SAP BW 7.3 SP8: What's New?

SEAMLESS 2-WAY DATA INTEGRATION BETWEEN SAP BW AND HANA!

SAP HANA database GA offering for SAP BW instance has been embraced by several SAP BW customers. Recently, SAP released BW 7.3 SP8 with several new features that will enable SAP HANA and SAP BW data integration. Below is a list of must see features:

NEW FEATURES FOR CUSTOMERS RUNNING BW ON HANA DATABASE:

A – "NOT ACTIVE" DATA: With SAP BW 7.3 SP8 info providers running on HANA SPS5 database, all PSA tables and write-optimized DSOs are marked "not active" with no extra maintenance. For standalone HANA model dependant tables, the "not active" flag can be manually maintained. This "not active" feature enables optimum HANA memory usage thereby reducing TCO. Other transparent benefits include automatic memory management and better memory based sizing for HANA hardware

B – INTEROPERABILITY BETWEEN BW AND HANA: 1 – HANA models (calculation, analytical and attribute views) can be configured as data sources for BW info providers using enhanced ODP (operational data provider) to feed SAP BW info providers. This integration enables data replication of complex HANA models directly into BW to be used as data marts and for reporting from within BW

C – BW OPEN HUB DESTINATION FOR HANA TABLES: BW info provider data can be exported into an SAP HANA database table using the new BW Open Hub destination for SAP HANA. Delta extraction is fully supported for such data transformations!

D – BW VIRTUAL INFO PROVIDER FOR HANA MASTER DATA: HANA attribute views can be configured as virtual info provider within BW using the new BAPI (aka known as master data read class)

E – BW DSO INTEGRATION TO BO EXPLORER VIA HANA ANALYTICAL VIEW: HANA Analytical view can be configured to use BW DSO as a virtual data source within HANA which can be used directly within BO Explorer to enable creations of BO Explorer analytical views and rapid executive dashboards within BO Explorer!

NEW FEATURES FOR CUSTOMERS ON HANA AS A STANDALONE BI SOLUTION:

A – BW Open Hub Destination for BW Info set Query to HANA Tables: BW Infoset query can be configured as a source for BW Open Hub to replicate data into an SAP HANA table. The source for the Info Set query can be any type of Info Provider supported by BW Info Sets

B – General SAP BW 7.3 Enhancements: 1: Enhanced Data Flow Migration: The enhanced BW data flow migration tool now allows you to simulate the 3.x to 7.x data flow migration and compare results prior to actual migration. **2: New Data Flow Documentation Feature:** The new data flow documentation feature provides a "One-Click" option to quickly download BW data flow details (incl. meta-data and ABAP routines) to an easy to use HTML format.

KEY BENEFITS

HARDWARE FLEXIBILITY: Customers can now have a single HANA hardware that can be logically partitioned as 2 separate database instances: 1st HANA DB instance – to host an SAP HANA DB for SAP BW and 2nd HANA DB instance - to host a separate DB for standalone SAP HANA modeling

MODELLING USING BEST OF BOTH WORLDS (SAP BW AND SAP HANA): With SAP BW 7.3 SP8 it is now possible to have SAP BW (running on HANA DB **OR** any other relational DB) and have SAP HANA BI models co-exists as part of one SAP BI solution, thereby enabling a cost effective way to utilize expensive SAP HANA hardware resources only when data volume and functionality demands HANA resources

WHAT'S COOKING IN SP9

BW DSO BASED PLANNING: enhanced direct update DSO with full write-back support from planning interfaces, embedded calculations, copy down feature static values (non-aggregated values) and more…

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