



Discoverer: A New World of Reporting

Mark Taylor Garland Independent School District









Agenda

Overview & Introduction

- Organizational Needs
- Implementation Considerations
- Sample Reports
- Q&A







Objective

Provide real-world, best practices of successful Discoverer projects. Focus will be on staffing, skills and decision points required for a successful installation and adoption of Discoverer.







Garland ISD

- Located North-East of Dallas, TX
- Consists of Garland, Sachse and Rowlett
- 57,000 Students in 67 Campuses
- 6,500 Employees
- Oracle Install: 2005
- HRMS, Financials, Projects, INV
- Major Depts: Warehouse, Food Service, Bus Fleet, Maintenance, Technology



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Legacy 6i Report Issues

- Graphics and Layout
- Primarily for Scanning and Listing
- Lacks Critical Pieces of Information
- Contains Irrelevant Information
- Limited Parameters
- Technical Development Required







Legacy Report Sample

Garland ISD							Report	Date: 1	2-0CT-2007	06:51
				Invoi	ce Register			Page:		1
Supplier Na	me: GRAINGER			Entered			Acc	counting	Period:	
Invoice Ty	pe:			From Entered D	ate: 01-SEP-07		Cancelled	d Invoice:	s Only: No	
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Item 1	699.81.6200.049. 00.000332.00.000		000	71.14	Adjustable Arm, Fo	r 1RL24	31-AUG-07			Yes
Item 2	699.81.6200.049 00.000332.00.000		000	229.05	Polyurethane Chair	, Five Legge	31-AUG-07			Yes
GRAINGER	94453	323844	31-AUG-07		148.50	0.00	CAREER & TH	SCHNOLOGY	Standard	
Item 1	699.81.6200.049 00.000332.00.000		000	148.50	Boltless Shelving,	Shelf Capac	31-AUG-07			Yes







Discoverer: Advantages

- Ad Hoc Capability
- Precise Information
- "One Question" Analysis
- Advanced Analysis, Statistics and Trends
- Quick Development Cycle
 6i Report: 2 Days

Discoverer: 2 Hours

- Presentation Resembles Excel
- Decentralized/Disruptive







Discoverer: Disadvantages

- Performance
- Report Integrity
- Desktop Version Large Client Footprint
- User Learning Curve
- Data Model Knowledge
- Decentralized/Disruptive







Discoverer Plus Desktop

- Windows Client
- Designed for Sophisticated Information Consumers
 - Business Office Accountants/Senior Management: Budget, GL, Payroll
 - Department Analysts: Food Service, Technology
 - Functional Staff: Purchasing, HRMS, Business
 Office
 - Project/Program Managers







Discoverer Plus Desktop

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Discoverer Plus Desktop: Pros & Cons

- Pros
 - Rich Client Interface
 - Performance
 - Tight Integration with Excel
 - Less Dependent on Network Performance
- Cons
 - Separate User License
 - Client Maintenance and Installation







Discoverer 4i Plus

- Internet Version of Discoverer
- Contains <u>Most</u> of the Functionality as Discoverer 4i Desktop
- Typical Users: Discoverer Desktop Users Who Connect Remotely
- Preferred Version in Organizations Which Discourage Client Applications







Discoverer 4i Plus

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Discoverer 4i Plus: Pros & Cons

- Pros
 - Browser Based
 - No Additional Licensing Costs
 - Desktop Maintenance
- Cons
 - Highly Dependent on Network Performance
 - User Performance
 - Browser Java Conflicts/Versions







Discoverer 4i Viewer

- Internet Version of Discoverer Designed for Infrequent/static Reports
 - Limited Ad-Hoc Capability
 - Intended for Individuals with Limited Training or Need for Complex Data
 - Typical Users: Campus Secretaries, Campus Accounting Clerks, Tier I Support







Discoverer 4i Viewer

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		Person Name	Employee Number	Position Description	Email Address	
	1	Abercrombie, Brenda J	3886	TEACHER-4th GRADE	BJAbercr@garlandisd.net	Sev
	2	Allende, Marina Cecilia	2495	TEACHER-BILINGUAL-KINDERGARTEN	MCAllend@garlandisd.net	Sev
	3	Anderson, Julie-Erin Ubil	5583	TEACHER-KINDERGARTEN	JEUAnder@garlandisd.net	Sev
	4	Bell, Alaina A	6756	TEACHER SPED-CBSE CONTENT MASTERY	AABell@garlandisd.net	Sev
	5	Bocanegra, Julia R	5271	TEACHER-BILINGUAL-2nd GRADE	JRBocane@garlandisd.net	Sev
	6	Brown, Susan L	7100	TEACHER-4th GRADE	SBrown@garlandisd.net	Sev
	7	Bullard, Billie Jo	596	SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST-SPED	bjbullar@garlandisd.net	Sev
	8	Bullin, Sherry A	3515	TEACHER-1st GRADE	SABullin@garlandisd.net	Sei
	9	Burmingham, Leslie D	6499	TEACHER-3rd GRADE	LDBurmin@garlandisd.net	Sev
	10	Burns, Jennifer L	9025	TEACHER-PE	JLBurns@garlandisd.net	Sev
		Carey, Laurie A	9326	DIAGNOSTICIAN-SPED		-
	111	Carey, Laurie A	9320	DIAGNOSTICIAN-SPED	LACarev@garlandisd.net	Sev







