



**COLLABORATE14**

TECHNOLOGY AND APPLICATIONS FORUM  
FOR THE ORACLE COMMUNITY

# OBIEE Security Examined

**Session ID#: 14366**

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Chief Security Officer  
Integrigy Corporation



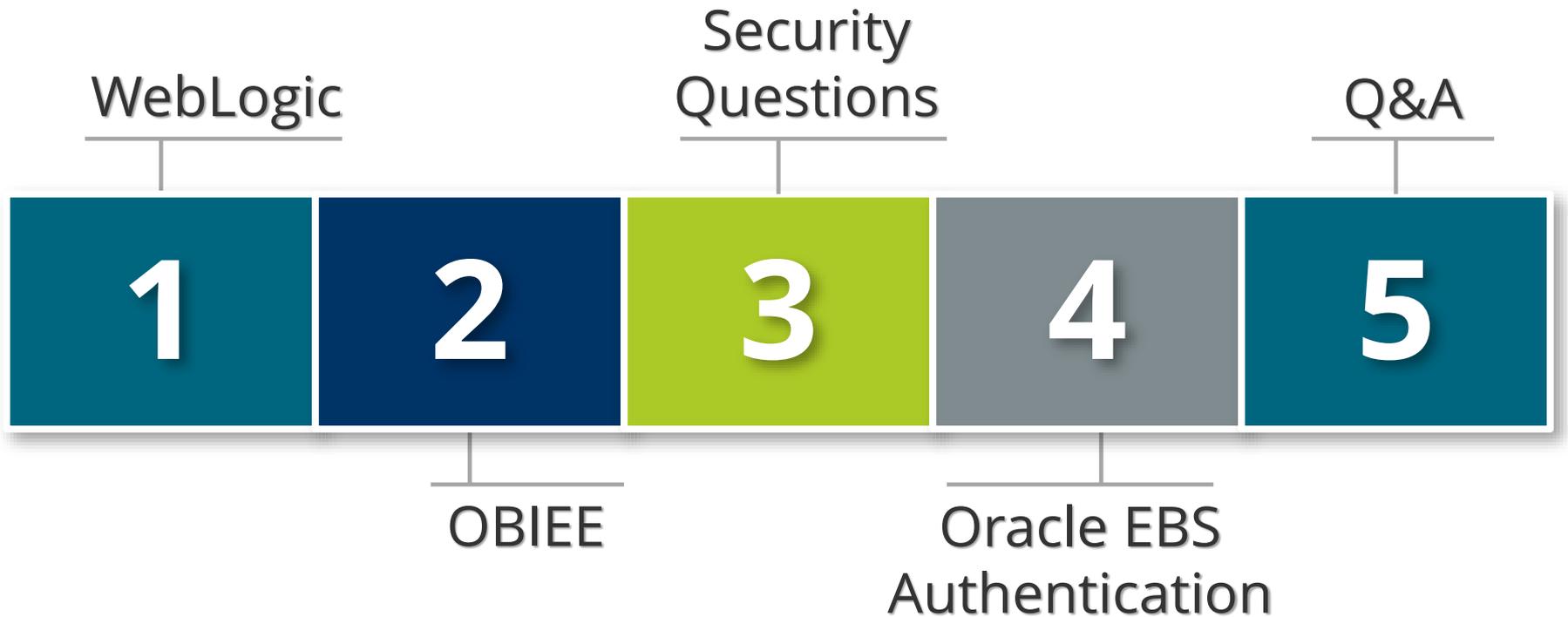
**REMINDER**

Check in on the  
COLLABORATE mobile app

# Objectives

- **Provide an overview and security risks of the OBIEE 11g technology stack**
- **Discuss security implications of each layer of the technology stack**
- **Detail the security of the OBIEE application from authentication through to privileges**

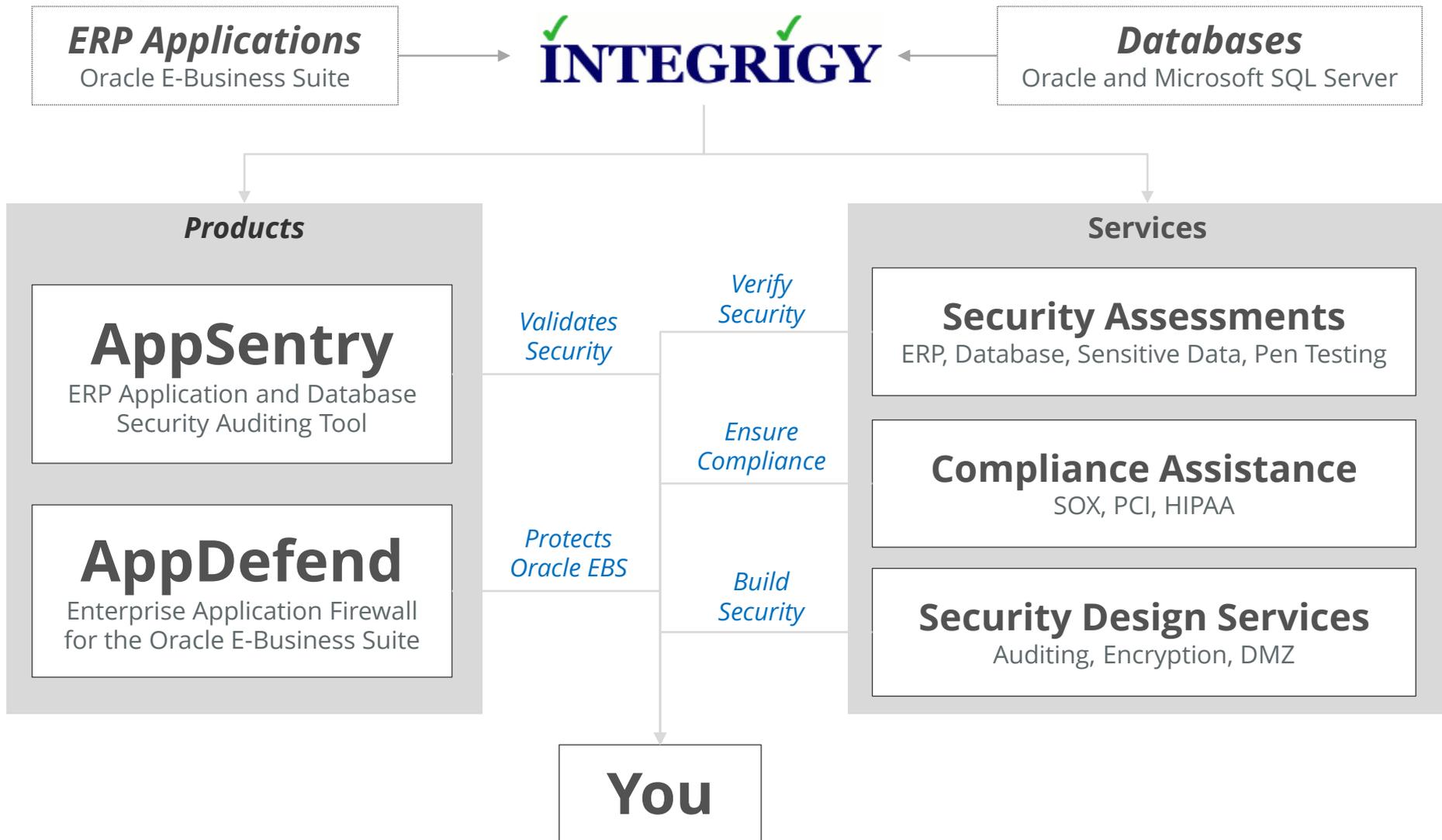
# Agenda



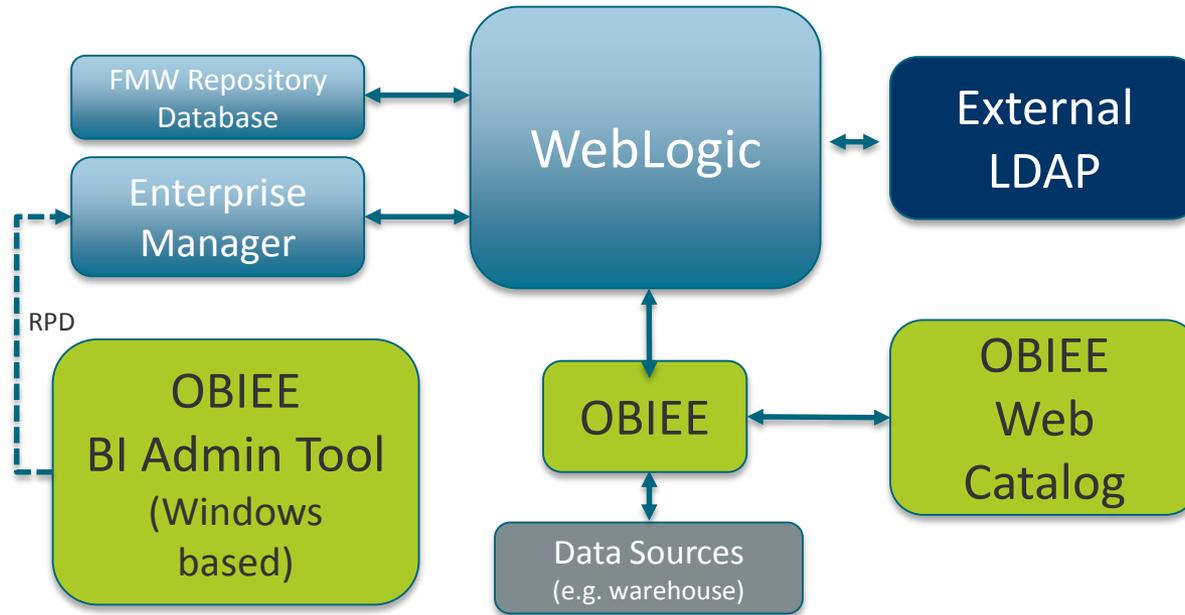
# Michael Miller

- 20+ year Oracle technology veteran
  - 17 years Oracle E-Business Suite
  - Held roles of consultant, Director, VP and CSO
- Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)
- Information Systems Security Management Professional - (ISSMP)
- Cloud Security Alliance Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge (CCSK)
- ITIL v3 Foundations certified
- Oracle Corporation Customer Advisory Board for Security
  - 2004 – 2007
- FBI Infragard – active member of private sector partnership with FBI

# About Integrigy

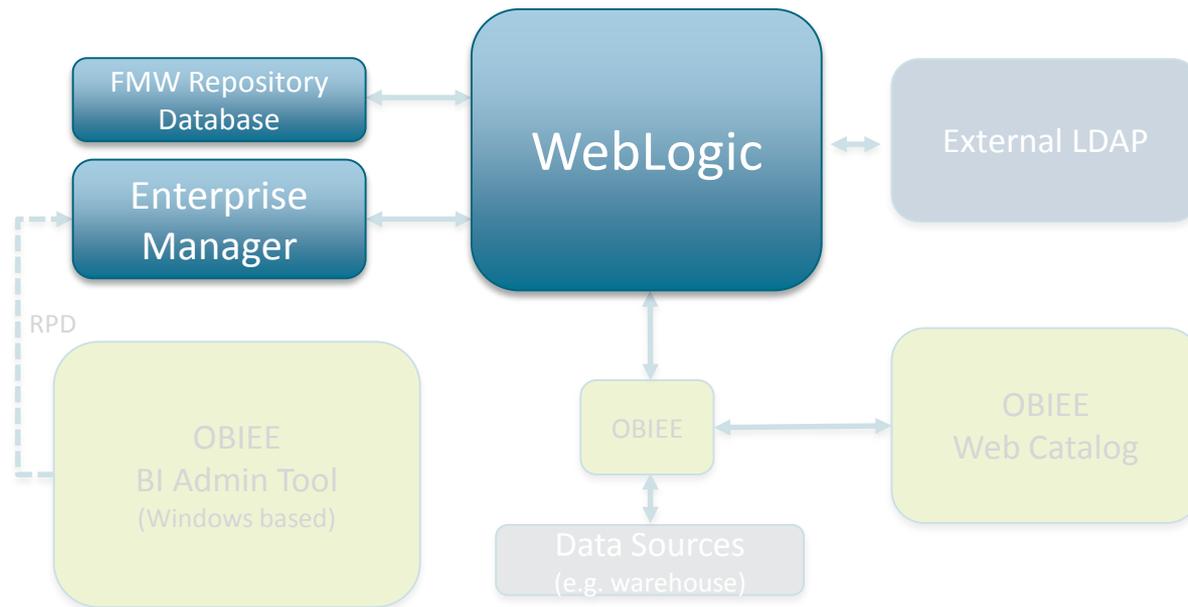


# OBIEE Security Examined



Size of box proportionate to component's impact on security

# Agenda



# WebLogic Security

- **OBIEE runs inside of WebLogic**
  - Authentication
  - Key authorization steps
  - Java and Web services
- **Secure WebLogic to Secure OBIEE**

