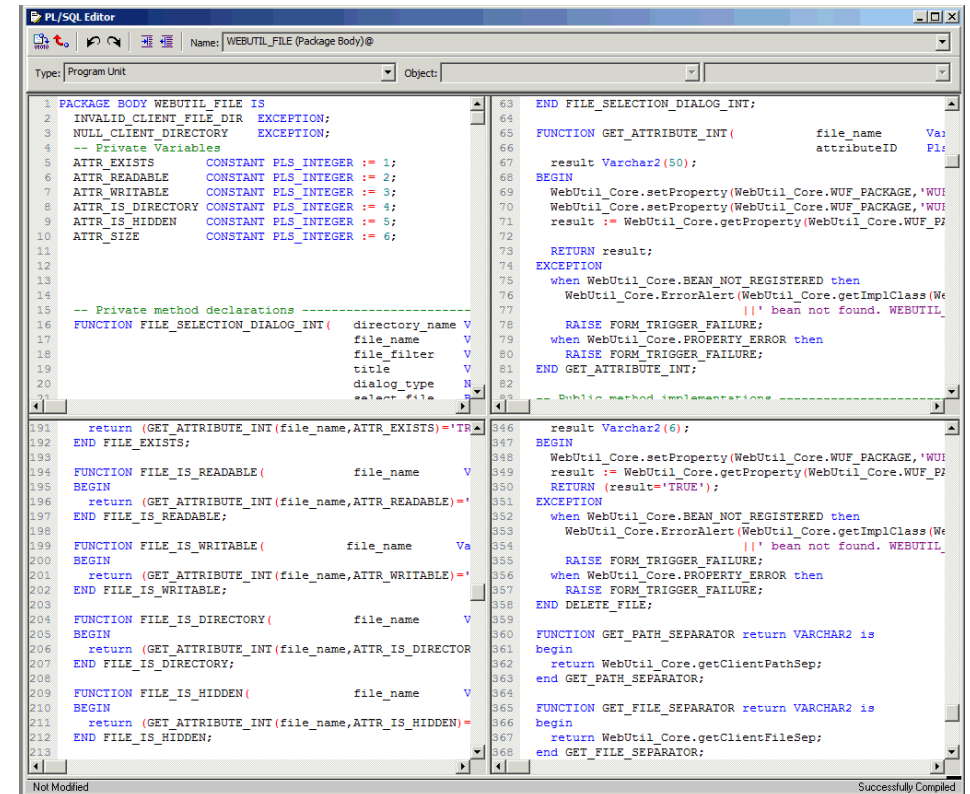
Working with the PL/SQL Editor

Reviewing multiple areas of the same trigger code



The screenshot shows the PL/SQL Editor window with the following code:

```
1 PACKAGE BODY WEBUTIL_FILE IS
2   INVALID_CLIENT_FILE_DIR  EXCEPTION;
3   NULL_CLIENT_DIRECTORY    EXCEPTION;
4   -- Private Variables
5   ATTR_EXISTS              CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 1;
6   ATTR_READABLE           CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 2;
7   ATTR_WRITABLE           CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 3;
8   ATTR_IS_DIRECTORY       CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 4;
9   ATTR_IS_HIDDEN          CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 5;
10  ATTR_SIZE                CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 6;
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190
191  return (GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT(file_name,ATTR_EXISTS)='TRUE');
192  END FILE_EXISTS;
193
194  FUNCTION FILE_IS_READABLE(          file_name      Varchar2) return BOOLEAN is
195  BEGIN
196    return (GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT(file_name,ATTR_READABLE)='TRUE');
197  END FILE_IS_READABLE;
198
199  FUNCTION FILE_IS_WRITABLE(          file_name      Varchar2) return BOOLEAN is
200  BEGIN
201    return (GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT(file_name,ATTR_WRITABLE)='TRUE');
202  END FILE_IS_WRITABLE;
203
204  FUNCTION FILE_IS_DIRECTORY(         file_name      Varchar2) return BOOLEAN is
205  BEGIN
```