Discoverer 4i Viewer: Pros & Cons

- Pros
 - Browser Based
 - Limited/Direct Functionality for Casual Users
- Cons
 - Inflexible
 - User Performance
 - Browser Java Conflicts/Versions





Discoverer Terminology

- Workbooks A Collection of Worksheets. Similar to an Excel Workbook. Workbooks Have Distinct File Names
- **Worksheets** Similar to Excel Worksheets. A Single Tab/Spreadsheet of Information
- **Business Area** A Logical Collection of Folders, Similar to a Database Schema/Functional Area
- **Folder** Based On a Single Table, View or Query
- **Items** Individual Columns from a Table/View
- End User Layer (EUL) A Database Schema Used to Store Meta-Data





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- Sample Reports
- Tips and FAQ's
- Q&A







Organizational Overview

- Management Support Helpful, Not Required
- "Grass Roots" Adoption
- Disruptive and Decentralized Technology
 - Worksheet Management
 - Administration and Development
 - Version Control
 - Excel or Financial Statements?







Find a Champion

- Technical Skills; PL/SQL and Apps Schema Knowledge
- Strong Communication Skills; Interview and Listen
- Project Management Skills
- Understand Business







Identify Power Users

- Indicator of Technical Skill: Excel Competence
- Influence With Peers
- Willing to Help Others and Assist With Training









Education and Training

- Champion: 5 Day Oracle Education Class
- Power Desktop Users: 2 Day Oracle Education Class and Internal Training by Discoverer Champion
- Discoverer Viewer: Internal/Online Training







GISD Discoverer Organization

- Technical Resources Are Not Dedicated Solely to Discoverer
- 1 Discoverer Champion
- 2 Discoverer Developers/Admins
- 20 Discoverer Desktop Users
- 200 Viewer Users (Campus & Dept Secretaries)





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Implementation

- Metalink Note 139516.1 Discoverer 4i With Oracle Applications 11i
- Discoverer Server Resides on Application Tier
- Setup in Apps Mode
- Generate Business Views (Patch 2921686), formally known as Business Intelligence System (BIS)







Implementation

- Install Discoverer Metadata Business Area (Metalink Note: 259122.1)
- Third Party Applications
- Identify Small, Quick Victories
- Look for Opportunities to Utilize Discoverer







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Three Step Process

- 1. Determine Information Requirements
 - Single Question Analysis
 - Locate Appropriate Business Area
- 2. Analyze Data
 - Leverage Spreadsheet Functionality
 - Create Totals, Percentages, Calculations, Filters, Sorts and Groups
- 3. Disseminate Results
 - Export to Multiple Formats
 - Share Workbooks







Sample Reports

- Food Service Profit and Loss
- Payroll Costing
- Purchase Order Encumbrance Analysis
- Purchasing Contract and Renewal
- Purchase Order Printing/Faxing
- Vendor Mailing Labels
- Workbook Query Statistics
- Workbooks Queried by Users