# Keep Current with WebLogic Patches

## ■ 10.3.5

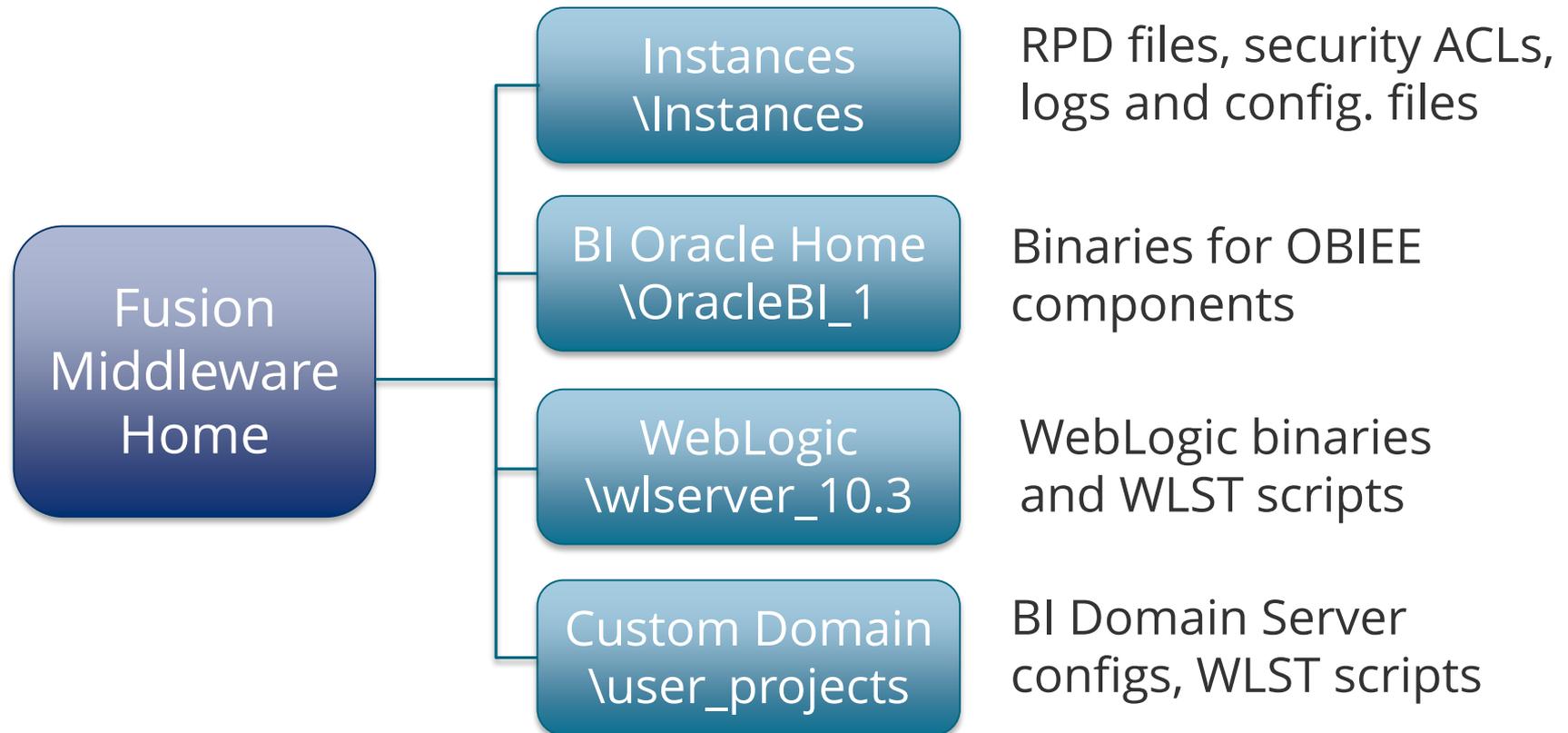
- Released May 2011
- Grace period ended August 2013

## ■ 10.3.6

- February 2012
- Grace period ends December 2021
- Terminal patch set for 11g

# WebLogic File system

- Protect the file system
- Do not run WebLogic as root



# Public Facing?

- Web Application Firewall
- WebLogic 10.3.6
- Java 1.6 vs. 1.7
- WebLogic Configurations
  - Robots.txt
  - Powered By
  - Services exposed

# Metadata Repository

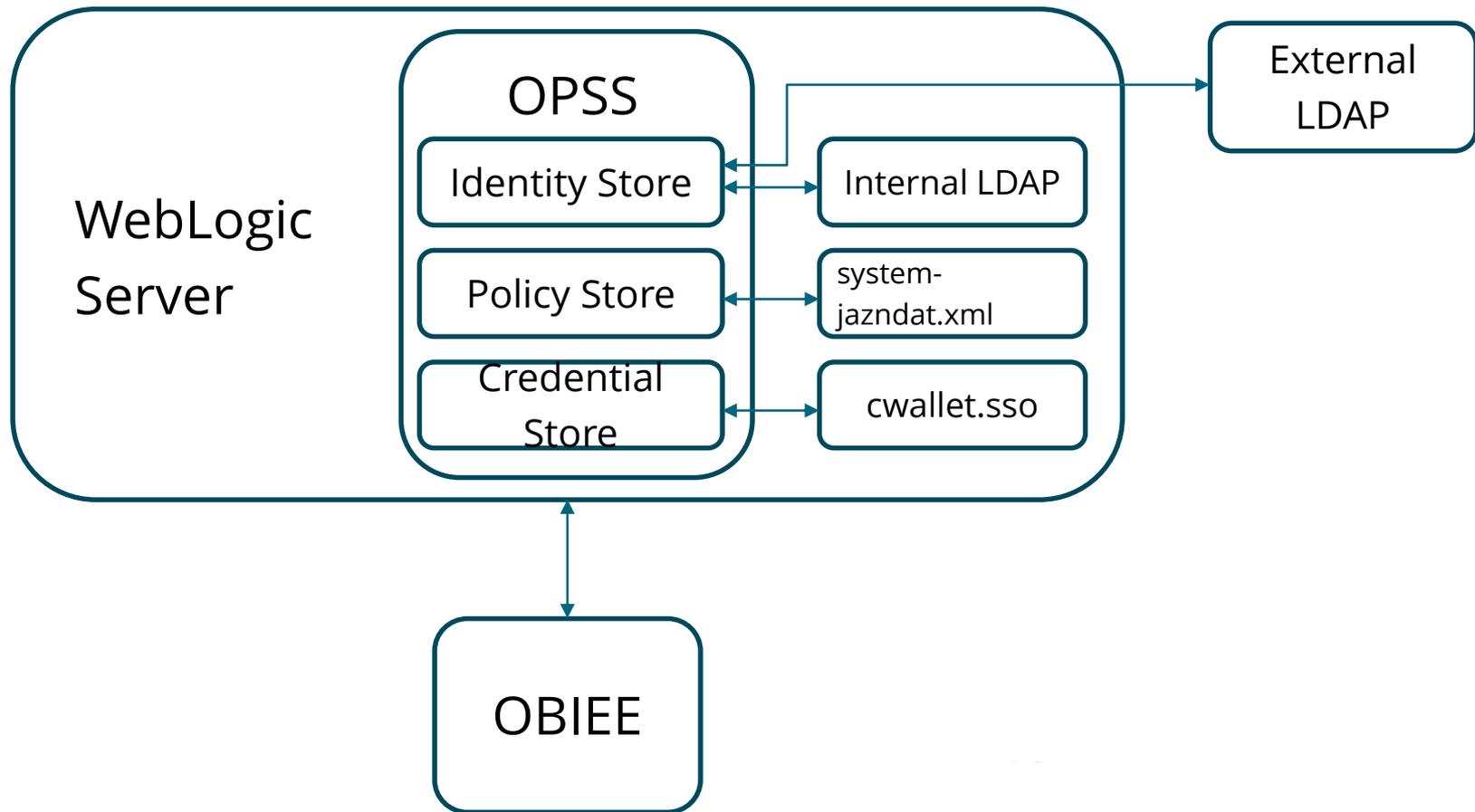
- **Metadata repository database required for each Fusion Middleware product**
  - Oracle is recommended but not required
  - 'Repository Creation Utility' used to create
- **OBIEE metadata schemas**
  - BIPLATFORM
  - MDS
- **Security of metadata repository database is critical**
  - All standard security best practices apply
  - Do not manually edit or allow access

# Security Realms

- **OBIEE 11g uses WebLogic for centralized common services**
  - Common security model included
  - Significant change from OBIEE 10g
- **WebLogic common security defined through security realms. Realms define:**
  - Users
  - Groups
  - Security roles and policies
- **Key decision**
  - Use default security realm or custom for OBIEE

# Oracle Platform Security Services (OPSS)

*Transcends ALL Fusion Middleware Products*



# WebLogic Scripting Tools (WLST)\*

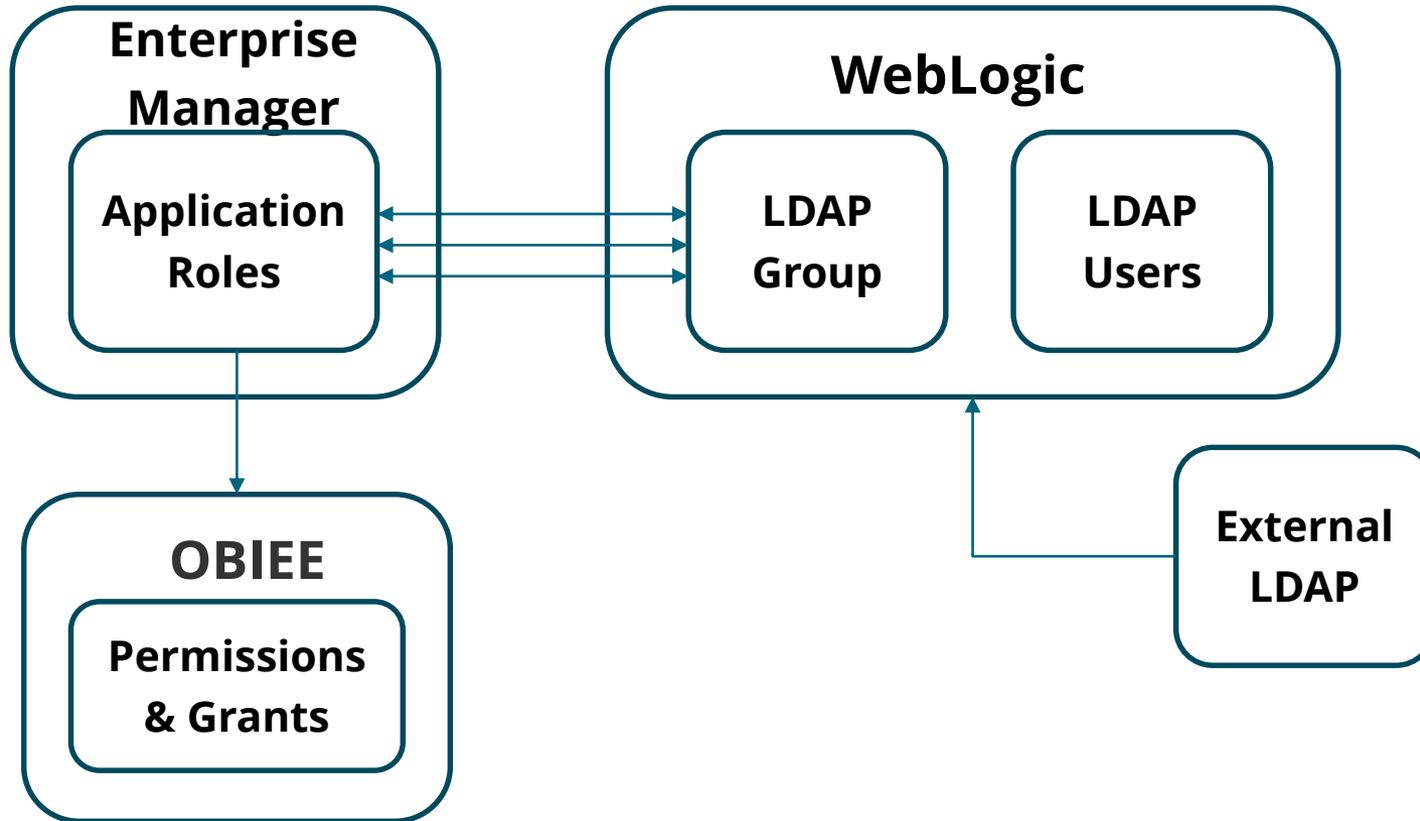
- Command line scripting tool to manage WebLogic
  - Jython based
- On and offline modes
  - Both are powerful
- Access remotely or console
- WebLogic Security Framework used to enforce same rules as user interface
- Connect using administration port
- Use appropriate WebLogic accounts for WLST scripting
- Do not hardcode credentials
- Do not expose encrypted attributes
  - E.g. listCred()

\* DBAs use SQL, WebLogic Admins use WLST

# WebLogic Auditing

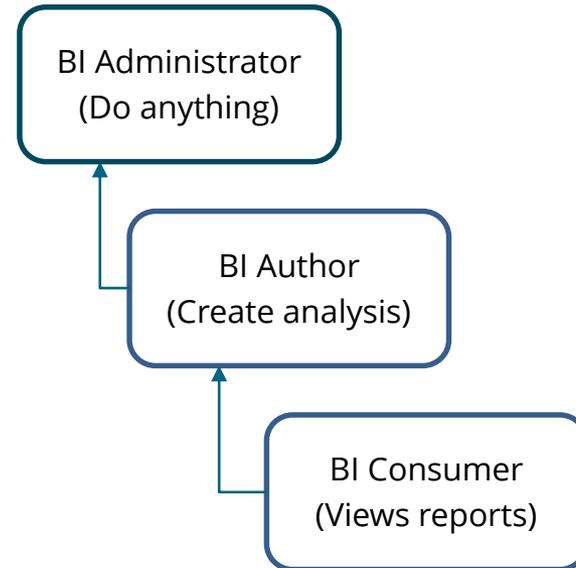
- Prebuilt compliance reporting features
- Flexible and extensive
  - Specific criteria
  - Severity levels
- Authentication history/failures
- Authorization history
- Common audit record format
- Write audit data to:
  - Database
  - File
- Use audit data in
  - BI Publisher
  - Splunk, ArcSight etc....

