How to enable audit trail in Oracle EBS

This guide shows you how to enable audit trail in Oracle EBS (Oracle E-Business Suite) and verify that it works. You activate the AuditTrail profile, choose the table and columns to audit, set up an audit group, run the AuditTrail Update Tables report, and validate the group. You then change a receipt's customer and read the change history in the shadow table.

The example audits the PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER column of the AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL table in the Receivables application.

Prerequisites

Before you start, make sure you have the following:

- Access to the **System Administrator** responsibility in Oracle Applications.
- Access to Oracle SQL Developer, to review the setup script and run verification queries.
- A table to audit that has a primary key. This guide uses ar_cash_receipts_all with the column pay_from_customer.
- Access to a Receivables responsibility that lets you open the **Receipts** form, if you want to test the audit trail with a real change.

Part 1: Set up audit trail

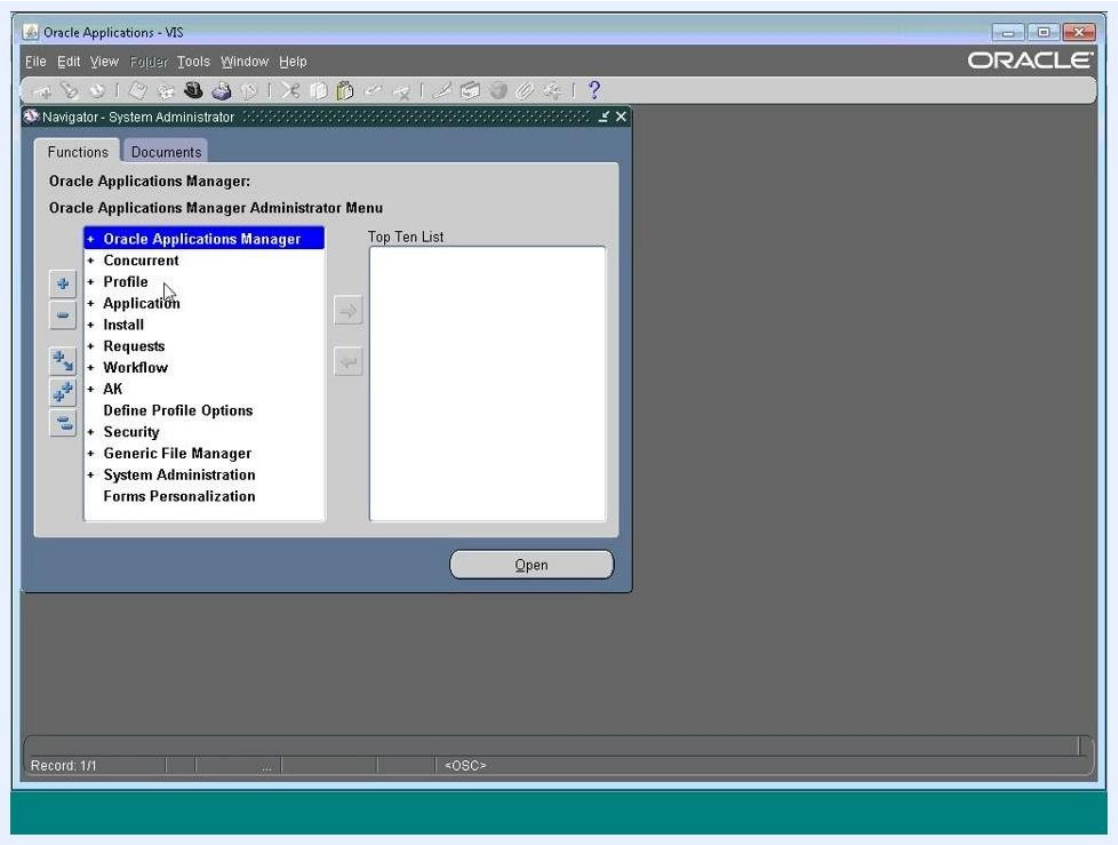
Step 1: Review the steps to enable audit trail

In Oracle SQL Developer, open the file 00_steps_enable_audit_trail.sql. The script lists the six key steps for enabling audit trail:

1. **Activate AuditTrail profile**: Set to Yes (site level).
2. **Setup Table and columns to audit**: Ensure the table has a primary key.
3. **Setup audit group**.
4. **Verify that the application (module) is Audit enabled**.
5. **Run AuditTrail Update Tables report** to enforce the setup.
6. **Run AuditTrail Report for Audit Group Validation** to check if all objects are valid.

At the bottom of the script, note the test configuration:

- **Table**: ar_cash_receipts_all
- **Column**: pay_from_customer

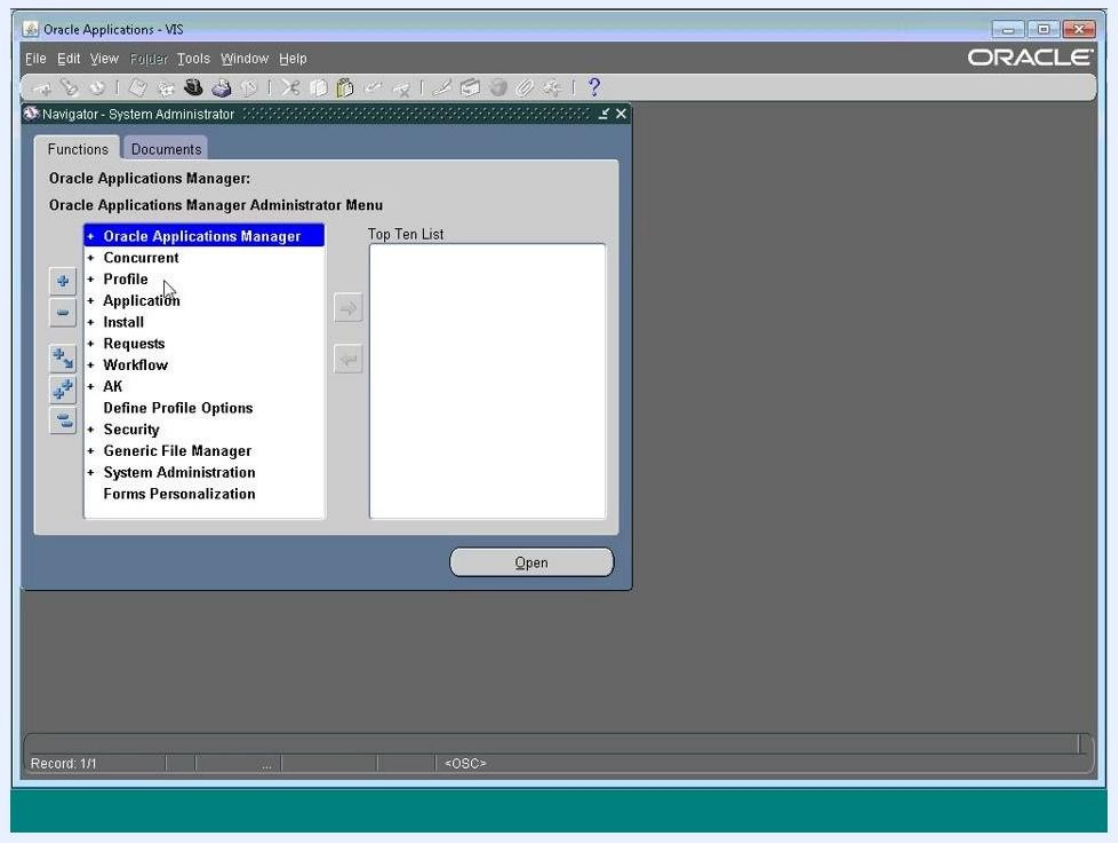


Oracle SQL Developer window showing the six steps to enable audit trail and the test table and column details

Step 2: Open Oracle Applications Manager

1. Launch the Oracle Applications interface.
2. Select the **System Administrator** responsibility.
3. In the **Navigator** window, select **Oracle Applications Manager** from the menu.

4. Click **Open**.

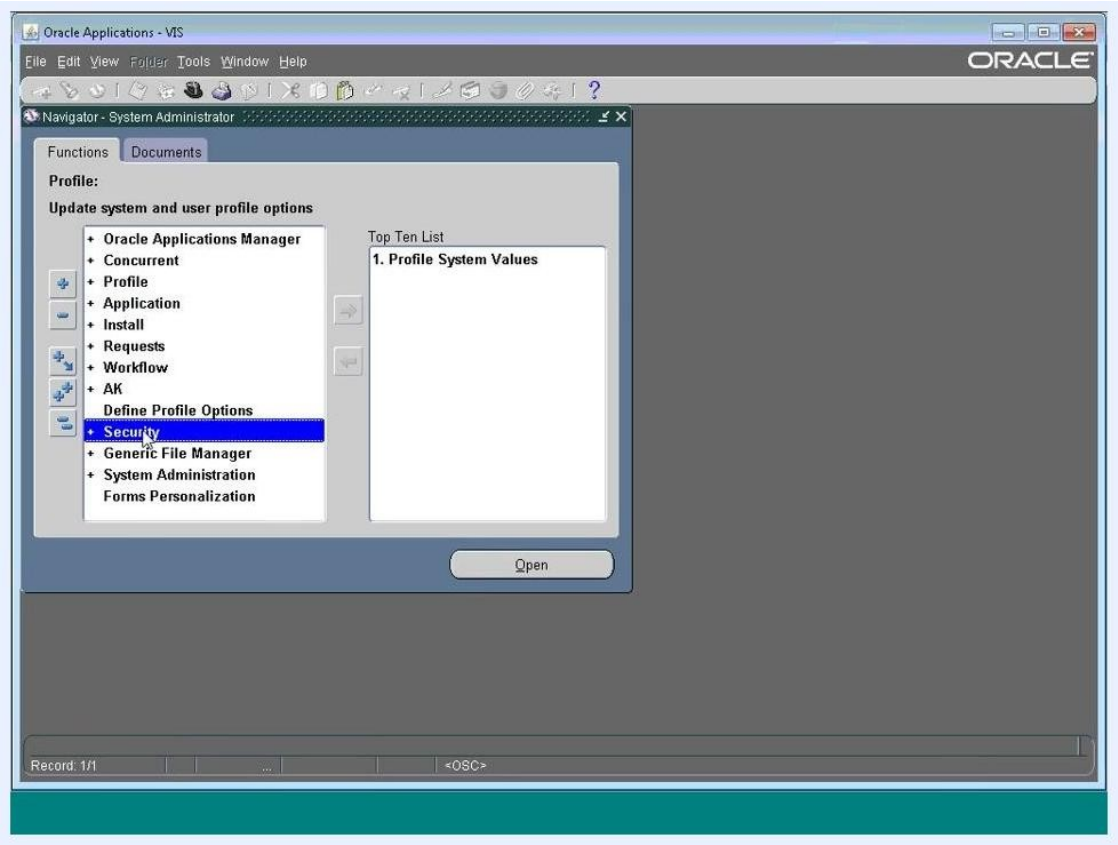


Navigator menu with Oracle Applications Manager selected

Step 3: Enable audit trail by setting the AuditTrail profile option

1. In the Oracle Applications window, open the **Profile System Values** form.
2. In the **Find System Profile Values** dialog, make sure the **Site** checkbox is selected under Display.
3. Enter AuditTrail% in the **Profile** field.
4. Click **Find**.

