

# Quest® SQL Optimizer *for Oracle*

Version 8.8

## New in This Release

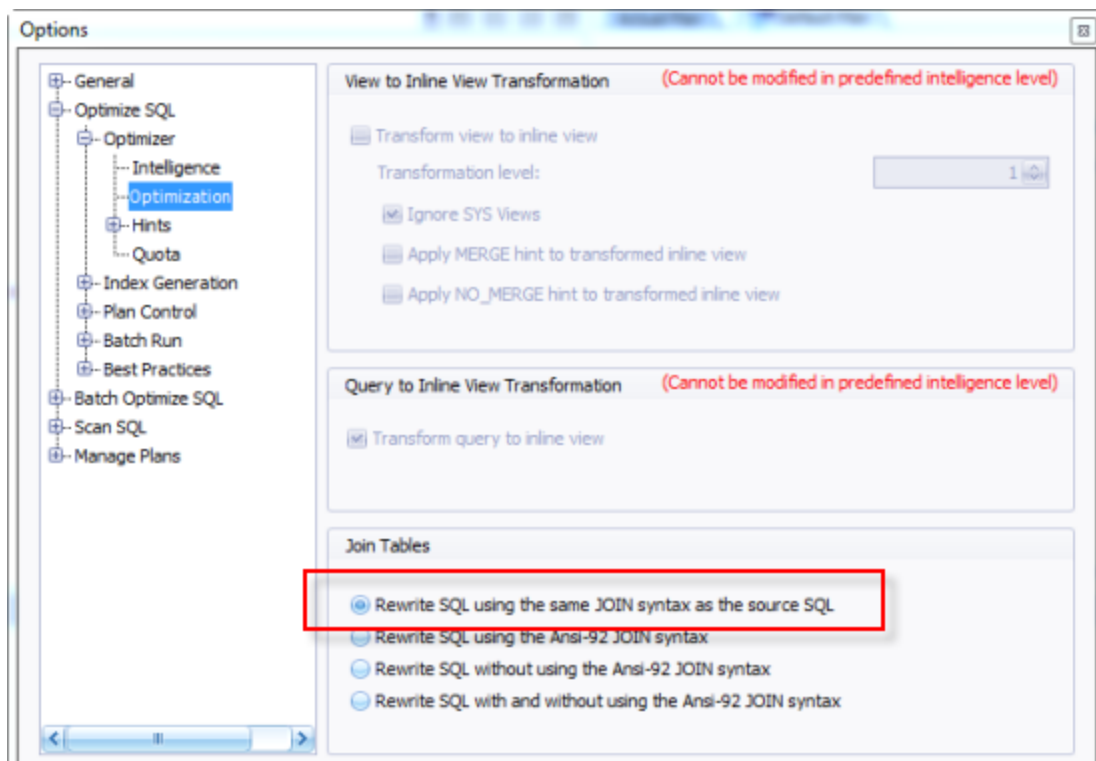
May 29, 2013

### Contents

- [Optimize SQL](#)
- [Scan SQL](#)
- [Analyze Impact](#)
- [General](#)
- [Learn More](#)