# Applications Roles

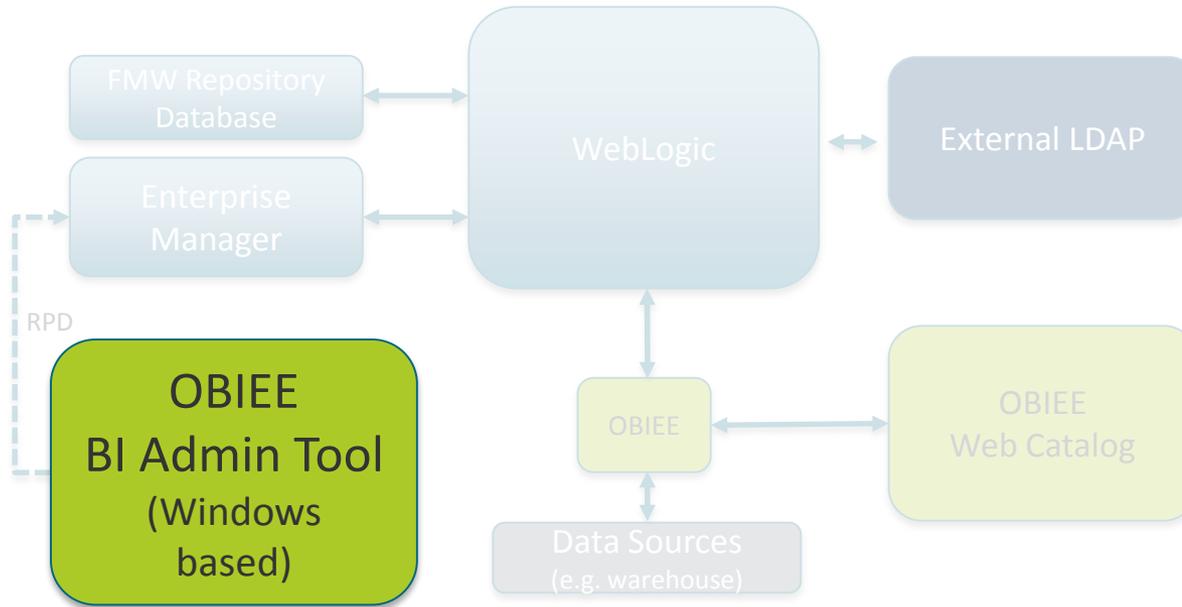


# Application Roles

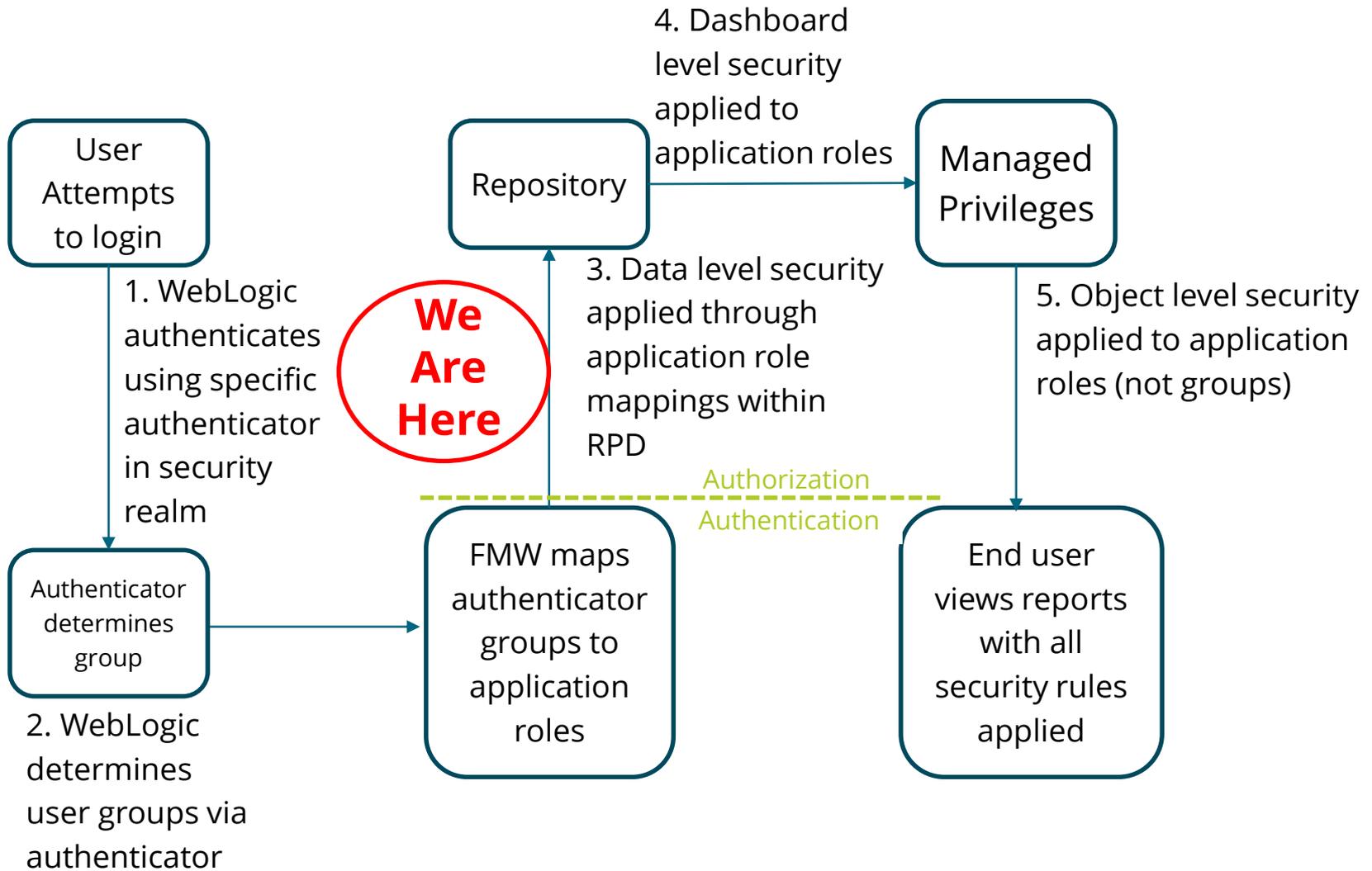
- Transcend ALL Fusion Products
- Defined in Enterprise Manager
- Map to LDAP groups
  - External or internal
- **Key Decision:**
  - Use default or custom



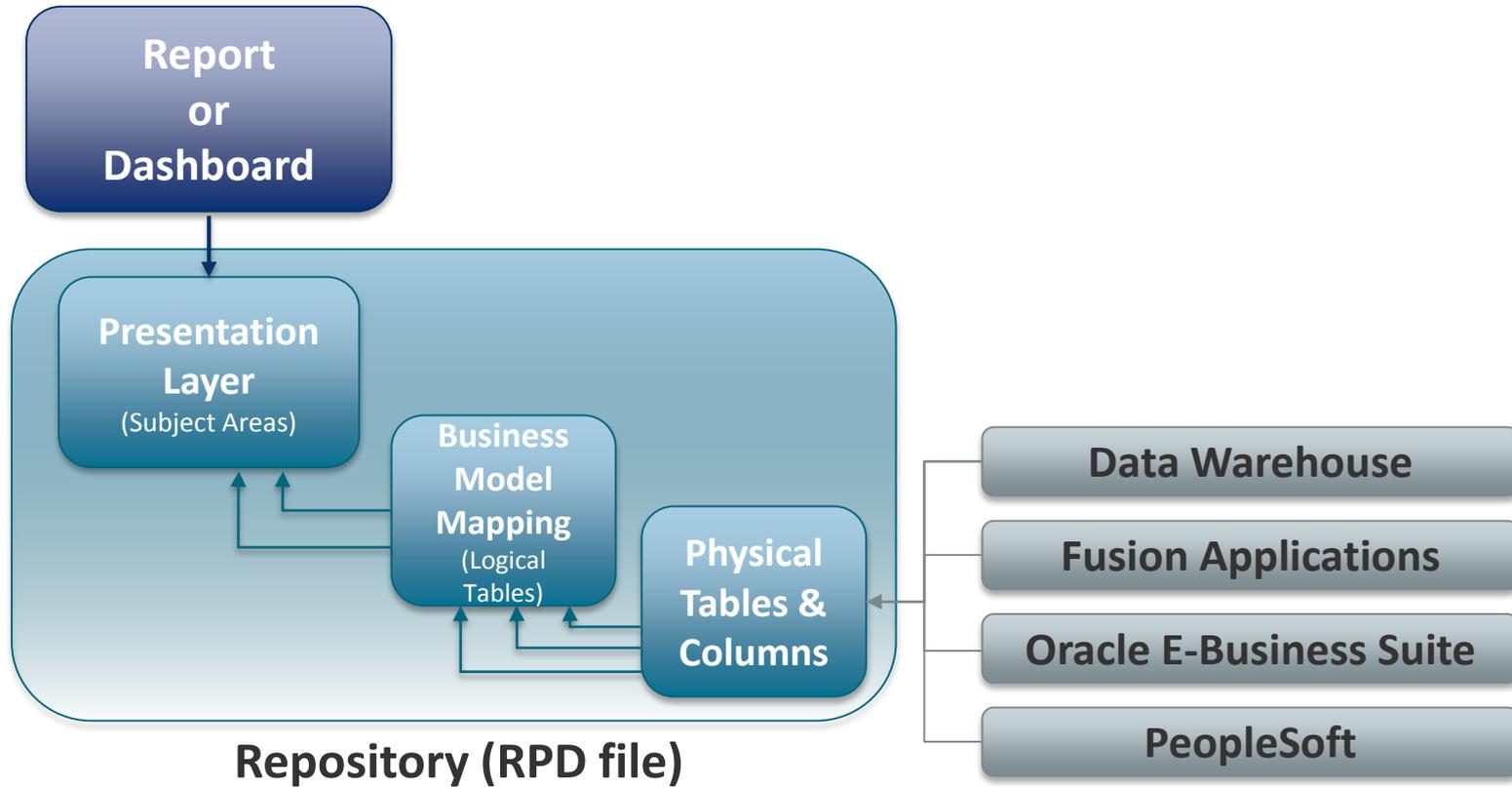
# Agenda



# Where Are We?



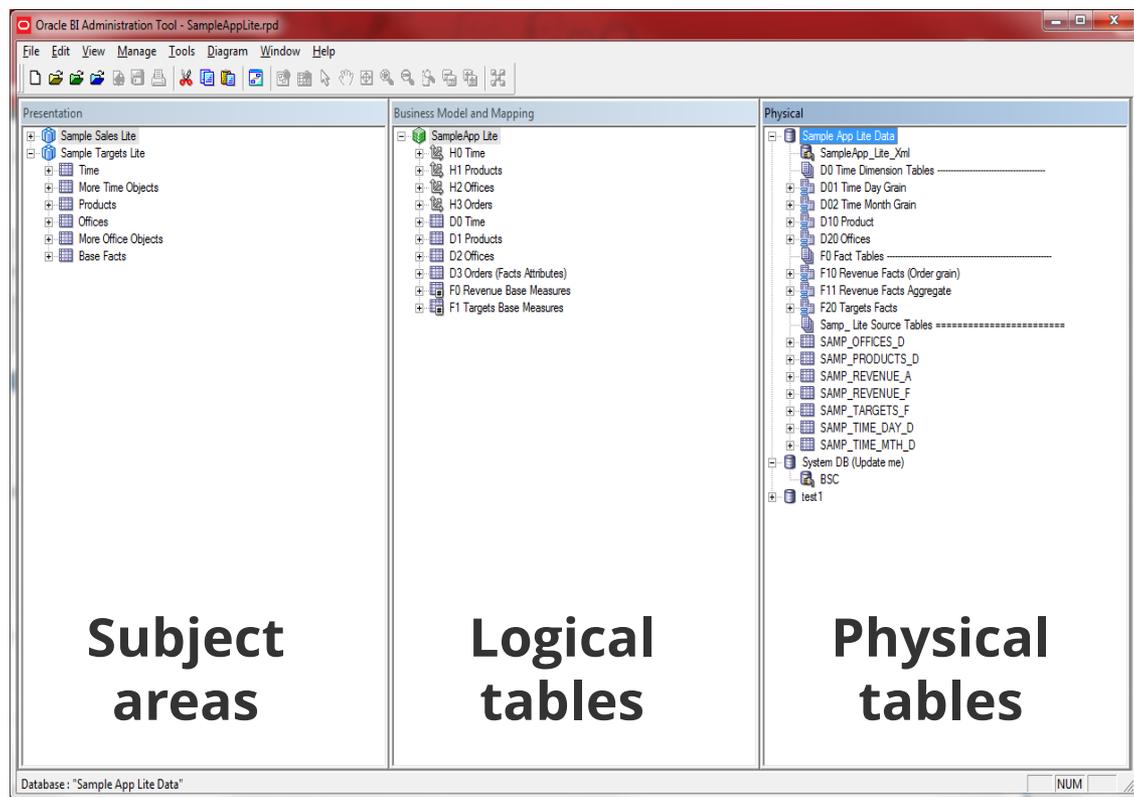
# Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition



# OBIEE Repositories

## ■ OBIEE Solutions are built using Repositories

- Single file (“RPD”) defines EVERYTHING
- Security included



**Windows based  
BI Admin Tool  
used to create  
and maintain  
RPD files**

# RPD Security

## ■ Need to Secure RPD files

- Data source connection passwords
- Security rules and filters

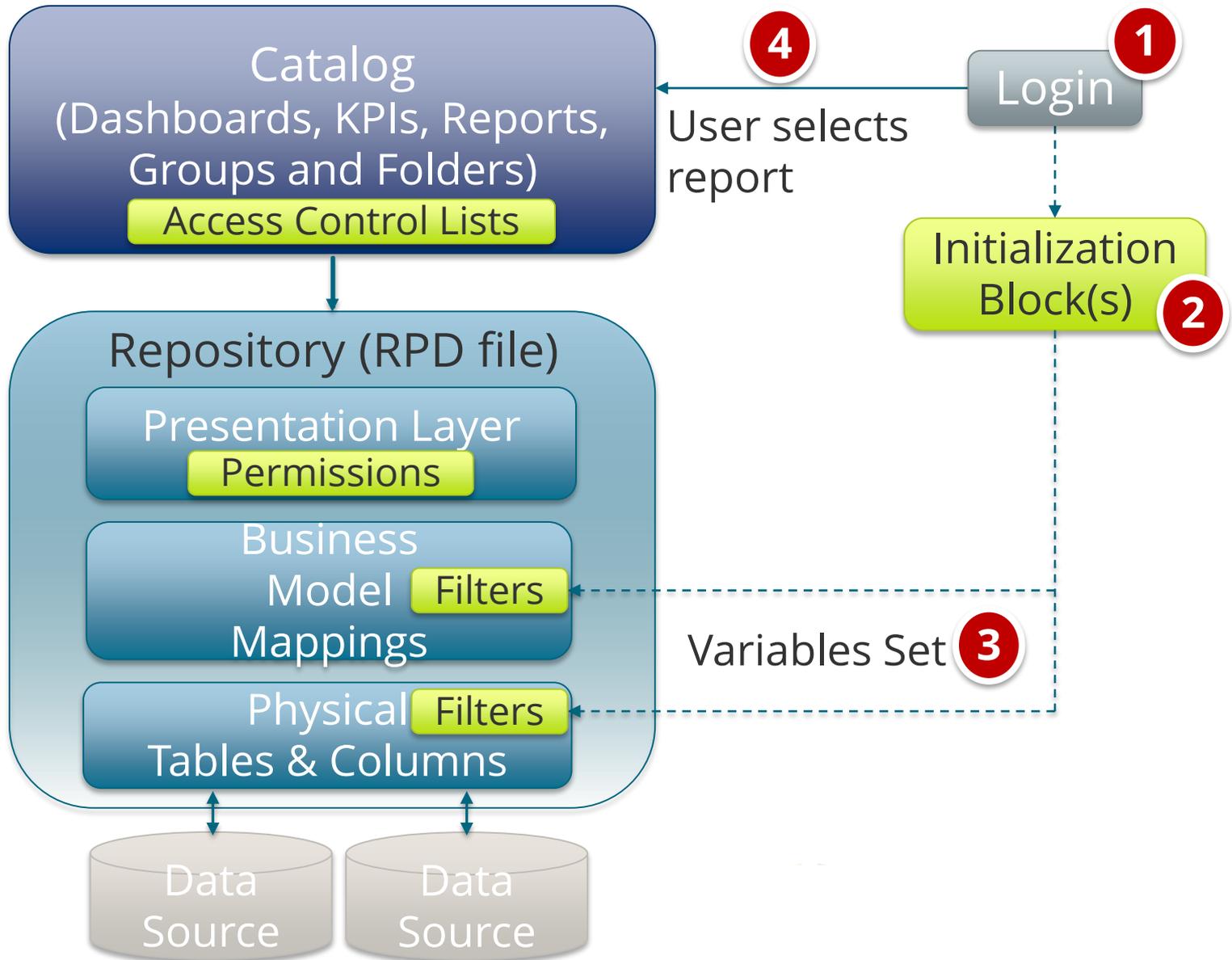
## ■ Password to open

- Production vs Non-production
- Password needed to deploy within Enterprise Manager