5. In the results, set the value for **AuditTrail:Activate** at the **Site** level to **Yes**.

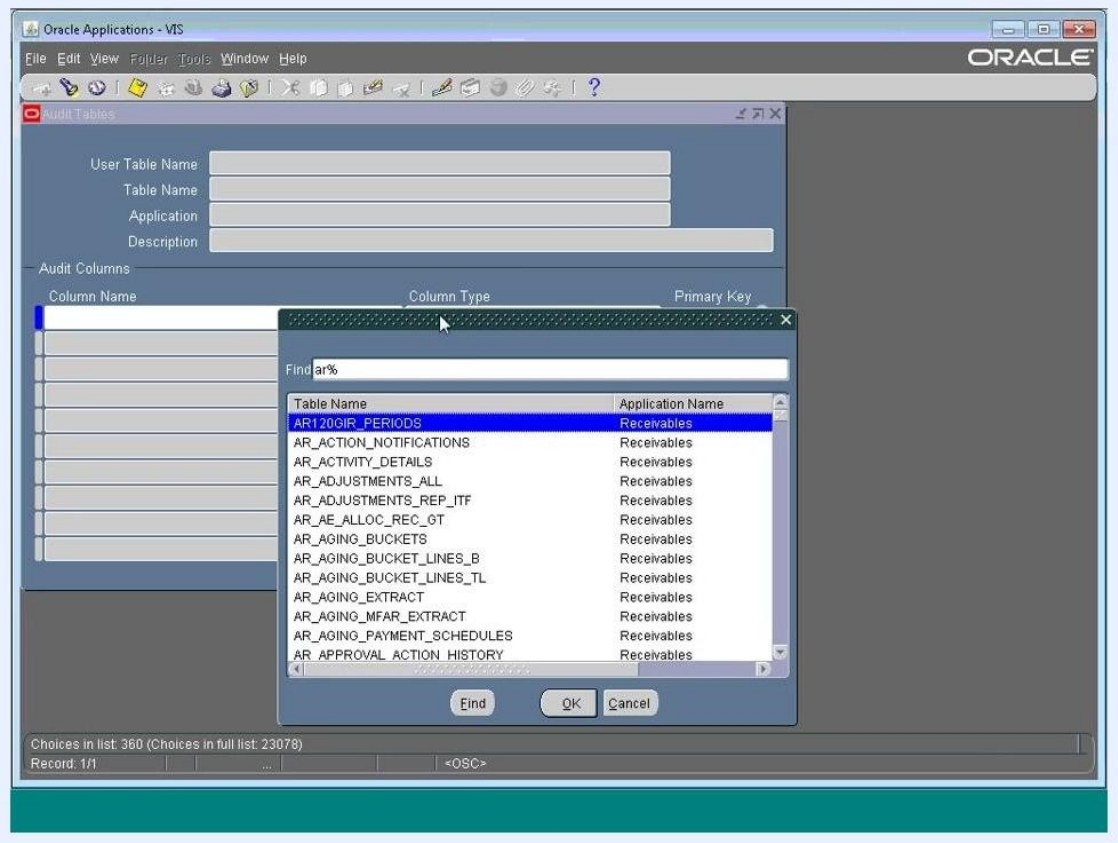


Find System Profile Values dialog with AuditTrail% entered and the Find button highlighted

Step 4: Open the Audit Tables setup

1. Return to the **Navigator** window.
2. Select **Security** > **AuditTrail** > **Tables**.

3. Click **Open** to access the Audit Tables setup.

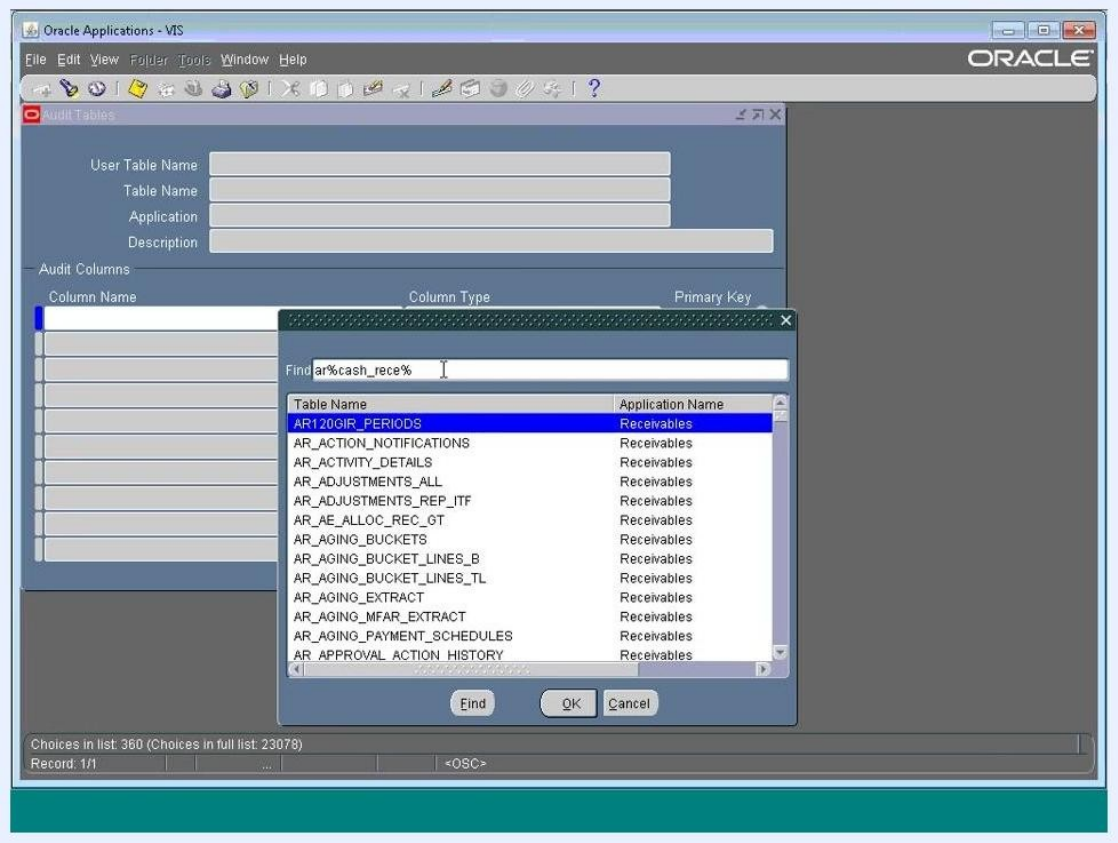


Navigator window with Security > AuditTrail > Tables selected

Step 5: Select the table to audit

1. In the **Audit Tables** form, click the search icon or field next to **Table Name**.
2. In the **Find** dialog, enter ar% to filter the tables. The list shows tables under the **Receivables** application.

3. Refine the search by entering ar%cash_rece% to locate the AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL table.

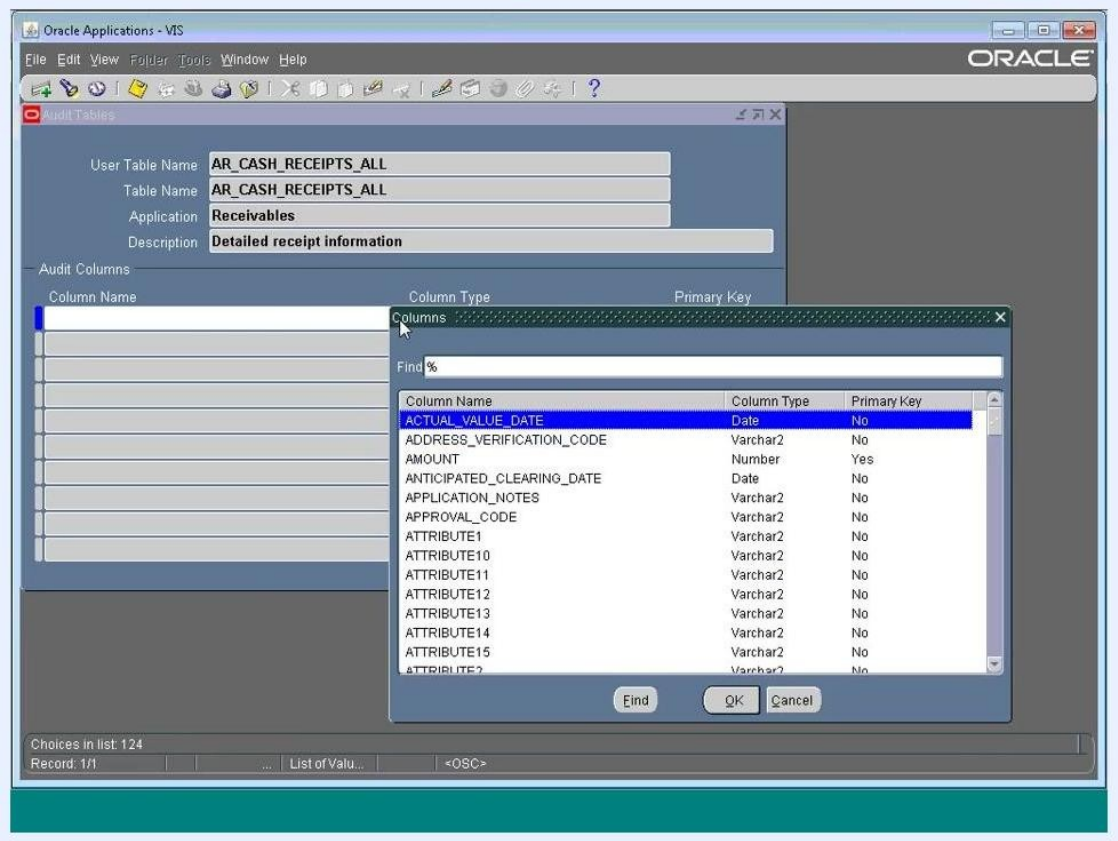


Find dialog with ar%cash_rece% entered, listing AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL and related tables

Select AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL from the list and confirm. The **Audit Tables** form populates with these values:

- **User Table Name**: AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL
- **Table Name**: AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL
- **Application**: Receivables
- **Description**: Detailed receipt information

Next, in the **Audit Columns** section, click to select columns for auditing. In the **Columns** dialog, search for columns (for example, enter % to list all). The dialog shows the available columns, their types, and their primary key status.



