## New Features Replication Agent<sup>™</sup> 12.6

Document ID: DC00503-01-1260-02

Last revised: September 2006

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## **Command for migrating Replication Agent**

You can use the Replication Agent<sup>TM</sup> ra\_migrate command to migrate the installed Replication Agent version to the current version.

## ra\_migrate

Description	Performs migration tasks (as necessary) between releases of Replication Agent.
Syntax	ra_migrate
Usage	• When you apply an EBF of the Replication Agent release, you may be required to run this command to upgrade to the latest version of the Replication Agent.
	• When ra_migrate is invoked, it migrates the installed Replication Agent version to the current version.
	• The ra_migrate command updates the <i>XLog system</i> table with the latest build version if the Replication Agent was previously initialized.

- This command does not support migration to an earlier version of Replication Agent.
- This command must be run in ADMIN mode.

# Commands for creating and removing replication definitions (Oracle only)

(This section and subsections apply to Oracle only.) Sybase has added a new feature for creating and removing replication definitions at Replication Server. This feature includes commands that allow replication definitions to be automatically created when tables or procedures are marked, and to be removed when they are unmarked.

### rs\_create\_repdef command

Description

Creates a replication definition at Replication Server® for a designated marked table or procedure, or for all marked tables and procedures.

Syntax	rs_create_repdef [all   TABLE_NA	ME]
Parameters	all A replication definition is created for all tables and procedures that are for replication.	
	<i>TABLE_NAME</i> A replication definition is created for the	hat table or procedure.
Usage	• When rs_create_repdef is invoked a replication definition is created f marked for replication.	and the parameter all or ALL is entered, for all tables or procedures that are
	• When rs_create_repdef is invoked that is marked for replication is ent for that table or procedure.	and the name of a table or procedure tered, a replication definition is created
	• For each table or procedure for whattempted, a result set is returned. definition name and status of the c created, the status will be created. from Replication Server or Rep	thich a replication definition of create is The result set contains the replication preate. If the replication definition was If an error occurred, an error message ation Agent will be returned.
	• The ltl_character_case configuration character case of the object names	on parameter setting determines the in the replication definition.
	• Replication definition names for ta followed by an alphanumeric value following examples.) All non-alph underscore and period are removed period (".") is converted to an under truncated, if necessary, to 24 charae characters.)	ables always begin with the prefix $ra$ , e and the replicate table name. (See the nanumeric characters except the d from the replicate table name. The erscore, and the resulting name is acters ( <i>repdef</i> names are limited to 30
	The following table identifies example to the following table identifies example to the following table to the following table to the following table to the following table t	mples of replicate names and their
	Table 1: Replicate names and their	resultant repdef names
	Table name	Replication definition name
	order\$req	ra\$0x794a_orderreq

orderreq	ra\$0x7952_orderreq
my.orderreq	ra\$0xa154my_orderreq

• The replication definition name for a procedure is the same name as the procedure.

## rs\_drop\_repdef command

Description	Drops a replication definition for a table or procedure at the Replication Server.
Syntax	rs_drop_repdef [ <i>TABLE_NAME</i> ]
Parameters	TABLE_NAME A replication definition is dropped for a table or procedure.
Usage	• When rs_drop_repdef is invoked, a replication definition for that table is dropped at the Replication Server.
	• For each table or procedure for which a replication definition is dropped, a result set is returned. The result set contains the table name or procedure name and the status of the drop. If the replication definition was dropped, the status will be "dropped." If an error occurred, an error message from Replication Server or Replication Agent is returned.
	• The ltl_character_case configuration parameter setting determines the character case of the object names in the replication definition.

