New Database Release Model Superior Quality and Simplicity

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Safe Harbor Statement

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Making it Easier to Stay Current

- Staying current on Releases is better
 - Maintain support, always get the fixes you need, avoid ES fees
 - Take advantage of new features
- Staying current on Updates is better
 - Achieve better production stability, fewer outages
 - Keep up on all security fixes
- New Release and Update Model is designed to make staying current easier and safer
- Action: Understand and begin planning for the new model



Removing Barriers to Staying Current

- Problem: DB release schedule is unpredictable
 - Solution: Annual DB releases
- Problem: Fear of uncertainty due to too many features, unknown quality
 - Solution: Reduce number of features in each release, slip anything not ready to next
 - Solution: New Release Updates help achieve production quality more quickly
 - Solution: Release Update Revisions provide zero-regression update path
- Problem: Updating is too much work
 - Solution: Simplify quarterly updates fewer bundles, fewer choices
 - Solution: More content in Updates reduces need for merge patches
 - Solution: Ensure rolling update always available to minimize downtime



New Release and Update Model for Database

Eliminates Patch Sets

Annual Releases

- New Features
- Minimum 3 years support
- Version uses last 2 digits of release year (eg "18")

RU replaces Bundle Patches

Quarterly Release Updates (RUs)

- Critical fixes
- Regression fixes
- Security fixes

RUR replaces SPUs+one offs

Quarterly Release Update Revisions (RURs)

- Regression fixes (if any)
- Security fixes (same as RUs)



Release Update and Release Update Revision Contents

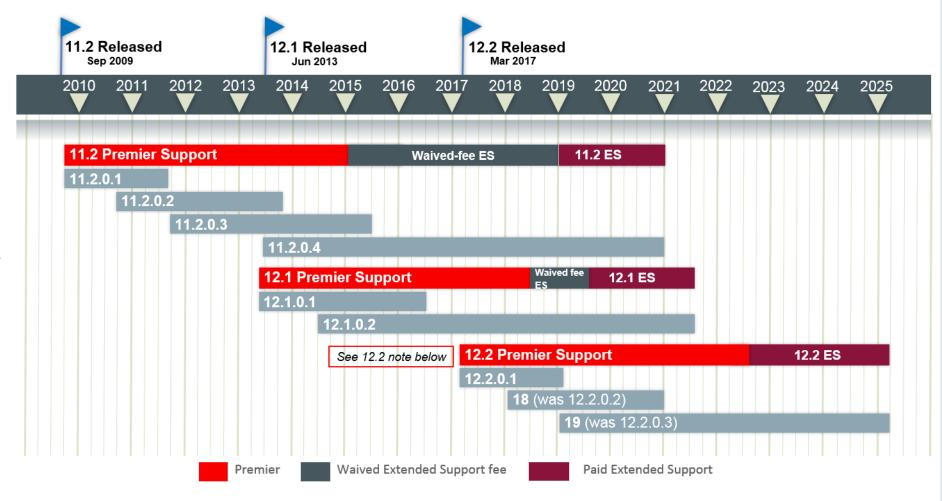
	Release Update 🔀	Release Update Revision 📮
Replaces	BPs	PSUs
Benefit over predecessor	Combines the various BPs (DB, Exadata, E-business, Fusion Apps, SAP)	Extend RU lifetime. Stay current on security and regression content
Cadence	Quarterly	Minimum quarterly or as needed
Switch between RU and RUR		
Proactive functional fixes	✓	X
Security fixes		
Regression fixes		
Optimizer plan changes (off by default)	✓	×
Functional enhancements (minor)		×
Emergency one-offs	✓	×



Annual Release Roadmap (from MOS doc 742060.1)