The screenshot shows the PL/SQL Editor window with the following code:

```
63  END FILE_SELECTION_DIALOG_INT;
64
65  FUNCTION GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT(          file_name      Varchar2,
66                                     attributeID    PLS_INTEGER) return VARCHAR2 is
67  BEGIN
68    result := WebUtil_Core.getProperty(WebUtil_Core.WUF_PACKAGE, 'WUF_' || attributeID);
69    WebUtil_Core.setProperty(WebUtil_Core.WUF_PACKAGE, 'WUF_' || attributeID, result);
70    result := WebUtil_Core.getProperty(WebUtil_Core.WUF_PACKAGE, 'WUF_' || attributeID);
71  END GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT;
72
73  RETURN result;
74  EXCEPTION
75  when WebUtil_Core.BEAN_NOT_REGISTERED then
76    WebUtil_Core.ErrorAlert(WebUtil_Core.getImplClass(WebUtil_Core.WUF_PACKAGE), '!' || ' bean not found. WEBUTIL_' || attributeID);
77  RAISE FORM_TRIGGER_FAILURE;
78  when WebUtil_Core.PROPERTY_ERROR then
79    RAISE FORM_TRIGGER_FAILURE;
80  END GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT;
81
82  -- Public method implementations
83
84  FUNCTION FILE_SELECTION_DIALOG_INT(  directory_name V
85                                     file_name         V
86                                     file_filter        V
87                                     title              V
88                                     dialog_type        N
89                                     select_file       P)
90  BEGIN
91    return (GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT(file_name,ATTR_EXISTS)='TRUE');
92  END FILE_EXISTS;
93
94  FUNCTION FILE_IS_READABLE(          file_name      V
95  BEGIN
96    return (GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT(file_name,ATTR_READABLE)='TRUE');
97  END FILE_IS_READABLE;
98
99  FUNCTION FILE_IS_WRITABLE(          file_name      V
100 BEGIN
101  return (GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT(file_name,ATTR_WRITABLE)='TRUE');
102 END FILE_IS_WRITABLE;
103
104 FUNCTION FILE_IS_DIRECTORY(         file_name      V
105 BEGIN
106  return (GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT(file_name,ATTR_IS_DIRECTORY)='TRUE');
107 END FILE_IS_DIRECTORY;
108
109 FUNCTION FILE_IS_HIDDEN(            file_name      V
110 BEGIN
111  return (GET_ATTRIBUTE_INT(file_name,ATTR_IS_HIDDEN)='TRUE');
112 END FILE_IS_HIDDEN;
113
114 FUNCTION GET_PATH_SEPARATOR return VARCHAR2 is
115 begin
116  return WebUtil_Core.getClientPathSep;
117 end GET_PATH_SEPARATOR;
118
119 FUNCTION GET_FILE_SEPARATOR return VARCHAR2 is
120 begin
121  return WebUtil_Core.getClientFileSep;
122 end GET_FILE_SEPARATOR;
```

Form Builder

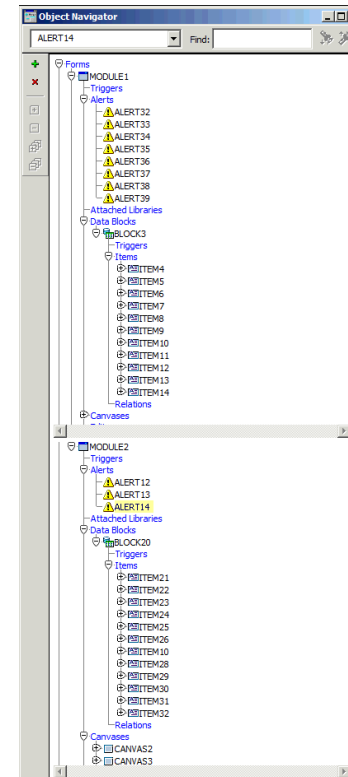
Working with the Object Navigator

Reviewing multiple objects simultaneously



Vertical Sizing Handle

Horizontal Sizing Handle



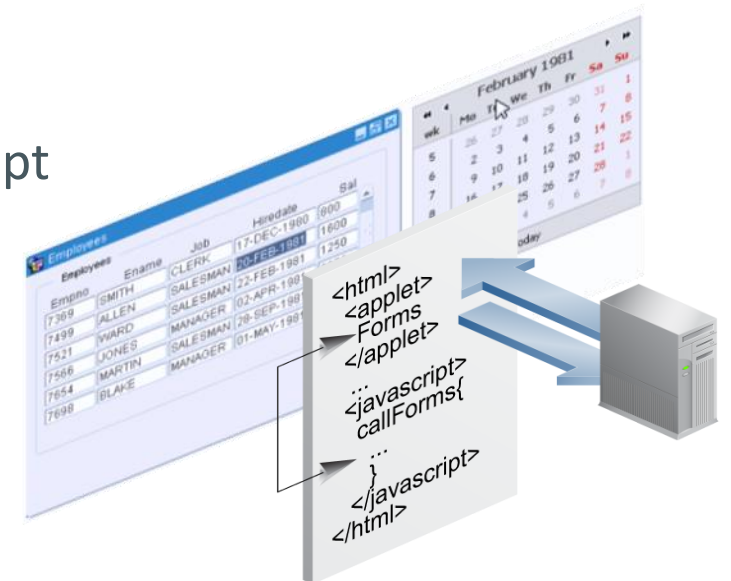
Application Enhancement Tips

Existing features and how to use them

Features That Make Integration Easy

Hybrid examples

- Living Side By Side
Forms running side-by-side with other technologies
- Visual Integration
Create a common UI – Forms & ADF/APEX/Java - Javascript
- Process / Service Integration
Run common business logic - DB Events / Webservices





