Oracle Heterogeneous Services

How to configure the ODBC gateway

SKILLBUILDERS

What are the HS Services?

- The ability to access data in non-Oracle databases
- Run SQL and procedures
  - Translates SQL to the correct dialect
  - Manages data dictionary translations
  - Performs appropriate data type casting
- Requires a DLL that understands the remote service
  - Purchase from Oracle or a third party
  - Or use ODBC

Understanding the flow is critical

- SQL -> a database link
- DBlink -> a tnsnames.ora entry
- tnsnames -> a listener and a SID
- Listener -> ODBC Data Source Name
- DSN -> init%.ora file
- init file -> database driver and remote address

Demo: create an ODBC gateway

- Oracle on Windows -> MySQL on Linux
- Six steps:
  - 1. Install the ODBC driver for MySQL
  - 2. Create the ODBC data source
  - 3. Configure the gateway initialization parameter file
  - 4. Configure the listener
  - 5. Configure the Oracle database tnsnames.ora
  - 6. Create a DB link from Oracle database to MySQL Server

To conclude

- Configuring HS gateways can be awkward
  - Character sets, datatypes, performance…
  - There are usually solutions or work-arounds
- You may need to buy licensed drivers
  - From Oracle or from third parties
  - Extras functionality
- But the F.O.C. ODBC drivers will often be adequate