Food Service Profit and Loss

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	Position Org	Employee	Percent	Employee Number	Position Code	Position Type	Position
1	HUMAN RESOURCES	Dunham, Karen Blake	100%	2848	SUMMER	PAY OFF (SUMMER)	HRSMPF.0002.POSITION PAYOUT TEACHER_LIBRARIAN
2				Count Distinct: 1			
3	NAAMAN FOREST	White, Debra Rose	60%	10976	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	NFHSTE.1052.TEACHER-ART
4		-	-	Count Distinct: 1			
5	SOUTH GARLAND	Albrecht, Tanya G	100%	8970	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0168.TEACHER-HEALTH
6	SOUTH GARLAND	Alexander, Roman F	100%	7158	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0150.TEACHER-HEALTH
7	SOUTH GARLAND	Atwood, Timothy	60%	1703	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0083.TEACHER-MATHEMATICS
8	SOUTH GARLAND	Barron, Stacy Lynn	100%	10923	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0094.TEACHER-SCIENCE
9	SOUTH GARLAND	Baxter, Laura B	75%	6835	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0123.TEACHER-LATIN
10	SOUTH GARLAND	Beard, Cayle	100%	8686	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0108.TEACHER-SOCIAL STUDIES
11	SOUTH GARLAND	Beasley, Michael T	100%	942	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0140.TEACHER-BAND DIRECTOR
12	SOUTH GARLAND	Benton, Amanda M	100%	7976	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0069.TEACHER-MATHEMATICS
13	SOUTH GARLAND	Bert, Cornelius M (Neal)	100%	10456	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0074.TEACHER-MATHEMATICS
14	SOUTH GARLAND	Bidwell, Stephen C	100%	8687	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0245.TEACHER-SCIENCE
15	SOUTH GARLAND	Black, Karen Elizabeth	33.33%	5992	HIGH SCHOOL	TEACHER	SGHSTE.0088.TEACHER-ESL





Purchase Order Encumbrance

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1	5010084	APPROVED	09-NOV-2005	ACS DATALINE LP	\$950.00	\$0.00	\$950.00	211.11.3205.101.63999.24.00000.000000.00.0000
2	5010084	APPROVED	09-NOV-2005	ACS DATALINE LP	\$950.00	\$0.00	\$950.00	211.11.3205.129.63999.24.00000.000000.00.0000
3	5010245	APPROVED	09-NOV-2005	BOYD ELECTRIC LTD	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	211.11.3205.101.63999.24.00000.000000.00.0000
4	5010245	APPROVED	09-NOV-2005	BOYD ELECTRIC LTD	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	211.11.3205.129.63999.24.00000.000000.00.0000
5	5035565	APPROVED	24-MAY-2006	CORPORATE EXPRESS	\$315.51	\$0.00	\$315.51	211.61.2305.000.63910.24.00000.000000.00.0000
6	5035565	APPROVED	24-MAY-2006	CORPORATE EXPRESS	\$505.03	\$0.00	\$505.03	211.61.2305.000.63912.24.00000.000000.00.0000
7	5035566	APPROVED	24-MAY-2006	CORPORATE EXPRESS	\$66.52	\$0.00	\$66.52	211.61.2305.000.63199.24.00000.000000.00.0000
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8	5035567	APPROVED	24-MAY-2006	CORPORATE EXPRESS	\$90.83	\$0.00	\$90.83	211.61.2305.000.63912.24.00000.000000.00.0000
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2	259	CWT 2.0 Licenses (TCPN Contract #R4552)-March-See if they are stil	01-MAR-08	28-FEB-2008	
3	0711P-05	MALICIOUS CONTENT ENTERPRISE SOFTWARE-Renew in April 08	01-APR-08 17-FEB-20		
4	58	AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, INSTALL (CATALOG)	04-MAY-08	04-MAY-2009	
5	84	Laptop Computers (total for 2 years = 742,840 85% = \$631,414	18-MAY-08	18-MAY-2009	
6	67	Wireless Smart Keyboard	18-MAY-08	18-MAY-2009	
7	0038	COMPUTERIZED GRADEBOOK-APPROVED \$45 LAST 2 YEARS=90K	31-MAY-08	31-JAN-2010	
8	0033	Lotus Help Desk Software - Maintenance only	31-MAY-08	31-MAY-2010	
9	85	Digital Cameras (2nd yr option from \$92,655 to \$\$185,310)	01-JUN-08	01-JUN-2009	
10	240	COMPUTER WORKSTATIONS orig. award \$1,955,060 + incr. of \$1Mil	07-JUN-08	07-JUN-2010	
11	233	Campus Safety Audits	07-JUN-08	07-JUN-2011	