Using Color to Improve Appearance

A fresh look is only a colorScheme away

Memory Lane - Character Mode

```

File Edit Default TAR Help
TAR# 11409852.60 Technical Assistance Request <Open>
-----<Customer> --Country-US - Type-----
Spt Code^ Level GLD Plat^ 451 Sun SPARC Sun OS
Customer^ Prod^ 500 Oracle General Rel St^ P
Behalf Comp^ LEDGER Version^ 10.7.0.16.1G
Contact1^ Subcomp DB Ver^ 7.3.3
Phone^ x TZ -01 OS Env OS Ver
Fax Email @ Stat^ 2CB 2nd Callback
Contact2 Sev^ 2 Serious Business Impac
Phone x Owner Site600 Home^600
Abstract^ PROFILE OPTION JGZZ: LOCALIZATION COUNTRY VALUE?
<Main> - (Re-Query) (Profile) (Ownership) (Transfer) (Xfer Status ---
Local Q^ GOLDGL Change Date:
Global Q GQFINAP Days Date (Show Duty Mgr)
-----Userid-----Local Time-----Customer Time-----
Esc Lvl Created 29-OCT-98 12:25 29-OCT-98 11:25
Esc To Updated ASPECT.US 04-NOV-98 10:51 04-NOV-98 09:51
Escalated

ITS402 V1.4.0.1 User logged in to Colorado at 04-NOV-1998 10:51:0
  
```

Oracle Forms 4.5 presented in character mode.

This image was taken in 1998 and used in a training guide for Oracle employees. At that time, many of Oracle's internal applications used Oracle Forms.

Although this old system has been decommissioned, several other internal systems still use Oracle Forms.



Summit Demo

Application color enhancements

SWAN

The screenshot shows the 'Summit - Orders' application window. The title bar includes 'File Edit Sort By Query Settings Help Window'. The main window has a menu bar with 'File Edit Sort By Query Settings Help Window'. Below the menu bar, there are buttons for 'Stock', 'Image On', 'Help', and 'Exit'. The 'Order Information' section contains fields for 'Order Id' (100), 'Date Ordered' (31-AUG-1992), 'Customer Id' (204), 'Customer Name' (Womansport), 'Sales Rep Id' (11), 'Sales Rep Name' (Magee), and 'Date Shipped' (10-SEP-1992). There are radio buttons for 'Cash' and 'Credit', and a checked 'Order Filled' checkbox. A 'Bunny Boot' button is visible. Below this is a table of 'Order Items' with columns: Item Id, Product Id, Description, Price, Qty, Shipped, and Item Total. The table contains 4 rows of data. At the bottom right, the 'Order Total' is 601,100.00.

Item Id	Product Id	Description	Price	Qty	Shipped	Item Total
1	10011	Bunny Boot	135	500	500	67,500.00
2	10013	Pro Ski Boot	380	400	400	152,000.00
3	10021	Bunny Ski Pole	14	500	500	7,000.00
4	10023	Pro Ski Pole	36	400	400	14,400.00

The screenshot shows the 'Summit - Orders' application window. The title bar includes 'File Edit Sort By Query Settings Help Window'. The main window has a menu bar with 'File Edit Sort By Query Settings Help Window'. Below the menu bar, there are buttons for 'Stock', 'Image On', 'Help', and 'Exit'. The 'Order Information' section contains fields for 'Order ID' (100), 'Date Ordered' (31-AUG-1992), 'Date Shipped' (10-SEP-1992), 'Customer ID' (204), 'Customer Name' (Womansport), 'Sales Rep ID' (11), 'Sales Rep Name' (Magee), and 'Payment Type' (Credit). There is a checked 'Order Filled' checkbox. Below this is a table of 'Additional Orders' with columns: Order ID, Date Ordered, and Date Shipped. The table contains 6 rows of data. At the bottom right, the 'Order Total' is 601,100.00. There is a 'Bunny Boot' button and a 'Help' button.

