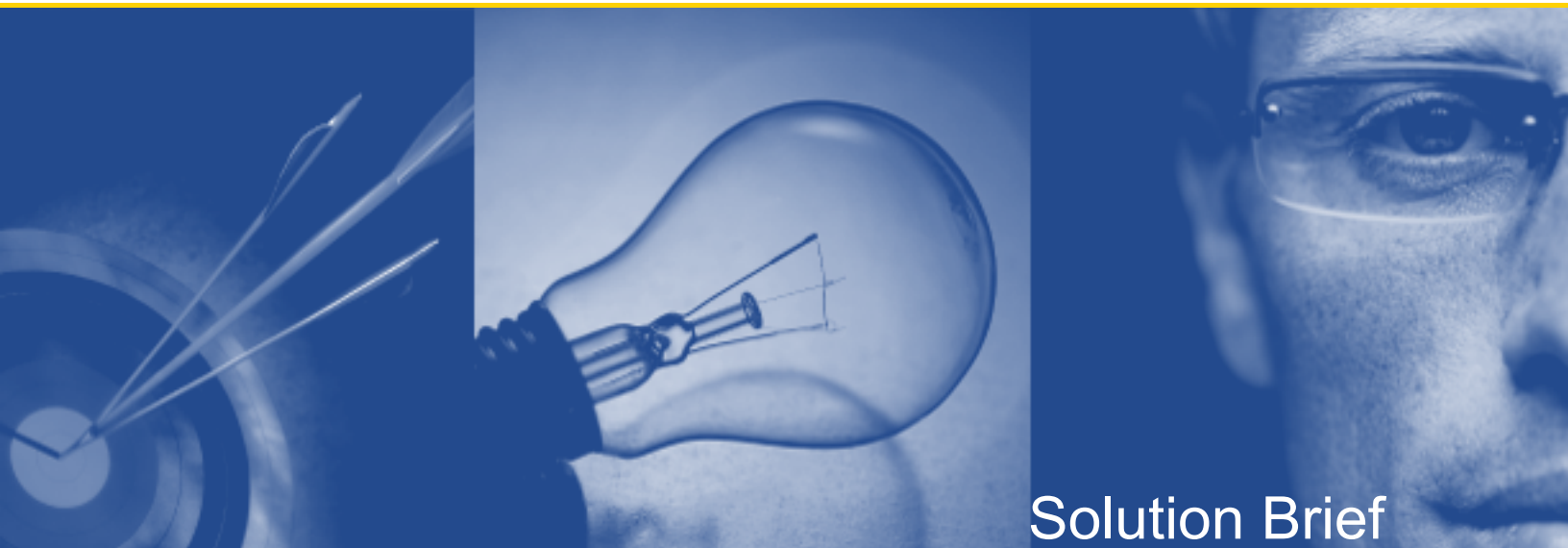


An Introduction to Foglight® Performance Analysis

*Written by
Quest Software, Inc.*



Solution Brief

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INTRODUCTION

This document provides a concise overview of Foglight® Performance Analysis. We want to provide you with an understanding of what is available for database and SQL application workload analysis from Quest Software and how this solution will function in your IT environment. We will describe how Foglight Performance Analysis performs these functions, as well as the product architecture and what the future holds. For current customers, we will also describe what your license of Foglight Performance Analysis offers in the form of support, upgrades and releases.

WHAT IS FOGLIGHT® PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS?

Foglight Performance Analysis (formerly "Performance Analysis") is a comprehensive workload analysis tool that offers both real-time and historical performance diagnostics. Through advanced diagnostic features and specially designed interfaces, Performance Analysis transforms database performance management into a faster, easier and more efficient experience. Its 24x7 historical and real-time analytic capabilities enable DBAs to establish critical system benchmarks, such as load capacity and throughput levels. If performance baselines are exceeded, Performance Analysis presents DBAs with action plans that offer an analysis of the problem and recommendations for improving the overall performance of the database.

Foglight Performance Analysis functionality is available to customers in two forms: as a cartridge which fits seamlessly into the Foglight application monitoring framework; and, as a standalone product for customers who do not own Foglight as their application monitoring solution, or do not necessarily need the overarching Foglight framework.

Both of these scenarios provide the respective customer with the same database diagnostic capabilities.

Foglight is Application Management

Foglight application management overcomes much of what traditional monitoring cannot and empowers you with a 360-degree view of your application. You will see your applications the way end users do, so you can deliver the service levels on which the business depends. You will understand how changes to infrastructure and databases impact your applications, so you can ensure top performance and availability. Most importantly, Foglight correlates the data from all of these perspectives, so you will go directly to the root cause of the problem, fix it quickly, and keep the business running.