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968	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:10:20	5088070	HIGHSMITH CO INC	FT ATKINSON	1800	3506236	22-Feb-08 14:25:05	STANDARD	APPROVED
969	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:11:05	5088071	HIGHSMITH CO INC	FT ATKINSON	1800	3506236	22-Feb-08 14:25:15	STANDARD	APPROVED
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971	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:13:22	5088073	PRINT TO SUIT INC	ROWLETT	972	8403028	22-Feb-08 14:35:25	STANDARD	APPROVED
972	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:13:50	5088074	PRINT TO SUIT INC	ROWLETT	972	8403028	22-Feb-08 14:35:32	STANDARD	APPROVED
973	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:14:30	5088075	PRINT TO SUIT INC	ROWLETT	972	8403028	22-Feb-08 14:35:32	STANDARD	APPROVED
974	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:14:48	5088076	SHI GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS	GRAND PRAIRIE	1512	7320232	22-Feb-08 14:45:46	STANDARD	APPROVED
975	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:14:48	5088077	XEROX CORPORATION	IRVING SUPPLIES	214	2776084	22-Feb-08 14:45:52	STANDARD	APPROVED
976	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:14:55	5088078	PRINT TO SUIT INC	ROWLETT	972	8403028	22-Feb-08 14:45:55	STANDARD	APPROVED
977	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:15:21	5088079	SOCCER CORNER	PLANO	972	5190241	22-Feb-08 14:55:04	STANDARD	APPROVED
978	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:15:54	5088080	BSN SPORTS	DALLAS	1800	3657653	22-Feb-08 14:55:15	STANDARD	APPROVED
979	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:16:32	5088081	UNIQUE PRINTING SERVICES INC	N RICHLAND HILL	1817	5819595	22-Feb-08 14:55:37	STANDARD	APPROVED
980	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:17:05	5088082	EASTERN PLUMBING SUPPLY	DALLAS	214	2210261	22-Feb-08 15:05:43	STANDARD	APPROVED
981	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:17:32	5088083	UNITED RENTALS	IRVING	972	5791841	22-Feb-08 15:05:55	STANDARD	APPROVED
982	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:18:10	5088084	OGBURN TRUCK	GARLAND	972	2729690	22-Feb-08 15:05:55	STANDARD	APPROVED
983	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:19:41	5088085	FISHER SCIENCE EDUCATION	HANOVER PARK	1800	9550740	22-Feb-08 15:15:04	STANDARD	APPROVED
984	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:20:06	5088086	FLINN SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATION	BATAVIA	1866	4521436	22-Feb-08 15:15:05	STANDARD	APPROVED
985	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:30:00	5088087	CHEFS PRODUCE	DALLAS	972	4948820	22-Feb-08 15:15:13	STANDARD	APPROVED
986	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 14:30:11	5088088	CHEFS PRODUCE		972	4948820	22-Feb-08 15:25:21	STANDARD	APPROVED
987	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:04:10	5088089	CORPORATE EXPRESS		1888	6643311	22-Feb-08 15:25:34	STANDARD	APPROVED
988	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:13:38	5088090	DEMCO INC		1888	3294728	22-Feb-08 15:25:41	STANDARD	APPROVED
989	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:13:54	5088091	COCA COLA BOTTLING CO	DALLAS-CANNED		4896202	22-Feb-08 15:35:48	STANDARD	APPROVED
990	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:14:49	5088092	CHEFS PRODUCE		972	4948820	22-Feb-08 15:35:56	STANDARD	APPROVED
991	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:30:05	5088093	SCHOOL SPECIALTY INC		1877	4647196	22-Feb-08 15:35:58	STANDARD	APPROVED
992	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:33:26	5088094	CORPORATE EXPRESS		1888	6643311	22-Feb-08 15:45:05	STANDARD	APPROVED
993	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:33:26	5088095	CORPORATE EXPRESS		1888	6643311	22-Feb-08 15:45:20	STANDARD	APPROVED
994	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:46:14	5088096	CORPORATE EXPRESS	A Research of the Articles	1888	6643311	22-Feb-08 15:55:43	STANDARD	APPROVED
995	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:46:14	5088097	CORPORATE EXPRESS		1888	6643311	22-Feb-08 15:55:47	STANDARD	APPROVED
996	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:52:18	5088098	CORPORATE EXPRESS	A REAL PARTY OF A REAL	1888	6643311	22-Feb-08 16:05:27	STANDARD	APPROVED
997	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:52:18	5088099	CORPORATE EXPRESS		1888	6643311	22-Feb-08 16:05:31	STANDARD	APPROVED
998	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 15:59:48	5088100	SCHOOL SPECIALTY INC	2. Association 2. (2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2	1877	4647196	22-Feb-08 16:05:31	STANDARD	APPROVED
						1888			STANDARD	APPROVED
1999	22-Feb-2008	22-Feb-08 16:00:04	5088101	CORPORATE EXPRESS	ARLINGTON	1000	6643311	22-Feb-08 16:15:51	STANDARD	APPROVED





Vendor Mailing Labels

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	Vendor Name	Address Line1	Address Line2	City	State	Zip	Phone Number
1	ADVANCE SALES & MARKETIN	1801 ROYAL LN	STE 1012	DALLAS	TX	75229	214 722 2534
2	ALPHA FOODS CO	8209 DUNLAP ST	1	HOUSTON	TX	77074-0000	713 778 3019
3	APANI SOUTHWEST INC	5401 N 1ST		ABILENE	TX	79603-0000	325 690 1550
4	B AND B BEVERAGES	PO BOX 8398	2	FT WORTH	TX	76124-0398	817 299 9988
5	BARTUSH SCHNITZIUS CO	PO BOX 396		LEWISVILLE	TX	75067-0000	214 219 1270
6	BASIC AMERICAN FOODS	2999 OAK RD		WALNUT CREEK	CA	94596-0000	214 625 0593