## ■ Encrypted

- Password used to encrypt
- Can export and save as XML files

# OBIEE Security



# Three Levels of OBIEE Security (Authorization)

<b>Data-level security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Data filters to eliminate <u>rows</u> from result sets</li><li>▪ Set in RPD file</li></ul>
<b>Object-level security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Permissions on specific objects such as subject areas, presentation or physical <u>tables</u> and <u>columns</u></li><li>▪ Set in RPD file</li></ul>
<b>Presentation Catalog security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ What reports and dashboards are available to specific users, application roles and LDAP groups</li><li>▪ Set in catalog</li></ul>

# Data Level Security

- **Deny or allow access to physical or logical table, row or column**
  - Apply to users or roles
  - Use filters restrict
  - Use variables to define filters
  
- **Two types of variables are used**
  - Repository – Static or dynamic, same for all users
  - Session – initialized when user logs in

# Data Level Security

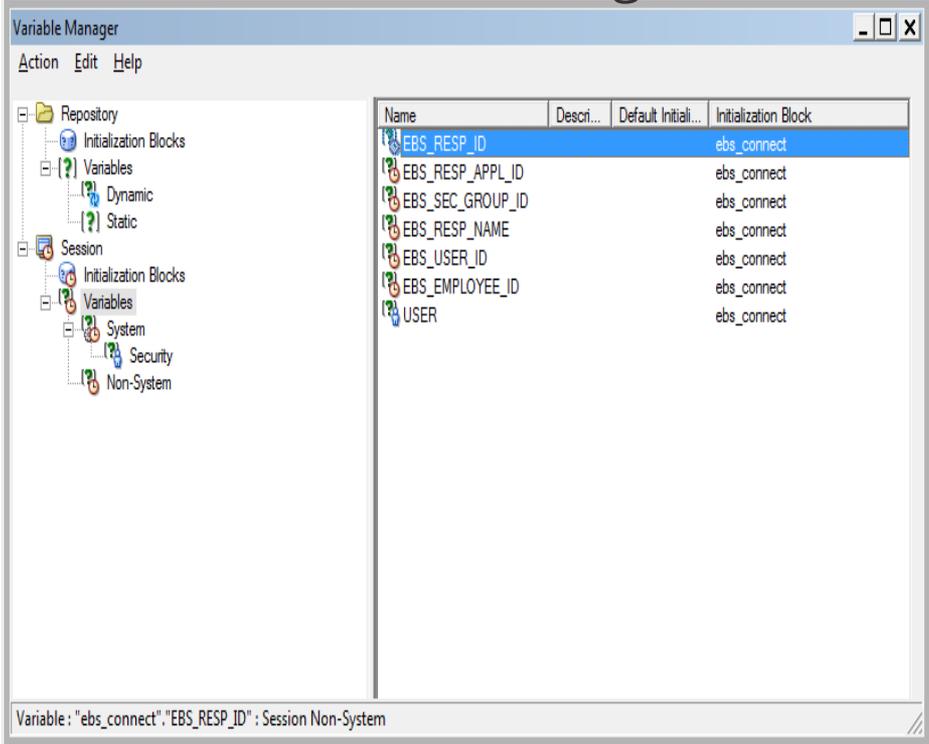
## ■ Initialization block

- Set variables (repository & session) when a user connects

## ■ Two types of session variables

- System: reserved names e.g. USER
- Non-system: defined by author of RPD e.g. EBS\_RESP\_ID

## Variable Manager



The Variable Manager window displays a tree view on the left and a table of variables on the right. The tree view shows the hierarchy: Repository > Initialization Blocks > Variables > Dynamic/Static, and Session > Initialization Blocks > Variables > System/Security/Non-System. The table lists the following variables and their associated initialization blocks:

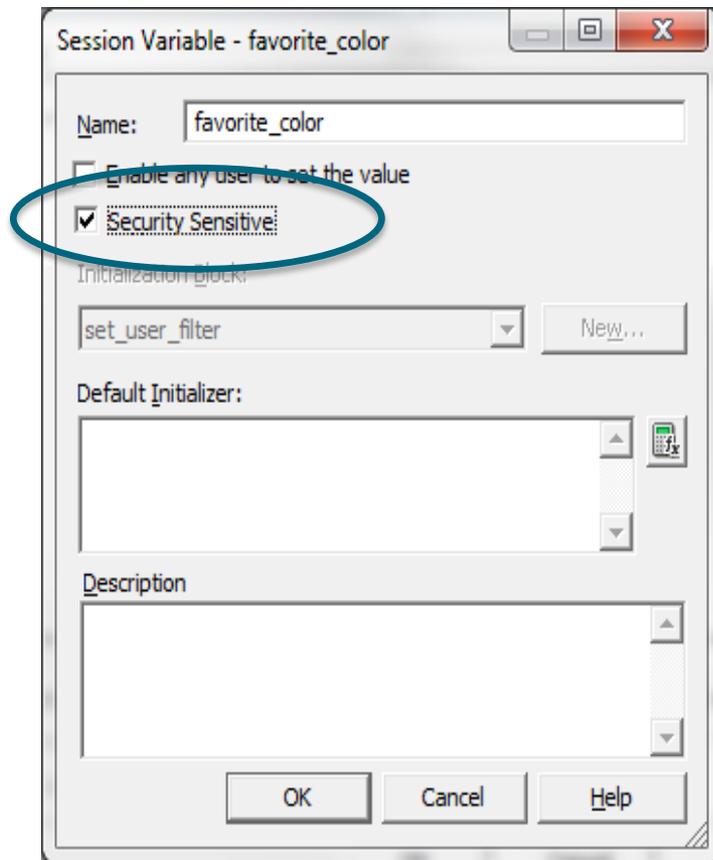
Name	Descri...	Default Initiali...	Initialization Block
EBS_RESP_ID			ebs_connect
EBS_RESP_APPL_ID			ebs_connect
EBS_SEC_GROUP_ID			ebs_connect
EBS_RESP_NAME			ebs_connect
EBS_USER_ID			ebs_connect
EBS_EMPLOYEE_ID			ebs_connect
USER			ebs_connect

Variable : "ebs\_connect"."EBS\_RESP\_ID" : Session Non-System

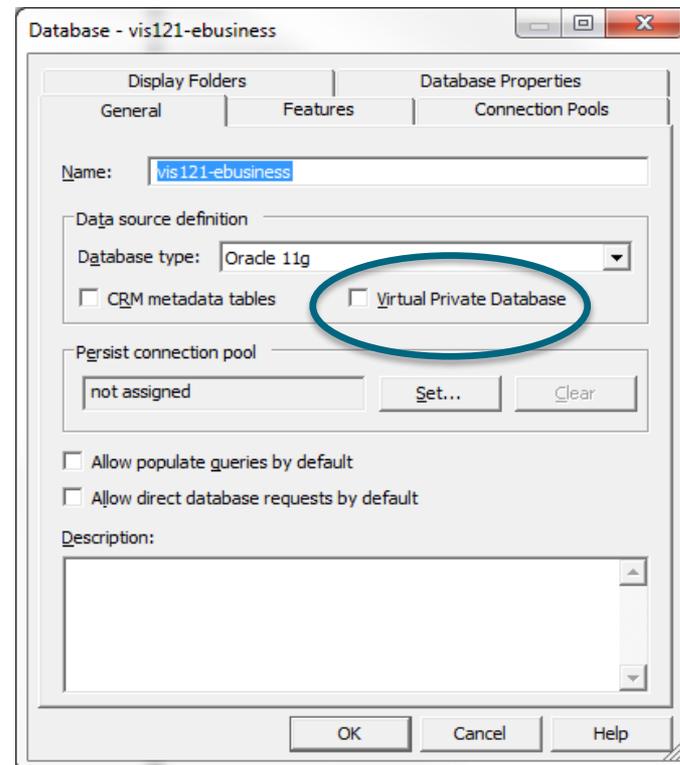
# Data Level Security

- Be careful of caching with session variables and VPD
  - DBMS\_SESSION.SET\_IDENTIFIER

