



Contents

Foreword	xvii
Acknowledgments	xix
Introduction	xxi
1 Data Guard Architecture	1
Data Guard Overview	2
What Is Redo?	2
Redo Transport Services	5
Synchronous Redo Transport	5
Asynchronous Redo Transport	7
Redo Transport Compression	9
Automatic Gap Resolution	9
Apply Services	11
Redo Apply (Physical Standby)	12
SQL Apply (Logical Standby)	15
Can't Decide? Then Use Both!	17
Data Guard Protection Modes	18
Maximum Performance	18
Maximum Availability	18
Maximum Protection	19
Role Management Services	19
Switchover	20
Failover	21
Data Guard Management	24
Active Standby Databases	26
Offload Read-Only Queries and Reporting	26
Offload Backups	27
Testing	27
Data Guard and the Maximum Availability Architecture	29
Conclusion	29

2	Implementing Oracle Data Guard	31
	Plan Before You Implement	32
	Determining Your Requirements	33
	Understanding the Configuration Options	35
	Relating the RPO and RTO to the Protection Mode	62
	Creating a Physical Standby Database	63
	Choosing Your Interface	63
	Before You Start	64
	Using Oracle Enterprise Manager Grid Control	65
	The Power User Method	78
	Creating a Logical Standby	98
	Data Guard and Oracle Real Application Clusters	105
	Conclusion	106
3	Redo Processing	107
	Important Concepts of Oracle Recovery	108
	ACID Properties	108
	Oracle Recovery	109
	Life of a Transaction	111
	Nologging Operations	111
	The Components of a Physical Standby	114
	Real-time Apply	117
	Scaling and Tuning Data Guard Apply Recovery	118
	Parallel Media Recovery	119
	Tools and Views for Monitoring Physical Standby Recovery	120
	Physical Standby Corruption Detection	124
	11g New Data Protection Changes	124
	Data Protection and Checking on a Physical Standby	125
	Conclusion	126
4	Logical Standby	127
	Characterizing the Dataset Available at the Logical Standby	129
	Characterizing the Dataset Replicated from the Primary Database	129
	Protecting Replicated Tables on a Logical Standby	134
	Customizing Your Logical Standby Database (or Creating a Local Dataset at the Logical Standby)	141
	Understanding the Operational Aspects of a Logical Standby	145
	Looking Inside SQL Apply	145
	Tuning SQL Apply	157
	Some Rules of Thumb	158
	Determining Whether SQL Apply Is Lagging	158
	Determining Whether SQL Apply Is the Bottleneck	159
	Determining Which SQL Apply Component Is the Bottleneck	159

Troubleshooting SQL Apply	164
Understanding Restarts in SQL Apply	164
Troubleshooting Stopped SQL Apply	167
Conclusion	170
5 Implementing Oracle Data Guard Broker	171
Overview of the Data Guard Broker	172
The Broker Process Model	173
The Broker Process Flow	174
The Broker Configuration Files	176
The Broker CLI	178
Getting Started with the Broker	179
Configuring the Broker Parameters	179
The Broker and Oracle Net Services	183
RAC and the Broker	187
Connecting to the Broker	190
Managing Data Guard with the Broker	193
Creating and Enabling a Broker Configuration	193
Changing the Broker Configuration Properties	200
Changing the State of a Database	211
Changing the Protection Mode	212
Monitoring Data Guard Using the Broker	214
Removing the Broker	216
Conclusion	217
6 Oracle Enterprise Manager Grid Control Integration	219
Accessing the Data Guard Features	220
Configuring Data Guard Broker with OEM Grid Control	221
Verify Configuration and Adding Standby Redo Logs	224
Viewing Metrics	226
Modifying Metrics	227
Viewing the Alert Log File	228
Enabling Flashback Database	230
Reviewing Performance	231
Changing Protection Modes	234
Editing Standby Database Properties	236
Performing a Switchover	238
Performing a Manual Failover	240
Fast-Start Failover	243
Creating a Logical Standby	244
Managing Active Standby	250
Managing Snapshot Standby	250
Removing a Standby Database from Broker Control	250
Keeping an Eye on Availability	252
Conclusion	255

