



TO :- VMS champions

SUBJECT: -VMS update March 2010

Welcome to this edition of OpenVMS update March 2010. In this edition, we have lot of interesting information to share with all of you. Please read on.

1. Time Sensitive:-

- a. The TUDs in America in April 2010 has many registrations until now. Please do register if you have not yet done it!

Register at <http://www.tinyurl.com/OpenVMS-TUD> . We will be very happy to see you there!

HP acknowledges the support for these events from our ISV partners www.sciinc.com and www.nemonixengineering.com.

- b. If you are going to be in Germany in the last week of April, please do not miss the hp TECHNOLOGY@WORK symposium in Frankfurt from 27th to 29th April. It is HP's biggest event in Europe. From OpenVMS engineering we will have the following sessions:-
 - i. **speaker session** :- OpenVMS 8.4 and New Integrity servers – Will cover 8.4 features and New Integrity servers support with OpenVMS
 - ii. **lab session**: will cover provisioning OpenVMS as a Guest on New Integrity servers. The session will be interactive with the participants creating 3 OpenVMS Guest VM instances on a BL860c and BL860c i2. The lab will also involve forming a cluster of these 6 instances.
 - iii. **demo session**: This will involve demonstrating Cluster over IP feature through a Video which will be run in demo theater.

Register now for [HP TECHNOLOGY@WORK COMMUNITY](http://hp.com/technology@work)

- c. HPTF is announced for 2010. It will be in Las Vegas from June 21 to 24 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Register now at www.hptechnologyforum.com
- d. Please click and give us your feedback on the OpenVMS. This feedback is sought from OpenVMS customers. We want to hear you. [OpenVMS Customer Survey](http://hp.com/openvms/customer-survey)
- e. OpenVMS boot camp : Watch out for more details at <http://www.connect-community.org/?page=OVMSBootcampHome>

2. OpenVMS Engineering update :-

a. Please see [Shobha Benakatti's message](#) and [Lorraine Bartlett's message](#) to the OpenVMS community that was published during the month of February by Connect as it was declared the OpenVMS month.

b. **The OpenVMS team is happy to announce the availability of HP Operations Manager Agents v8.6 on OpenVMS**

HP Operations Manager Agent for OpenVMS allows integrating OpenVMS systems into the HP Operations Manager environment, in order to establish a comprehensive end-to-end management solution. HP Operations Manager Agent for OpenVMS, are installed on managed OpenVMS systems and provide remote intelligence for collecting, aggregating, and monitoring information from a variety of information sources.

HP Operations Manager HTTPS Agent software provides highly secure communication between Operations Manager Server and their managed nodes

HTTPS-based communication provides major advantages:

- Simple management through firewalls with configurable, single-port, secures communication using open HTTPS-based communication techniques. Restrict outside access to dedicated HTTP proxies and reduce port usage by multiplexing over HTTP proxies.
- Out-of-the-box Internet Secure Communication using SSL/PKI encryption with server and client certificates for authentication.
- Communication is based on standard Web technologies (HTTP, SOAP, Proxies, SSL etc.), available in every environment today, and familiar to every IT administrator.
- Message format based on XML and SOAP used for message security from the Operations Manager HTTPS Agent to the Operations Manager Server.
- IP independence/dynamic IP (DHCP). Managed nodes can be identified by their unique OvCoreID and not necessarily by their IP addresses.

HP Operations Manager Agents v8.6 on OpenVMS is a major release on OpenVMS platform since the last ECO1 release in June 2009 and is supported on OpenVMS Alpha Version 7.3-2,8.2 & 8.3 and OpenVMS Integrity servers Version 8.2-1,8.3 & 8.3-1H1

Key features of HP Operations Manager Agents v8.6 on OpenVMS :

- Remote installation of Agents from OMU
- Automatic deployment of certificates
- Requesting certificates from managed node using OVCERT utility
- Auto up gradation of HTTPS Agents
- New Tools & Utilities (opcqchk, opcdfchk)

- Dynamic libraries for L-core components (This has a direct improvement on image size by 50%)
- New version of Operations Agents C API support
- Utility to check server readiness for OpenVMS Operations Manager Agents v8.6 (Pre-requisite check)
- Utility to discover Operations Manager Server's current state for OpenVMS Operations Manager Agents.
- Single release for Alpha & Integrity Servers with platform selection during installation/remove.
- Automatic platform registration.

The kit would be made available shortly at

http://h71000.www7.hp.com/openvms/products/openvms_ovo_agent/index_https.html

Currently the kit is made available on request to OpenVMS Engineering or Field Support channels.

- c. **The OpenVMS 8.4 Field Test (FT) Update** :- the OpenVMS FT was announced to customers and partners on 16-Nov-09. About a 150 customers and partners signed up for the FT before the launch with about 70 joining the Field Test later bringing to total to 220! The FT is offered on the Alpha and the Itanium platforms.

The first week saw a whopping 144 downloads from the FT website. By the end of January there were over 250 downloads which made OpenVMS 8.4 Field Test the biggest ever in the history of OpenVMS. The Field Test kits were updated early February with over 100 downloads of the updated kits till date.

One of the key features supported in OpenVMS 8.4 is the ability to configure OpenVMS as a guest Operating System in a HP Integrity VM (HPVM) environment on the Integrity platform. This feature is also under Field Test and has over 25 customers involved.

The feedback from customers and partners has been excellent. Field Test survey announced just a few days back has received quick responses from about 40+ key customers and partners who have expressed great satisfaction with the quality and new features offered in OpenVMS 8.4.