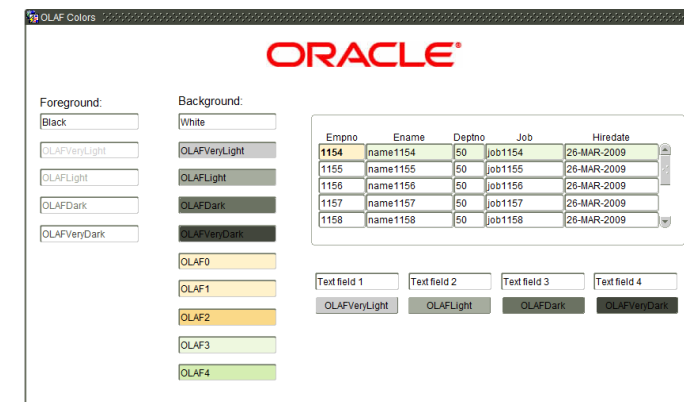
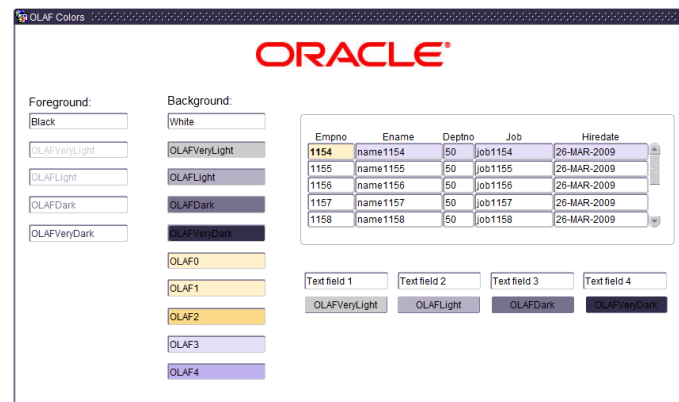
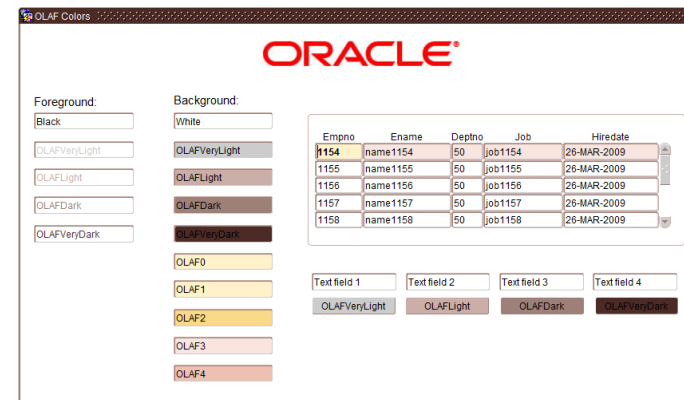
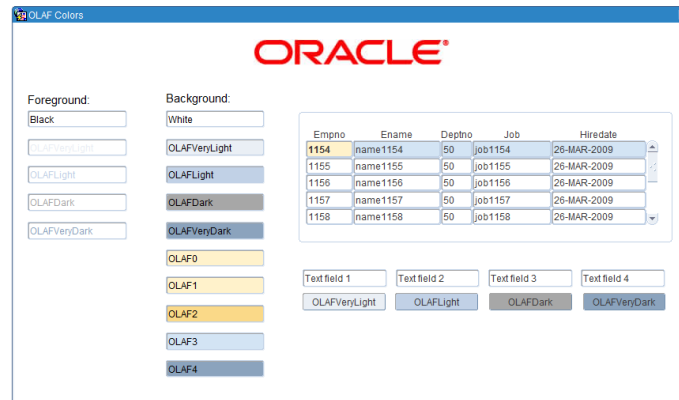
Order ID	Date Ordered	Date Shipped
100	31-AUG-1992	10-SEP-1992
111	09-SEP-1992	21-SEP-1992
2589	22-AUG-1996	21-SEP-1996
2590	23-AUG-1996	22-SEP-1996
2591	24-AUG-1996	23-SEP-1996
2592	25-AUG-1996	24-SEP-1996
2593	26-AUG-1996	25-SEP-1996

Flexibility in Color

ColorSchemes and OLAF colors

ColorSchemes

- Teal
- Titanium
- Red
- Khaki
- Blue
- Olive
- Purple
- BLAF
- SWAN



OLAF Colors

- OLAFVeryLight
- OLAFLight
- OLAFDark
- OLAFVeryDark
- OLAF0
- OLAF1
- OLAF2
- OLAF3
- OLAF4

Summit Demo

Item color enhancements

Highlight the current item to improve visibility

The screenshot shows the Summit - Orders application window. The 'Order Information' section includes 'Order Details' and 'Additional Orders'. The 'Order Items' section contains a table of items and a product image of a soccer ball. The interface uses a light blue color scheme with yellow highlights for the current record in the 'Additional Orders' table and the 'Sales Rep Name' field.