Workbook Query Stats

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		Vorkbooks & Worksheets		neets are the most popular. y users within a month. The ' Worksheet Usage' item cou statistics recorded.
Page Items: : Year. : • Workbook Name	2008 - Month: Jan - Date Worksheet Last Ran	Worksheet Usage	Time taken to run Worksheet HH:MM:SS	No of Queries
GISD PA Budget vs	31-JAN-2008	22	00:00:01	350
Actual - 12.03.07	31-3/14 2000	100 C	00.00.01	
Food Service Rev and Exp	31-JAN-2008	21	00:00:26	224
GISD Min-max Numbers	31-JAN-2008	18	00:00:03	145
Diann's Costing Report	25-JAN-2008	12	00:00:31	64
skgDiann's Costing Report	28-JAN-2008	8	00:00:13	15
Workbook1	24-JAN-2008		00:03:08	17
Due To Due From	30-JAN-2008	7	00:00:08	B
RM Costing Suspense Revised Jun-07	25-JAN-2008	6	00:00:13	20
Contract Renewal & Expiration Date Report 2	31-JAN-2008	5	00:00:17	77
OAB Monthly Vendor Deductions Report Individual Plans NPA	29-JAN-2008		00:01:51	129
Vendor Mailing Labels	29-JAN-2008		00:00:00	27
GISD Costing by Position	25-JAN-2008	4	00:00:01	28
OAB Monthly Vendor Deductions Report	31-JAN-2008		00:02:15	88

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Workbook Queried by Users

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-	ear: 2008 ▼ : Month: Jan ▼ he Wol >: Workbook Name	Date Worksheet	Worksheet Usage	Time taken running Worksheet HH MM:SS	No of Queries
APARSON	Food Service Payroll Analysis	29-JAN-2008	3	00:00:03	18
	GISD Oracle Apps Users-ExEmployees	24-JAN-2008	1	00:00:02	1
ASLOUGH	GISD New Hire by Payroll Date	25-JAN-2008	3	00:00:01	4
	OAB - COBRA Notification - Termination	24-JAN-2008	1	00:05:48	7
	remmanyn				1854
	OAB - Coverage Change Report - Termination	22-JAN-2008	1	00:03:47	1.0
	OAB - Coverage Change Report -	22-JAN-2008 25-JAN-2008	1	00:03:47	6
	OAB - Coverage Change Report - Termination OAB - Initial COBRA				6 123
ALLEN	OAB - Coverage Change Report - Termination OAB - Initial COBRA Notification OAB Monthly Vendor Deductions Report	25-JAN-2008	1	00:00:09	123 120
ALLEN	OAB - Coverage Change Report - Termination OAB - Initial COBRA Notification OAB Monthly Vendor Deductions Report Individual Plans NPA GISD PA Budget vs	25-JAN-2008 29-JAN-2008	1	00:00:09	

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Agenda

- Overview
- Organizational Needs
- Implementation Considerations
- Sample Reports
- Tips and FAQ's
- Q&A









- How current is the data?
 - Every time you enter a workbook or press the Refresh button, the database is queried and new information is retrieved.
- I need to see data that is not in a folder, can I still report on this information?
 - Any field on a form is stored in the database and can be made available in Discoverer. The folders may need to be added through the Admin. Edition.





- My report is slow, how can I make it faster?
 - Try using conditions to narrow your search. Also, a Discoverer Administrator may be able to modify your query and/or create summary tables.
- Use Discoverer to answer specific questions
 - How many Purchase Orders in October?
 - What invoices have been paid?
 - Which deposit has cleared the bank?
- Sheet | Edit Sheet
- Conditions are the most utilized feature





- Use Date Hierarchies
- Develop Queries With Few Filters, i.e. Limit Items in the "WHERE" Clause
- Use Discoverer to Retrieve Data, Format in Excel
- Disable Unnecessary Business Areas
- Learn the Major Tables In Your Business Area
- Experiment and Practice!!







- Additional Training Resources
 - Online Manuals and Help
 - Oracle Education 2 Day Class for Users, 3 for Admin
 - Oracle TechNet
 - Oracle Application Users Group (OAUG)
 - Oracle Press: Oracle Discoverer 10g Handbook







Questions??

- 10g Upgrade
- Performance