## pdb\_auto\_create\_repdefs property

Description	Allows replication definitions to be automatically created and dropped at Replication Server for tables and procedures when they are marked and unmarked for replication.
Default	false
Values	true – Replication definitions are automatically created at the Replication Server when tables or procedures are marked.
	false – No replication definitions are created when tables or procedures are marked.
Comments	When this property is set to true:
	• The pdb_setreptable is invoked to mark a table or tables, and a replication definition is created at Replication Server for each table that is marked for replication.
	• The pdb_setrepproc is invoked to mark a procedure, and a replication definition is created at Replication Server for each procedure that is marked for replication.
	• The pdb_setreptable is invoked to unmark a table, and the replication definition is dropped at Replication Server for each table that is unmarked for replication.

- The pdb\_setrepproc is invoked to unmark a procedure or procedures, and a replication definition is dropped at Replication Server for each procedure that is unmarked for replication.
- The pdb\_xlog is initialized and table auto-marking is enabled, and a replication definition is created for each table that is marked for replication.
- Replication definition names for tables always begin with the prefix *ra*\$, followed by an alphanumeric value and the replicate table name. (See the following examples.) All non-alphanumeric characters except the underscore and period are removed from the replicate table name. The period (".") is converted to an underscore, and the resulting name is truncated, if necessary, to 24 characters, (*repdef* names are limited to 30 characters.)

The following table identifies examples of replicate names and their resultant *repdef* names.

Table name	Replication definition name
order\$req	ra\$0x794a_orderreq
orderreq	ra\$0x7952_orderreq
my.orderreq	ra\$0xa154_my_orderreq

#### Table 2: Replicate names and their resultant repdef names

• A replication definition name for a procedure is the same name as the procedure.

# Configuration parameter for automatically marking tables (Oracle only)

The configuration parameter pdb\_automark\_tables now determines whether or not the Replication Agent automatically marks user tables for replication. If the value is set to true, user tables are marked during initialization and DDL replication (when replication of DDL commands is enabled).

## pdb\_automark\_tables

	Determines if the Replication Agent automatically marks tables for replication during initialization or DDL replication (for Oracle only).
Default	false
Values	true – User tables are automatically marked during initialization or DDL replication.
	false – User tables are not automatically marked during initialization or DDL replication. They must always be marked using the pdb_setreptable command (default).
Comments	• The default value for pdb_automark_tables is set to false when a Replication Agent instance is created. In this default setting, tables are never automatically marked for replication. To start or implement automatic marking of tables, changed the configuration parameter to true. When set to true, all user tables (those whose owners are not contained in the <i>owner_filter_list</i> ) are marked for replication when the pdb_xlog command is executed with the init keyword. In addition, when replication of DDL commands is enabled (pdb_setrepddl setting is disabled by default), any create table command for a user table (those whose owners are not contained in the <i>owner_filter_list</i> ) are automatically marked for replication.
	• Automatic marking of new tables (those created in the primary database with the create table command) occurs only when replication of DDL commands is enabled (pdb_setrepddl is set to enable), and the table is a user table (those whose owners are not contained in the owner_filter_list), and pdb_automark_tables is set to true.
	• Tables are automatically unmarked for replication when a drop table command is issued at the primary database and the operation is recorded in the <i>redo</i> log, regardless of the settings of pdb_setrepddl or pdb_automark_tables. This is because a dropped table cannot be replicated from.
	• Automatic marking of user tables operates independently from manual marking of tables using the pdb_setreptable command. In other words, you can always mark or unmark individual tables or all tables for replication using the pdb_setreptable command, regardless of the setting of pdb_automark_tables.
	• If the value is set to false, user tables are never automatically marked; they must be explicitly marked using the pdb_setreptable command.

## **Marking Oracle Sequences for replication**

(This section and subsections apply only to Oracle.) Similar to the support for table and procedure replication, Oracle Sequences are individually marked for replication using the new Replication Agent pdb\_setrepseq command.