Order ID	Date Ordered	Date Shipped	Order Filled
107	07-SEP-1992	21-SEP-1992	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Order ID	Date Ordered	Date Shipped
107	07-SEP-1992	21-SEP-1992
3984	03-MAR-1996	02-APR-1996
3985	04-MAR-1996	03-APR-1996
3986	05-MAR-1996	04-APR-1996
3987	06-MAR-1996	05-APR-1996
3988	07-MAR-1996	06-APR-1996
3989	08-MAR-1996	07-APR-1996

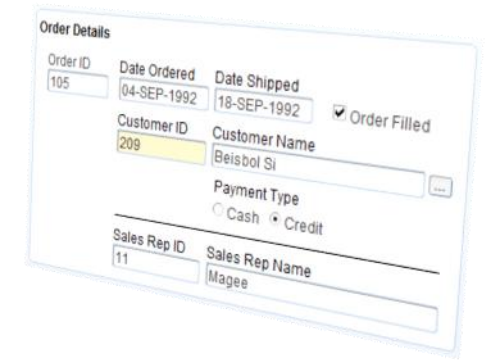
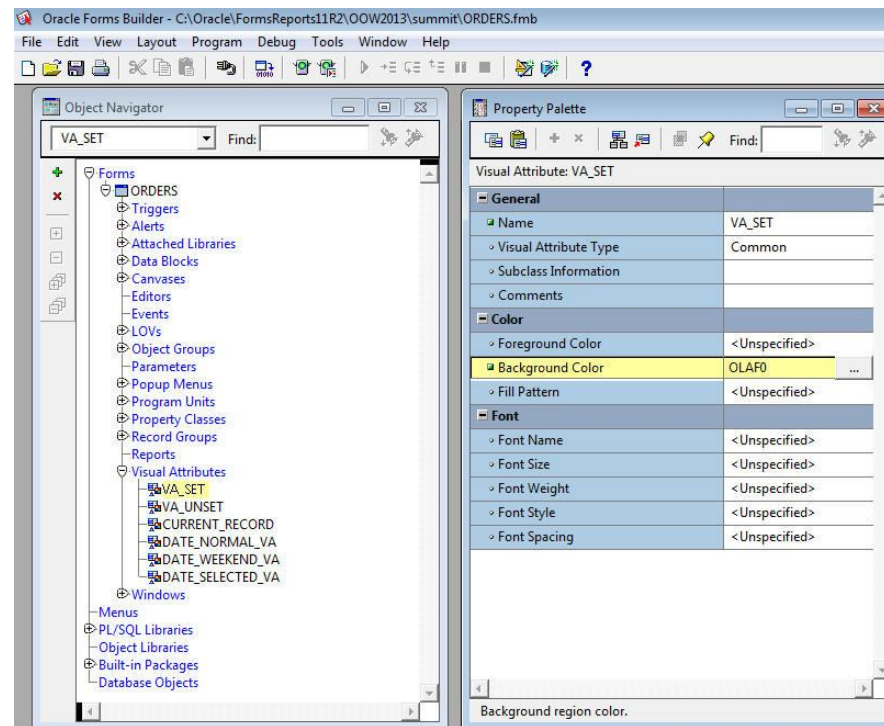
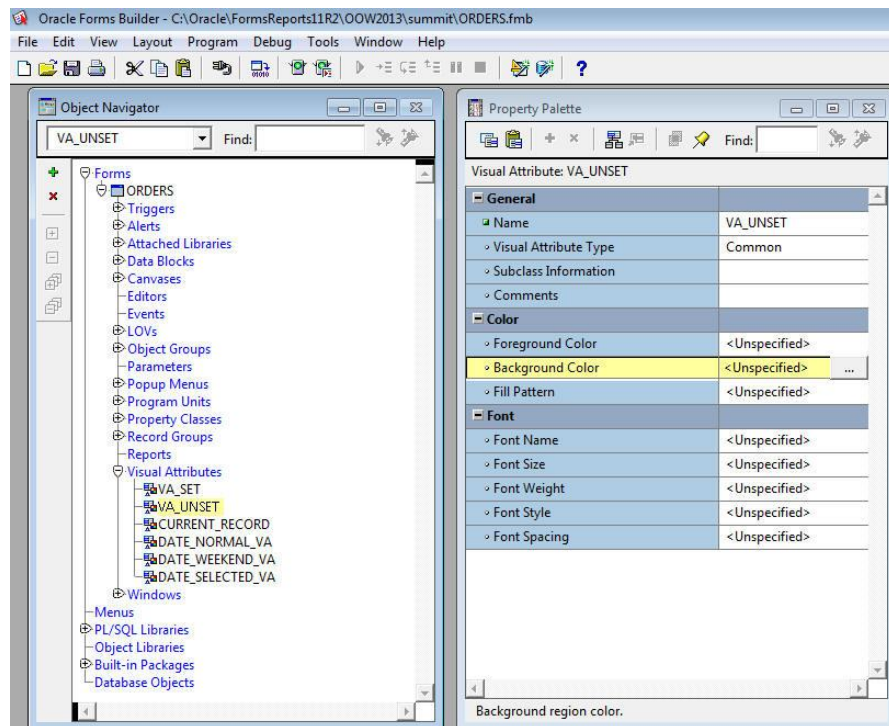
Item ID	Product ID	Description	Price	Qty	Shipped	Item Total
1	20106	Junior Soccer Ball	11	50	50	550.00
2	20108	World Cup Soccer Ball	28	22	22	616.00
3	20201	World Cup Net	115	130	130	14,950.00
4	30321	Grand Prix Bicycle	1669	75	75	125,175.00
5	30421	Grand Prix Bicycle Tires	16	55	55	880.00