Performance Analysis is Intelligent SQL Workload Analysis

Foglight Performance Analysis enables intelligent SQL workload analysis. The success of your business is tied to the productivity of your enterprise databases—which change constantly. Therefore the IT staff must be able to proactively diagnose and resolve bottlenecks and scalability issues that threaten performance. But the task of SQL workload performance tuning and troubleshooting requires a great deal of a DBA's time. DBAs must establish benchmarks to understand the load and throughput the database systems can handle, and they need to collect metrics and monitor activity around the clock. DBAs must also be able to do both real-time and historical analyses to detect issues and determine proper action plans, and to create effective reports to keep management informed. All these tasks are critical to maintaining operational integrity and end-user satisfaction, while avoiding costly production slowdowns. Performance Analysis allows DBAs to quickly and efficiently determine the root cause of performance deviations, perform comprehensive analyses and resolve performance bottlenecks.

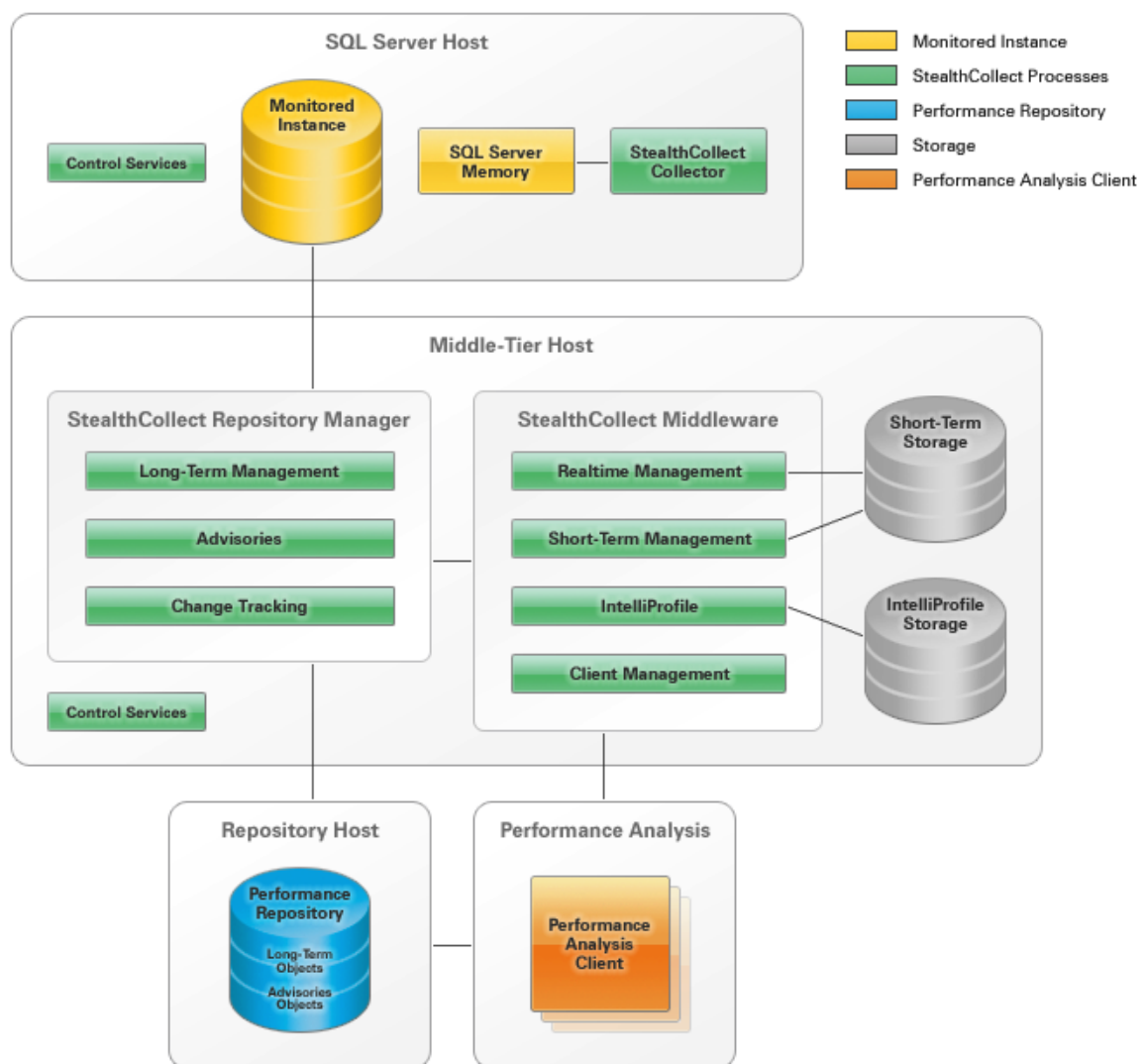
SQL Performance Management

Foglight Performance Analysis is evolving to become a web-based enterprise SQL performance manager. By leveraging the power of the Foglight framework, Performance Analysis WebView provides a web-enabled enterprise administration and alerting interface that helps simplify SQL application performance management. With WebView, you can manage the performance of both Oracle and SQL Server side-by-side. For standalone Performance Analysis customers, the addition of WebView empowers you to see across your entire database enterprise and automate and track performance tuning and problem resolution initiatives without opening individual client consoles.

