OUHSC PeopleSoft Oracle Patching Process

This document is intended to clarify responsibilities and establish a process for when the OUHSC PeopleSoft Oracle environment will be patched. This includes both the server operating system and the Oracle database.

**Foundational Components (S2):**
The foundational components are managed and patched by shared services. The components include things such as server hardware, VMware, storage, network, etc.

**Server Operating System (OPS):**
The Oracle database server operating systems are managed and patched by the HSC IT Infrastructure department. Operating system patches will be installed as a part of the monthly maintenance cycle.

**Oracle Application (APPS):**
Patch Set Updates (PSU’s) are released by Oracle once a quarter (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct) and include not only security updates/patches but significant one-off patches as well.

Our database patching schedule will align with the quarterly release dates by rolling out the following:

For instance, when the April PSU is released, this PSU will be applied to the PeopleSoft TRN environment. After one month of “baking” we will apply the PSU to production as well as TST/DEV. We’ve already anticipated the testing of the PSU’s in the TRN environment by building them their own separate directory for the database binaries. This allows us to apply the PSU in that environment without disrupting anything in TST/DEV.

Therefore our patching schedule will look something like this:

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Apr:  Apply Apr PSU to TRN
May:  Apply Apr PSU to PROD, TST, and DEV
Jun:  OFF
Jul:  Apply Jul PSU to TRN
Aug:  Apply Jul PSU to PROD, TST, and DEV
Sep:  OFF
ETC...
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The Oracle application patching on the last Saturday of patching months. This will allows us time to go over the PSU when it’s released and will not interfere with any network disruptions on maintenance Sundays. We will insure that there are no conflicts with PUM updates as well as those tend to occur over the weekend.