## Session Variable



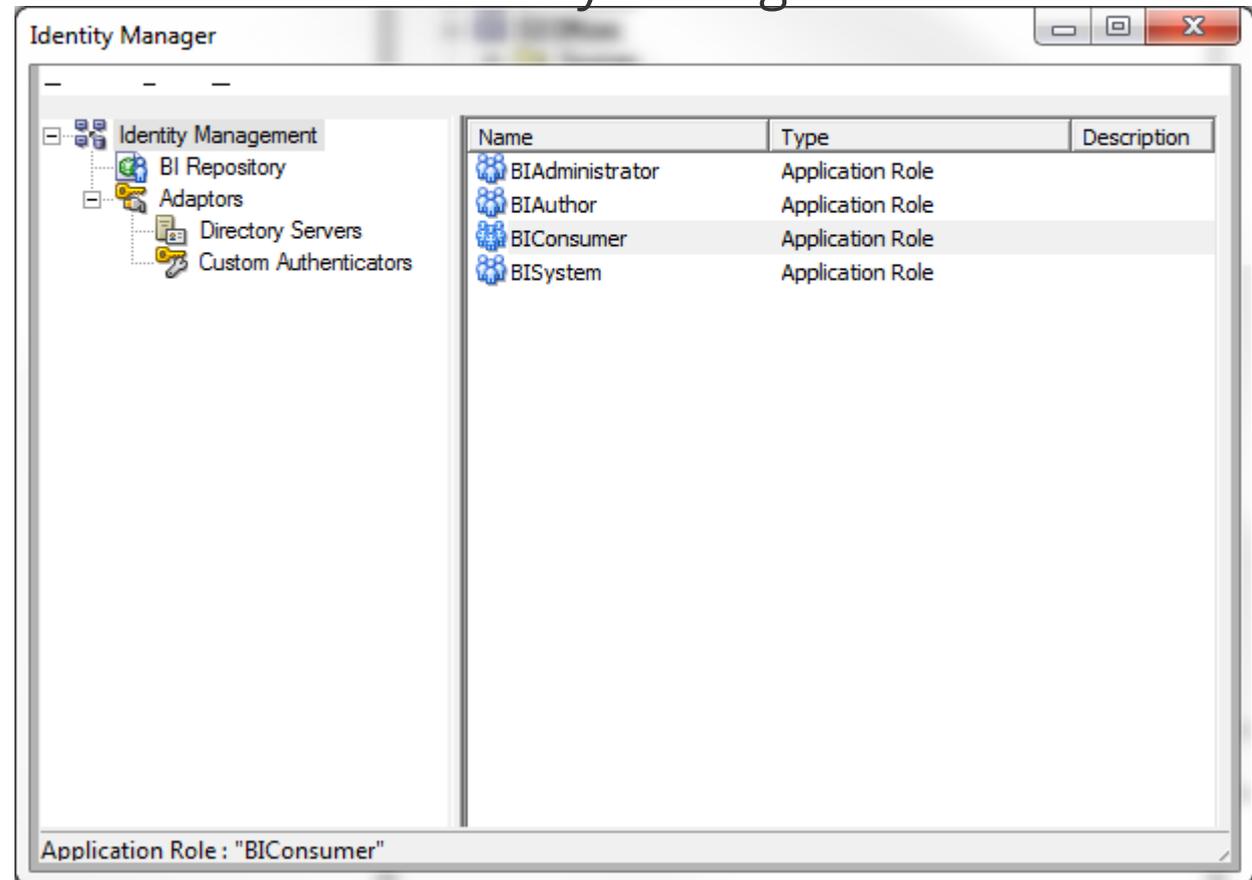
## Connection



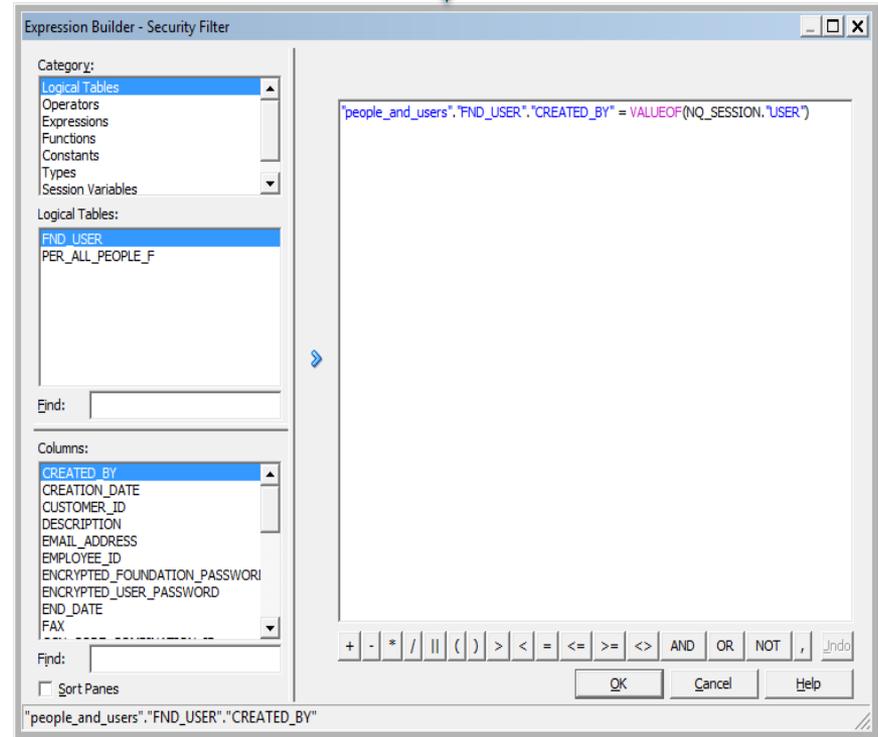
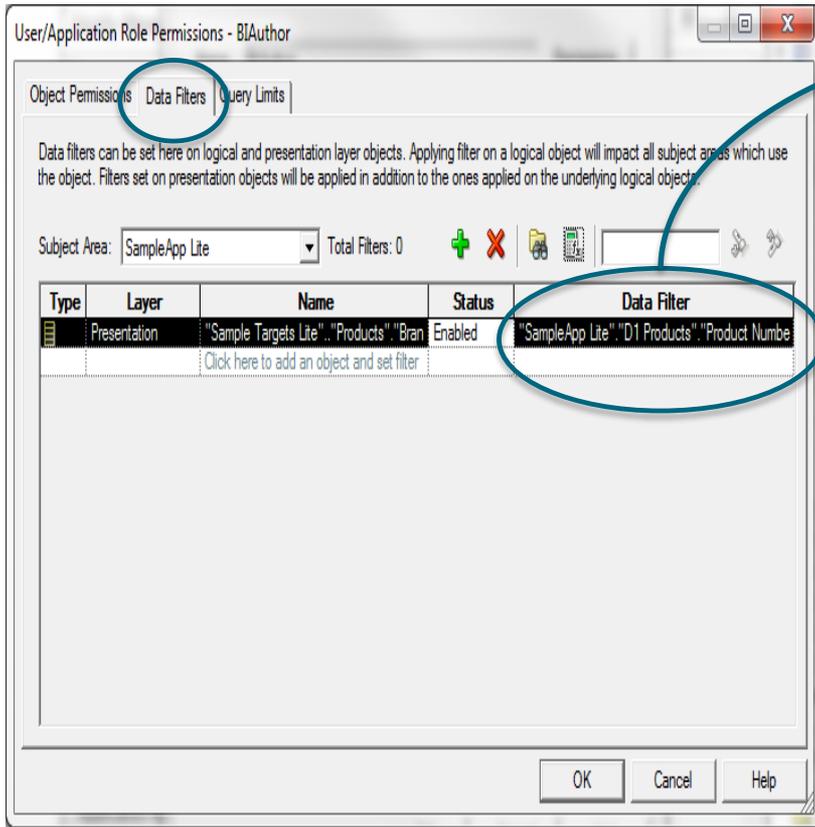
# Data Level Security

- Filters defined for Application Roles
  - Identity manager -> select user or role -> click on permissions

## Identity Manager



# Data Level Security



## Example

Filter for Oracle E-Business Suite Set RESPONSIBILITY\_ID = 200 to see only hourly employees

# Object Level Security

User/Application Role Permissions - BIAuthor

Object Permissions | Data Filters | Query Limits

Data filters can be set here on logical and presentation layer objects. Applying filter on a logical object will impact all subject areas which use the object. Filters set on presentation objects will be applied in addition to the ones applied on the underlying logical objects.

Subject Area: SampleApp Lite Total Filters: 0

Type	Layer	Name	Status	Data Filter
	Presentation	"Sample Targets Lite"."Products"."Brand	Enabled	"SampleApp Lite"."D1 Products"."Product Numbe
Click here to add an object and set filter				

OK

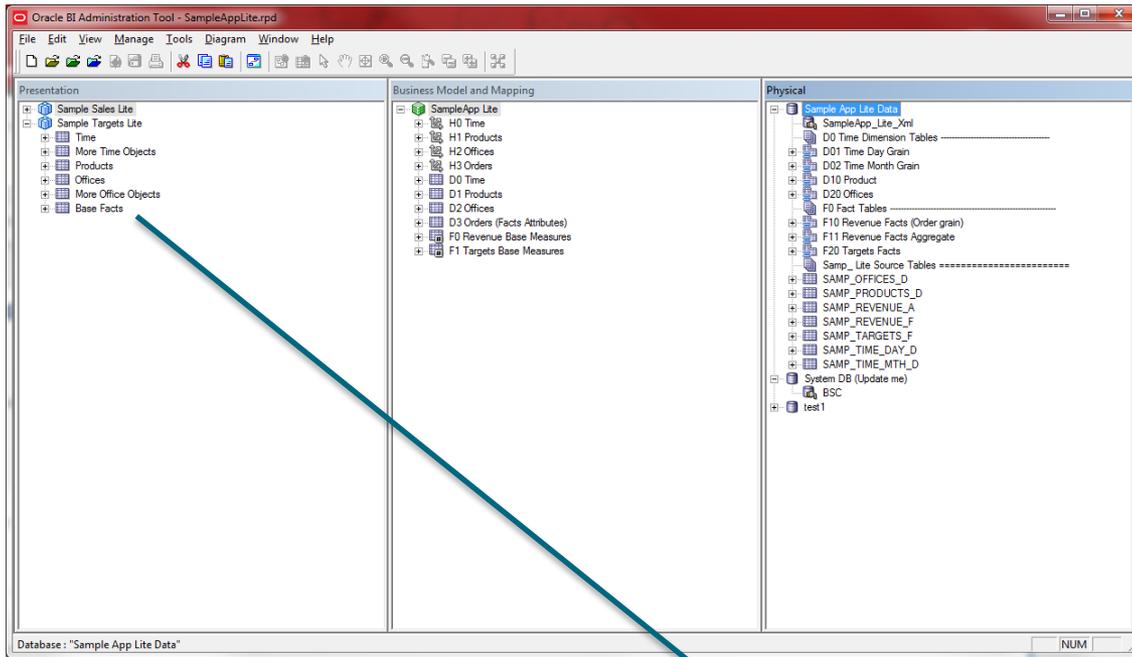
Permissions - Brand

Show all users/application roles

User/Application Role	Read	Read/Writ	No Access	Default
Authenticated User	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
BIAdministrator	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
BIAuthor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
BIConsumer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
BISystem	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

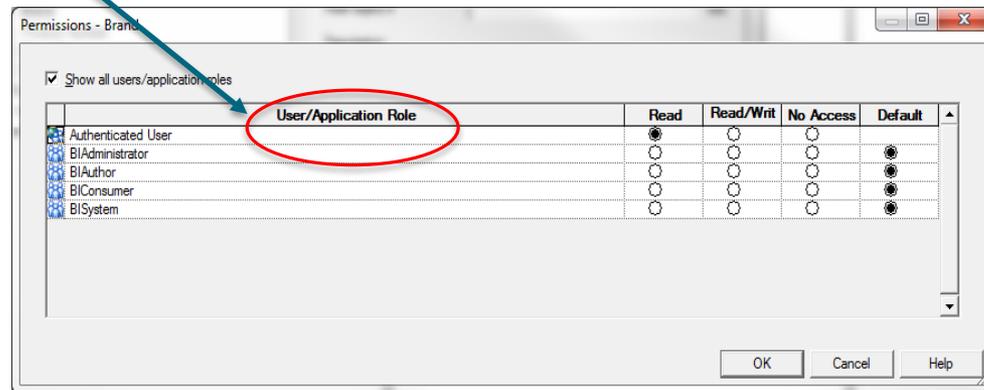
OK Cancel Help

# Object Level Security

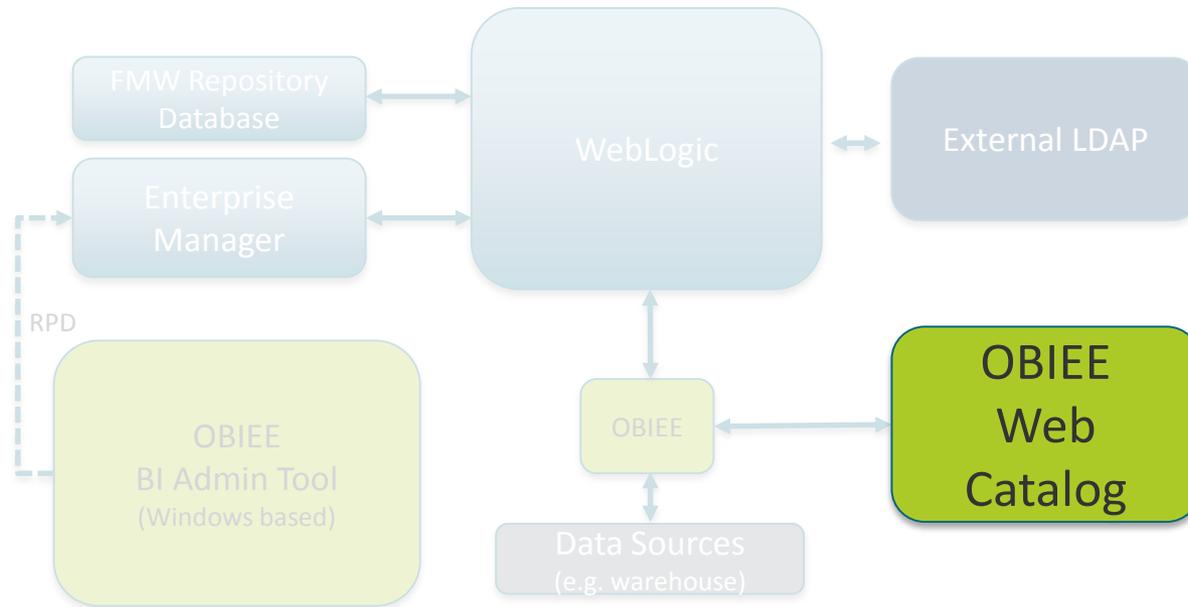


## Permissions for Application Roles by Subject Area

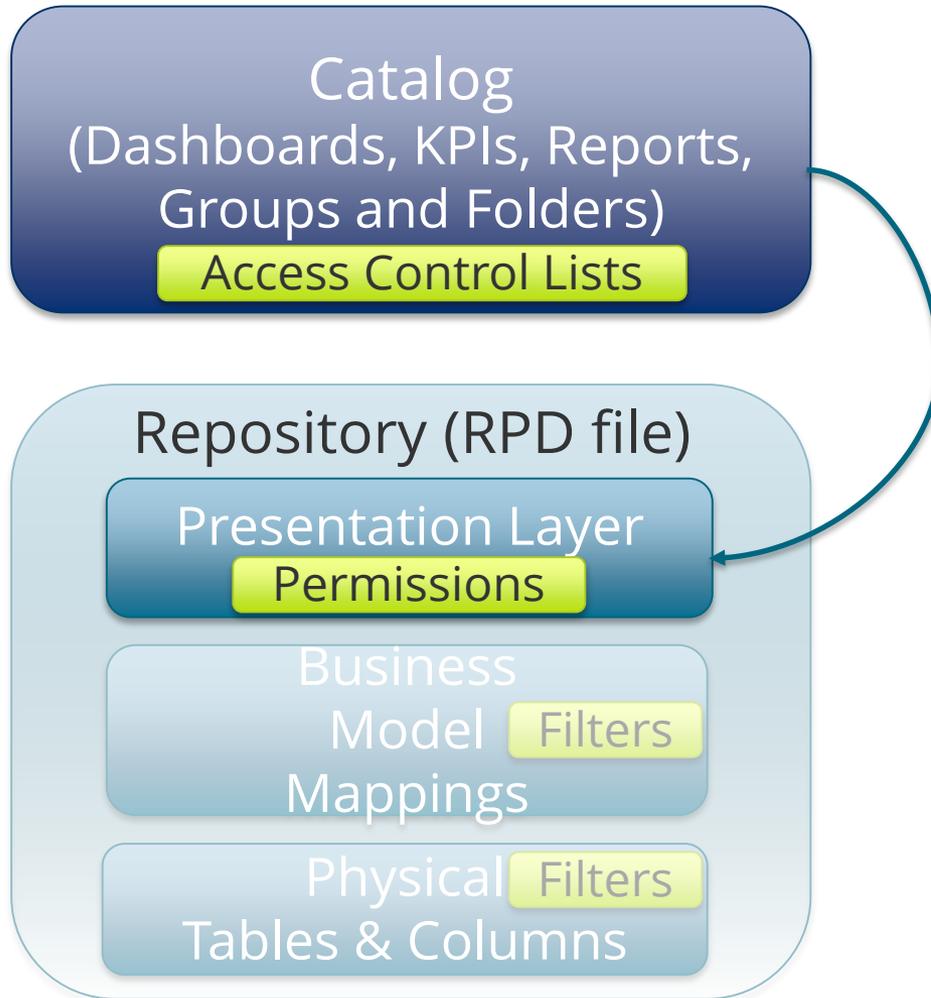
## By Application Role



# Agenda



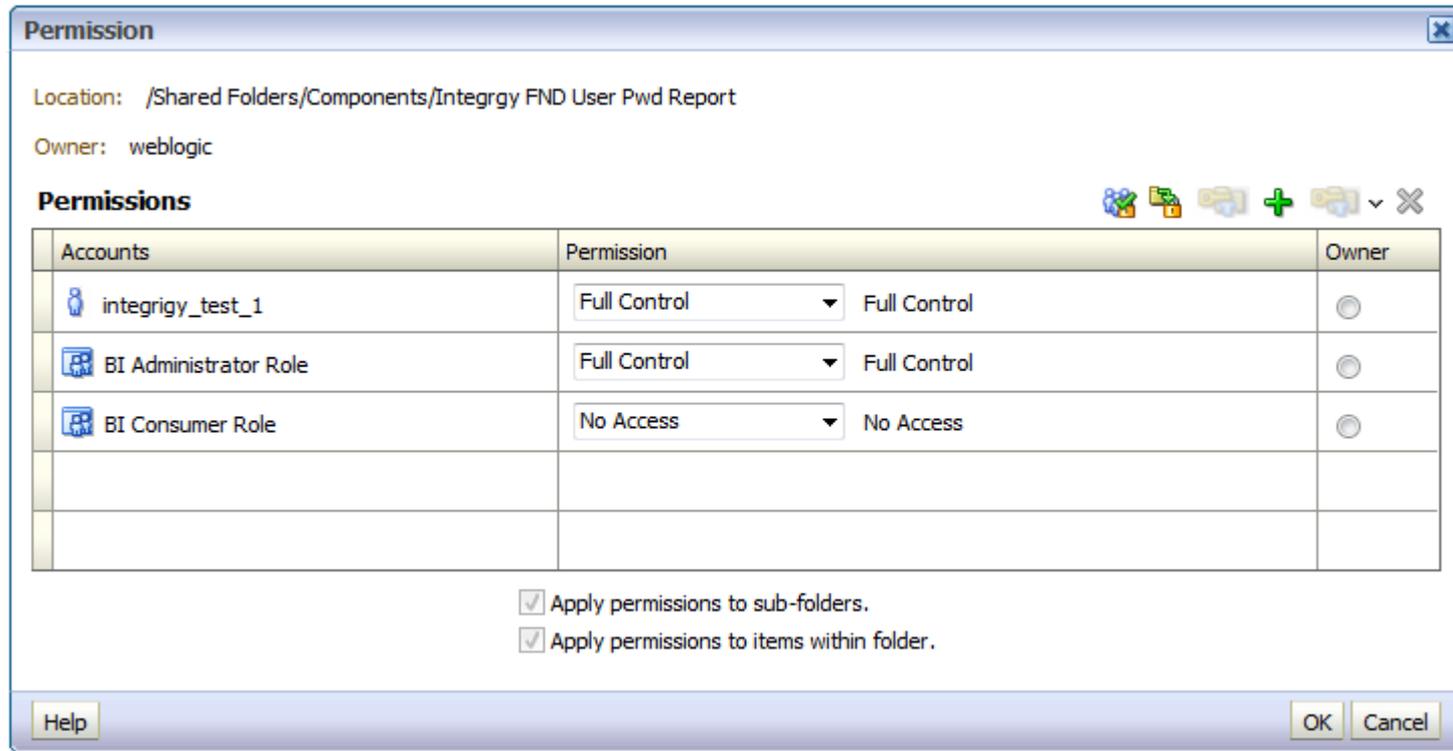
# OBIEE Web Catalog



- **Reports only see Subject Areas within Presentation Layer**
- **Reports defined within Catalog**
- **Catalog ACLs determine who can see what report**