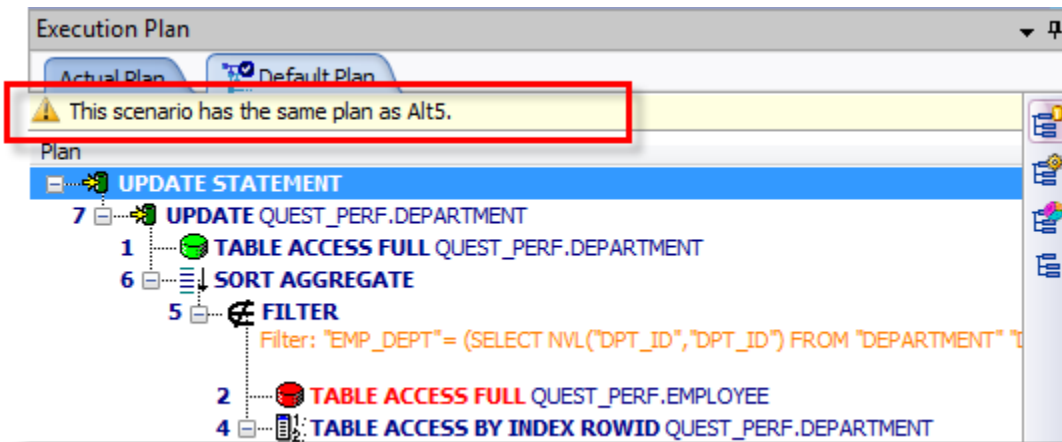
### Optimize SQL

- **JOIN Syntax.** You now have the option to instruct SQL Optimizer to use the same JOIN syntax as the original SQL statement when generating SQL statement alternatives. This is the default setting and can be modified if necessary in SQL Optimizer Options (**Options | Optimize SQL | Optimizer | Optimization**).

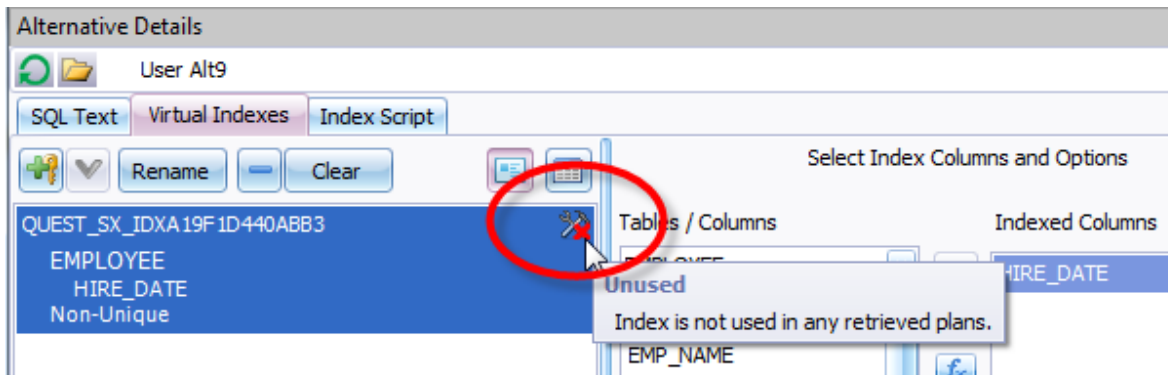


- **User-Defined Alternatives.** When you create a User-Defined Alternative, SQL Optimizer now checks if the plan is the same as the original statement or any of the other system-generated alternatives. If it is the same,

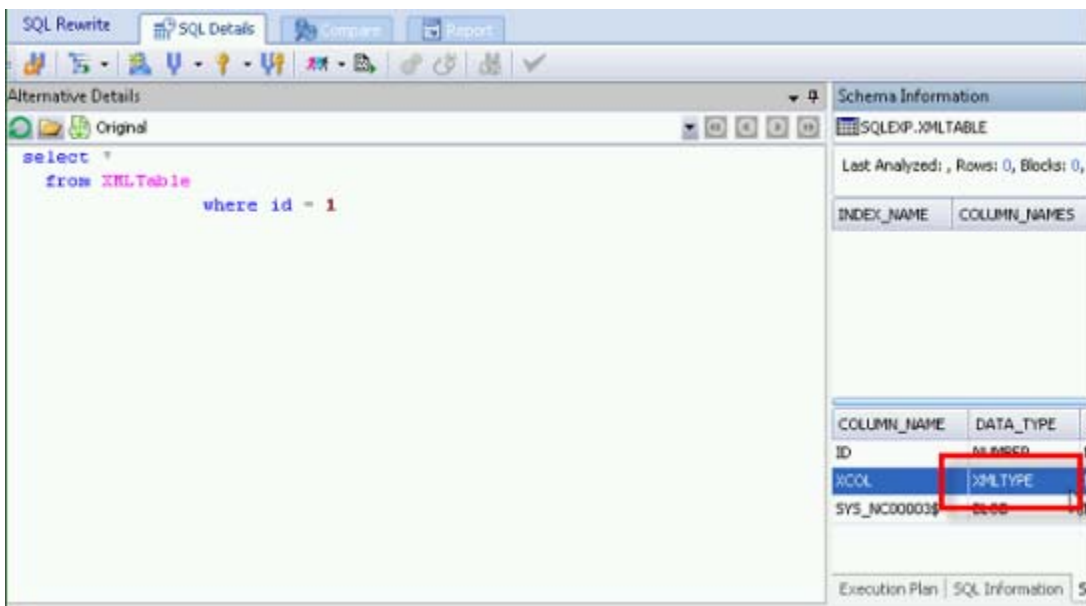
a message displays in the Execution Plan window. This can be useful when you are attempting to rewrite a statement to create your own alternative.