## pdb\_setrepseq command

Description	Returns the sequence replication marking status; marks specified sequence for replication; unmarks all marked sequences or a specified sequence; enables or disables replication for all marked sequences or a specified sequence.
Syntax	To return sequence replication marking status:
	pdb_setrepseq [sequence_name mark unmark enable disable]
	To unmark, enable, or disable all marked sequences:
	pdb_setrepseq all, {unmark[, force]  enable disable}
	To mark, unmark, enable, or disable a specified sequence:
	pdb_setrepseq sequence_name, {mark unmark[, force]  enable disable}
	To mark a specified sequence for replication with a replicated name:
	pdb_setrepseq sequence_name, repname, mark
Parameters	sequence_name
	The name of a user sequence in the primary database. The <i>sequence_name</i> option can be delimited with quote characters to specify the character case. If mixed character case (both uppercase and lowercase) is required, the name must be delimited. For example:
	"Sequence"
	The <i>sequence_name</i> parameter can be owner-qualified to include the primary sequence owner name, with each element separated by a period. For example:
	owner.sequence
	<b>Note</b> If you must use an object name case that does not match the setting of the ltl_character_case parameter, the object name must be delimited. If an object name contains any non-alphanumeric characters, such as spaces and periods, it must be delimited with quote characters. For example, "sequence name" or owner.

#### repname

The replicated name of the sequence to be updated at the replicate site, if desired to be different than the sequence name at the primary site. The *repname* option can be delimited with quote characters to specify character case. (See the previous description of the *sequence\_name* parameter for details.) By specifying a replicated name, sequence updates can be replicated to a sequence in the replicate database that has a different sequence name from the primary database.

The repname option can be owner-qualified to include the replicate sequence owner name, with each element separated by a period:

repowner.repname

#### all

A keyword that refers to all user sequences in the primary database. By using the all keyword, you can unmark all user sequences, or apply an enable or disable operation to all marked sequences.

#### mark

A keyword that refers to marking user sequences for replication.

unmark

A keyword that refers to unmarking user sequences for replication.

#### force

A keyword that refers to the unmark operation. When the force keyword follows the unmark keyword, the pdb\_setrepseq command immediately unmarks the specified sequence in the primary database, without first checking the enable status of the sequence. When the force keyword follows the unmark keyword and the all keyword, the pdb\_setrepseq command immediately removes replication marking from all marked sequences in the primary database, regardless of their enable status.

#### enable

A keyword that refers to enabling replication for marked sequences.

#### disable

A keyword that refers to disabling replication for marked sequences.

• When pdb\_setrepseq is invoked, its function is determined by the keywords and options you specify.

• When multiple keywords and options are specified, each must be separated by a comma. A blank space before or after a comma is optional. For example:

pdb\_setrepseq all, unmark, force

• When you specify a sequence in the pdb\_setrepseq command, you must use the name of a valid user sequence.

## **Understanding Oracle Sequence replication**

The following section describes Oracle Sequence replication.

#### Logging of Oracle Sequence information

Individual sequence changes are not logged in the Oracle database *log* file; however, changes to Oracle Sequences do impact (update) the Oracle sys.seq\$ table. These changes do not occur with each new sequence value generated. Instead, the sys.seq\$ table is updated periodically, based on sequence caching refresh activity or other system changes. The value stored in the sys.seq\$ table for a sequence is the "next" value to be assigned "after" the existing cache of values has been exhausted.

For example, a newly created sequence starts with a value of 1, increments by 1, and has a cache value of 20. (These are all default values and can be customized.) The value stored in the sys.seq\$ record for this new sequence is 21. This indicates that the "next" value to be used by the sequence, after the existing cache of 20 numbers is used, is 21. The record in sys.seq\$ does not change until the sequence value hits 21. At that time, Oracle will cache the next 20 values for the sequence, and the sys.seq\$ record will be updated to 41. It is this value (41), recorded in change to the sequences sys.seq\$ record, that will be used for replication. The key point is to recognize that not every individual sequence update is recorded in the log and therefore is not available for replication.