Audit Tables form with AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL selected and the Columns dialog listing available columns

Step 6: Configure the audit columns

In the **Audit Tables** form, verify that the correct table is selected:

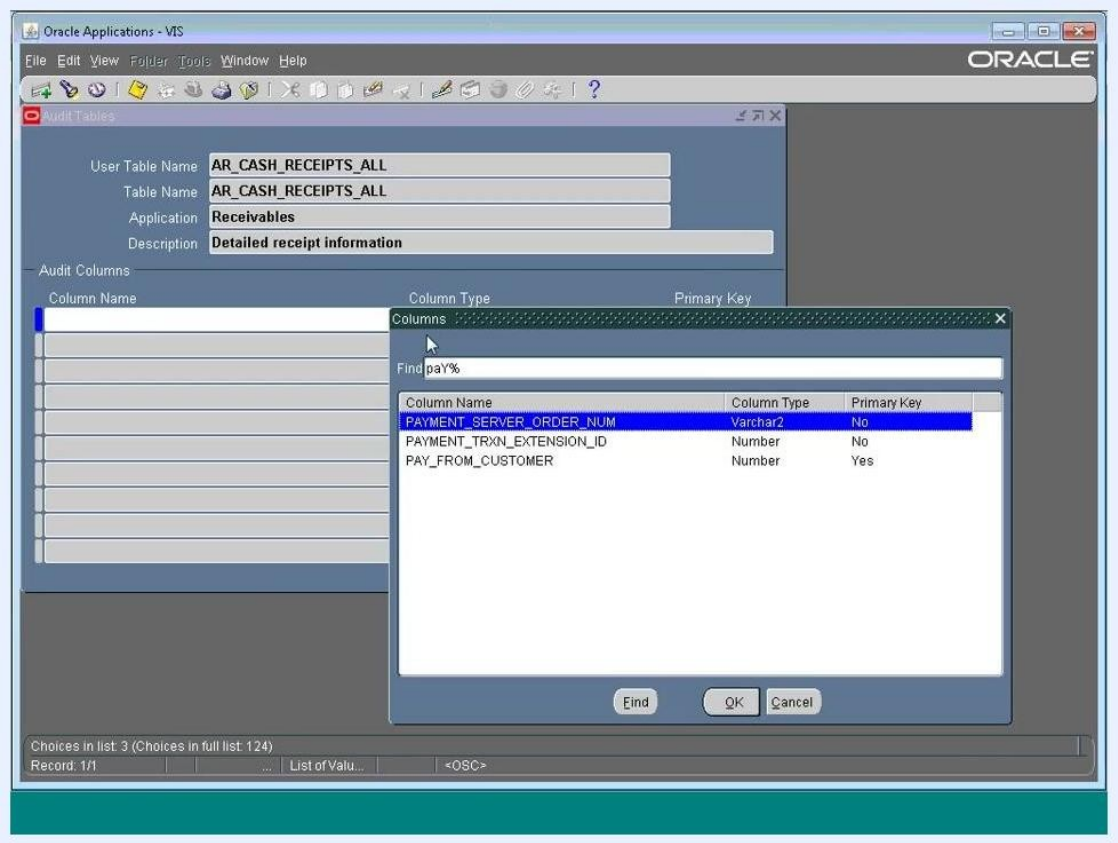
- **User Table Name**: AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL
- **Table Name**: AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL
- **Application**: Receivables
- **Description**: Detailed receipt information

In the **Audit Columns** section, confirm that the column PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER is listed with these values:

- **Column Name**: PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER
- **Column Type**: Number

- **Primary Key**: Checked (✓)

The status message at the bottom reads FRM-40400: Transaction complete: 1 records applied and saved. This message indicates the audit column selection has been saved.

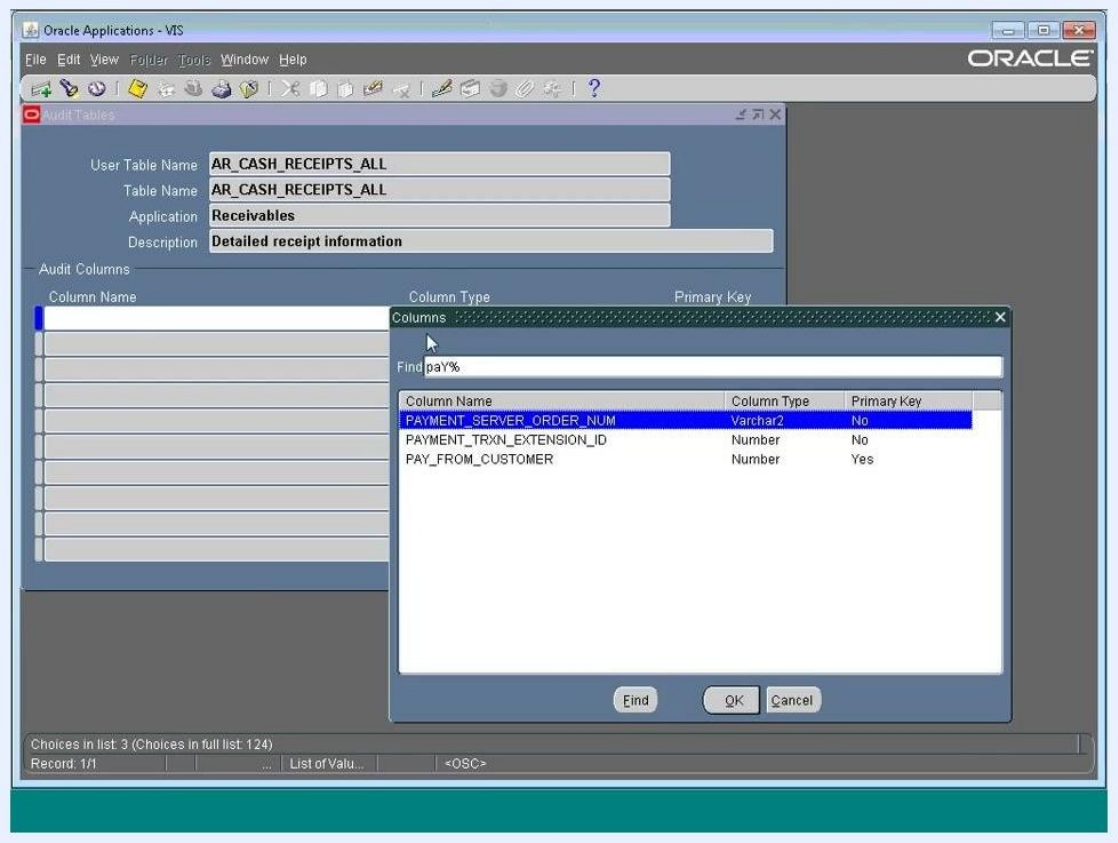


Audit Tables form with the PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER column selected and saved as primary key

Step 7: Add more columns to audit (optional)

1. In the **Audit Columns** section, click the search field.
2. In the **Columns** dialog, use the **Find** field to filter columns. For example, enter paY%.
3. Review the filtered list:
    - PAYMENT_SERVER_ORDER_NUM (Varchar2, not a primary key)
    - PAYMENT_TRXN_EXTENSION_ID (Number, not a primary key)
    - PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER (Number, primary key)

4. Select the columns you want and click **OK** to add them to the audit list.



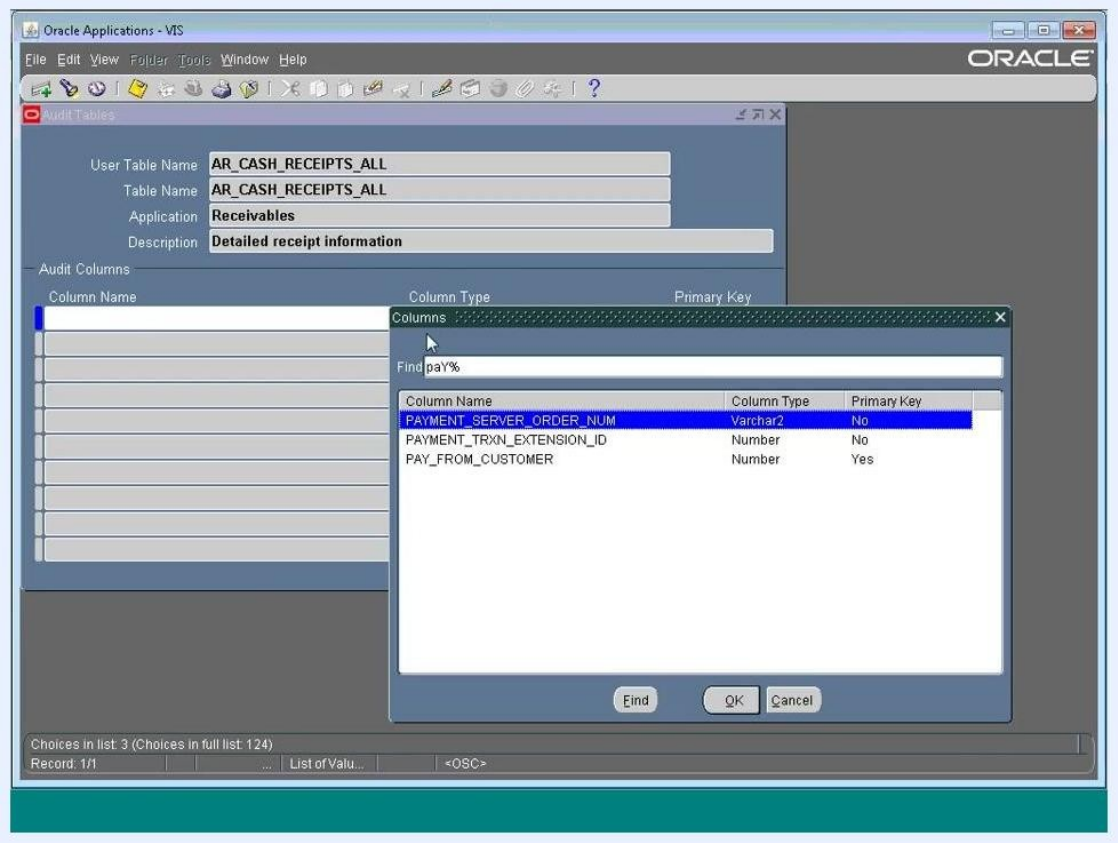
Columns dialog showing filtered results for paY% with column types and primary key status

Step 8: Create or assign an audit group

Open the **Audit Groups** form and enter the following details:

- **Application Name**: Receivables
- **Audit Group**: Demo AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL
- **Group State**: Enable Requested
- **Description**: Leave blank or enter a relevant description.