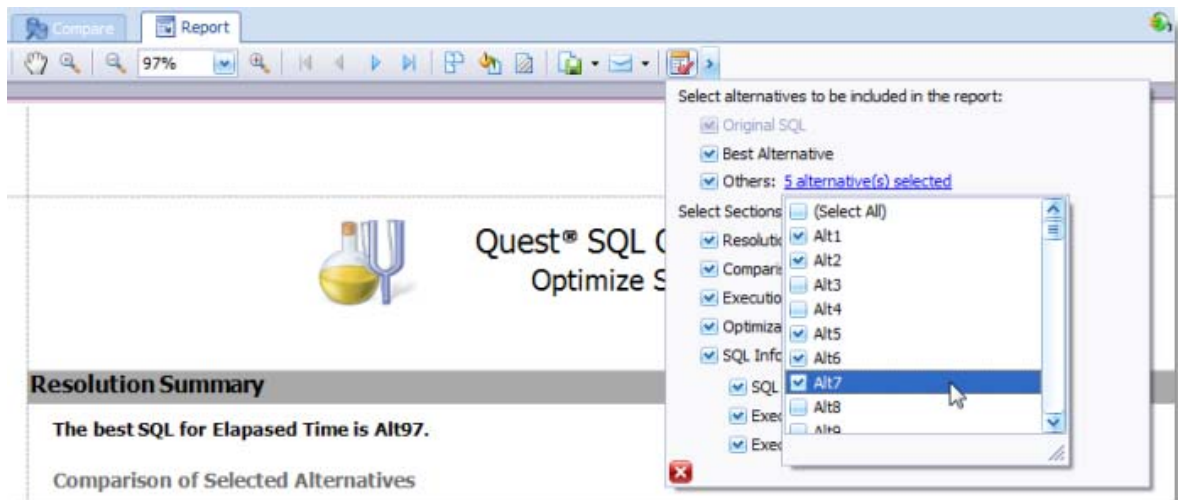
- **Unused Index.** When creating a User-Defined Alternative, if you create an index and the index is not used, an icon displays in the upper-right portion of the Virtual Indexes tab alerting you to the fact that the index is not used in any retrieved plans.



- **Invisible Indexes.** This release supports Oracle *invisible indexes*. SQL Optimizer will not show invisible indexes in the Optimize SQL, Optimize Indexes, and Analyze Impact modules.
- **XML Type Data Type.** This release of SQL Optimizer supports columns with the data type *XML Type*.

