



Intelligent Problem Resolution Saves Oracle Applications Site Days with Space Manager™

Anoka County, one of the largest local governments in Minnesota, experienced system growth rates of 10 percent per pay period after adding Oracle HR and Payroll to their Oracle Financials Applications. Quest Software's Space Manager™ enabled them to accommodate this rapid growth by evaluating and correcting space-related problems in minutes rather than days.

The Challenge

Oracle Financials was running successfully on a Sun Solaris E-3000 under the care of Dave Reinking and his fellow DBAs for Anoka County, Minnesota. An increase in the number of employees, however, necessitated implementation of Oracle Human Resources and Payroll modules.

Shortly after going live with HR and Payroll, the organization's rapid growth and benefit fluctuations caused the system to grow at approximately 10 percent every pay period. Soon, that growth began to take a toll on Anoka County's database.

"I wasn't having a lot of problems with Financials; it's been a very stable product. The difficulty came when we went live with Human Resources and Payroll," said Reinking.

Reinking often spent days just identifying the problematic database objects. He eventually discovered that due to the heavy levels INSERT and UPDATE activity, his database was suffering from "index stagnation" and poor datafile usages for the data tablespaces. To remedy these issues, Reinking began to write lengthy and often highly complex reorganization scripts. However, this manual approach proved error-prone and time-consuming, so Reinking launched a comprehensive evaluation effort to find a solution.

The Quest Solution

Quest Software's Space Manager™ emerged as the clear choice among a variety of database reorganization products. According to Reinking, "It was by far the easiest to install and had the most intuitive interface to use. It possessed all of the requirements that we needed."

One of the most appealing product features for Reinking was Space Manager's visual interface. "I could look at a tablespace map and visually determine if problems existed. Space Manager had a much better interface than the other products we evaluated. We also preferred Space Manager's scheduling feature, which was much easier to use than the competitors."

Space Manager simplifies the diagnostics process. When trying to manage tablespaces, the team at Anoka County used to spend days examining problematic objects. With Space Manager, they can perform the same evaluation within five or ten minutes.

The way reorganization jobs are generated has also changed for Reinking. "When we experienced space-related problems with our Oracle Applications system, I wanted something quick and easy to use. Space Manager's script generation is fantastic; it's fast and the reorganization scripts run flawlessly every time. I used to spend days trying to evaluate the various objects that were causing problems within our Oracle databases. With Space Manager, the same evaluation takes only five or ten minutes."

Overview

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- Dave Reinking,
DBA
Anoka County

Headquarters

Anoka County, Minnesota

Services

Local government

Critical Needs

Solution to accommodate rapid growth by evaluating and correcting space-related problems

Solution

Space Manager™

Results

- Manage database growth rates of ten percent per pay period
- Eliminated need to perform index or data table space rebuilds for areas that have caused problems

The Bottom Line

Before Space Manager, Anoka County ran into errors when they performed reorganizations or rebuilds. Every script rebuild written contained syntax errors. Space Manager has caused those problems to vanish and gives Anoka County the ability to generate scripts and set parameters quickly and efficiently.

Reinking has found that Space Manager's reporting features help him eliminate future space-related crises. "The exception reports and capacity planning graphs help me evaluate the problematic indexes and tables. I can even compare what happened this week versus last week or the week before. That gives me the ability to stabilize those objects before they get out of hand."

With Space Manager, Anoka County does not need to perform index or data table space rebuilds for areas that have caused problems. They are able to analyze set parameters for problem segments to effectively control the growth within the table space as a whole.

Space Manager's ease-of-use, excellent reorganization scripts and capacity planning functions have enabled Reinking to manage database growth rates of ten percent per pay period, freeing him to focus on his primary responsibilities. "I'm not shooting in the dark anymore," said Reinking. "What used to take me two or three days now only takes me an hour."

About Anoka County

With thousands of employees, Anoka County is a local government and is one of the largest counties in Minnesota. Anoka County plans to evaluate other Quest Software solutions in the near future.

About Quest Software, Inc.

Quest Software, Inc. delivers innovative products that help organizations get more performance and productivity from their applications, databases and Windows infrastructure. Through a deep expertise in IT operations and a continued focus on what works best, Quest helps more than 18,000 customers worldwide meet higher expectations for enterprise IT. Quest Software can be found in offices around the globe and at www.quest.com