The **Audit Tables** section lists the tables associated with this group once configured.



Audit Groups form with Receivables, Demo AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL, and the Enable Requested state

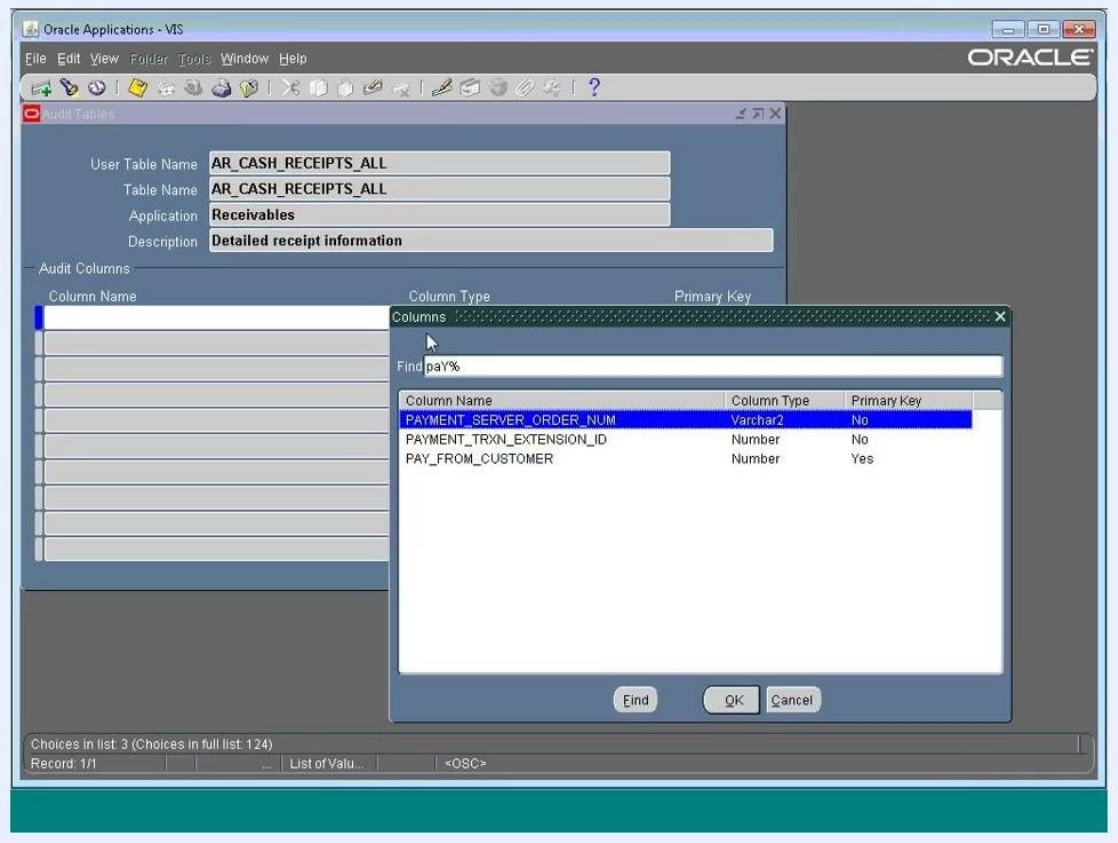
Step 9: Open AuditTrail Installations

1. In the **Navigator - System Administrator** window, expand **Security** > **AuditTrail** > **Install**.
2. Select **Install** and click **Open** to go to the Audit Installations setup.

The **Top Ten List** on the right highlights these items:

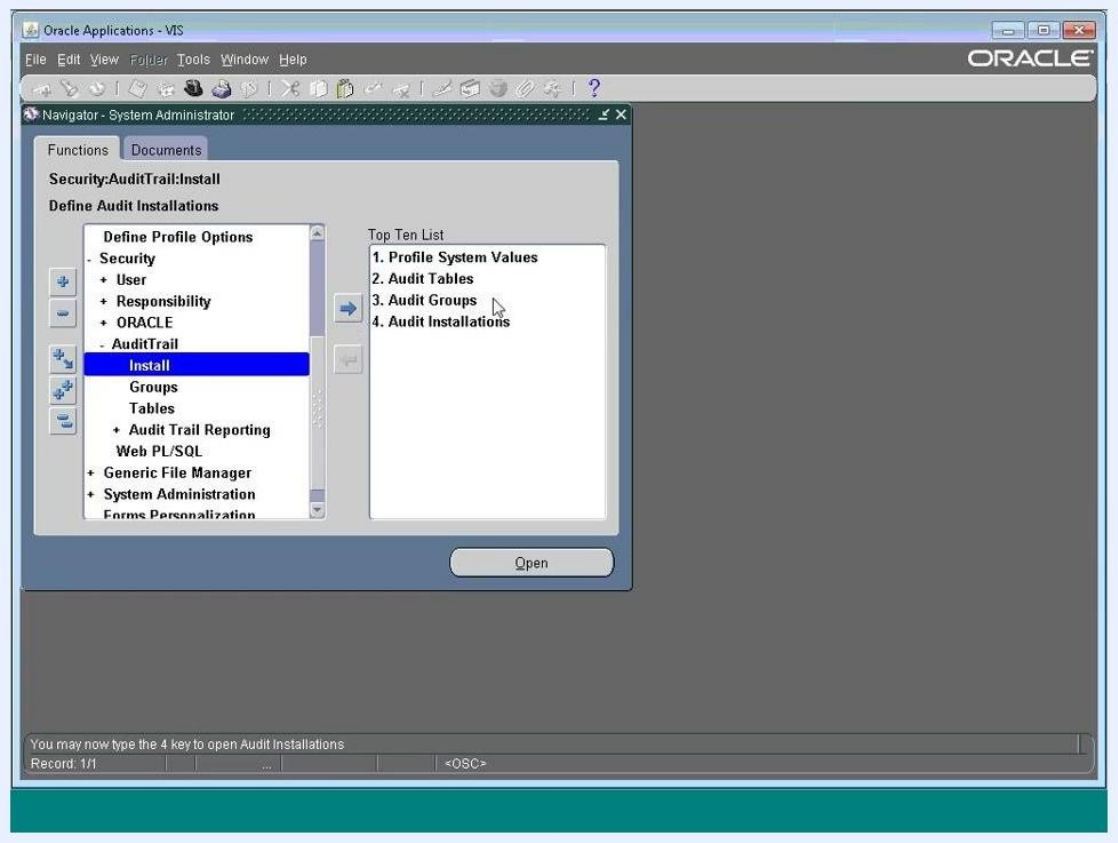
3. Profile System Values
4. Audit Tables
5. Audit Groups

6. Audit Installations



Navigator window with AuditTrail > Install selected and the Top Ten List visible

Confirm that **Audit Installations** is highlighted in the **Top Ten List**, then click **Open** to access the Audit Installations form.



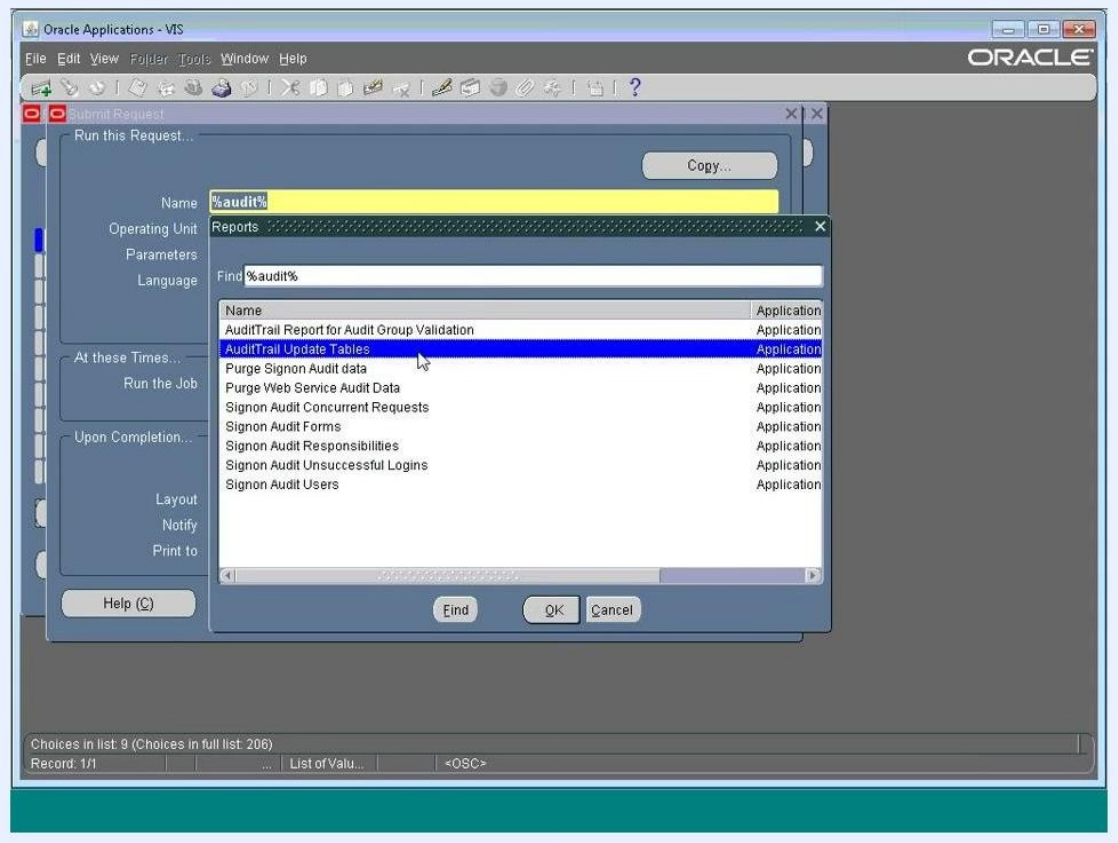
Navigator window with Audit Installations highlighted in the Top Ten List

Part 2: Apply and validate the audit setup

Step 10: Run the AuditTrail Update Tables report to enforce the setup

1. Open the **Submit Request** form.
2. In the **Reports** section, enter %audit% in the **Find** field to filter the available reports.
3. Select **AuditTrail Update Tables** from the filtered list.