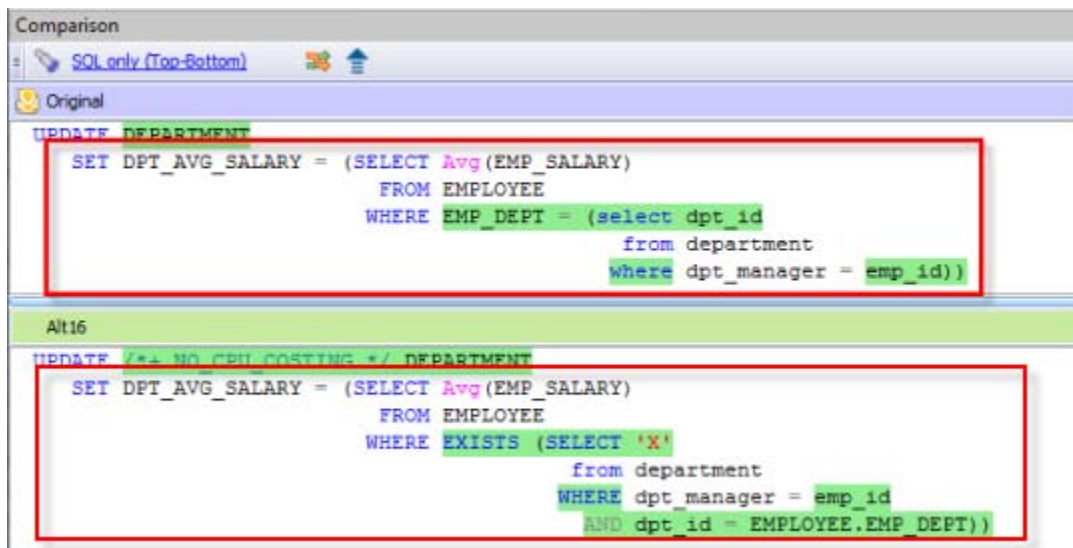


- **Optimize SQL Resolution Report.** You can now include multiple SQL alternatives in the Optimize SQL Resolution Report. In the Report window, click the **Current Settings** button to select which alternatives to include.



## New Rules and Syntax Support

- New transformation rules have been added to promote more offloading operations in EXADATA.
- When optimizing a SQL statement, SQL Optimizer will now rewrite a SELECT statement that is in a Set clause.

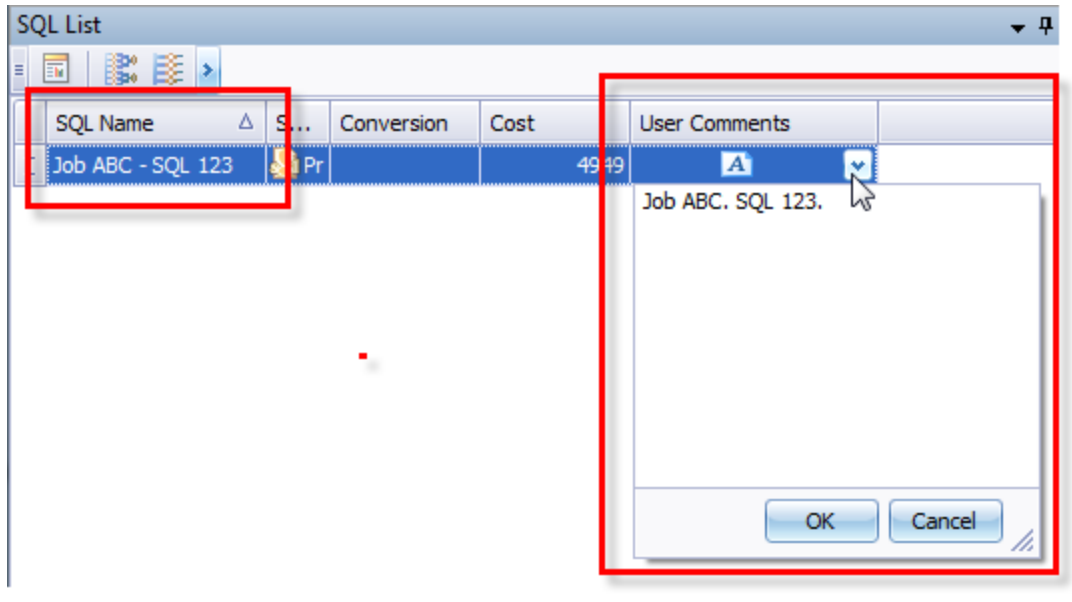


- This release includes support for the function LNNVL in SQL statements.
 

```
SELECT COUNT(*)
FROM employees
WHERE LNNVL(commission_pct >= .2);
```
- For SQL statements with multiple sub-queries, multiple sub-queries can be rewritten in an alternative SQL. Previously, only one sub-query could be rewritten.

