

# Oracle Developer Server: Deploying Internet Applications with Oracle JInitiator

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## ORACLE JINITIATOR

Oracle JInitiator is the Oracle version of the JavaSoft Java Plug-in. The Oracle JInitiator delivers a supportable ERP-ready platform robust enough to deploy Oracle Applications on the Web. Please refer to EIT-DE-SOD-001 *Oracle Developer Server: Client Platform Support, Statement of Direction* - available for download from <http://technet.oracle.com> for more information.

## KEY BENEFITS OF ORACLE JINITIATOR

Oracle JInitiator delivers key benefits over and above the JavaSoft Java Plug-in to ensure it is robust enough to fully support the ERP requirements of Oracle Applications. As does the JavaSoft Java Plug-in, Oracle JInitiator delivers a browser independent, easily installable Java Runtime Environment (JRE). For additional details on the Javasoft Java Plug-in refer to <http://www.javasoft.com>. Oracle JInitiator delivers the following unique benefits to enable support of Oracle Applications:

- **Fully certified and supported Java Runtime Environment:** Oracle JInitiator, is a fully certified and supported client platform for Oracle Developer Server applications. The Oracle JInitiator includes a Java Runtime Environment that passes the entire range of certification tests for Oracle Developer Server applications.
- **Gold Support:** Oracle JInitiator is the only certified client platform in the Gold support category.
- **JAR file caching:** Oracle JInitiator reduces network traffic and application startup time by storing Java archive files (JAR) persistently on the local client machine. Upon request, if a JAR file already exists on the client, it is loaded it from the local store. If not, it is automatically retrieved and stored locally for future use. This caching technology uses standard web server technology to ensure the currency of the JAR files.
- **Applet Instance Caching:** Oracle JInitiator improves application performance within a browser session by applet instance caching. When a user navigates from the current page in the browser, the running Oracle Developer Server application is cached. When the user comes back to the page containing the applet, the applet that was running is automatically fully restored including all of the data entered in the application.
- **Incremental File Download:** Oracle JInitiator reduces application startup time by downloading JAR files incrementally. This enables applications to download smaller Jar files containing only those crucial elements required to start the application. Additional Java class files are automatically retrieved on an as needed basis.

- **Automatic Java Security Configuration:** The installation process used by Oracle JInitiator automatically configures the client machine to run Oracle Developer Server applications in a trusted mode. All of the identities associated with running Oracle Developer Server based applications are created at installation time and the associated digital certificates are imported. Running the Oracle Developer Java applet in a trusted mode enables Oracle Developer Server applications to have access to resources normally prohibited by the Java sandbox model, such as print services.

Oracle Corporation is partnering with JavaSoft to fold back the enhancements noted above into the JavaSoft Java Plug-in.

## **USING ORACLE JINITIATOR**

Oracle JInitiator uses standard browser mechanisms, Plug-ins and ActiveX Objects, to supplement the Java Runtime Environment (JRE) to provide a certified platform for Oracle Developer Server applications.

Oracle JInitiator is easily deployed and maintained from centrally managed servers by placing the Oracle JInitiator on the server and modifying the HTML page that launches the application. When a Web browser first encounters an HTML page that specifies the use of Oracle JInitiator, it automatically triggers installation from the centralized server.

### **Using Oracle JInitiator with Netscape Navigator**

Oracle JInitiator leverages the Netscape Navigator plug-in architecture to run inside Navigator in much the same manner as users can run QuickTime movies or Shockwave animations. Using the HTML <EMBED> tag, Web application developers can specify plug-ins to be run as part of a Web page.

When using Oracle JInitiator with Netscape Navigator, it uses the native two-step bootstrap mechanism of the browser itself. The two-step process prompts the user to download the Oracle JInitiator and then install it. Next time the browser tries to load the JInitiator it will seamlessly load and run it from the local cached version, requiring no user intervention at all.

### **Using Oracle JInitiator with Microsoft Internet Explorer**

Oracle JInitiator leverages the elaborate extension mechanisms provided by Microsoft Internet Explorer to download and cache ActiveX controls and COM components. Using the HTML <OBJECT> tag, Web application developers can run these controls and components as part of a Web page.

When using Oracle JInitiator with Microsoft Internet Explorer, it uses the native ActiveX mechanism to seamlessly download and install the Oracle JInitiator automatically. The user is initially prompted to accept the install with a VeriSign digital signature by Oracle Corporation, and once accepted the install is completed automatically. Next time the browser tries to load the JInitiator it will seamlessly load and run it from the local disk, requiring no user intervention.

## **Managing Oracle JInitiator**

Updates to Oracle JInitiator can be managed from a centralized server, by placing the new version on the server and updating the Oracle JInitiator version tags in the HTML file. When an end user requests the updated HTML file, the browser will recognize that a new plug-in needs to be downloaded and will automatically download the new version from the server.

## **CONCLUSION**

Oracle JInitiator delivers a supportable ERP-ready platform robust enough to deploy Oracle Applications on the Web. Coupled with Oracle Developer Server, Oracle JInitiator allows companies to realize one of the most significant benefits of Internet and browser based applications - a reduction in costs of deploying and maintaining applications.

## **ADDITIONAL READING**

The following additional papers on related topics can be downloaded from the Oracle Technology Network <http://technet.oracle.com>.

EIT-DE-SOD-001 Oracle Developer Server: Client Platform Support, Statement of Direction

EIT-DE-TN-001 Oracle Developer Server 6.0 Client Platforms: JavaSoft JDK 1.1.7B and Java Plug-in 1.1.2 for Sun Solaris, Technical Note

EIT-DE-TN-002 Oracle Developer Server 6.0 Client Platforms: Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.0, Technical Note

EIT-JI-FAQ-001 Oracle JInitiator, Technical FAQ



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