WHAT DOES FOGLIGHT PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS INCLUDE?

StealthCollect® Agent Technology

The StealthCollect® agent technology powers Foglight Performance Analysis. StealthCollect provides an industry-leading, in-memory monitoring solution for Oracle and SQL Server environments. Simply put, StealthCollect provides the most information with the lowest possible impact on throughput and performance.



The StealthCollect agent and Middleware are two of the main collection and processing components of Foglight Performance Analysis

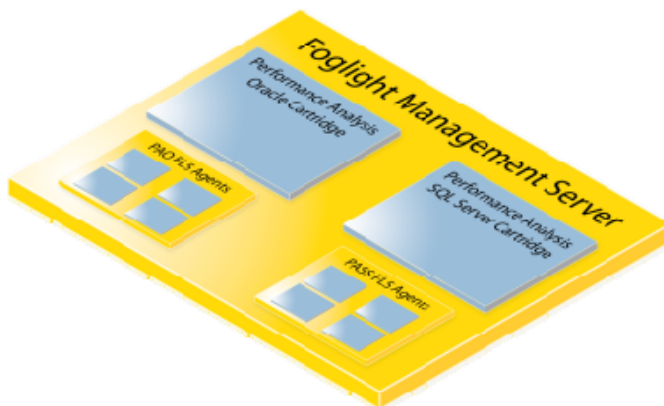
The StealthCollect agent is comprised of two main components:

- **The Collector** is responsible for in-memory metric and SQL collection. It resides on the monitored instance host.
- **The Middleware** is responsible for processing and storing the collected data. In addition to data processing and storage, the Middleware contains Quest's IntelliProfile® baseline technology to compile time-sensitive baselines on all of your instance-level data. The Middleware can reside anywhere in your environment where TCP/IP connectivity can be established with the Collector.

The StealthCollect® agent technology supports a single Middleware to manage numerous monitored Oracle or Microsoft SQL Server database environments (check the Oracle and SQL Server implementation release notes for supported platforms and instances). Deploying fewer Middleware agent components means that you can invest less time and resources in administering your Foglight® Performance Analysis infrastructure.

Foglight Performance Analysis WebView

Foglight Performance Analysis WebView provides a web-enabled enterprise administration and alerting interface. WebView leverages the Foglight Management Server (FMS), a centralized middleware component that enables Oracle and SQL Server cartridge to provide dashboards, reporting and analysis, along with proactive alerting and alarm workflows for tracking your responses to critical performance anomalies.



Foglight Management Server offers a centralized console for managing database platform cartridges

Performance Analysis WebView is implemented as a cartridge, which provides centralized visibility and management of the StealthCollect agents deployed in your environment, as well as information on the health of the Oracle and SQL Server database systems you're monitoring. WebView also supports launching the Foglight Performance Analysis Client in-context once you've identified a performance anomaly you need to investigate.

Additional Features

Foglight Performance Analysis also includes the following features:

- **Performance Advisories**—Built-in analytic technology and business intelligence is like having an automated in-house SQL expert review workload data and produce custom reports to guide DBAs toward maximizing performance.
- **Time-Sensitive Baselines**—The IntelliProfile® learning baseline algorithm allows the DBA to easily determine the activity that is outside the bounds of what is expected.
- **Change Tracking**—Automated change tracking enables DBAs to receive notifications of changes to server, instance, database, and schema environments, as well as to application SQL degradations. Performance Analysis includes a facility to customize change alerts.
- **Compare Utility**—The compare utility uses the wealth of information collected by Foglight Performance Analysis to provide DBAs with an efficient means of identifying the root causes of performance deviations in application environments.
- **Statement-level Wait Event Analysis**—Performance Analysis provides wait event data down to the statement level, greatly decreasing the time required to resolve resource-related performance problems.
- **Unlimited Data Storage**—Unlimited performance and environmental data storage and dimensional analysis are provided in a relational database. This allows Performance Analysis to provide historical views of this data to any previous point in time as required by the user.
- **Reports**—Performance Analysis includes built-in reports targeted toward audiences from upper management to developers. Easy-to-use wizards enable DBAs to easily define, customize, generate, schedule and deliver reports on system health, performance, trends, changes and a variety of other topics and data points.

