



There's No Substitute For Experience

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OUR AGILITY MAKES US NUMBER

www.rdc.co.za

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DATABASE SECURITY:

Is it worth the risk.

Database security concerns the use of a broad range of information security controls to protect databases (potentially including the data, the database applications or stored functions, the database systems, the database servers and the associated network links) against compromises of their confidentiality, integrity and availability. It involves various types or categories of controls, such as technical, procedural/administrative and physical.

Database security is a specialist topic within the broader realms of computer security, information security and risk management.

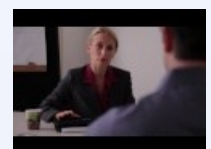
X MARKS THE SPOT:



GIVE AND TAKE



THE GOLDEN PARACHUTTE



Where did this journey start!

Managing a resource pool at a large financial institution the importance of Security in the DATABASE environment was non-negotiable. Doing things the way we use to was no longer an option, we had to improve to make sure we stay ahead of the fast moving industry.

⇒ **The mounting pressure to comply to specific industry acts and standards.**

With the POPI acts signed into law all accountability lies with “THE RESPONSIBLE PARTY”, meaning a public or private body which alone or in conjunction with others, determines the purpose of and means for processing personal information.

⇒ **Yearly Database Audits, Internal and External.**

Auditing a 200 plus database environment is extremely laborious and take up valuable resource time, keeping that environment in check is even more challenging. How do we simplify this process?

⇒ **The time and effort going into ensuring your environment is secure—all the time.**

Having highly paid senior resources spending their time on 2 or 3 audits a year was not ideal. This was costing us unnecessary workload resulting in hours building up that can be used elsewhere.

Through innovative thinking and huge focus on Standardization and Automation the RDC team developed a product set that turned out to be a game changer for all parties involved.

PROJECT ALCATRAZ was born.

- ◆ External Audit firms was using Alcatraz to run comparisons against their tools.
- ◆ The Risk Department is now 100% reliant on Alcatraz to manage the entire Oracle Environment.
- ◆ DBA Team use Alcatraz to compliment daily Health Checks.



BEING ACCOUNTABLE!

As a Database Company with a proven track record when it comes to delivering a world class service, it only makes sense to be leaders when it comes to database AUDITING, whether this is Performance Auditing, Security Auditing or License Management Auditing.

For majority of RDC clients we are seen as the Database experts on site as well as the custodians of the Oracle Environment, with that comes the huge responsibility and accountability of making sure we do the right thing, on time and every time.

Therefore we pride ourselves of the fact that we are innovation leaders when it comes to developing tools that can assist the laborious process of ensuring large environments comply to best demonstrated practices. With products like Alcatraz and RADAR RDC has elevated itself from all competitors to be a niche player in this market..



**Achieving a
GREEN AUDIT
two years in a
row.**

LOCK IT DOWN:

This in house developed SECURITY SCANNER TOOL gives you a birds eye view of all Security related findings across your entire environment with the click of a button. With the HTML format it makes it easy to view and the comment and recommendation fields can link to your company security policy. Currently used across the entire Oracle production environment to make sure we comply to the Database policy and will alert of any findings.

What Recipe did we use?

1. Research and review all database security standards and best practices for Oracle.
2. Choose a hardening guideline. After careful consideration we decided to use the CIS (Center for Internet Security) and "Project Lockdown" guidelines.
3. Once a decision was made on the guideline to use, we leveraged the technical skills within the Oracle team to develop the scanner.
4. A single database repository was created to collect security information for the entire Oracle environment at the client.
5. Secure scripts were then devel-

oped for data collection and aggregation using Perl and the Oracle DBI.

6. Once we had a repository with the security information, we needed an interface to access the data. Oracle Apex was chosen to develop the Web based GUI interface.
7. To provide consolidated security information to the Auditors, VBScript was used to create a report that can generate an html report on demand.
8. Finally preheat to 220°C and you got yourself a scanner.

Some of the main drivers behind this specific project includes...

- ◆ HUGE value add for the client, putting their security interest first and assist with a clean audit report.
- ◆ Release more senior resources to focus on more innovative tasks.
- ◆ To ensure that the Oracle databases adheres to security standards, and to protect against vulnerabilities.

EYE ON SECURITY

- ⇒ **Innovation**
- ⇒ **Automation**
- ⇒ **Deliver on Budget**
- ⇒ **Deliver on Quality**
- ⇒ **Deliver on Time**





IS ALCATRAZ ENOUGH TO PROTECT ME, AND BE COMPLAINT?

The answer is simple — NO.

Using one single tool to ensure POPI compliance will almost be impossible as all areas touching your data needs to be covered.

⇒ Do you copy Production data to your NON-Production environments, is the data MASKED?

⇒ Oracle Data Masking

⇒ Audit Data Access and Movement.

⇒ Do you encrypt your Production data and backups?

⇒ Network Encryption

⇒ Tablespace Encryption

⇒ How secure is your backups.

⇒ Who can see your Application Tables, maybe your DBA, well he is not suppose to?

⇒ Database Vault

Other Products available:

Developed by RDC

Patch Management: Finding it challenging to keep up to date with the amount of Oracle Security patches. Ask your SDM to tell you more about our in-house developed PATCH MANAGEMENT menu system.

RADAR: Managing your Oracle License GRANT can be an extremely complex exercise with huge financial implications. Let RDC assist you by removing this headache and streamline your license control and management. As simple as the click of a button.

RDC can also advise and assist with any of the full range of security products offered by Oracle.

CALL TODAY
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