# OBIEE Web Catalog

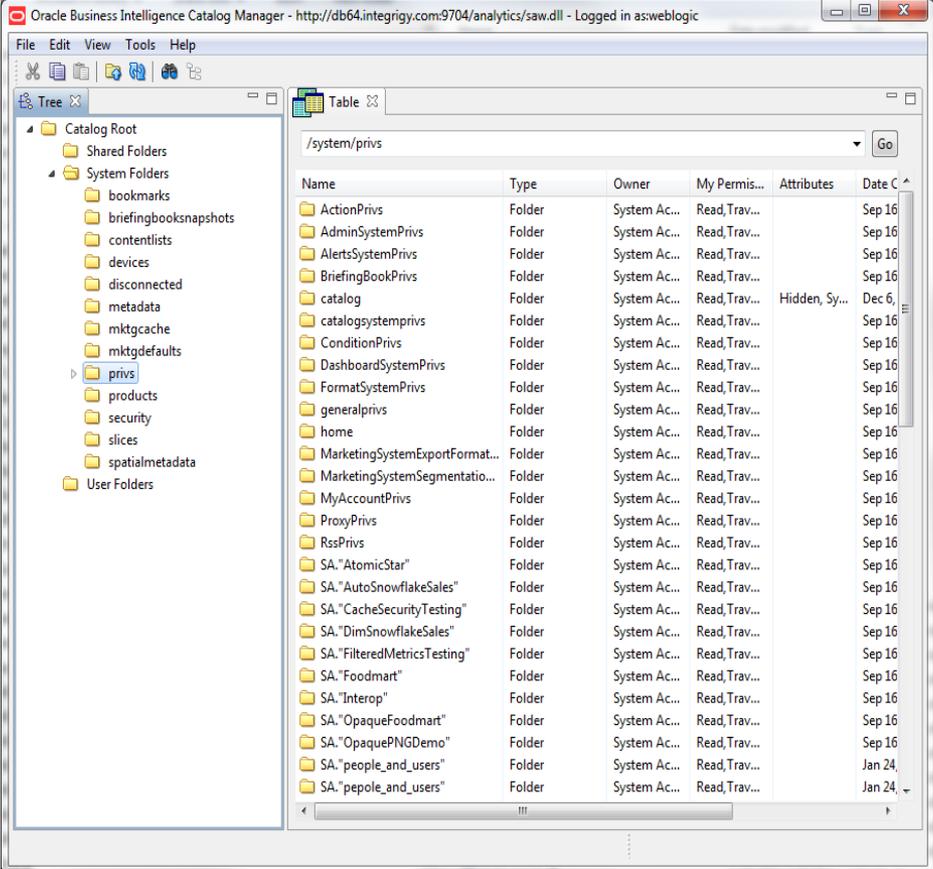
- Permissions for reports and folders
  - By Role or User



# Presentation Catalog Security

- Access Control List (ACL) defined for each object
  - Stored in \*.ATR files
- Works only at the subject area level of RPD
- BI Publisher is a separate catalog
- Catalog of permissions:
  - Dashboards
  - Reports
  - KPIs
  - Groups of folders

## Windows Catalog Client



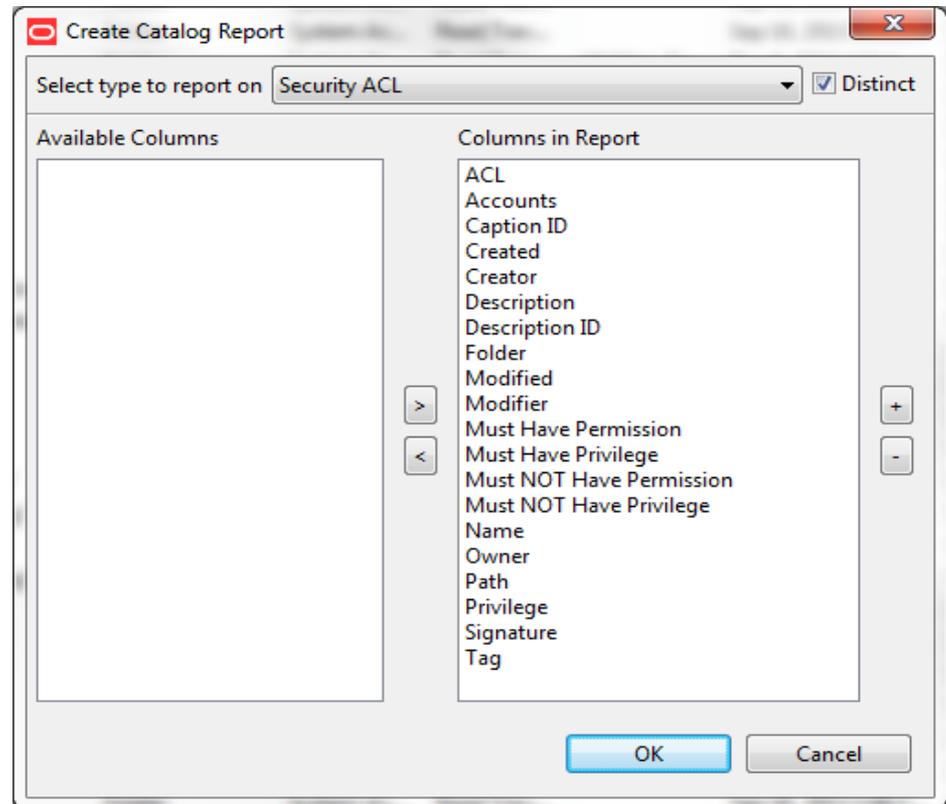
The screenshot shows the Oracle Business Intelligence Catalog Manager interface. The left pane displays a tree view of the catalog structure, including Shared Folders, System Folders, and User Folders. The right pane displays a table of permissions for the selected folder, /system/privs.

Name	Type	Owner	My Permis...	Attributes	Date C
ActionPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
AdminSystemPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
AlertsSystemPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
BriefingBookPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
catalog	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...	Hidden, Sy...	Dec 6,
catalogsystemprivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
ConditionPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
DashboardSystemPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
FormatSystemPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
generalprivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
home	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
MarketingSystemExportFormat...	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
MarketingSystemSegmentatio...	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
MyAccountPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
ProxyPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
RssPrivs	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"AtomicStar"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"AutoSnowflakeSales"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"CacheSecurityTesting"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"DimSnowflakeSales"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"FilteredMetricsTesting"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"Foodmart"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"Interop"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"OpaqueFoodmart"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"OpaquePNGDemo"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Sep 16
SA,"people_and_users"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Jan 24,
SA,"pepole_and_users"	Folder	System Ac...	Read, Trav...		Jan 24,

# Presentation Catalog Reports

- Catalog reports are critical feature
- Export to Excel for analysis and reporting

Select ACL and columns to report



# Presentation Catalog Security

- Administration Rights also set with ACLs
  - **Security ACL** is very important

ORACLE Business Intelligence

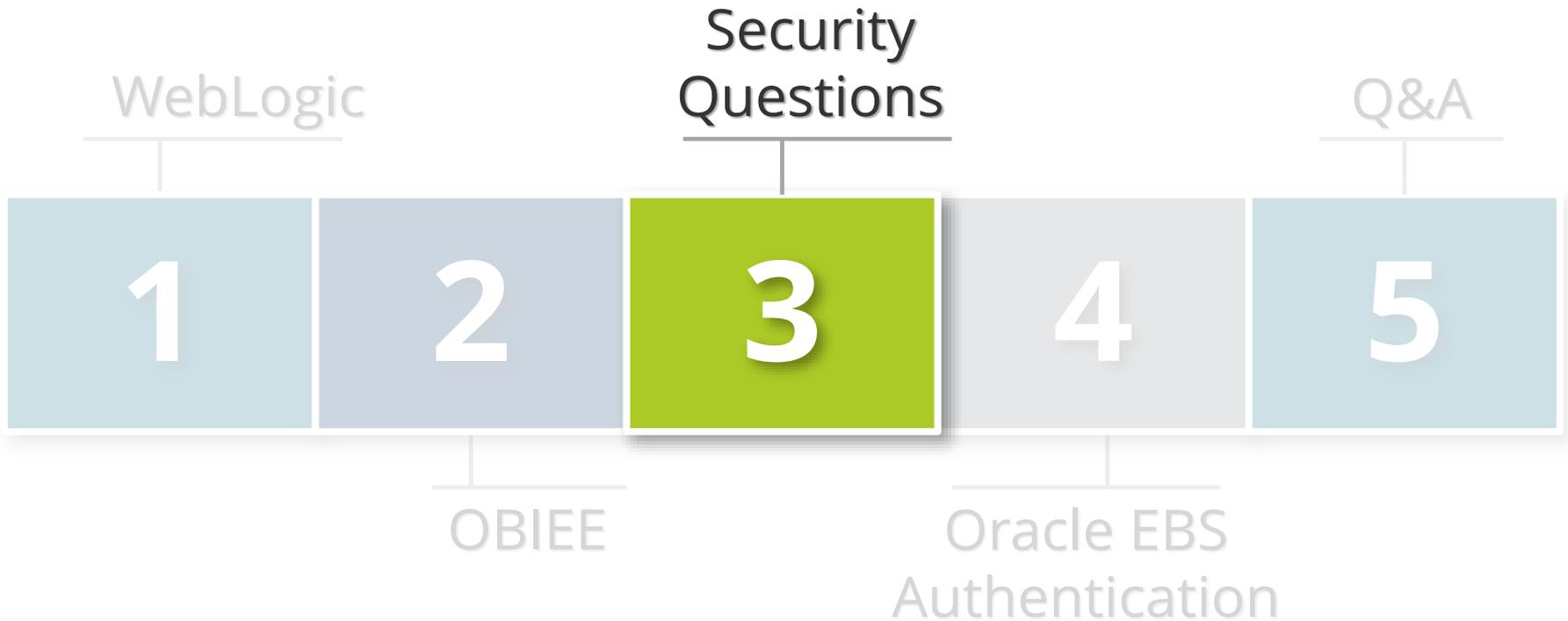
Administration		
Manage Privileges		
This page allows you to view and administer privileges associated with various components of Oracle Business Intelligence.		
Access	Access to Dashboards	<a href="#">BI Consumer Role</a>
	Access to Answers	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
	Access to BI Composer	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
	Access to Delivers	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
	Access to Briefing Books	<a href="#">BI Consumer Role</a>
	Access to Mobile	<a href="#">BI Consumer Role</a>
	Access to Administration	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role, BI Consumer Role</a>
	Access to Segments	<a href="#">BI Consumer Role</a>
	Access to Segment Trees	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
	Access to List Formats	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
	Access to Metadata Dictionary	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
	Access to Oracle BI for Microsoft Office	<a href="#">BI Consumer Role</a>
	Access to Oracle BI Client Installer	<a href="#">BI Consumer Role</a>
	Access to KPI Builder	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
Access to Scorecard	<a href="#">BI Consumer Role</a>	
Actions	Create Navigate Actions	<a href="#">BI Consumer Role</a>
	Create Invoke Actions	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
	Save Actions containing embedded HTML	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role</a>
Admin: Catalog	Change Permissions	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
	Toggle Maintenance Mode	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role</a>
Admin: General	Manage Sessions	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role</a>
	Manage Dashboards	<a href="#">BI Author Role</a>
	See sessions IDs	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role</a>
	Issue SQL Directly	<a href="#">Authenticated User, BI Administrator Role, BI Author Role, BI Consumer Role, BI System Role</a>
	View System Information	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role, BI Author Role</a>
	Performance Monitor	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role</a>
	Manage Agent Sessions	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role</a>
	Manage Device Types	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role</a>
Manage Map Data	<a href="#">BI Administrator Role</a>	

For example:  
Who can Issue  
SQL direct

# OBIEE Security Changes with 11g

- **Users and groups no longer defined in RPD**
  - Defined now in WebLogic & OEM
- **Security policies mapped to Application Roles not groups**
  - Roles transcend ALL Fusion Applications
- **No more Administration user**
  - Any number of users have Admin privileges

# Agenda



# OBIEE Security and Discussion Questions

- Permission reports
- Usage Tracking
- Key Accounts
- Act As/Impersonation
- Direct SQL Access
- GO URL
- Configuration migrations
- Writeback
- Time limits
- VPD support
- Source code control
- Logging and log levels