4. Click **OK** to proceed.



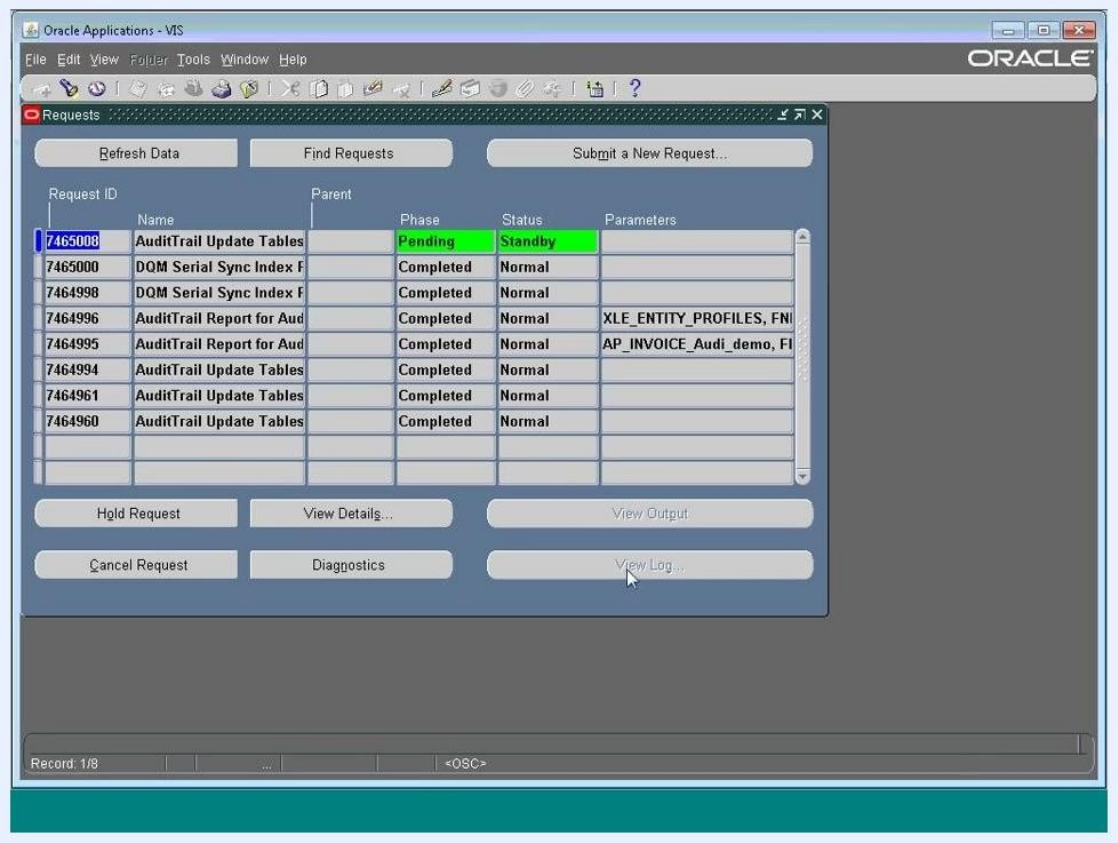
Submit Request form with the AuditTrail Update Tables report selected

Step 11: Monitor the AuditTrail Update Tables request

In the **Requests** window, monitor the status of the submitted request. Initially it shows these values:

- **Request ID**: 7465008
- **Name**: AuditTrail Update Tables
- **Phase**: Pending
- **Status**: Standby (highlighted in green)

Review the other requests in the list for their completion status. Once the request completes, use the **View Log** button to check the log details.



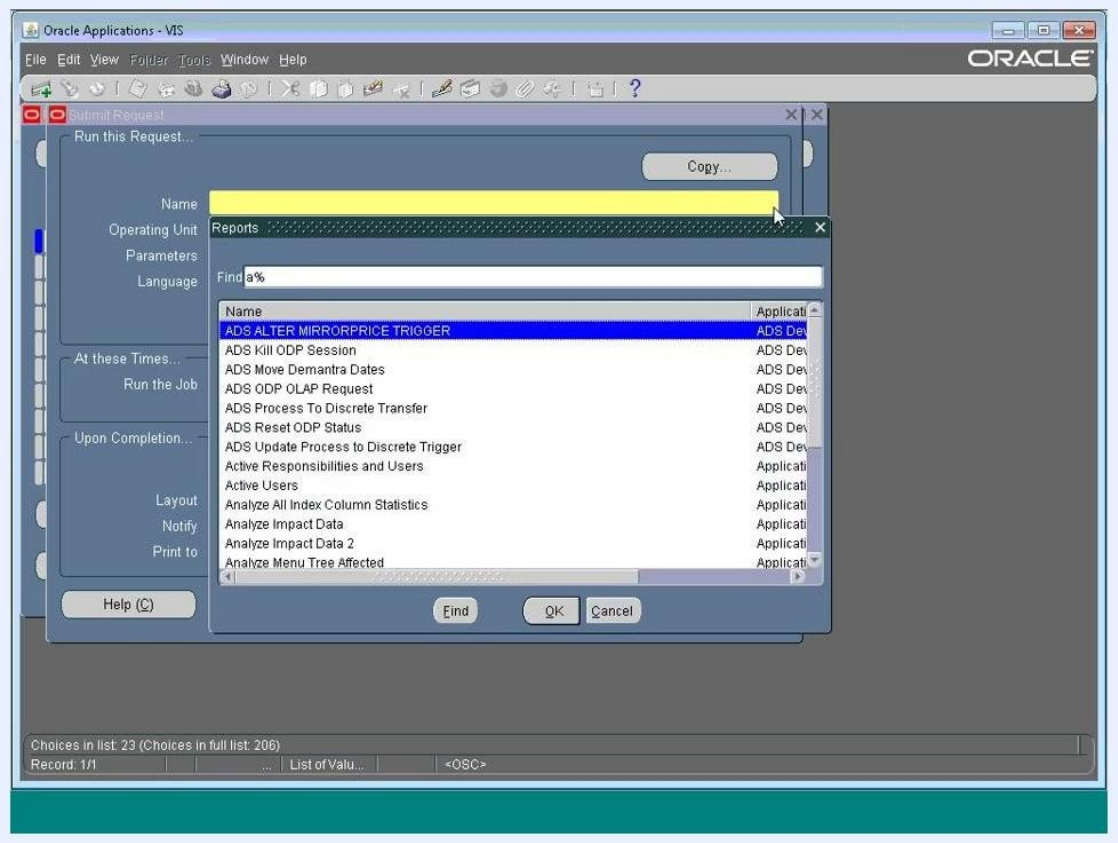
Requests window showing the AuditTrail Update Tables request with Pending and Standby status

Step 12: Confirm the request completed

In the **Requests** window, verify that the **AuditTrail Update Tables** request (Request ID: 7465008) now shows these values:

- **Phase**: Completed
- **Status**: Normal

Review the list of recent requests to make sure all relevant AuditTrail jobs finished successfully. If you need more information, use the **View Details**, **View Output**, or **View Log** buttons.

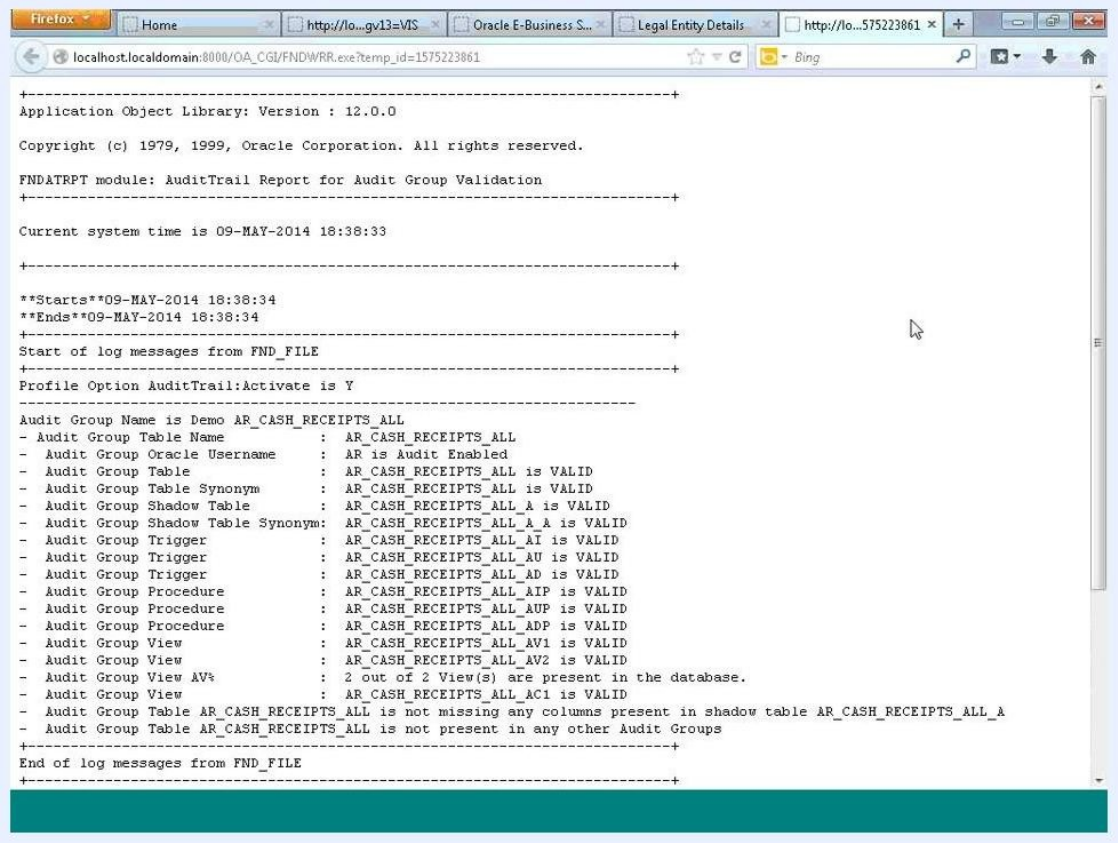


Requests window showing the AuditTrail Update Tables request completed with Normal status

Step 13: Submit the audit group validation report

1. Open the **Submit Request** form.
2. In the **Reports** dialog, use the **Find** field to filter reports. For example, enter a%.
3. Review the filtered list of available reports, such as ADS ALTER MIRRORPRICE TRIGGER, ADS Kill ODP Session, Analyze All Index Column Statistics, and Analyze Impact Data.