HOW DO I INSTALL AND CONFIGURE FOGLIGHT PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS FOR SQL SERVER?

Quest provides detailed installation and configuration guides for Foglight and Foglight Performance Analysis. Documentation includes the following:

Foglight

- **Foglight® System Requirements**—Documentation on the system requirements for running the Foglight Management Server.
- **Foglight® User Guide**—Comprehensive documentation on using Foglight.

Foglight Performance Analysis

- **Foglight® Performance Analysis Release Notes**—Documentation on supported platforms, new features, known and resolved issues, upgrade information and system requirements.
- **Foglight® Performance Analysis Pre-Installation Checklist**—Quick guide for preparing your environment for an installation of Foglight Performance Analysis.
- **Foglight® Performance Analysis Agent (StealthCollect) Installer User Guide**—Information about the StealthCollect agent, installation prerequisites and an overview of the product architecture, plus installation, uninstall and upgrade instructions.
- **Foglight® Performance Analysis Installation Guide**—Documentation on how to install Foglight Performance Analysis.

Foglight Performance Analysis WebView

- **Foglight® Performance Analysis WebView Quick Start Guide**—Quick guide for understanding the Foglight Performance Analysis WebView, its software requirements, and its installation options.
- **Foglight® Performance Analysis WebView Guide**—A guide to using the Foglight Performance Analysis WebView, including creating and configuring alerts, handling alarms and common usage scenarios.

WHAT DOES MY LICENSE ENTITLE ME TO?

Standalone Performance Analysis Customers

If you are a standalone Foglight Performance Analysis customer, your Performance Analysis license entitles you to the StealthCollect agent technology, the Foglight Performance Analysis Client and Foglight Performance Analysis WebView. No further investment in products or platforms is required. You have access to the full set of product features described above.

Foglight Customers

Customers who have invested in a full Foglight implementation already benefit from the power of enhanced end-to-end visibility into every aspect of the IT infrastructure. By adding Foglight Performance Analysis to your existing Foglight deployment, you augment your ability to perform deep diagnosis and root cause analysis for your Oracle and SQL Server database environment. You have access to the full set of Performance Analysis product features described above.

WHERE DO I TURN FOR SUPPORT, UPGRADES AND NEW RELEASES?

If you are either a standalone Foglight Performance Analysis customer or a Foglight customer, and you are current on maintenance (or within your initial license term), you are entitled to free 24x7 support, upgrades and new product releases.

- **Support**—Any support issues you encounter are handled by Quest's database support specialists. You can open a support ticket either by notifying your Quest account manager of a problem, by sending an email to support@quest.com, or by logging into Quest's SupportLink website at <http://support.quest.com>.
- **Upgrades and new releases**—Quest will notify you via email of product upgrades and new releases, and you can download the installers by logging into Quest's SupportLink website at <http://support.quest.com> with the credentials you received upon purchase.

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR FOGLIGHT PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS?

Foglight Performance Analysis will continue to be available to both our standalone Performance Analysis and Foglight customers. We will continue to work toward improving your user experience, from installation and configuration to day-to-day use. The integration of Performance Analysis with the Foglight framework will simplify database performance management: DBAs and IT professionals will simply require access to a web console to manage their database infrastructure and to detect, diagnose and resolve database performance issues..

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

Visit www.quest.com/Foglight-Performance-Analysis-for-Oracle or www.quest.com/Foglight-Performance-Analysis-for-SQL-Server for more details and the latest information.

ABOUT QUEST SOFTWARE, INC.

Quest Software, Inc., a leading enterprise systems management vendor, delivers innovative products that help organizations get more performance and productivity from their applications, databases, Windows infrastructure and virtual environments. Quest also provides customers with client management through its ScriptLogic subsidiary and server virtualization management through its Vizioncore subsidiary. Through a deep expertise in IT operations and a continued focus on what works best, Quest helps more than 100,000 customers worldwide meet higher expectations for enterprise IT. Visit www.quest.com for more information.

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Contacting Quest Support

Quest Support is available to customers who have a trial version of a Quest product or who have purchased a commercial version and have a valid maintenance contract. Quest Support provides around the clock coverage with SupportLink, our web self-service. Visit SupportLink at <http://support.quest.com>

From SupportLink, you can do the following:

- Quickly find thousands of solutions (Knowledgebase articles/documents).
- Download patches and upgrades.
- Seek help from a Support engineer.
- Log and update your case, and check its status.

View the **Global Support Guide** for a detailed explanation of support programs, online services, contact information, and policy and procedures. The guide is available at: [http://support.quest.com/pdfs/Global Support Guide.pdf](http://support.quest.com/pdfs/Global%20Support%20Guide.pdf)