Highlight the current record to improve visibility

Object colors that complement the overall application appearance

Summit Demo

Color enhancements using PL/SQL – current item example



Summit Demo

Color enhancements using PL/SQL – current item example

```
Declare
  ui_type varchar2(11);
Begin
  -- Set defaults for globals
  Default_Value(:system.cursor_item, 'global.prev_item');
  Default_Value(:system.cursor_record, 'global.prev_record');

  -- Only change colors if item is a TEXT ITEM
  ui_type := GET_ITEM_PROPERTY(:system.cursor_item, ITEM_TYPE);
  If upper(ui_type) = 'TEXT ITEM' Then

    -- Has the cursor changed locations?
    If :global.prev_item != :system.cursor_item OR :global.prev_record != :system.cursor_record Then

      -- Reset the background color of the item just exited
      set_item_instance_property(:global.prev_item, to_number(:global.prev_record), VISUAL_ATTRIBUTE, 'VA_UNSET');
    End if;

    -- Set the new background color for the current item
    set_item_instance_property(:system.cursor_item, current_record, VISUAL_ATTRIBUTE, 'VA_SET');

    -- Prepare for next item instance. Set previous item reminder to the current item
    :global.prev_item := :system.cursor_item;
    :global.prev_record := :system.cursor_record;
  End if;
End;
```

Summit Demo

Color enhancements declaratively – current record example

Oracle Forms Builder - C:\Oracle\FormsReports11R2\OOW2013\summit\ORDERS.fmb

Object Navigator: CURRENT_RECORD

Property Palette: Visual Attribute: CURRENT_RECORD

Property	Value
Name	CURRENT_RECORD
Visual Attribute Type	Common
Subclass Information	
Comments	
Color	
Foreground Color	<Unspecified>
Background Color	OLAFVeryLight
Fill Pattern	<Unspecified>
Font	
Font Name	<Unspecified>
Font Size	<Unspecified>
Font Weight	<Unspecified>
Font Style	<Unspecified>
Font Spacing	<Unspecified>

Background region color.

Additional Orders

Customer ID: 211

Order ID	Date Ordered	Date Shipped
107	07-SEP-1992	21-SEP-1992
3984	03-MAR-1996	02-APR-1996
3985	04-MAR-1996	03-APR-1996
3986	05-MAR-1996	04-APR-1996
3987	06-MAR-1996	05-APR-1996
3988	07-MAR-1996	06-APR-1996
3989	08-MAR-1996	07-APR-1996

