ALM Text Search

Overview

UI Element	Description
Search	Indicates the keywords you want to find.
for	Syntax exceptions:
	 Text search ignores the following: articles (a, an, the); coordinate conjunctions (and, but, for, nor, or); boolean operators (and, or, not, if, or, then).
	The search is not case sensitive.
	Note:
	 When you enter a keyword, ALM searches the predefined fields for the keyword or variations of the keyword. For example, if you type log, the search will find fields containing log, logs, logging, and logged. The search will not find login or logical because these are not variations of the word.
	 If you enter more than one keyword, the results will include all records that contain at least one of the keywords.

Differences in "Text Search" Results (Search for: "出")

MSSQL

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Why Did MS	SQL		ОК
returned no	Items!		

Oracle

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ORACLE vs MS SQL

ALM Debug logs:

ORACLE :

SQL execution completed in 14ms [0 rows affected]: /* ~~QC */ SELECT BG_BUG_ID FROM BUG WHERE CONTAINS(BG_TEXT_SYNC, '\${出}', 1)>0 ORDER BY SCORE(1) DESC

MS SQL:

SQL execution completed in 1ms [0 rows affected]: /* ~~QC */ SELECT BG_BUG_ID FROM BUG INNER JOIN FREETEXTTABLE(BUG, *, '出') FTT ON BG_BUG_ID=FTT.[KEY] ORDER BY FTT.RANK DESC

Difference:

Oracle uses "CONTAINS" vs MS SQL uses "FREETEXTTABLE"

Reference on "CONTAINS" and "FREETEXTTABLE": <u>http://msdn.microsoft.com/zh-cn/library/ms142494(v=sql.90).aspx</u>

ORACLE: "CONTAINS":

When searching an Oracle DB, the "Like" search method is used to search for intermediate, and end matches, which does not use an "INDEX" search.

It reads all the Data from the beginning, searching for matches, and to speed up the search on large amounts of data, an "INDEX" search is used.

The larger the data, the more time consuming "Like" search becomes.

For this reason, Oracle DB, has a standard whole text search feature called "Oracle Text".

"Oracle Text" search searches for intermediate matches within the text.

MSSQL: "FREETEXTTABLE"

FREETEXTABLE is a function used in the <u>FROM clause</u> of a Transact-SQL SELECT statement to perform a SQL Server full-text search on full-text indexed columns containing character-based data types.

This function returns a table of zero, one, or more rows for those columns containing values that match the meaning and not just the exact wording

Conclusion

ALM does not have its own "Text Search" engine, but simply passes the text search request to the DB to execute. (Setting parameters in your DB can impact search results as well.)

This document is a simple example of why searching for the same text, could return different results, due to MS SQL and ORACLE query differences.