



Oracle Introduces Observability and Management Cloud Platform for Multicloud and On-premises Environments

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IDC's Quick Take

On October 6, 2020 Oracle announced the new [Oracle Cloud Observability and Management Platform](#), available in Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI). Employing unified, open standard telemetry across Oracle and third-party clouds and data center resources, the company's goal is to provide customers with unified full stack visibility and control across heterogeneous environments. The move is aimed to appeal to Oracle customers with these environments as well as representing expanded opportunities for Oracle to market to new prospects in rapidly growing monitoring and management market segments.

Product Announcement Highlights

The Oracle Cloud Observability and Management Platform release marks the culmination of an ongoing effort to converge monitoring and analytics services provided by the Oracle Management Cloud (OMC) with Gen 2 OCI, which provides the underpinning for the company's Autonomous Database services. The announcement features six new Oracle Observability and Management Cloud Platform services, some of which represented expanded and rebranded OMC services.

The Oracle Cloud Observability and Management Platform provides OCI management console users with built in native monitoring and analytics for Oracle and a wide range of third party cloud and on-premises infrastructure, providing added functionality while integrating with existing OCI management console services (such as Monitoring, Notifications, Events, Functions, Streaming and OS Management) which are focused on monitoring and control of OCI services. The combined platform provides cross technology, cross-cloud full stack visibility unified telemetry, data exchange and applied machine learning. The six new services supported by the Platform at this time are:

- **Logging** Centralized management, search and correlation for all log types and sources including: audit, infrastructure, database, and applications. Support for fluentd and data normalization to CNCF CloudEvents 1.0 specification.
- **Logging Analytics:** Log data analytics and topology-aware exploration. Visualize, query and analyze log patterns and outliers; ML algorithms find anomalies, patterns and data relationships in real time. Log parsers for a wide variety of commercial and open-source technology.
- **Application Performance Monitoring:** End-user and server monitoring; synthetic monitoring; Distributed tracing: Capture and analysis of traces, compatible with OpenTracing and OpenMetrics
- **Operations Insights:** Capacity planning; analyze and forecast database resource usage; proactively identify and mitigate SQL issues such as slow degradations in performance.

- **Database Management:** Oracle Database fleet monitoring and management across on-premises and clouds; Real-time SQL monitoring.
- **Service Connector Hub:** Support integrations, visibility and security to manage the movement of data between Oracle services and third-party observability tools; take near real-time actions.

All services are cloud-delivered and may be subscribed to individually or in combinations.

IDC's Point of View

Observability is fast becoming one of the most critical enablers of digital infrastructure operations. Moving beyond traditional reactive log monitoring and dashboarding, observability allows ITOPs, CloudOps, DevOps, and SRE teams to quickly correlate, analyze and take action on infrastructure and applications performance metrics and traces including cost data, end user experience data and time series data such as Prometheus from container and cloud platforms.

The ongoing pandemic is increasing the urgency for supporting online, remote, and mobile access to critical business and health services. IT organizations are being hard-pressed to assure that users – especially remote workers - receive fast, reliable, and secure on-line experiences regardless of spikes, heavy load increases and unpredictable demand patterns. Observability satisfies the need to know what's going on? where? why? and what is likely to happen in the future. Observability includes monitoring and visualizing what is happening across the IT landscape, including infrastructure, applications and end-users. It has become one of today's hottest topics, and is a necessity for IT operations, DevOps teams, developers, and business service owners.

The introduction of the Oracle Cloud Observability and Management Platform demonstrates the company's recognition that Enterprises are committed to connected cloud architectures that span multiple vendors, physical locations and infrastructure architectures. By simplifying and standardizing the way Oracle Cloud customers can view and take action across the full, connected stacks, Oracle increases its overall relevancy to the Enterprise cloud conversation, beyond database services.

Of particular interest is the use of embedded analytics and Machine Learning for anomaly detection, clustering, correlation and forecasting to streamline and simplify trouble shooting and operations. Oracle is likely to focus on marketing these offerings back to the current installed base, many of which can benefit from integrations and the core platform capabilities. It is also likely that Oracle will attempt to sell to new logos, given the strong growth trends in markets associated with observability including log management and analytics, applications performance management, traces, and modern applications management. It should be noted that these markets are replete with specialized tools, have many incumbents and are hotly contested, so attempts at penetrating them will be challenging, but provide an opportunity for an integrated full-stack solution, such as Oracle's.

In addition, Oracle will have to train their partner and sales channels to improve their understanding of the value proposition of each of the individual solutions, as well as the broader platform story. Oracle's ability to compete effectively hinges on a number of factors, including customer awareness of these offerings, the ability to attach these solutions into deals, and the ability of each solution to offer significantly higher value than what a customer might already be using to solve the respective business or technical challenges.

IT Executive Recommendations

- IDC expects Oracle will continue to expand services available on the platform over time. Customers continue to be able to purchase OMC services on a stand-alone basis, however, IDC expects most will move to the new platform relatively quickly as it will be the focal point of observability innovation going forward.
- Existing OMC customers should take steps to evaluate how to fully leverage this new platform. More broadly, Oracle Cloud customers that want to simplify their cloud management portfolio should evaluate how the new platform may help to streamline operations and help increase operations team productivity.
- Large Oracle Cloud customers should consider these services as they fit for supporting Oracle Cloud visibility and evaluate how broad the heterogeneous support and integrations extend into other clouds and non-Oracle platforms.
- Non-Oracle customers can also benefit from the Oracle Observability and Management Platform's holistic view across multi-cloud environments, simplifying CloudOps. As such, they should consider Oracle's approach.

IT Ops, DevOps and Cloud Ops teams will continue to face rapidly increasing complexity as clouds become more connected across public, private and edge locations even as mission critical workloads need to be run side by side across bare metal, VM and container based footprints. Observability platforms that unify and normalize data across many sources and provide powerful AI/ML analytics will be critical to powering rapid root cause and automated remediation and operational services. Customers should recognize this is an emerging space, often seeded by multiple, incompatible application performance management point tools. Enterprise teams need to increasingly focus on monitoring and observability data sources, analytics profiles and integrations with proactive programmable automation and standardized policy-based governance to provide a holistic view across on-premises and multi-cloud environments. Without these types of integrated tools, it will be virtually impossible to keep up with the rate of change and the constant scaling and balancing of workloads across clouds. Oracle Cloud Observability and Management Platform is a solution designed to address these issues.

Subscriptions Covered:

[Enterprise System Management Software](#), [Multicloud Management Software](#)

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