Oracle Forms Builder - C:\Oracle\FormsReports11R2\OOW2013\summit\ORDERS.fmb

Object Navigator: S_ORDERS

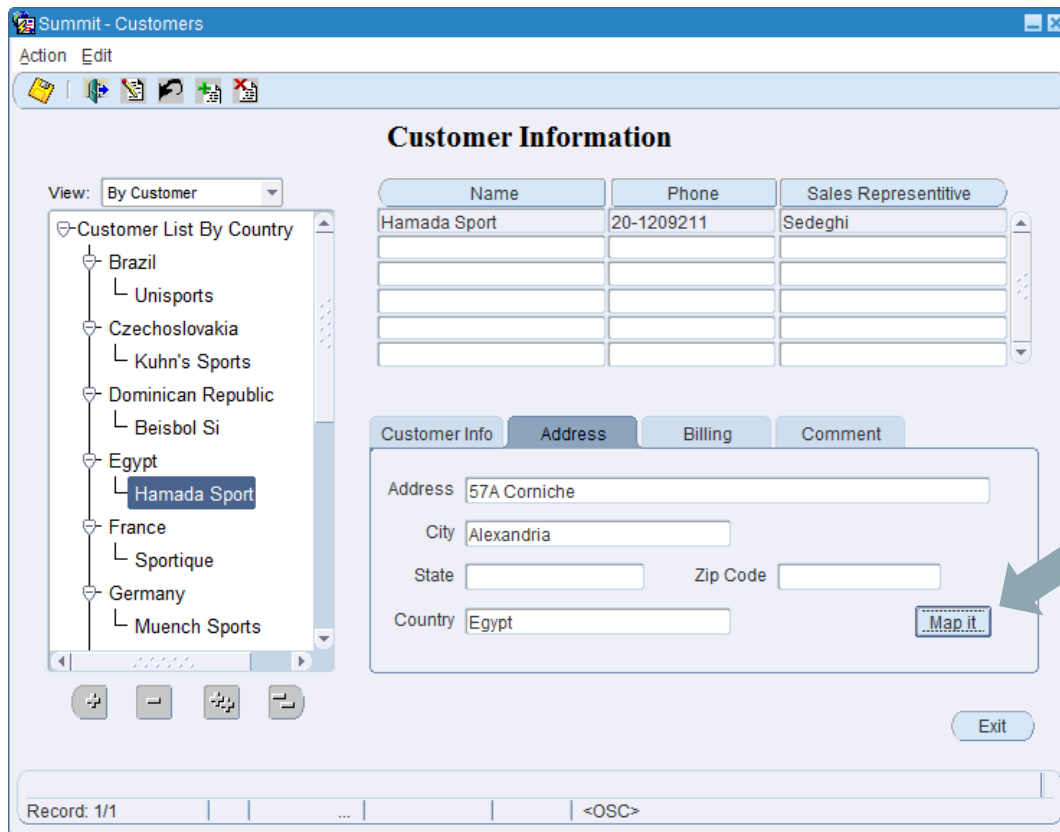
Property Palette: Data Block: S_ORDERS

Property	Value
Name	S_ORDERS
Subclass Information	
Comments	
Navigation	
Navigation Style	Same Record
Previous Navigation Data Block	<Null>
Next Navigation Data Block	<Null>
Records	
Current Record Visual Attribute Group	CURRENT_RECORD
Query Array Size	0
Number of Records Buffered	0
Number of Records Displayed	7
Query All Records	No
Record Orientation	Vertical
Single Record	No
Database	
Advanced Database	
Scrollbar	
Visual Attributes	
Visual Attribute Group	DEFAULT
Color	
Foreground Color	<Unspecified>
Background Color	<Unspecified>
Fill Pattern	<Unspecified>
International	

Named visual attribute used when an item is part of the current record.

Summit Demo

Google static map integration



Summit - Customers

Action Edit

Customer Information

View: By Customer

- Customer List By Country
 - Brazil
 - Unisports
 - Czechoslovakia
 - Kuhn's Sports
 - Dominican Republic
 - Beisbol Si
 - Egypt
 - Hamada Sport**
 - France
 - Sportique
 - Germany
 - Muench Sports

Name	Phone	Sales Representative
Hamada Sport	20-1209211	Sedeghi

Customer Info | Address | Billing | Comment

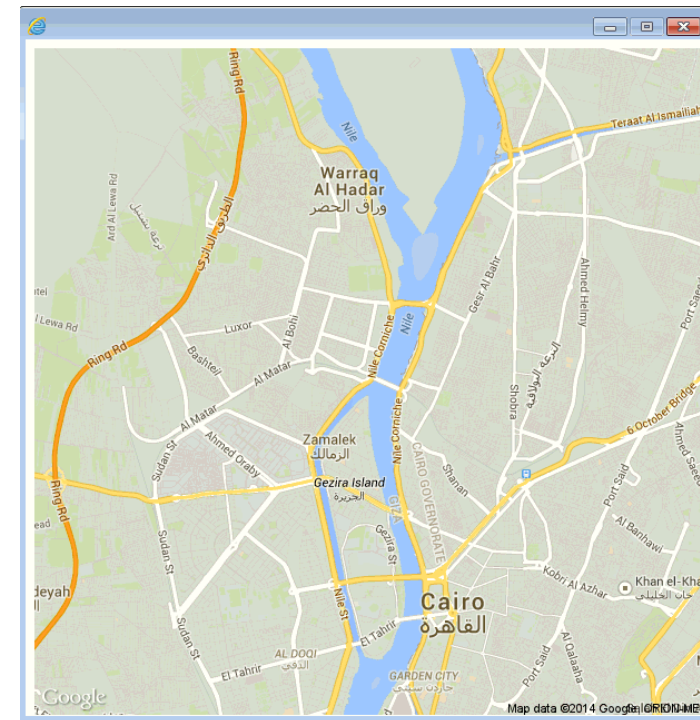
Address:

City:

State: Zip Code:

Country:

