

Gregory Melle's Oracle, SQL and PL/SQL Experience

Oracle Corporation is the designer and vendor of the Oracle database management system. Many large corporations and government departments have standardised on the Oracle database. Communication with the DBMS is commonly done using Oracle's PL/SQL language extension of SQL to create stored procedures, functions and triggers. I was introduced to SQL using DB2 on the IBM AS/400. My most recent SQL experience was in 2010.

I am also familiar with the Microsoft Access version of SQL. In one of my Y2K conversion jobs I used this SQL version to maintain and join the information from numerous Access tables. In late 2003 I did several months work with 3Log Systems based in Richmond, BC. They used Delphi and Microsoft SQL Server. I helped update, maintain and install their software which tracks the purchasing and weighing of pulp-mill logs and chips. I travelled to Maine twice for a major software installation.

I first used Oracle SQL in early 1999. I attended two introductory Oracle Education PL/SQL courses at the Oracle Education Center in San Jose, California. I then passed the appropriate exams.

I attended the 1999 Oracle OpenWorld conference in Los Angeles and the 2000 conference in San Francisco. At both of these events I attended many seminars and training sessions.

From early 1999 to early 2000 I worked as a contract employee at the LifeScan division of Johnson & Johnson. (LifeScan manufactures blood glucose monitors for diabetics). I worked on the inventory and planning of software changes for the Year 2000. I did some design work using ERWIN from Platinum Software. I did database development using Microsoft Access, Oracle 7.0 and Delphi 5.0.

In July 2000, I started a Delphi/Oracle software contract in Fremont, California. The end-client was New United Motors Manufacturing Inc. 'NUMMI' is a joint venture of Toyota and General Motors. I developed and implemented software for major new model changeovers. This contract was completed in March 2002.

I used Borland Delphi and Oracle PL/SQL to develop some powerful and effective screens and reports. These managed interactions with imbedded software that controls automated assembly lines. I created components and programmed some error-proof user interfaces.

I learned some Toyota management concepts for continuous improvement. I did some programming in VAX VMS Pro C to handle job scheduling. My software was used in the manufacture of all Toyota Tacoma trucks and Pontiac Vibe cars. It controlled the sorting of newly painted vehicle bodies before they enter the primary assembly line. Another of my software applications enabled automatic just-in-time ordering and shipping of Tacoma truck frames.

My 2005 Oracle employment involved helping in the structure conversion and version update of a large Oracle database. This was a four-month contract at BC's Liquor Distribution Branch. I made changes to the Delphi batch supply-chain applications. I used TOAD development tools to write scripts and convert PL/SQL procedures.

In July 2006 I returned to the BCLDB on a six month contract. They are implementing some new sales data ETL and inventory analysis applications. I used TOAD to prepare, test, debug, modify and document a front-end software implementation. I studied the tuning of Oracle PL/SQL and SQL code and I put these new skills to good practical use.

In November 2007 I moved to Edmonton for a contract with a client of Finney-Taylor. The client was converting some old poorly documented applications to FDA and American Department of Defence standards. The development involved recent versions of Delphi and Oracle. I worked there three months.

In 2009 to 2010, I did some Delphi/Oracle program maintenance for a financial software supplier based in New Jersey. I also completed an Athabasca University course in Database Management which includes some SQL programming and database design.

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