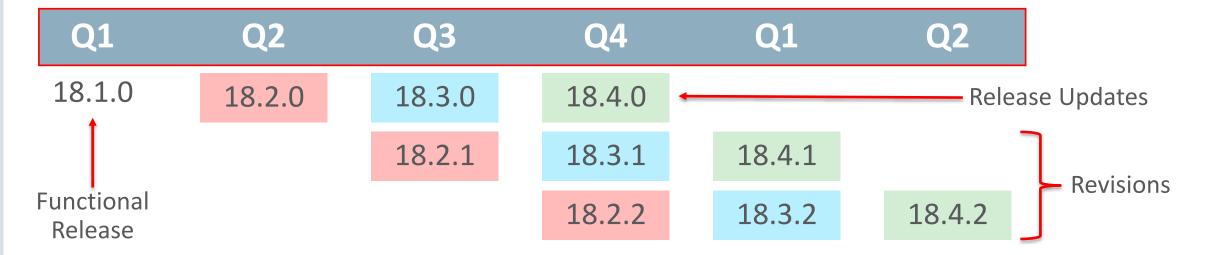
Notes:

- 18 and 19 are treated as part of 12.2 for LSP purposes
- 19 is planned to be the last 12.2 release but we may make 20 the last





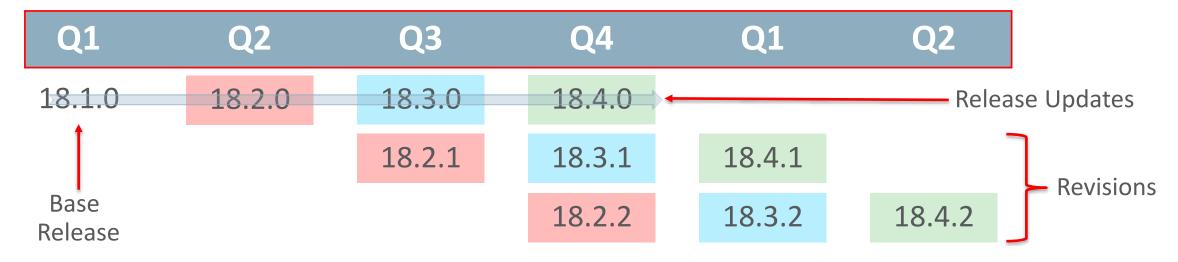
How the New Update Model Works





Adoption Option 1: Test/Dev Environments

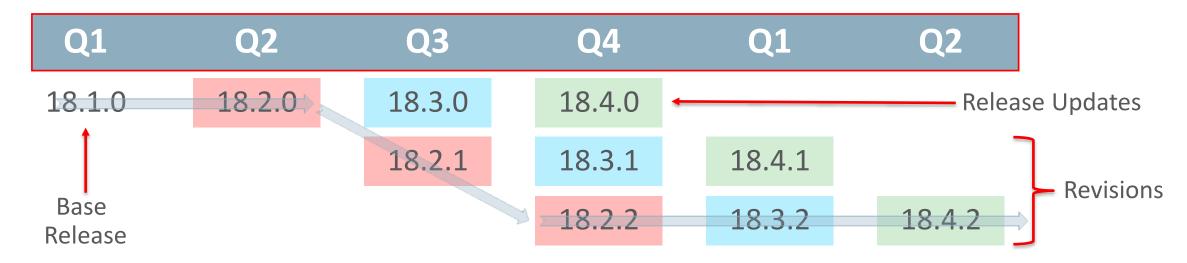
- Take each new RU as they come out
 - Eg 18.2.0, 18.3.0, 18.4.0
 - Maximizes total fixes





Adoption Option 2: Conservative Approach

- When production DB stability is achieved, switch over to RURs seamlessly
 - RURs include RU content that has been proven in field by thousands of customer deployments
 - Both RUs and RURs contain all important security fixes; Eliminates tradeoff between security and stability
 - Can switch back and forth between RUs and RURs unlike PSUs and BPs





Summary

- Oracle is making it easier to stay current
- New Annual releases improve predictability and initial release quality
- Release Updates and Release Update Revisions
 - Simplify quarterly patching
 - Increase overall release stability over time
 - Provide options to either maximize fixes applied or stay security compliant with minimal effort
- Start planning now to stay current!
- For more info on Release Updates:
 - Release Update and Release Update Revisions for Database Proactive Patch Program (Doc ID 2285040.1)



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