Record: 1/1 | ... | <OSC>



Summit Demo

Google static map integration code

Declare

```
v_address varchar2(32767);  
inJS varchar2(32767);
```

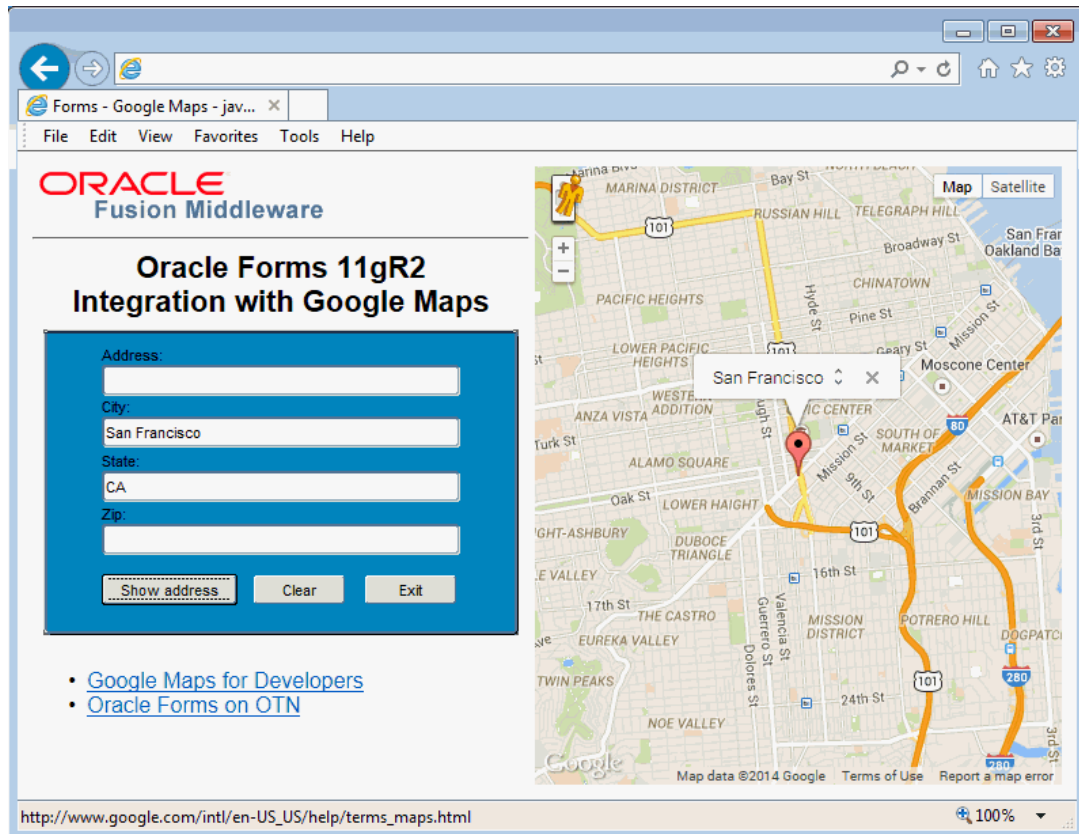
Begin

```
-- Build address string for Google  
v_address := :s_customer.address||', '||:s_customer.city||', '||:s_customer.state||', '||:s_customer.zip_code||', '||:s_customer.country;  
  
inJS :=  
    'new_win=window.open("", "new_win", "menubar=0,location=0,toolbar=0,status=0,scrollbars=0,resizable=0,width=605,height=605");  
    new_win.document.write('||chr(39)||''||chr(39)||');  
    '  
--Show map  
web.javascript_eval_expr(inJS);
```

End;

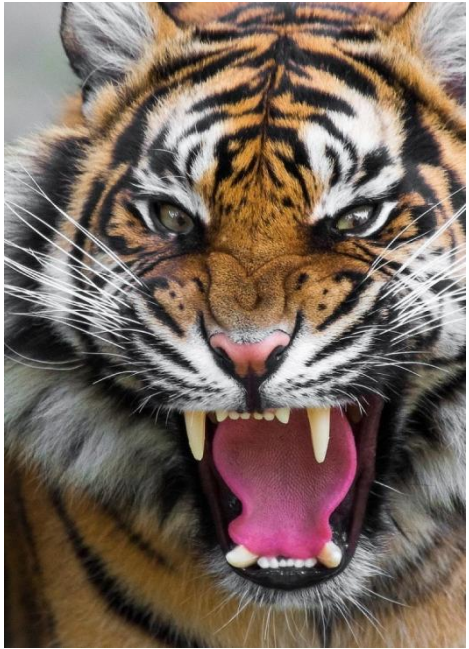
Other Visual Enhancements

Forms applet parameter – guiMode and Java Script integration



```
[google]  
form=google  
color scheme=blue  
background=no  
splashscreen=no  
guiMode=3
```

<https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/javascript>



“Your application is your creation. Don’t blame the tools if your application looks and feels outdated.

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Michael Ferrante, Principal Product Manager, Oracle Corp.



What Next

Endless possibilities ...

Oracle Forms

What's next – A sneak peak into the future

Features being reviewed for future releases:

- Forms Builder productivity improvements
- New applet parameters
- New and improved security features
- New and improved JVM Controller features
- Record manager performance improvements that will reduce memory usage
- New system events
- Improved SSO integration
- Improved diagnostic features
- New client deployment options
- New installation options
- Many more still under review, including some possible Oracle Cloud options

A woman with long brown hair and glasses, wearing a brown leather jacket and a blue patterned scarf, is sitting at a wooden table in a cafe. She is talking on a black smartphone held to her ear with her left hand. On the table in front of her is an open magazine or newspaper. In the background, another person is sitting at a table, and there are large windows with a view of a city street. The overall atmosphere is bright and professional.

Contact Information

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