4. Select the report for audit group validation, **AuditTrail Report for Audit Group Validation**, and click **OK**.

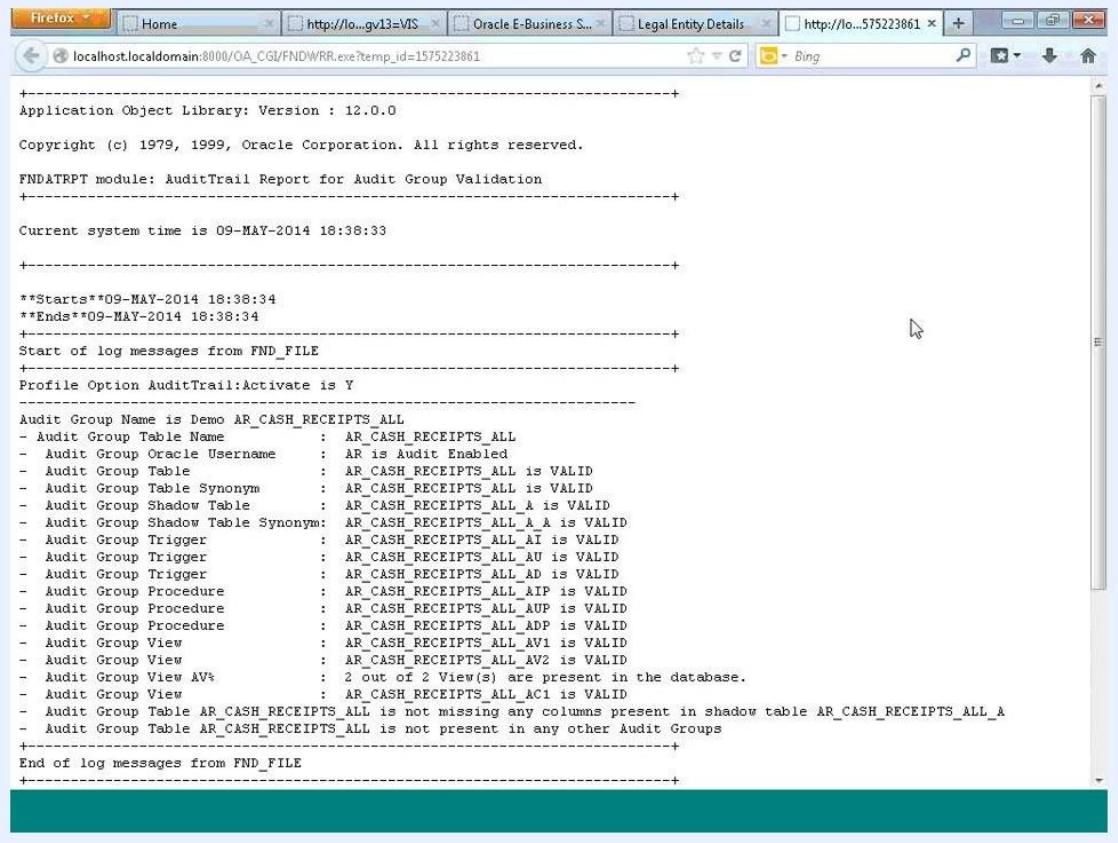


Submit Request form with the Reports dialog and a list filtered using a% in the Find field

Step 14: Monitor the audit group validation request

1. Return to the **Requests** window.
2. Locate the **AuditTrail Report for Audit Group Validation** request (Request ID: 7465010). It shows **Phase**: Running (highlighted in green), **Status**: Normal, and **Parameters**: Demo AR_CASH_RECEIPTS.
3. Click **Refresh Data** to update the request status.

4. Wait for the request to complete before you continue.



Requests window showing the AuditTrail Report for Audit Group Validation request running

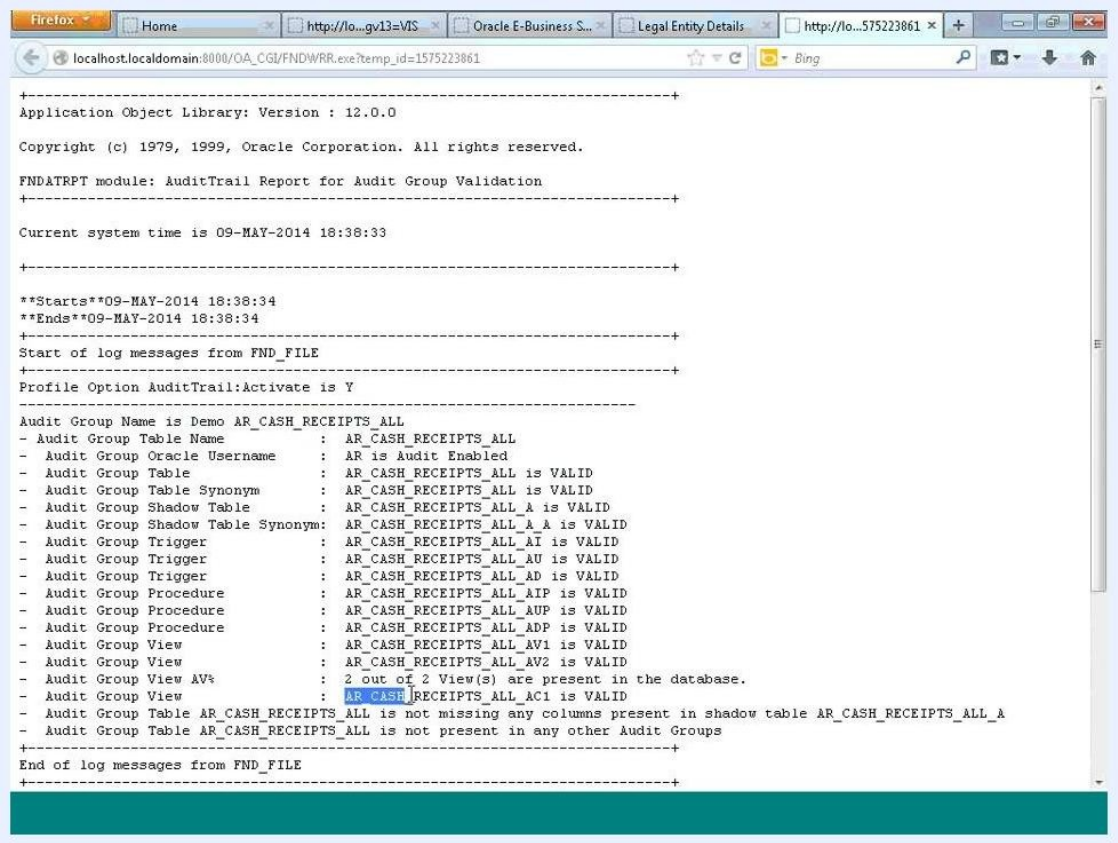
Step 15: Review the validation report output

Once the request completes, open the output log in a web browser. In the **AuditTrail Report for Audit Group Validation**, review these results:

- **Application Object Library Version**: 12.0.0
- **Module**: AuditTrail Report for Audit Group Validation
- **Current system time**: 09-MAY-2014 18:38:33
- **Profile Option AuditTrail:Activate**: Y
- **Audit Group Name**: Demo AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL
- **Audit Group Table Name**: AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL is VALID
- **Audit Group Oracle Username**: AR is audit enabled
- **Audit Group Table Synonym**: AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL is VALID
- **Audit Group Shadow Table**: AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL_A is VALID
- **Audit Group Shadow Table Synonym**: AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL_A is VALID

- **Audit Group Triggers and Procedures**: All listed as VALID
- **Audit Group Views**: AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL_AC1 and AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL_AV2 are VALID
- **Audit Group Table**: Not missing any columns in shadow table
- **Audit Group Table**: Not present in any other Audit Groups

Confirm that all statuses are **VALID** and that the report shows no errors.



AuditTrail Report for Audit Group Validation output in a browser, showing all statuses as VALID

Part 3: Test the audit trail with a receipt change

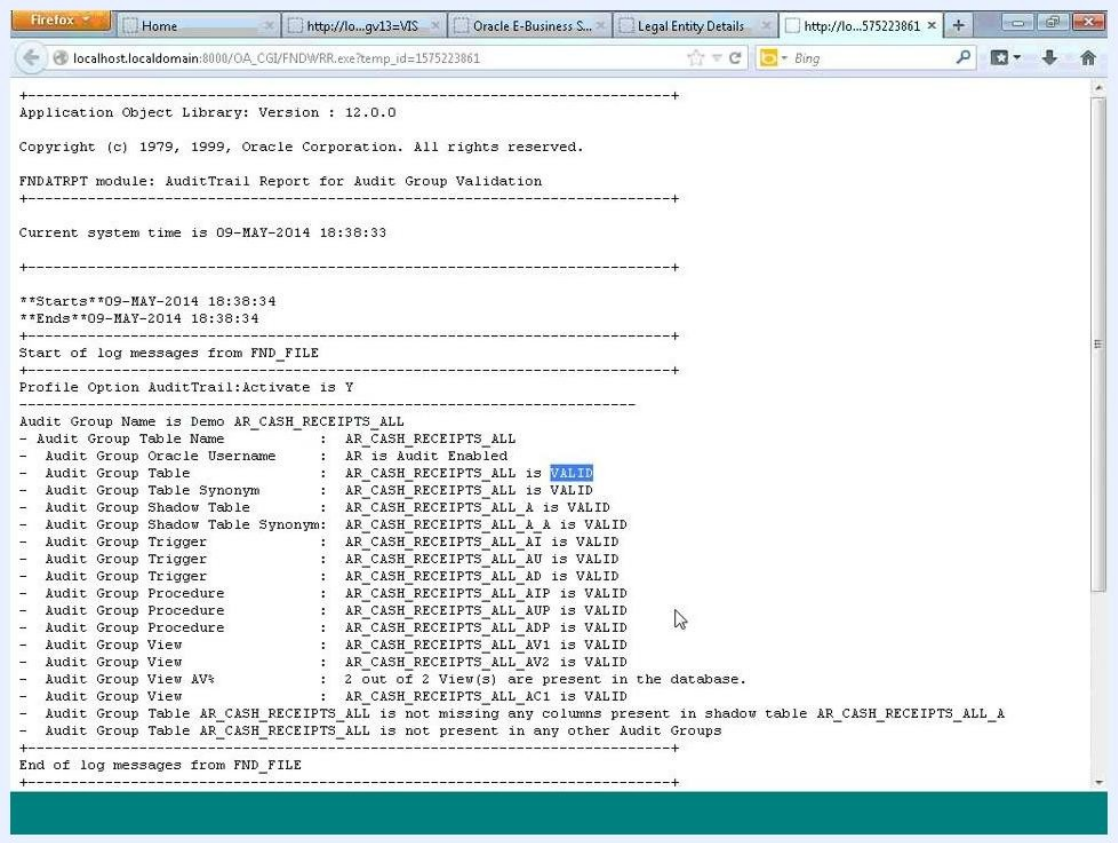
Step 16: Select a responsibility

In the **Responsibilities** dialog, use the **Find** field (for example, enter %) to search the available responsibilities. The list includes entries such as:

- Alert Manager, Progress UK
- Application Developer
- Application Diagnostics
- Approvals Management Administrator

- Cash Management Vision France
- General Ledger Supervisor
- Human Resources Vision France

Select the responsibility you want and click **OK**.



