

Release Bulletin

DirectCONNECT™ for Oracle Release 10.2 for Digital OpenVMS Alpha

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1. Product Summary

Enclosed is DirectCONNECT for Oracle release 10.2, which is compatible with Digital OpenVMS Alpha 6.1.

2. Technical Support

Each Sybase® installation that has purchased a support contract has one or more designated people who are authorized to contact Sybase Technical Support. If you have any questions about this installation or need assistance during the installation process, please have a designated person contact Sybase Technical Support.

Please contact the distributor from which your software was purchased if you do not know how to contact Sybase Technical Support.

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3. Documentation Updates and Clarifications

The following updates and clarifications do not appear in any other documentation.

3.1. OmniCONNECT EBF Level

If you are using DirectCONNECT for Oracle with OmniCONNECT™, you must request the latest OmniCONNECT EBF from Technical Support. The EBF level must be at least 6802 to assure all functionality.

3.2. Oracle OCI Version

DirectCONNECT for Oracle is pre-linked with Oracle OCI libraries version 7.1.3.2.

3.3. File Permissions Set to Allow Access by “sybase”

Files that are accessed by DirectCONNECT for Oracle must allow access by the “sybase” user in order for DirectCONNECT for Oracle to operate successfully. If permissions are incorrect, an error message will display.

For example, the HOSTS file used by SQL*Net must be readable by the “sybase” user, or the following error displays:

```
Msg -6105, Level 16, State 1
Server 'server_name'
Error while trying to retrieve text for error ORA-nnnnn
```

Use the DCL set protection command to change permissions, if necessary.

4. Highlighted Known Problems

Please check the SPR list in the *install* directory on the distribution media for a detailed description of known problems.

4.1. "Spawn of Child Process Failed" Error Message

This error may be generated by the `dcparent` process if it is unable to create a child process on behalf of a client. This message means that the VMS `spawn` function has failed with the printed error code.

A spawn failure generally means one of the following problems:

- The VMS system limit of maximum number of processes has been exceeded
- Insufficient `Bytlim` quota
- Insufficient `JTquota` quota

4.2. Default Character Set

If the default character set for DirectCONNECT for Oracle does not match that of OmniCONNECT, and a `writetext` is issued to insert text, the text field will not be converted as expected. For the `us_english` language this should not be a problem, as the normal printing characters are the same in the supported character sets. For other languages this may pose a problem. The workaround is to make sure that OmniCONNECT has the same default character set as DirectCONNECT for Oracle. For performance reasons it is always best to use the same character set.

4.3. Oracle 7 Requires `V$VERSION` Oracle System Table

A `select` against an Oracle table where a column equals a string (`select ... where col1='abc'`) may return incorrect results if all of the following conditions exist:

- The Oracle datatype is of type `char`
- The Oracle version is V7
- The `V$VERSION` Oracle system table is missing
- OmniCONNECT is used to send the query

DirectCONNECT for Oracle determines which version of Oracle it is accessing based on the existence of a `V$VERSION` Oracle system table.

If the table exists, DirectCONNECT for Oracle reads the `banner` field and loads the global variable `@@oracle_version` with the Oracle version string. If the table does not exist, DirectCONNECT for Oracle

assumes it is accessing Oracle V6 and loads the global variable `@@oracle_version` accordingly.

A workaround is to create a `V$VERSION` Oracle system table and insert an Oracle version string. For example:

```
>create table V$VERSION (banner varchar(64))
>go
>insert into V$VERSION values
>('Oracle7 Server Release 7.0.15.4.0 - Production Release')
>go
```