

DBFlash for Oracle

DBFlash automates industry best-practice Wait-Event analysis, identifying performance improvements with the biggest impact on the databases and users who depend on them.

Scalpel or Pocket Knife?
Some database utilities are like a fancy pocketknife. Lots of tools in one package, but none are really the best for any job.



DBFlash is like a scalpel in the hands of a surgeon. It is sharp, precise, and designed for excellence at its specific task. When it comes to equipping expert DBAs for a tough task, give them a tool that brings out the best of their skills and knowledge.



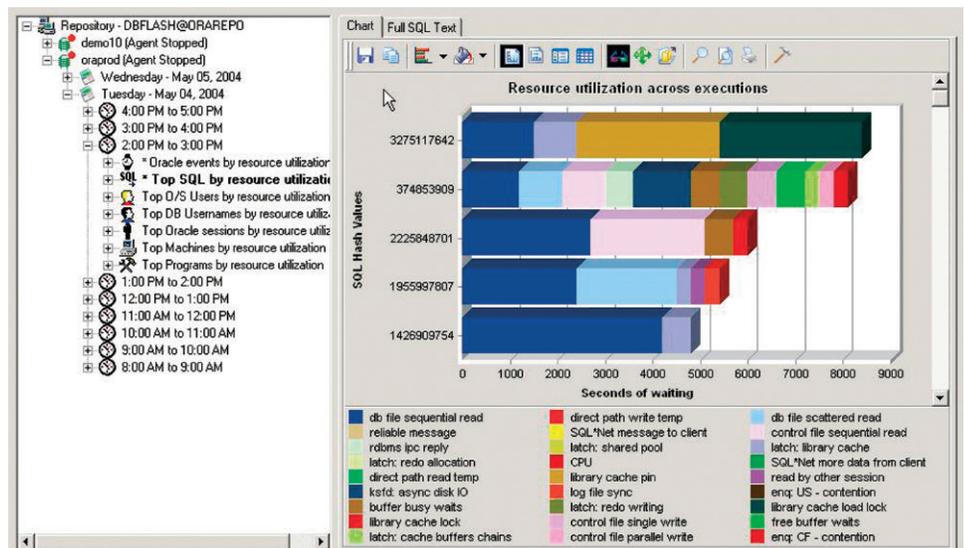
Confio DBFlash for Oracle is a 24/7 database performance tool that identifies true sources of Oracle waits allowing users to isolate and eliminate root causes of application problems. With granularity down to each SQL statement and Oracle resource, DBFlash is sharp and focused on resolving the most difficult database bottlenecks, a precision tool in expert DBA hands.

DBFlash Cuts Oracle Costs and Accelerates Development

Organizations depending on Oracle™ databases use DBFlash to get the most from their investment and expense budget. DBFlash allows them to:

- Improve database performance—by 100% or more—by eliminating the bottlenecks consuming critical resources and delaying all applications.
- Improve application user response and demonstrate compliance with performance and availability Service Level Agreements.
- “Do More with Less”—Support more database instances, applications, servers and increasing transaction volumes without increasing the size of the DBA team.
- Accelerate development, test and production deployment of enterprise applications both internal developments and licensed applications.

Both transaction and data warehouse environments, ranging on servers from 2 to 24 CPU, have demonstrated ROI up to 800% by using DBFlash across their application development and DBA teams.



Resource Mapping Methodology

RMM is Confio's approach to industry best-practice Wait-Time analysis. RMM encompasses three principles designed to ensure that users reach the right conclusions about where, why and how to focus optimization efforts.

1. SQL View:

Track every SQL statement individually, and isolate the impact of each SQL on database resources. System-wide averages hide the real bottlenecks, while each SQL tells a unique story.

2. Time View:

Wait time is the true measure of performance, while statistics counters are misleading. RMM displays SQL wait time for each resource, so the DBA understands the real impact of each performance bottleneck.

3. Full View:

Only a small subset of the 900 Oracle wait events are accessible through V\$ views resulting in system blind spots. RMM gives the complete picture of database performance, including impact of network and hardware delays on overall system operation.

How Does DBFlash Work?