Responsibilities dialog with a list of available responsibilities and the Find field

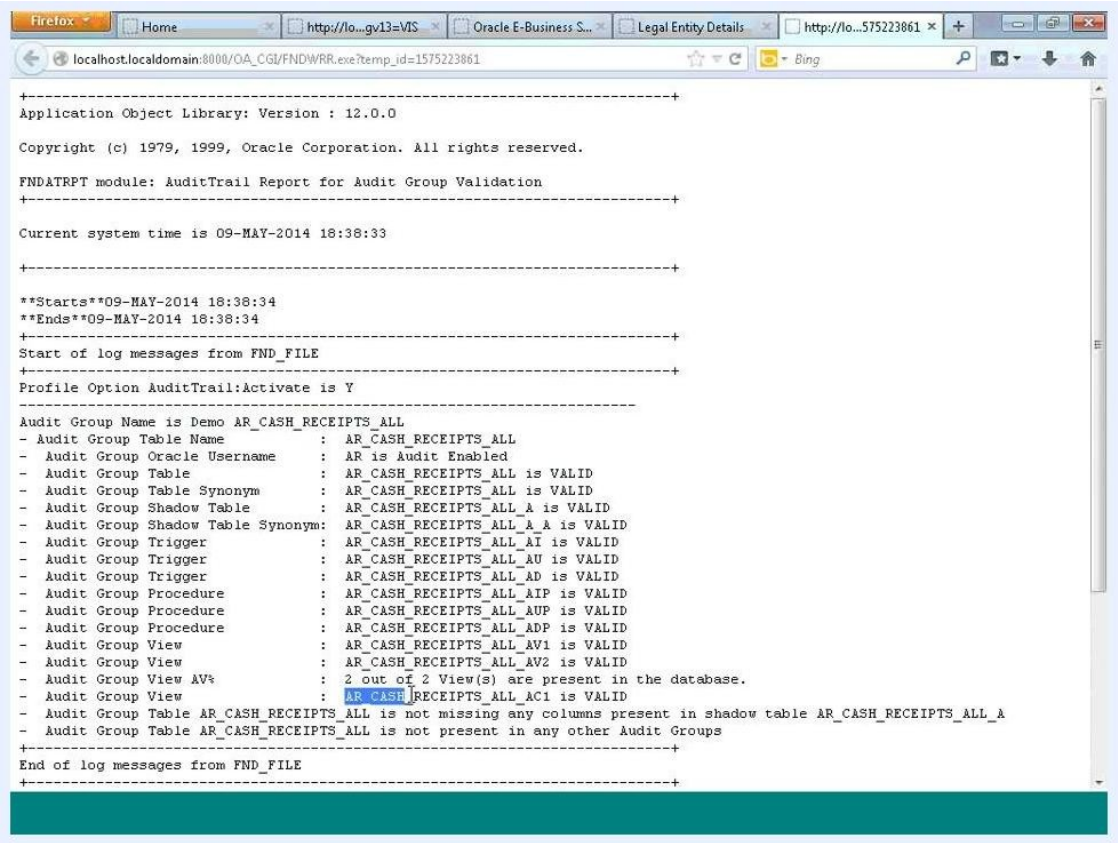
Step 17: Open the Receipts entry form

Open the **Receipts** entry form. It provides these fields:

- **Receipt Method**
- **Receipt Number**
- **Receipt Amount**
- **Receipt Type**: Standard
- **Receipt Date**: 09-MAY-2014
- **GL Date**: 09-MAY-2014
- **Maturity Date**: 09-MAY-2014
- **Balances**: Unidentified, Applied, On Account, Unapplied, Cash Claims, Prepayments

- **Customer**: Name, Number, Location, Taxpayer ID
- **Customer Bank**: Name, Account, PSON
- **Remittance Bank**: Name, Branch, Account
- **Reference**, **Postmark Date**, **Comments**

The form is ready for receipt entry and further transaction processing.

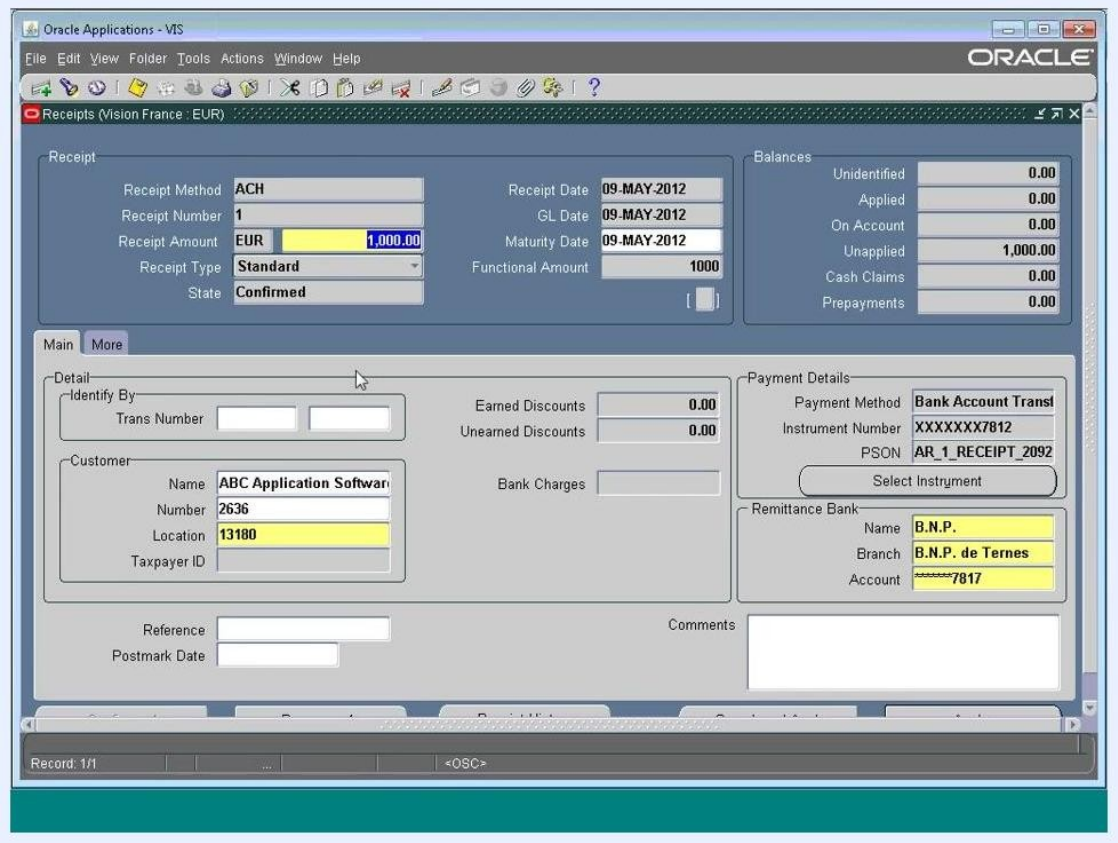


Receipts entry form with all fields and current date values highlighted

Step 18: Find the receipt to change

1. Open the **Find Receipts** window.
2. Leave **Operating Unit** blank, or enter a value as required.
3. Enter 1 in both **Receipt Numbers** fields.
4. Leave **Receipt Dates** blank, or enter a value as required.
5. Enter 09-MAY-2012 in **GL Dates**.
6. Leave the other fields blank unless you need specific filtering.

7. Click **Find**.



Find Receipts window with Receipt Numbers set to 1 and GL Dates set to 09-MAY-2012

Step 19: Review the receipt details

The **Receipts** window displays the receipt you found. Review these fields:

- **Receipt Method:** ACH
- **Receipt Number:** 1
- **Receipt Amount:** EUR 1,000.00
- **Receipt Type:** Standard
- **State:** Confirmed
- **Receipt Date, GL Date, Maturity Date:** 09-MAY-2012
- **Balances:** Unapplied = 1,000.00; all other balances = 0.00

In the **Customer** section, you see:

- **Name:** ABC Application Software
- **Number:** 2636
- **Location:** 13180

In the **Payment Details** section, you see:

- **Payment Method:** Bank Account Transfer
- **Instrument Number:** XXXXXX7812
- **PSON:** AR_1_RECEIPT_2092

In the **Remittance Bank** section, you see:

- **Name:** B.N.P.
- **Branch:** B.N.P. de Ternes
- **Account:** 7817

You make no changes in this step. Review the information for accuracy.