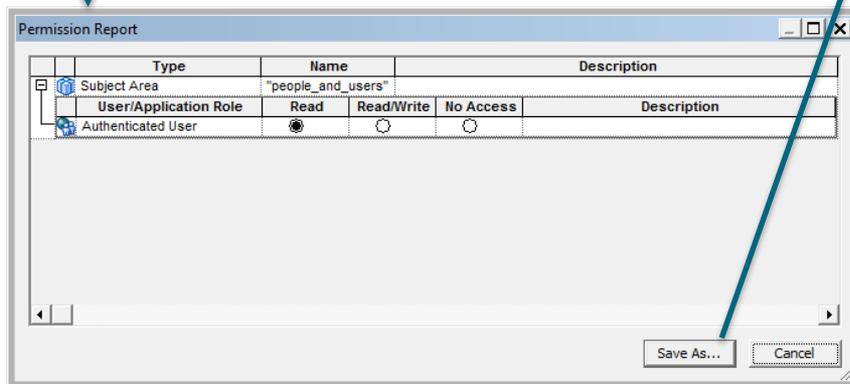
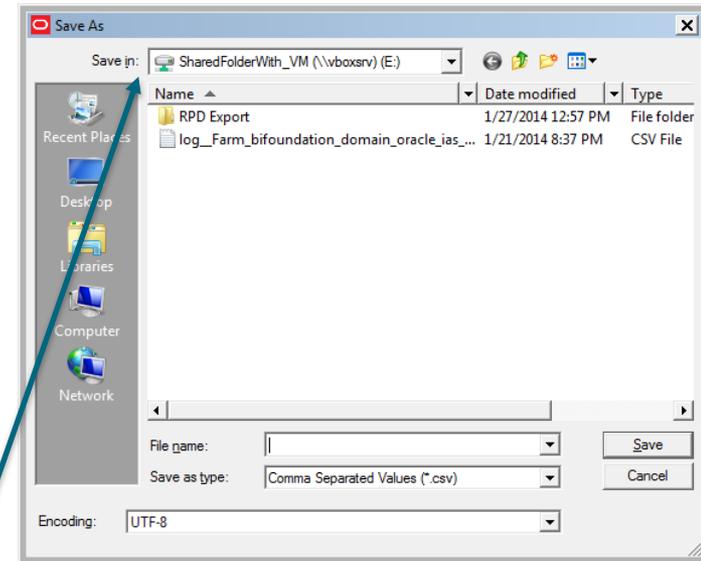
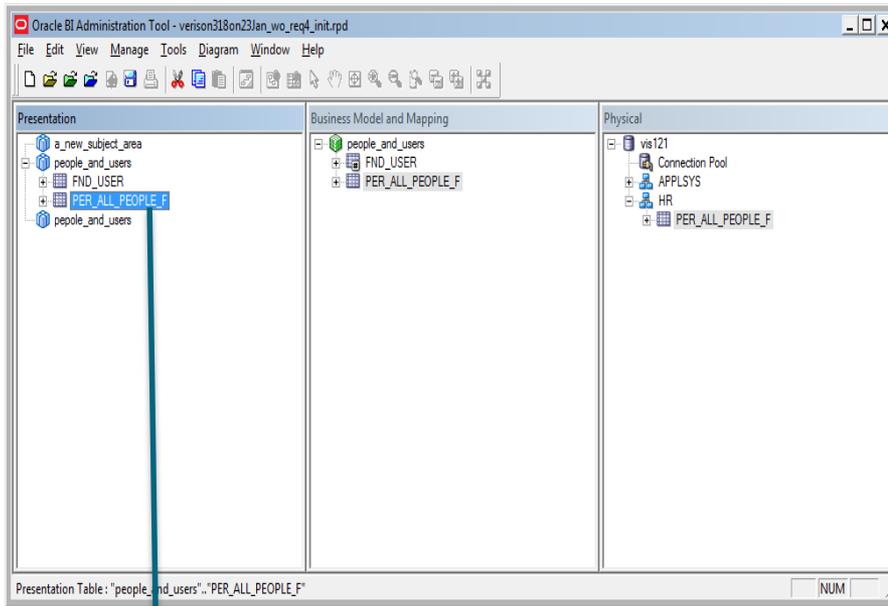
# Key Accounts

<b>Account</b>	<b>Security Issue</b>
<b>OS owner of WebLogic</b>	Try not use to 'weblogic' or to use welcome1 for a password
<b>OS user that runs WebLogic</b>	Do not use root or a privileged user. Do not hardcode this user's credentials in startup/shutdown scripts
<b>WebLogic administration user(s)</b>	End-user(s) with full Administration rights to WebLogic
<b>BI Admin User</b>	Seeded end-user with full Administration rights to OBIEE
<b>BI System User</b>	Seeded account used for service-to-service authentication. Not intended to be used by users. Do not change password without following the specific Oracle support instructions.
<b>OracleSystemUser</b>	Seeded account created during installation. User name can be change later but need to follow instructions

# Ask Questions About ...

<b>Write-backs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Connection pools can be flagged to allow users to update the database</li><li>▪ Who can and to what?</li><li>▪ Can they also issue Direct SQL?</li></ul>
<b>Security configurations &amp; migrations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ How are OPSS (policies and credentials) migrated from non-production to production?</li><li>▪ GUI or WLST?</li></ul>
<b>Source code control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Are RPD files under source code control?</li><li>▪ Are XML exports being used?</li></ul>

# Ask For RPD Permission Reports



**Note: Permission reports do NOT include BMM or Physical filters and limits**

# Use OBIEE Usage Tracking

- **Oracle provides sample RPD**
  - Manually copy components into your RPD
- **Reports on changes to**
  - Enterprise manager configuration changes
  - RPD changes
  - Who ran what report when
- **Recommend redirect to log files**
  - Set STORAGE\_DIRECTORY in NQSConfig.ini
  - Pass to centralized logging (e.g. Spunk, ArcSight, etc...)
  - Part of holistic log and audit solution

# Direct SQL Access

## ORACLE Business Intelligence

### Administration

#### Issue SQL

Enter a SQL statement to issue directly against the Oracle BI Server. This page is for testing the Oracle BI Server only.

```
update hr.per_pay_proposals ppa
set ppa.proposed_salary_n = 1000000
where exists (select 1
              from per_assignments_x pax, per_people_x ppx
              where pax.person_id = ppx.person_id
              and pax.assignment_id = ppa.assignment_id
              and ppx.full_name = 'Fred Flintstone')
```

- Use only for debug
- Only objects in RPD can be queried
- Security ACL grants Direct SQL rights

Issue SQL

Oracle BI Server Logging Level

Default ▼



Use Oracle BI Presentation Services Cache

# Direct SQL Access

ORACLE Business Intelligence

Administration

Issue SQL

Enter a SQL statement to issue directly against the Oracle BI Server. This page is for testing the Oracle BI Server only. Results are returned with

```
select encrypted_user_password from people_and_users
```

Issue SQL Oracle BI Server Logging Level: Default Use Oracle BI Presentation Services Cache

"FND_USER"."ENCRYPTED_USER_PASSWORD"
varchar
DUMMY
INTERNAL USER-NOLOGIN
INVALID
ZG002AFD7B2E88E915BCB5932FB5E30AEBC8A6E65CF57392319387EB3F400ED11BED8D8446FB0A67B9035A26874EE2C0899C
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ZG0242C068167880BFD9FF5BA01232D8E4843C25FB32D595E59614B9DD3D57E4B67D8401AC5C3729F7A7784C0220B4E34654

Example of exposing Oracle E-Business Suite Passwords from APPLSYS.FND\_USER

# Go URL SQL Access

- Go URL used to integrate Presentation Services with external portals and applications
  - Set variables, session attributes
- Security concerns
  - Must authenticate first
    - Do you have a PUBLIC user?
  - Bypasses certain parts of security
  - Creates OHS (Apache) log entries
  - Can Issue SQL
- Two options to issue SQL:
  - To data source(s) through RPD using `saw.dll?Go&SQL`
  - Directly against Oracle BI Server using `saw.dll?Go&IssueRawSQL`
- Syntax

`http://<yourserver>.com:9704/analytics/saw.dll?Go&SQL=select  
+thecolumn+from+subject_area`

# Go URL & SQL Access

## ■ Examples:

Authenticate

<http://db64.integrigy.com:9704/analytics/saw.dll?GO&NQUser=weblogic&NQPassword>Password1>

Issue SQL

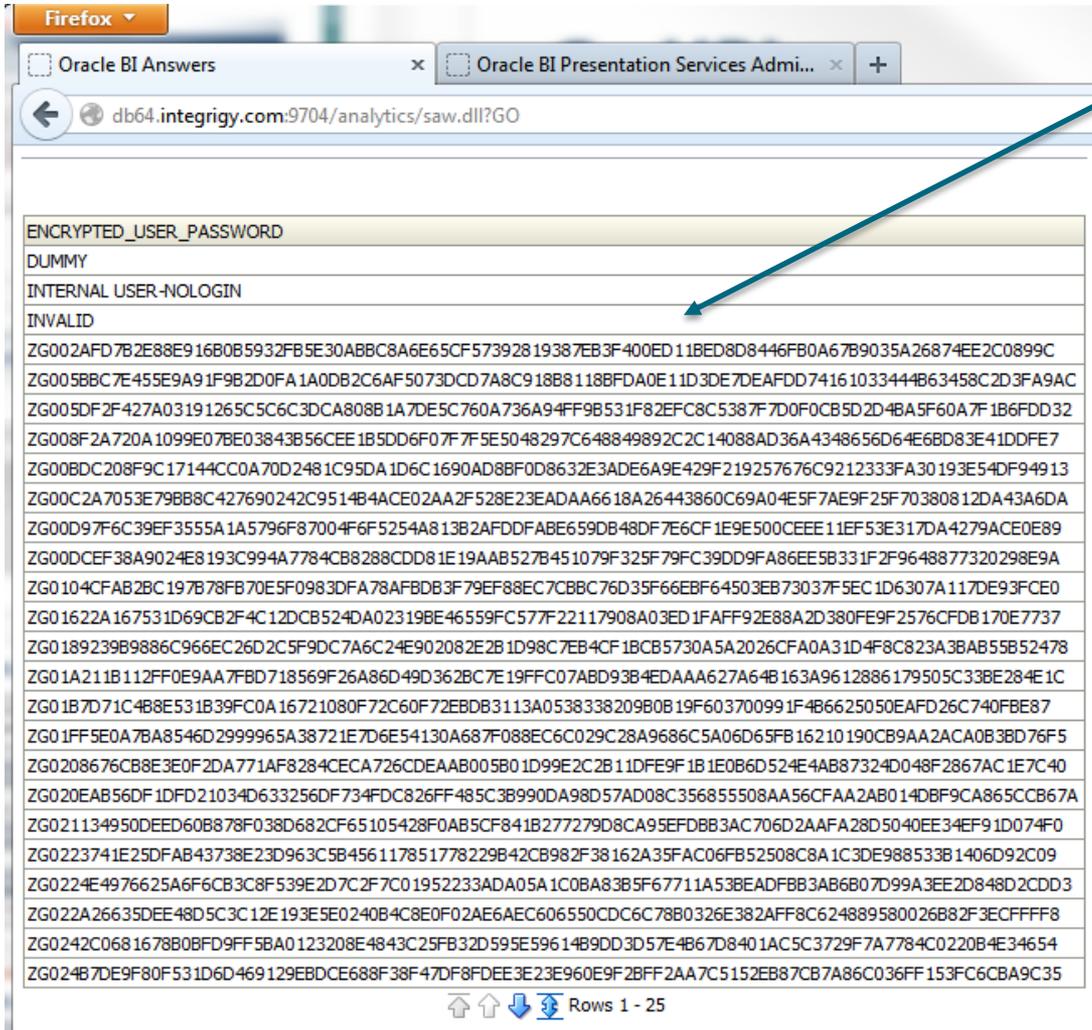
[http://testobiee:9704/analytics/saw.dll?Go&SQL=\*\*select+person+salary+from+hr\\_salary\\_info\*\*](http://testobiee:9704/analytics/saw.dll?Go&SQL=<b>select+person+salary+from+hr_salary_info</b>)

[http://db64.integrigy.com:9704/analytics/saw.dll?Go&SQL=select+\*\*encrypted\\_user\\_password\*\*+from+people\\_and\\_users](http://db64.integrigy.com:9704/analytics/saw.dll?Go&SQL=select+<b>encrypted_user_password</b>+from+people_and_users)

*The FROM clause is the name of the Subject Area to query*

# Go URL SQL Access

http://db64.integrigy.com:9704/analytics/saw.dll?GO&NQUser=integrigy\_test\_1&NQPassword=test1234&SQL=select+encrypted\_user\_password+from+people\_and\_users



Oracle BI Answers

Oracle BI Presentation Services Admin...

db64.integrigy.com:9704/analytics/saw.dll?GO

ENCRYPTED_USER_PASSWORD
DUMMY
INTERNAL USER-NOLOGIN
INVALID
ZG002AFD7B2E88E916B0B5932FB5E30ABBC8A6E65CF57392819387EB3F400ED11BED8D8446FB0A67B9035A26874EE2C0899C
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Rows 1 - 25

This test user **CANNOT** issue Direct SQL but still can query with Go URL

Being able to see passwords from APPLSYS.FND\_USER is a **BAD IDEA**

# Act-As and Impersonation

	<b>Impersonate</b>	<b>Act-As</b>
<b>Level of access</b>	Full access	Full or read-only access, on a single user
<b>Users whose identity can be assumed by the proxy user</b>	Any and all users, anytime	Defined list of users
<b>Access method</b>	Construct URL manually	Standard functionality of UI
<b>How to know if being used</b>	No indication given	Both proxy and Target are shown in the UI
<b>Security risk</b>	Credentials exposed in plain text when URL submitted	Little to none

# Log Levels and Logs

BI Component	Log File
OPMN	debug.log
OPMN	opmn.log
BI Server	nqserver.log
BI Server Query	nquery<n>.log <n>=data and timestamp for example nquery- 20140109-2135.log
BI Cluster Controller	nqcluster.log
Oracle BI Scheduler	nqscheduler.log
Usage Tracking	NOAcct.yyymmdd.h mms.log
Presentation Services	sawlog*.log (for example sawlog0.log)
BI JavaHost	jh.log

- Holistic logging solution
  - WebLogic
  - OBIEE
  - Data sources
- OBIEE Logging Level
  - Set in BI Admin Tool
    - Users only, not possible for roles
  - Log Levels 0 to 7