7	Monitoring Data Guard Implementations	257
	Monitoring the Data Guard Environment	258
	Mining the Alert Log File (PS+LS)	259
	Gathering Statistical Information from Archive Log History (PS+LS)	264
	Detecting Archive Log Gaps (PS+LS)	266
	Identifying Delays in Redo Transport (PS)	268
	Monitoring Archive Log Destinations (PS+LS)	269
	Examining Apply Rate and Active Rate (PS)	271
	Reviewing Transport and Apply Lag (PS+LS)	272
	Determining the Current Time on the Standby Database (PS)	273
	Reporting the Status of Managed Recovery Process (PS)	275
	Data Guard Menu Utility	276
	Reviewing the Current Data Guard Environment	277
	Checking the Password File (PS+LS)	278
	Checking for Nologging Activities (PS+LS)	279
	Looking at Archivelog Mode and Destinations (PS+LS)	282
	Checking Standby File Management (PS)	284
	Revealing Errors in the Data Guard Status View (PS)	284
	Logical Standby Data Guard Menu	285
	Conclusion	297
8	Switchover and Failover	299
	Introduction to Role Transition	300
	Switchover	300
	Failover	302
	Switchover vs. Failover	309
	Flashback Technologies and Data Guard	309
	Performing a Switchover	311
	Configuration Completeness Check	311
	Preparatory Checks	311
	Preprocessing Steps	314
	Switching over to a Physical Standby	315
	Switching over to a Logical Standby	320
	Using the Broker or Grid Control to Switchover	323
	Switchover Health Check	324
	Performing a Failover	324
	Failing over to a Physical Standby	326
	Failing over to a Logical Standby	328
	Bringing Back the Old Primary	329
	Using the Broker or Grid Control to Failover	334
	Automatic Failover	335
	A Final Word on Multiple Standbys	348
	Conclusion	348

9	Active Data Guard	349
	Physical Standby—Open Read-Only	350
	Why Read-Only?	351
	The Downside of Read-Only or Read-Write Mode	352
	Snapshot Standby for QA and Test Environments	353
	Read Write Standby in Oracle Database 10g	353
	Snapshot Standbys in Oracle Database 11g	357
	Real Application Testing	364
	Database Replay	365
	SQL Performance Analyzer	370
	Active Data Guard	371
	Configuring Active Data Guard	374
	Conclusion	376
10	Automating Site and Client Failover	377
	Defining the Problem	378
	Complete Site Failover	378
	Partial Site Failover	379
	The Nitty Gritty	379
	Connection Load Balancing and Connect Time Failover	380
	Outbound Connect Timeout	381
	Transparent Application Failover	382
	Fast Application Notification	384
	The DB_ROLE_CHANGE System Event	386
	Implementing Client Failover	387
	Complete Site Failover Configuration	387
	Conclusion	394
11	Minimizing Planned Downtime Using Data Guard Switchover	395
	Overview of Planned Migration	396
	Leveraging Data Guard Switchover for Planned Migration	397
	Case 1—New Data Center	397
	Case 2—Move to ASM	397
	Performing a Database Rolling Upgrade Using Data Guard	398
	Leveraging Rolling Upgrades Using SQL Apply	399
	Rolling Upgrades Using Transient Logical Standby	402
	Conclusion	408
12	Backup and Recovery Considerations	409
	RMAN Basics	410
	RMAN Integration with Data Guard	411
	Block Change Tracking Support	411
	Control File Management	412
	Resynchronizing the RMAN Catalog	412

RMAN Configuration in Data Guard	412
Example Configuration for a Primary Database	414
Example Configuration for a Backup Standby Database	415
Example Configuration for Other Physical Standby Databases	415
Backup Strategies	415
Backup Scenarios	417
Backup Database Not Backed Up	417
Full Backups on Primary	417
Backup as Copy	419
Image Copy Rolled Forward	420
Standby Database Creation	423
Backups on a Standby Database	423
Archive Backups	426
General Recovery Strategies	426
Media Failure	426
Block Corruption	426
User Errors	429
Recovery Scenarios	430
Loss of a Datafile on a Primary Database	430
Loss of a Datafile on a Standby Database	431
Loss of Standby Controlfile	432
Loss of Primary Controlfile	432
Loss of an Online Redo Log File	432
Incomplete Recovery of the Primary Database	436
Recovering from a Dropped Table	437
Recover a Missing Datafile from a Backup Taken on the Standby	437
General Best Practices	440
Conclusion	441
13 Troubleshooting Data Guard	443
Diagnostic Information	444
Database Alert Logs	444
Observer Log Files	447
Data Guard Trace Files	447
Data Guard Broker Log Files and Tools	448
Dynamic Performance Views	449
Data Guard Configuration and Management Errors	450
Common Management Issues	450
Physical Standby Issues	456
Logical Standby Database Failures	459
Switchover Issues	461
Failover Issues	463
Data Guard Broker Issues	464
Errors Converting to a Snapshot Standby	468

Helpful Hints and Tips	468
Avoid Refreshing the Standby Control File	468
Avoid Using the NOLOGGING Clause	468
OMF—Copying Control File	469
Conclusion	470
14 Deployment Architectures	471
Manufacturing Company: HA Configuration	473
Utility Company: Zero Data Loss HA/DR	476
Retail Brokerage Firm: HA/DR with Zero Data Loss and Extended Geographic Separation	478
Government Agency: Protection from Multi-site Threats	480
Pharmaceutical Company: Centralized HA/DR and Data Distribution	483
Web Retailer: HA/DR with Reader-farm Scale Out	484
Insurance Company: Maximum Availability Architecture	486
Conclusion	488
A Data Guard vs. Array-based Remote Mirroring Solutions	491
The Basics	492
Topology	493
Performance	493
Reliability	494
Final Thoughts	495
 Index	 497