- d. **RTR v5.2** was available for order a few months ago. To know more about it, here's the link to RTR v5.2: <http://www.hp.com/products1/rtr>

3. Partner Page :-

- a. AdaCore, a leading supplier of Ada development tools and support services, announces the latest major release of its GNAT Pro Ada development environment. The product incorporates performance improvements and a variety of enhancements, many based on customer feedback, and it offers the first implementation of new Ada 2012 features. New GNAT Pro 6.3 features include: Support for 64-bit code generation on Windows
Support for Windows 7 Improvements to a number of tools, including:
Pretty printer (gnatpp)
Coding standard verifier (GNATcheck)
Stack size analyzer (GNATstack)
Other tool enhancements: Unused dispatching subprogram elimination (gnatelim) More flexible project handling More efficient gnatmake and gprbuild C and C++ binding generation Compiler and debugger enhancements, including:
Many additional warnings
More flexible enabling/disabling of warnings Faster Unbounded_String implementation Removal of redundant run-time checks Support for Ada 2012 conditional expressions Code generation (speed and size) improvements More compact debugging information Improved interfacing with C++

GNAT Pro 6.3 also includes a new version of the GNAT Programming Studio (GPS) IDE, GPS 4.4.1, and an improved download interface in AdaCore's GNAT Tracker support tool.

About GNAT Pro : The GNAT Pro development environment, available on more platforms than any other Ada toolset, is a full-featured, multi-language development environment complete with libraries, bindings and a range of supplementary tools. It provides a natural solution for organizations that need to create reliable, efficient, and maintainable code. GNAT Pro implements all three versions of the Ada language standard – Ada 83, Ada 95, and Ada 2005 – and the latest version of GNAT Pro implements some of the new features in Ada 2012. GNAT Pro is based on the widely used GCC technology and is backed by rapid and expert support service.

- b. Minisoft recently started shipping new versions of our eFORMz, eDirect, and DataDirect products for VMS.

eFORMz a comprehensive electronic forms and document management solution available for Windows, Linux, AIX, IBM iSeries (AS/400), SUN, and Hewlett Packard computer systems. Use eFORMz to replace pre-printed forms. Create Packing Lists, Collates, Shipping Labels, Invoices, Purchase Orders, Checks, Gift Certificates, 1099's, W-2's, and more!

Easily add corporate logos, secure signatures, barcodes, and special fonts. As an eFORMz user you will never have to purchase pre-printed forms again, find space to store them, or waste time aligning and loading them into a printer!

eDirect allows eFORMz documents to be faxed or emailed. Use eDirect to actively manage your customer relationships. Easily maintain customer email lists. Securely email order acknowledgements, shipping notifications, special offers, customer surveys, and back order notifications in full color high quality HTML or PDF formats. Go paperless and save money by eliminating postage and printing costs.

DataDirect gives eFORMz users the capability to populate forms directly from SQL, Oracle, DB2, Sybase, Informix, Image, Eloquence and Progress databases. Use DataDirect to extract customer shipping address information including courier tracking information and automatically incorporate this information into an email or printed form. Whether the task is to add an email address to an invoice, using our standard Table or SQL Look-up function or to apply direct changes to your database based upon criteria with your report file, DataDirect gives you the flexibility and power to enhance your business forms. For more information write to :- email – sales@minisoft.com and visit www.minisoft.com

4. Customers :-

- a. The **University's** Centre for IT Services (CITS) called on Maklee Engineering (<http://www.maklee.com>) to analyze and tune the NTU Enterprise Oracle Database for enhanced concurrency load. Please read the customer story below. Very interesting!
[Maklee's tuning service earns top grades for leading Singapore university](#)

Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is ranked among the top 20 technology universities in the world. With staff numbering 2,500 from over 40 countries and approximately 28,000 students, NTU is a powerhouse of research and innovation on a 200-hectare garden campus in south-west Singapore.

The University's Centre for IT Services (CITS) called on Maklee Engineering (<http://www.maklee.com>) to analyze and tune the NTU Enterprise Oracle Database for enhanced concurrency load.

NTU Enterprise Oracle Database is the heart of the university's databases, housing most of the data for Student, Human Resource and Finance applications. The application suite is comprised of in-house built, outsource built and turnkey applications, based on Microsoft .NET, Oracle mod_PLSQL and Oracle Forms/Reports technology.

The backend Oracle database server runs OpenVMS on HP Superdome Integrity Servers in a cluster environment for high availability. The Oracle database uses 10g RAC. Clients connect to front-end application servers which connect to the database servers.

In terms of performance and scaling, workload peaks typically occur at the beginning of the study semesters in January and August, when students register for courses. The system was unable to handle the high workload, and, as a result, the number of concurrent users for course registration had to be limited to a maximum of 200.

The Maklee team spent a week onsite analyzing baseline data from the current system. Then, the team tuned the operating system and the Oracle database environment, in addition to conducting analysis and tuning of the top SQL statements.

The changes implemented by Maklee achieved extraordinary results – load tests of post-graduate course registration demonstrated that the system and database can now handle more than 1200 concurrent users. This represents a six-fold increase in the system's performance capabilities.

In addition, Maklee reviewed NTU's backup and recovery process. In the past, a full database export was performed every night, taking approximately 6 hours to complete. Maklee Engineering took charge of the problem, and tuned the EXPDP datapump parameters. Following Maklee's intervention, the full database, including all tables, is exported every night in less than 2 hours.

To find out what Maklee can achieve for your organization, please contact info@maklee.com

Big thanks to all of you who contributed to this edition of the OpenVMS update. Keep the information coming and keep smiling!

To unsubscribe write into:- OpenVMS.programs@hp.com

Thanks and Warm Regards,

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Read the Gartner report on OpenVMS: [Best Practices: Migration Planning for Alpha Server Users](#)