DBFlash monitors every SQL statement processed by the Oracle database, and calculates the wait time at every Oracle resource. It captures this data offline in the DBFlash repository. Then, it provides an intuitive graphical interface that sorts and presents the data allowing users to quickly see the SQLs and events with highest wait times. From the interface, users can drill down to isolate the impact of specific applications, users, sessions and servers.

Underlying DBFlash is the Resource Mapping Methodology, (RMM), a comprehensive approach to performance analysis built on the Wait-Time analysis techniques. Wait based analysis in the past has required complex scripts and trace files. Confio RMM automates this industry best practice for the entire DBA and development team.

Who Benefits from DBFlash?

DBFlash is a precise and specialized tool designed to give skilled DBAs and SQL application developers the tool they need to excel at their task.

Application Developers

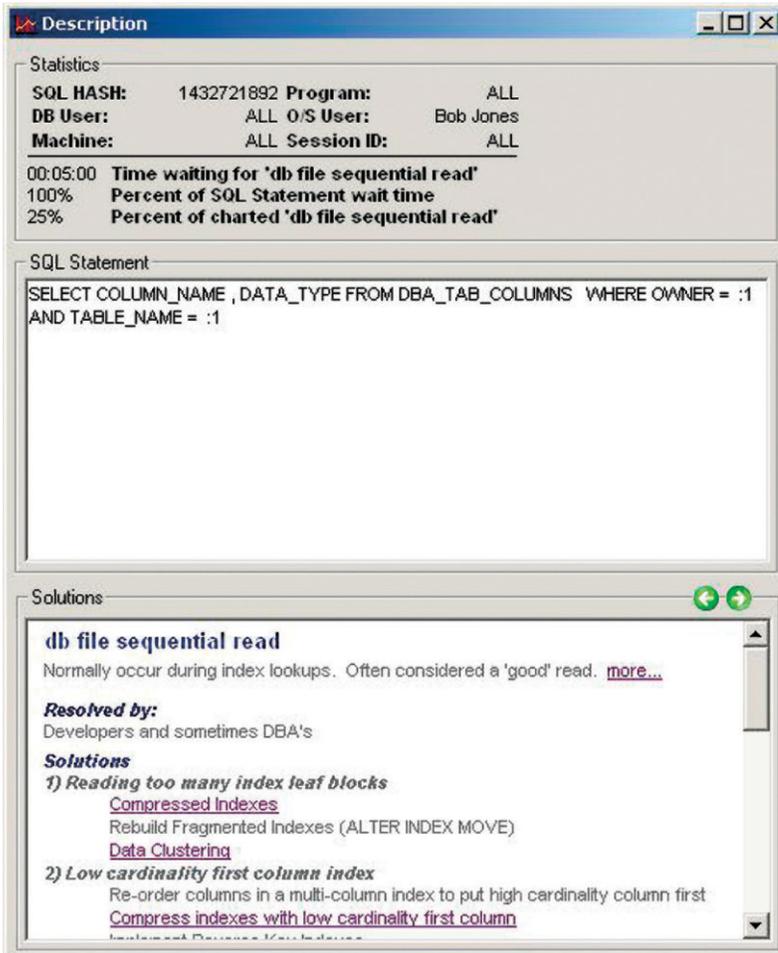
Developers and application owners creating customized business applications cut schedule and risk during development by using DBFlash to expose and optimize how a new application will perform before placing it into production usage.

DBAs

DBAs responsible for maintaining peak database performance and availability use DBFlash to eliminate problems faster and operate their systems with more expert insight. DBFlash makes the DBA more effective in tuning the database, and more responsive to customer demands.

IT Management

IT Management uses DBFlash to reduce the capital and ongoing costs of operating enterprise IT infrastructure. In addition, DBFlash allows managers to identify the correct human resource to assign to every database performance problem and to focus only on biggest business impact.



How is DBFlash Used?

The technical staff uses DBFlash to perform four key functions:

Get the most from Existing Database Servers

Minimize server and CPU counts by identifying resources that are causing you to buy unnecessary hardware. Reduce the number of CPUs to support the same transaction load by more than 35%, eliminating the need to spend more on hardware, licenses and project deployment expenses when volume grows.