#### **Replicating sequence changes**

When a sequence is marked for replication, changes to that sequence against sys.seq\$ are captured and sent to Replication Server in the form of parameters passed to a procedure. The procedure (rs\_update\_sequence) must be installed at the standby site as part of system setup, as well as a function replication definition for that procedure. At the standby site, an implementation of rs\_update\_sequence will increment a same-named sequence until its value is equal to the value at the primary site. Scripts are provided with installation to create the rs\_update\_sequence stored procedure and function replication definition and are located as follows:

```
$SYBASE/RAX-12_6/scripts/
oracle_create_replicate_sequence_proc.sql
$SYBASE/RAX-12_6/scripts/
oracle_create_rs_sequence_repdef.sql
```

#### Performance considerations

Compared to the performance of incrementing a sequence at the primary database, particularly where sequence values are cached, the effort to increment the same sequence at the standby site may be less efficient. The stored procedure must dynamically determine the sequence to increment and must loop internally, incrementing the sequence until the primary value has been reached. The loop is required because there is no way to assign a specific value to a sequence.

Because the name of the sequence is passed as a parameter, Oracle cannot precompile the procedure for efficiency. With the addition of the looping activity required to properly increment the sequence, the performance of the solution may impact some environments where a large number of highly used sequences is the norm.

#### Sequence replication alternatives

If the performance of sequence replication is a concern, other alternatives to replication are available that support primary and standby use of the same sequence. These alternatives are currently suggested by Oracle and others interested in providing sequence coordination between multiple sites:

- Assuming the sequence is being used to generate primary key values, the sequence at each site can be concatenated with something unique to the site. For example, use a sequence number concatenated with the database name, site name, or something similar. This technique allows each site to maintain a unique "range" of sequence of numbers. If each site has a unique range, there is no value in sending (replicating) changes of one site's range to another site.
- Similar to concatenating, each site can obtain a different range of numbers by having different starting points, or increment values, for the same sequence. For example, the sequence at one site can start at 1 and increment by 2 to generate odd numbers (1, 3, 5), while the other site starts at 2 and generates even numbers (2, 4, 6). Again, each site would have a unique range and would avoid any need for replication.
- A third option is available to standby solutions, where the standby site is for read-only and does not access the sequence value until failover. Rather than continually replicating a sequence's value, the value of the sequence at the standby site can be updated as part of the failover tasks. After failover and before the standby allows connection to client applications, a script or procedure can query the last-used sequence value (based on the last table to use it for a primary key) and update or redefine the sequence once, based on that calculated value.

# Specifying the owner of a table in a replication definition

How you specify the owner of the table in a replication definition has changed from that described in the *Reference Manual*. Now, you must always use the owner keyword if you want to enable the SEND OWNER mode. When marking, if you do not specify the replicate owner, it will default to the primary owner.

In the following examples, the leading letter indicates either primary (p) or replicate (r):

• Example 1:

pdb\_setreptable ptable, rtable, mark, owner

The table in the replication definition will be:

powner.rtable

• Example 2:

pdb\_setreptable ptable, rowner.rtable, mark,owner The table in the replication definition will be:

rowner.rtable

• Example 3:

pdb\_setreptable ptable, rowner.rtable, mark

The table in the replication definition will not be owner-qualified:

rtable

## Support for Microsoft SQL Server 2005 JDBC driver

(For Microsoft SQL Server only) Replication Agent now supports the Microsoft SQL Server 2005 JDBC driver version 1.1 (released June 2006) along with the DataDirect SQL Server JDBC driver that is distributed with Replication Agent.

**Note** To replicate from Microsoft SQL Server 2005 you must use the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver. To replicate from Microsoft SQL Server 2000, Sybase recommends that you also use the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver instead of the DataDirect SQL Server JDBC driver that is distributed with Replication Agent.

If you want to continue to use the DataDirect SQL server JDBC driver, you must set the Replication Agent property named pds\_connection\_type to "MSMERJDBC" (without the quotes). For additional information, see the Replication Agent *Administration Guide*.