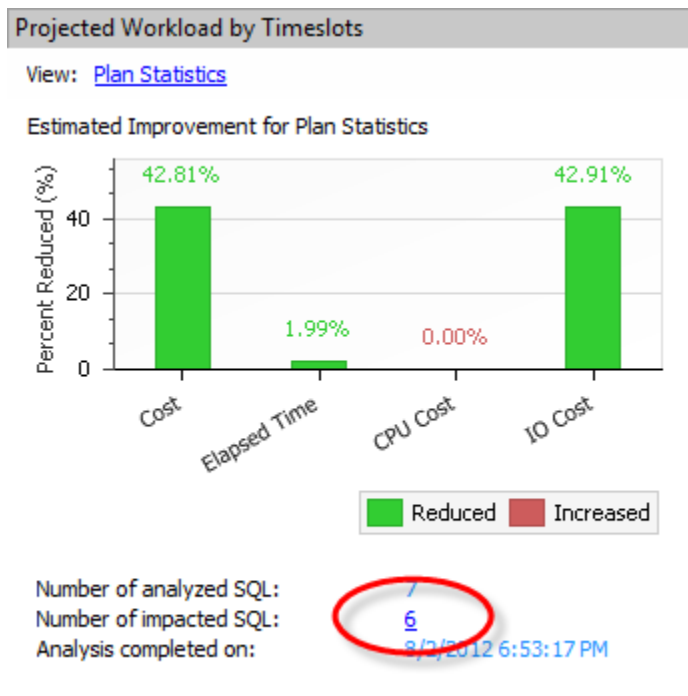
## Scan SQL

- For each SQL statement in a group, you can now replace the auto-generated name with a custom name. Type the new name over the auto-generated name in the **SQL Name** column.
- You can also add a custom note for each SQL statement. Click the arrow in the **User Comments** column and enter your note.



## Analyze Impact

- On the Impacts page, below the Estimated Improvements chart you can find data for the number of SQL in different impact categories. Now you can click the number to go directly to the list of SQL for that category.



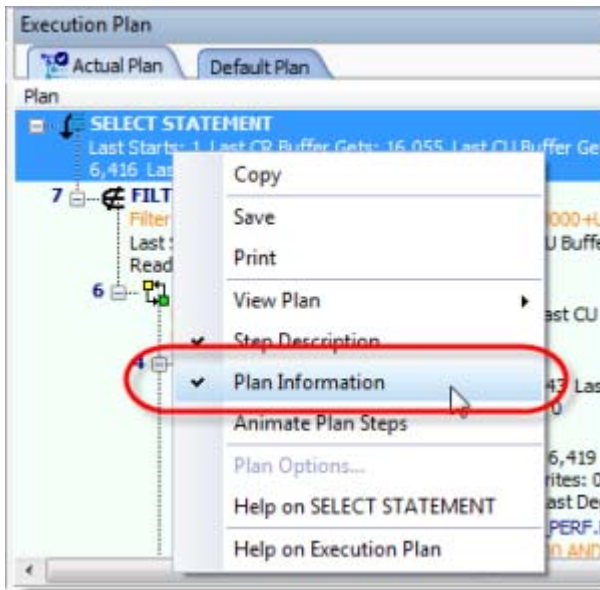
- Once on the SQL List page, the breadcrumb contains a drop-down list for easy navigation to other SQL lists.

