GLOBAL FINTECH ADOPTS EXADATA TO SUPPORT EXPANSION AND PERFORMANCE

The client overcomes unsatisfactory app and database performance and achieves a reliable daily processing SLA (service-level agreement) with Infolob's support.

Abstract

A consumer banking organization was struggling to meet its daily processing SLA due to growth in its customer base. As a result, the bank had to redirect resources into performance management at the application and database tier - at the expense of improving features and functionality. Despite this focused approach to addressing SLA issues, the rate of growth outpaced the capability of the existing infrastructure – until Infolob came in.

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Business Concerns

For hosting the bank's extremely critical database environments, Infolob recommended the implementation of Oracle's Exadata Database Machine. This recommendation was based on the bank's need for improved efficiency while conforming to the restrictions on making changes to the database or application. Part of the problem was also the banking applications' highly regulated nature. Any changes to the material could result in extensive and high-test system testing. Infolob was confident based on our extensive knowledge of the Exadata platform, and our past experience with similar-sized organizations. And also, because Exadata platform could alone generate the required increase in efficiency without the need to modify either the application or database environments.

Infolob's Intervention

As the claims being made regarding the capabilities of the Exadata platform were grand, Infolob felt it is necessary to start with performing a Proof of Value (POV) using the Exadata platform in place of the incumbent, IBM / AIX platform. This POV was a complete success, far exceeding the customer's expectations:

Requirements:

→ Batch execution must complete within 5 hours (the current system runtime was 17 hours).

→ Absolutely no material changes were to be made to the database.

Results:

→ Initial batch testing on Exadata completed in under 5 hours.

→ Infolob was then able to leverage two previously unused Oracle Database performance features which did not violate the bank's rules regarding material changes.

→ Additional feature implementation reduced the batch runtime to just under 3 hours.

→ Since no material changes were made, no regulated testing was required.

Business Outcomes

The Bank was able to seamlessly migrate its Oracle database from AIX to Exadata during a regular maintenance window. Following the migration and burn-in period, the bank was able to divert its performance management team's effort back to feature implementation. Since the workload on the new Exadata database system was reduced dramatically, additional databases were added to the new Exadata platform, which now allows for higher-density consolidation, a decrease in physical infrastructure footprint, and a doubling of the usable CPU count without an increase in license cost.

Note: Oracle on IBM provides 1 CPU per license. Whereas, on Linux, Oracle allows for 2 CPUs per license.

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