Select the Right Projects

Be more effective and have a bigger impact by choosing the optimization projects linked to the biggest benefits. DBFlash quantifies the response time advantage from optimizing each SQL statement so you know which projects to focus on and where to assign resources. DBFlash eliminates the trial and error approach to performance optimization enabling the team to put their efforts where they will be noticed.

Standardize Expert Knowledge Across the Team

Built into DBFlash is standardized Oracle terminology and training. For application developers unfamiliar

with specific Oracle terms, or DBAs new to wait event analysis, DBFlash presents a standard method of identifying, quantifying and communicating performance problems across the organization. Rather than forcing dependence on outside experts, DBFlash gives the entire team a standardized terminology for problem solving. The result is more consistent results, greater internal skills, and reduced outside consulting costs.

DBFlash Provides Expert Guidance to Resolve Bottlenecks

Description windows identify the SQL statement, quantify the wait time, specify who best resolves the problem, and lists specific solutions.

Assign the Right People

DBFlash is a project management tool that identifies the set of human resources best suited to solving a problem. DBA, developer, system administrator, or network technician—all have different areas of responsibility. DBFlash tells managers where problems can be assigned so that they can be solved.

Technical Specifications

Installation Requirements

*Client: Microsoft Windows 2000 or XP. Oracle SQL*Plus client 8.1.7 or higher.*

Repository

Requires Oracle 8.1.7 or higher.

Repository database must be a separate Oracle instance from any monitored database; separate server platform is recommended.

Monitored Database

Supports Oracle versions 8, 8i, 9i, and 10g (8.0.4 or higher). DBFlash supports monitoring on all Oracle supported platforms including Unix, Linux, Windows, and mainframe.

Installation and configuration to monitor first database requires approximately 30 minutes.

Contact Confio Software

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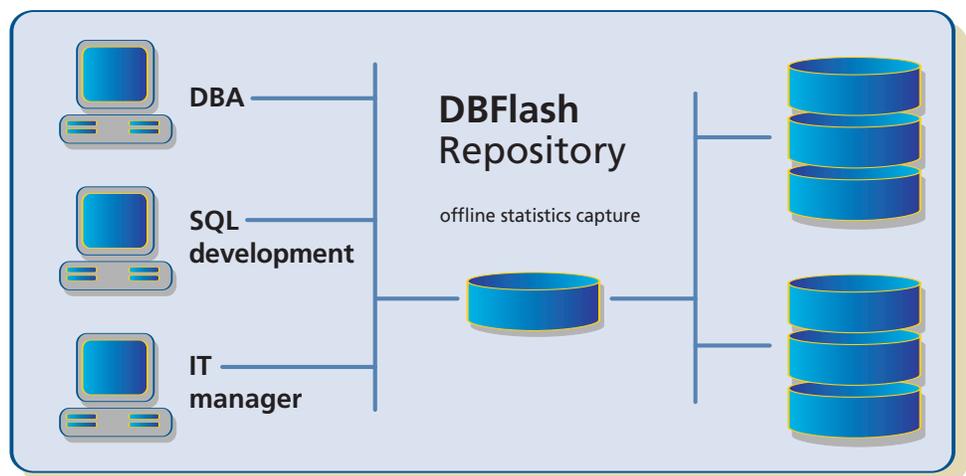
DBFlash Architecture

DBFlash consists of three components:

Client Software: Installed across multiple desktops, the Client allows viewing and analysis of captured performance data. DBFlash licenses permit unlimited client distribution, making it accessible to even infrequent users.

Repository Database: A database instance dedicated to capture of real-time monitored data from multiple Monitored servers, the Repository is the only server on which there is a DBFlash software installation.

Monitored Databases: No software is installed on the Monitored systems. DBFlash agents monitor each production database from the Repository across the network, imposing the lowest overhead of any monitoring tool.



Advantages of DBFlash Architecture

- Nothing to install on production database systems while still delivering full monitoring functionality.
- Upgrade Client or Repository from a single install, no separate maintenance for multiple production systems.
- Full privileges or View-only mode allows wide exposure to DBAs and developers without enabling all users to make configuration changes.
- Easy-to-use, easy-to-train. No multi-day training and integration session required as is common with complex suites.