## General

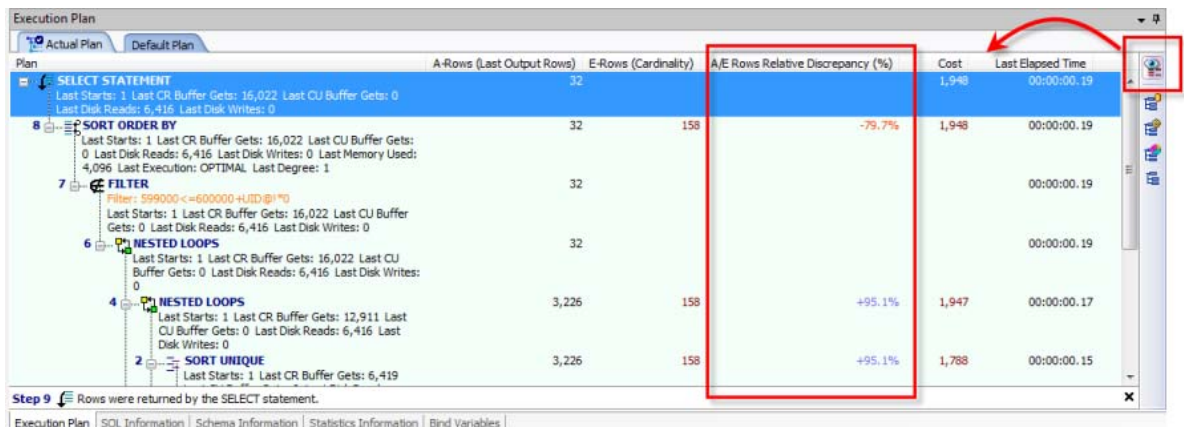
### Execution Plan

- SQL Optimizer can now tell you if an execution plan uses any of the following:
  - Cardinality feedback
  - Dynamic sampling

To display this information, right-click in the Execution Plan pane and select **Plan Information**.



- **Compare Plan Statistics.** You can now compare the actual statistics and the estimates in the Actual Plan tab for a selected statement in Optimize SQL. Click the top-most button in the Execution Plan toolbar (right side) to display the statistics comparison.



### Options

- When using the Predefined Intelligence Level, the JOIN syntax options in **Option | Optimize SQL | Optimization** are now editable.

## Learn More



Remember, you can find blogs, videos, and forums at the [SQL Optimizer for Oracle Community](#).

- Learn about new features from [SQL Optimizer video demos](#).
- Find answers to your questions in the [SQL Optimizer forums](#).
- Learn tips and tricks from [blog posts](#).
- Find product documentation in the [SQL Optimizer library](#).

© 2013 Quest Software, Inc.  
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

This guide contains proprietary information protected by copyright. The software described in this guide is furnished under a software license or nondisclosure agreement. This software may be used or copied only in accordance with the terms of the applicable agreement. No part of this guide may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording for any purpose other than the purchaser's personal use without the written permission of Quest Software, Inc.

The information in this document is provided in connection with Quest products. No license, express or implied, by estoppel or otherwise, to any intellectual property right is granted by this document or in connection with the sale of Quest products. EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN QUEST'S TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS SPECIFIED IN THE LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR THIS PRODUCT, QUEST ASSUMES NO LIABILITY WHATSOEVER AND DISCLAIMS ANY EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR STATUTORY WARRANTY RELATING TO ITS PRODUCTS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, OR NON-INFRINGEMENT. IN NO EVENT SHALL QUEST BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, PUNITIVE, SPECIAL OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF PROFITS, BUSINESS INTERRUPTION OR LOSS OF INFORMATION) ARISING OUT OF THE USE OR INABILITY TO USE THIS DOCUMENT, EVEN IF QUEST HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. Quest makes no representations or warranties with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the contents of this document and reserves the right to make changes to specifications and product descriptions at any time without notice. Quest does not make any commitment to update the information contained in this document.

If you have any questions regarding your potential use of this material, contact:

Quest Software World Headquarters  
LEGAL Dept  
5 Polaris Way  
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656  
email: [legal@quest.com](mailto:legal@quest.com)

Refer to our Web site ([www.quest.com](http://www.quest.com)) for regional and international office information.

### **Patents**

SQL Optimizer for Oracle contains patent pending technology.

### **Trademarks**

Quest, Quest Software, the Quest Software logo, Simplicity at Work, Benchmark Factory, Foglight, LeccoTech, Quest vWorkspace, SQLab, Toad and T.O.A.D. are trademarks and registered trademarks of Quest Software, Inc. For a complete list of Quest Software's trademarks, please see <http://www.quest.com/legal/trademark-information.aspx>. Other trademarks are property of their respective owners.