### Using the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC Driver

By default, after installing ESD #5 or later, the new Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server instances that you create are configured to use the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver. You can use this driver on both Windows and UNIX systems.

#### \* To use the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver

- 1 Retrieve the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver at http://msdn.microsoft.com/data/ref/jdbc/ (enter the URL all on one line), and install the JDBC driver on the same machine on which the Replication Agent is running or where Replication Agent can access it.
- 2 Before starting the Replication Agent, add the location of the JDBC driver to the CLASSPATH environment variable:
  - On UNIX, enter:

setenv CLASSPATH /path\_name/sqljdbc.jar:\$CLASSPATH

where *path\_name* is where you installed the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver.

• On Windows 2000 or 2003, go to Start | Settings | Control Panel | System | Environment, and add the following to the existing CLASSPATH environment variable, using the semicolon (;) as the path separator, or create the path in the User Variables panel by entering the following:

drive:\path\_name\sqljdbc.jar

where:

- *drive* is the drive letter
- *path\_name* is the name of the path where you installed the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver

Click Apply and then OK.

- 3 For an existing Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server instance to retrieve the new value for the CLASSPATH environment, do the following:
  - On UNIX, stop the Replication Agent instance, define the CLASSPATH as described in step #2, and then restart the instance.
  - On Windows, stop the Replication Agent, close the DOS window, define the CLASSPATH as described in step #2, open a new DOS window, and then restart the Replication Agent instance.
- 4 For an existing Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server instance, in ADMIN mode, configure the pds\_connection\_type to use the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver:

ra\_config pds\_connection\_type, MSSQLJDBC

Then stop and restart the existing instance.

**Note** For new instances of Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server that you create after applying ESD #5 or later, MSSQLJDBC is the default value.

5 In Replication Agent, configure the following properties using values appropriate for the primary Microsoft SQL Server:

```
ra_config pds_server_name, <server>
ra_config pds_port_number, <port>
ra_config pds_database_name, <database>
ra_config pds_username, <ra_user>
ra_config pds_password, <ra_pwd>
```

For more information, see the Replication Agent Administration Guide.

# Using Windows authentication with the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver

When running Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server on a Windows platform, you have the option of configuring Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server to connect to Microsoft SQL Server to use Windows credentials to authenticate the user.

**Note** This feature is available only when Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server is running on Windows 2000 or Windows 2003 and requires that the primary database be either Microsoft SQL Server 2000 SP 3 or later, or Microsoft SQL Server 2005.

#### To use Windows Authentication

 In your primary Microsoft SQL Server, add the *<ra\_user>* as a Windows-authenticated login, including the user's domain as appropriate. Be sure to also add the *<ra\_user>* to the primary database and grant appropriate permissions. For details, refer to your Microsoft SQL Server documentation.

- 2 On the machine on which the Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server is running, add *<domain>*\*<ra\_user>* to the Windows user account. If no domain exists, then add only *<ra\_user>* to the Windows user account.
- 3 On the machine on which the Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server is running, copy the *sqljdbc\_auth.dll* file from the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver location to a directory on the Windows system path.

When you installed the Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver, the *sqljdbc\_auth.dll* files were installed in the following location: <*install\_dir>\sqljdbc\_<version>\<language>\auth\* 

#### Note

- On a 32-bit processor, use the *sqljdbc\_auth.dll* file in the x86 folder.
- On a 64-bit processor, use the *sqljdbc\_auth.dll* file in the x64 folder.
- 4 Log in as the *<ra\_user>* on to the machine on which Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server will be running and start the Replication Agent for Microsoft SQL Server instance.
- 5 Log in to Replication Agent and configure the connectivity properties described previously (in step #5); however, you can omit pds\_password.
- 6 Configure the Replication Agent property, pds\_integrated\_security to "true" (default is "false"). For example:

```
ra_config pds_integrated_security, true
```

7 Continue with other Replication Agent configuration as described in the Replication Agent *Administration Guide*.