Masaryk University Develops High Profile Anti-Plagiarism Solution

Masaryk University is the second-largest public university in the Czech Republic and the leading higher education institution in Moravia. It comprises nine faculties with more than 200 departments, institutes, and clinics. The university currently serves around 40,000 students. Recognized as one of the most important teaching and research institutions in the Czech Republic and a highly regarded Central European university, Masaryk plays a major role in the social and cultural life of the South Moravia region.

Challenges

- Combat the potential for students to plagiarize material for their essays, both from online sources and from other students
- Develop a solution tailored to the university’s requirements and optimized not only for English but also for the Czech and Slovak languages, two criteria that were not met by commercially available anti-plagiarism software

Solution

- Developed anti-plagiarism solution based on Oracle Database 10g which enables the university to easily check students’ papers against existing work
- Allowed for a high degree of precision to meet Masaryk University’s need to pinpoint specific sections of papers which appear suspect
- Kept license costs to a minimum by running the solution on a high performance SGI Altix system that provides huge shared memory connected to only one CPU socket
- Enabled rapid, on-budget development by building the system on Oracle Database 10g, rather than a proprietary database as originally planned

“This unique solution, built on Oracle Database, has raised a lot of interest both from the professional community and the general public. It has also helped to create a public debate on the topic of intellectual property protection and honest behavior of students in the Czech Republic.” – Michal Brandejs, Project Manager, Masaryk University