# Time Restrictions for Roles and Users

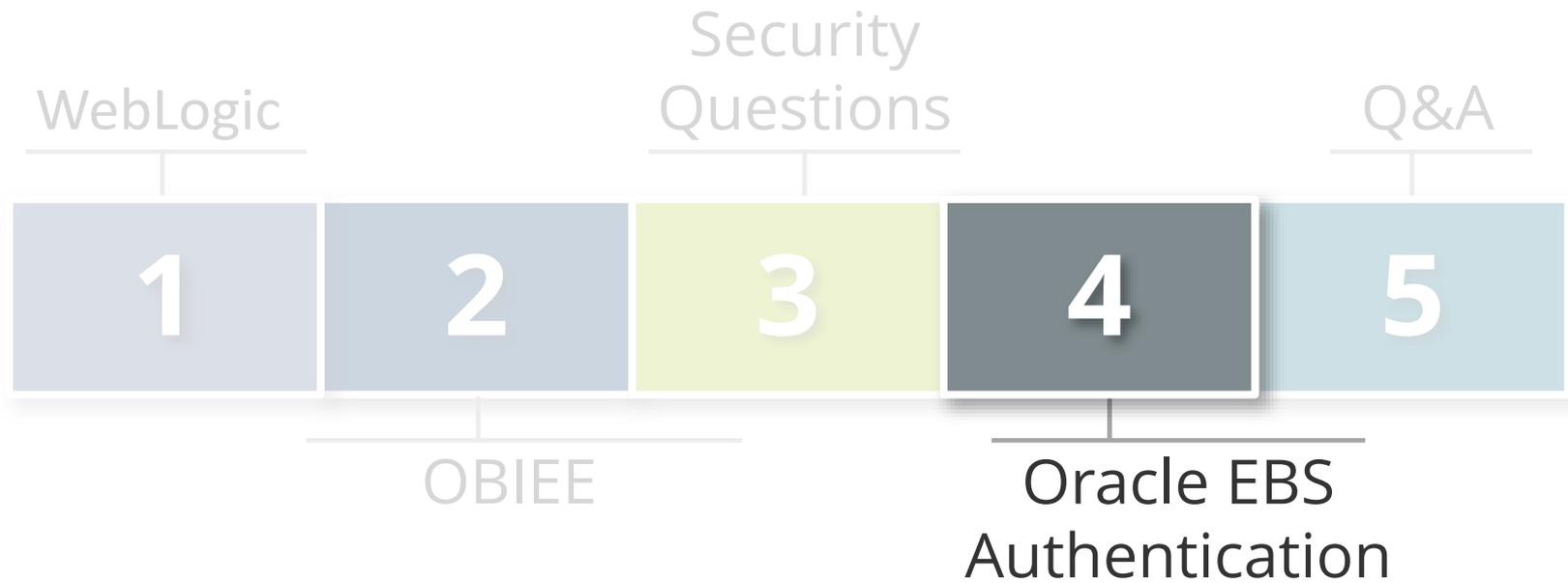
The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Restrictions - test1" with a grid for setting time restrictions. The grid has columns for time intervals (Midnight to 6 AM, 6 AM to Noon, Noon to 6 PM, 6 PM to Midnight) and rows for days of the week (Sunday to Saturday). On Wednesday, the 6 AM to Noon interval is marked with green circles, and the Noon to 6 PM interval is marked with red rectangles. To the right of the grid are buttons for "Allow", "Disallow", and "Clear". At the bottom of the dialog are "OK", "Cancel", and "Help" buttons.

	Midnight	6 AM	Noon	6 PM	Midnight
Sunday					
Monday					
Tuesday					
Wednesday		●	●	■	
Thursday					
Friday					
Saturday					

# VPD, Data Vault and Row Level Security

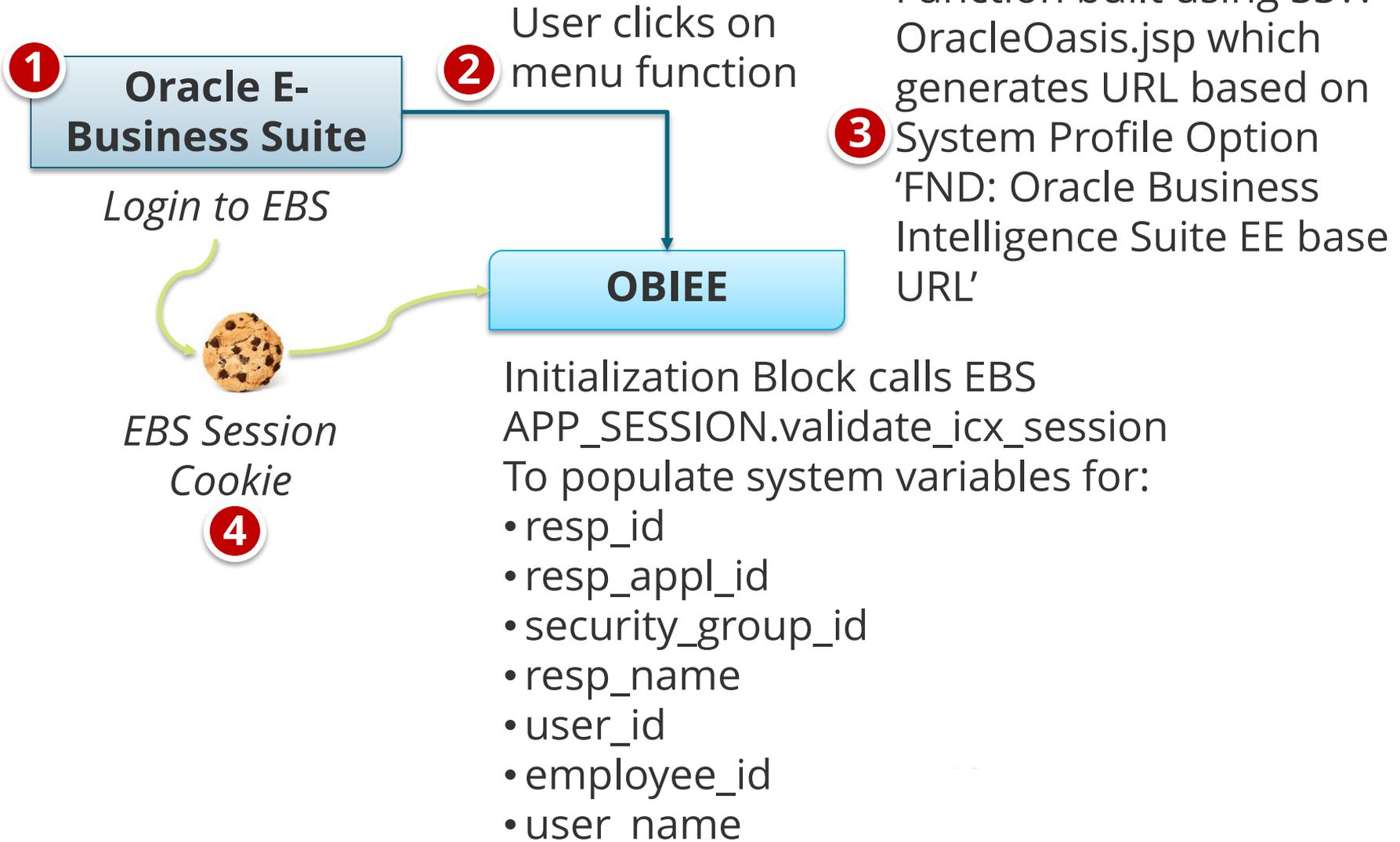
- **Is a connection with VPD or Data Vault being used?**
  - What are the rules?
- **Which is better VPD, Data Vault or OBIEE row level security?**
  - VPD and Data Vault protect data at the data source
    - Is OBIEE the only consumer or user?

# Agenda

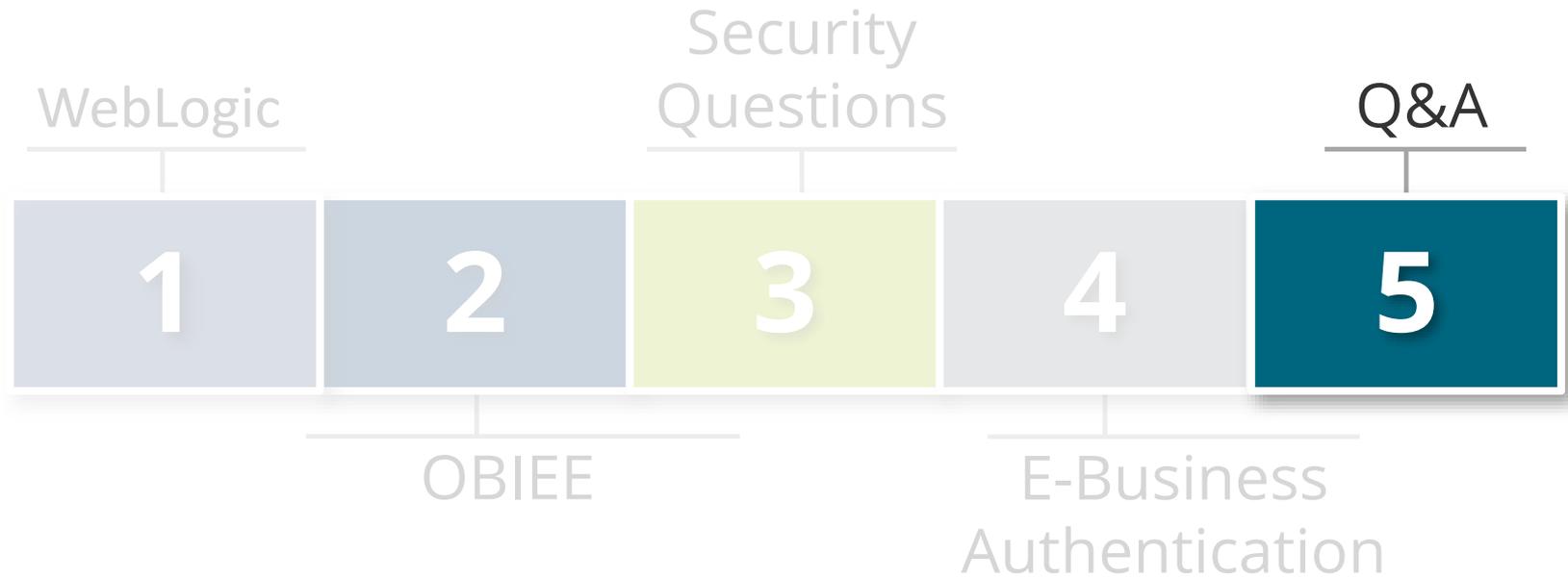


# Oracle E-Business Suite Authentication

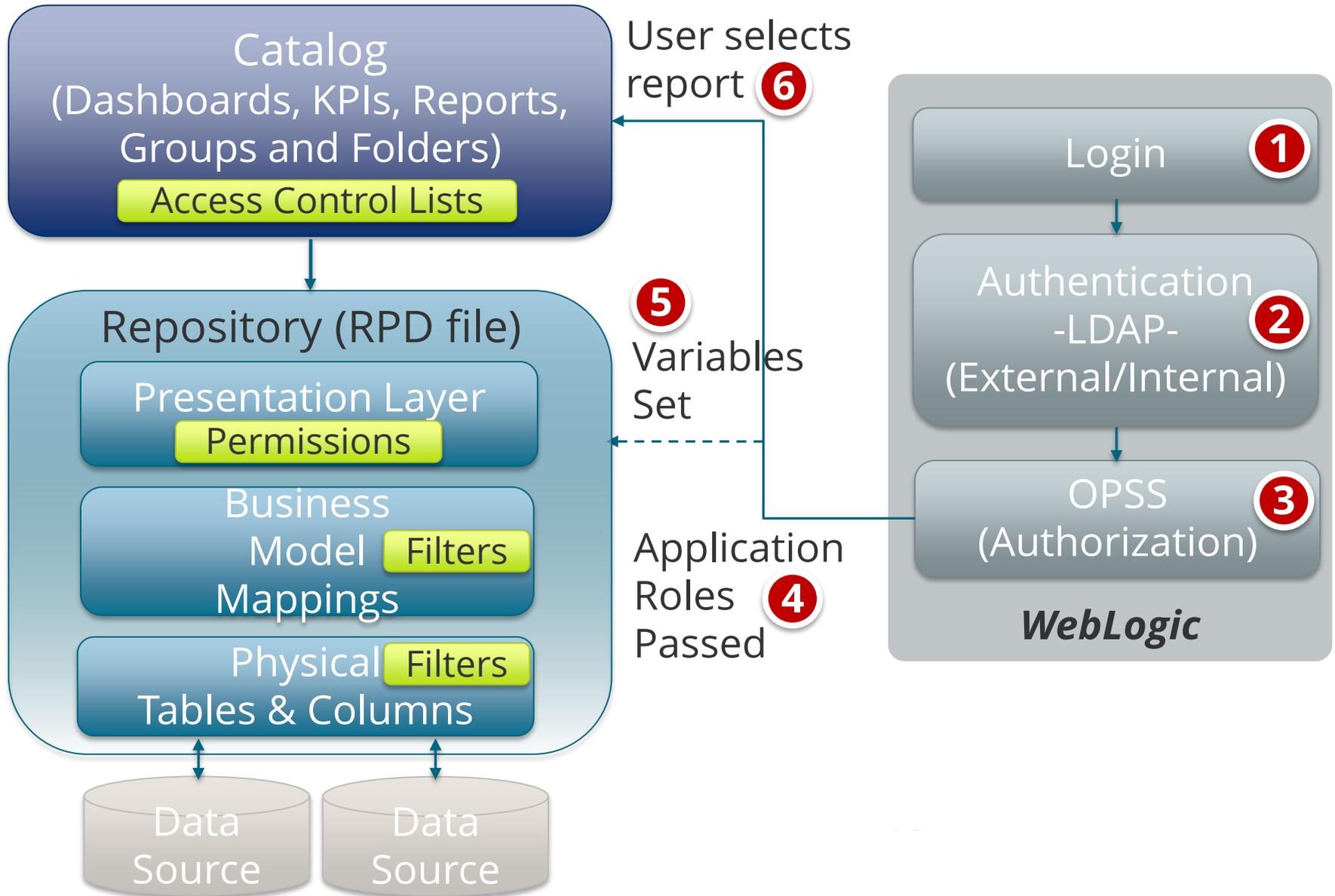
## Access through E-Business not SSO



# Agenda



# OBIEE Security



# Really Good References

- OBIEE Security Examined, Integrigy, March 2014
  - <http://www.integrigy.com/security-resources/obiee-security-examined>
- Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition (OBIEE) Product Information Center (PIC) ID 1267009.1
- “Oracle Fusion Middleware Security Overview, 11g Release 1 (11.1.1)”, Oracle Corporation, May 2009, E12889-01
- “Oracle Fusion Middleware Securing a Production Environment for Oracle WebLogic Server 11g Release 1 (10.3.4)”, Oracle Corporation, January 2011, E13705-04
- “Oracle WebLogic Server WebLogic Scripting Tool 10g Release 3 (10.3)”, Oracle Corporation, July 2008, E15051-01

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