

The Call for Papers for the NWOUG Portland Fall Training Day is now open!

Have you done anything cool with your Oracle technology lately? Went through a project where you learned some things that others might benefit from? Want to present at one of the BIG conferences but would like to present to your local peers first? Already presented at one of the BIG conferences and would like to share it with your local peers?

Then present at the NWOUG Fall Training Day in Portland!

As a Training Day presenter, you will:

- Have the opportunity to give back to the users' community by sharing ideas, tips and tricks, or lessons learned
- Enhance your professional development, visibility and connections
- Receive a free Training Day registration!

To increase the chances your paper is selected for the NWOUG Training Day, the following information outlines the general selection process that the NWOUG Paper Selection Committee follows.

Business Issues and Key Topics

Special consideration will be given to submissions that address the following business issues and key topics.

Business Issues

- Staying current with new releases
- Deploying the best technology and applications
- Reducing the cost of ownership
- Securing your environment
- Providing and improving high availability

Key Topics

- Performance and scalability
- Database Administration
- Middleware
- Manageability
- Storage
- Data Warehousing
- Emerging Technologies
- Big Data
- Business Intelligence
- Cloud Computing
- Oracle Applications Solutions (EBS, PS, JDE, SIEBEL, etc.)

Tips and Tricks for Successful Paper Submissions

Start With a Solid Idea. Consider how your knowledge and experience can help other users solve a problem; develop your presentation idea with that in mind. Be specific about how attendees will benefit and what they will learn. Try to select a topic with broad appeal that is not too narrowly focused. Remember, there are lots of new users at these events, so basic topics can be very appealing.

There are four Training Day educational tracks that presentations generally fall into:

- **Functional** Generally user presentations related to Applications (EBS, JDE, PSFT, etc.)
- **Technical** Generally user presentations.
- **Vendor** The Vendor track is generally a vendor talking about their product and/or services that Oracle customers may find compelling.
- **Oracle** Oracle provides speakers to present on relevant topics.

The topics are wide open, as long as they focus on things that our NWOUG users will care about. Choosing a good, relevant topic increases your chances of acceptance. Seek input from your peers when formulating your title and abstract.

Submit Early, Submit Often. If you have several ideas, it can be beneficial to submit multiple topics to the call for papers.

Create a Catchy or Descriptive Title. A catchy, descriptive title shows that you can be clever and will attract attention during the paper voting process. Be sure that your clever title still accurately describes the objective and content of your presentation.

Proofread Your Entry. Grammar and spelling count. Poor grammar and incorrect spelling can disqualify your paper from being accepted. The selection committee will wonder what the presentation and paper will be like if the abstract is poorly written.

Co-present with Others. Finally, consider co-presenting with other people. Preference is given to user-submitted content to maximize the opportunities for user-to-user learning and networking. However, if you are a user working with a systems integrator or contractor, consider presenting together. Identify topics that emphasize the value of the presentation for other users (not a sales presentation). Always give the user top billing to highlight that it is a user presentation.

Paper Selection Process

The paper selection process is similar to most all conference paper processes. Once the call for papers opens, you will have until the “Close Call for Papers” deadline indicated in the timeline below to complete the “Speaker Application Form”, which you can complete online or alternatively download from the NWOUG web site. This is the only thing that is needed for submission. There is no need to write a presentation or white paper until your idea is accepted.

For NWOUG, the call for papers is followed by a voting period, during which the NWOUG Paper Selection Committee will vote on papers. Once all the votes are tallied, the submitters are notified of the status of their submissions. Hopefully you receive a congratulatory message, and then the fun really begins. You will receive specific, detailed instructions from the speaker coordinator at the NWOUG, highlighting expectations for the submission of your presentation and white paper. Once your presentation is submitted, you will receive your free Training Day registration!

Paper Submission Timeline

- March 1, 2017 Open Call for Presenters
- Submit paper online at <https://nwoug.typeform.com/to/GOAhmb>
- Alternatively, if you need to fill out a form offline you can:
- Download and complete “Conference Speaker Application Form”
Home Page->Documents -> Articles and Presentations -> Presenters ->
Conference Speaker Application Form
 - Submit form to papers@nwoug.org
- June 19, 2017 Close Call for Presenters
- Paper Selection Committee begins reviewing submissions
Papers voted on and finalists determined
- June 26, 2017 Presenter finalists notified
- Presenters finalize papers and slides as appropriate
Presenters save final presentation slides file in PDF format for uploading
- August 16, 2017 Program finalized and ready for publication
- September 6, 2017 Training Day show time!

Presenter Questions?

If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at papers@nwoug.org. Please specify your question or concern and include a contact e-mail address and phone number.