Step 20: Record the value before the change

Open Oracle SQL Developer and navigate to the relevant SQL script. Run a query to select the receipt data:

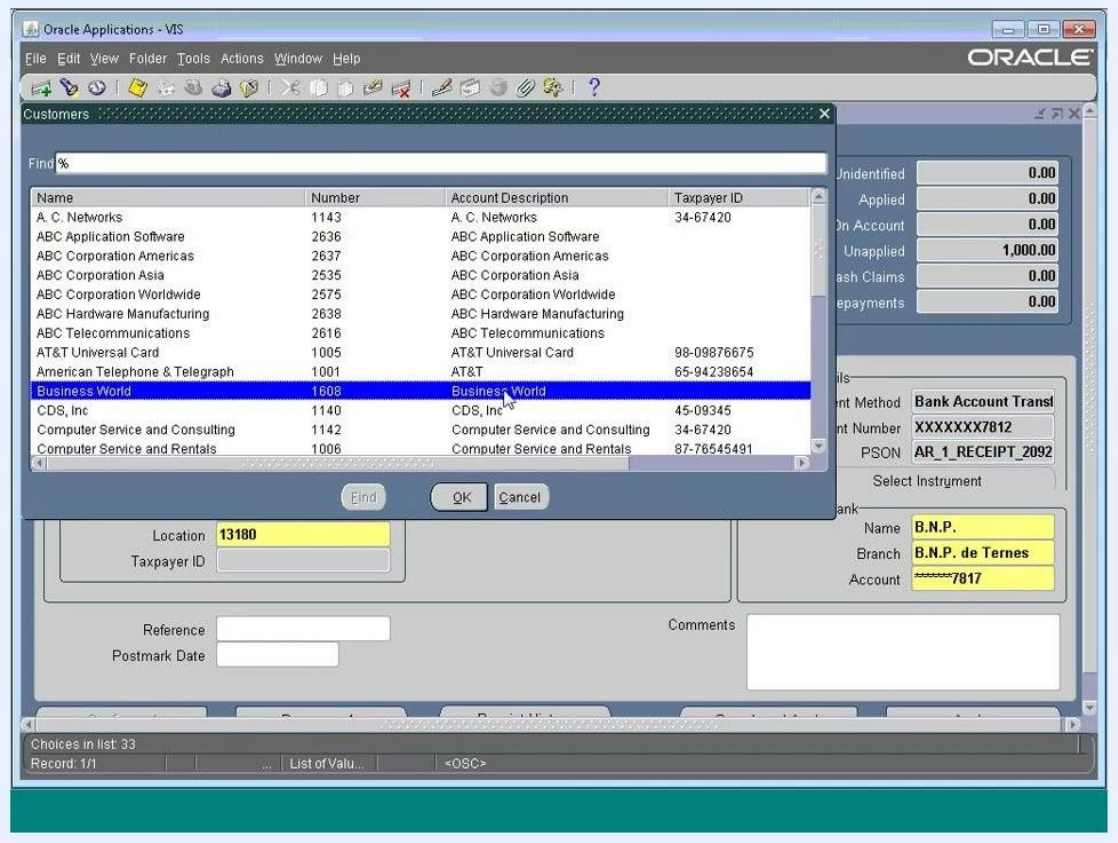
sql

```
select CASH_RECEIPT_ID, CREATION_DATE, LAST_UPDATE_DATE, RECEIPT_DATE,
RECEIPT_NUMBER, AMOUNT, CURRENCY_CODE, PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER
from ar_cash_receipts_all
where cash_receipt_id = 209296;
```

Review the query result:

- **CASH_RECEIPT_ID:** 209296
- **CREATION_DATE:** 09-MAY-14
- **LAST_UPDATE_DATE:** 09-MAY-14
- **RECEIPT_DATE:** 09-MAY-12
- **RECEIPT_NUMBER:** 1
- **AMOUNT:** 1000 EUR
- **PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER:** 5453

Note the value before any changes: PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER = 5453.

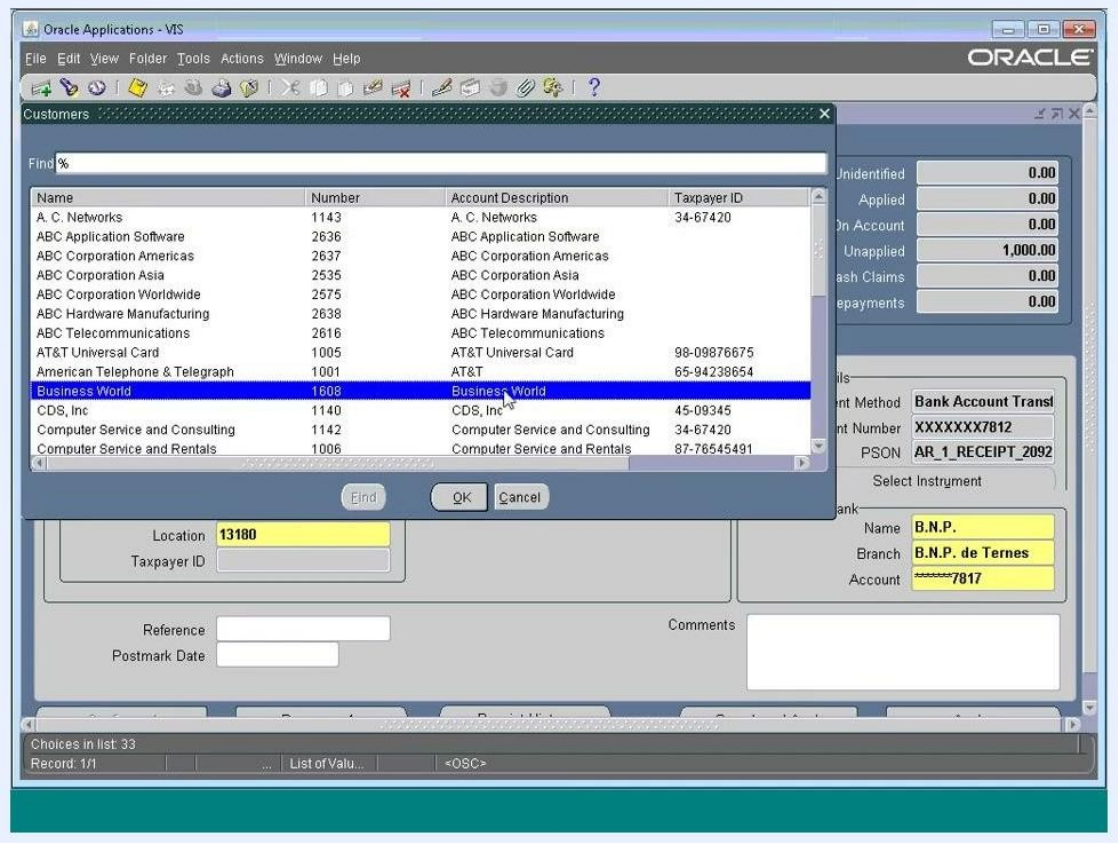


Oracle SQL Developer showing the query and result for cash receipt ID 209296 with PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER = 5453

Step 21: Change the customer on the receipt

1. In the **Receipts** window in Oracle Applications, click the ellipsis (...) next to the **Name** field in the Customer section. The **Customers** selection window appears.
2. Search for and select the new customer:
    - **Name:** Business World
    - **Number:** 1608
    - **Account Description:** Business World
    - **Taxpayer ID:** 45-09345

3. Click **OK** to confirm the selection.



Customers selection window with Business World highlighted, ready to select as the new customer

The **Receipts** window updates to show the new customer:

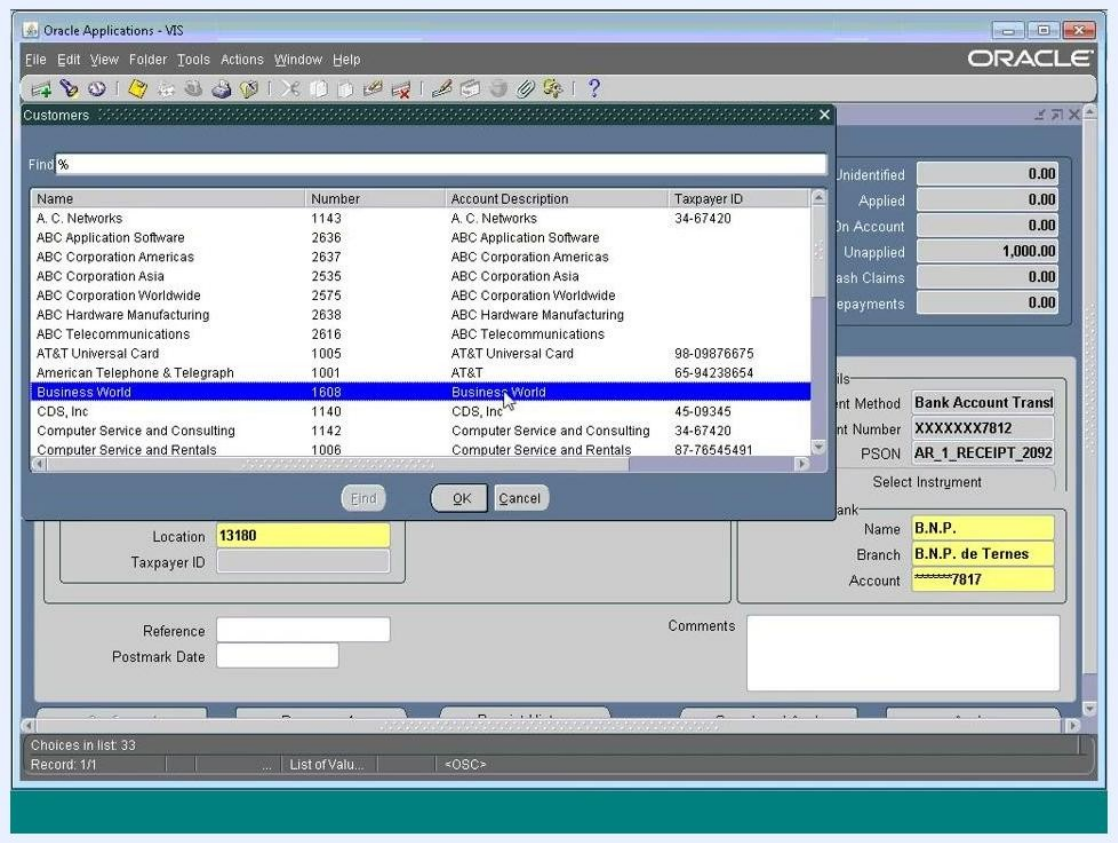
- **Name:** Business World
- **Number:** 1608
- **Location:** Paris

The status bar displays FRM-40400: Transaction complete: 1 records applied and saved. All other receipt and payment details remain unchanged.

Step 22: Check the changed value in the database

Return to Oracle SQL Developer and rerun the query for the same receipt ID. The result shows PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER: 3347, changed from 5453.

The script comments record the value before the change (5453) and the new value (3347). This confirms the database recorded the customer change.



Oracle SQL Developer showing the updated PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER value of 3347 for cash receipt ID 209296

Step 23: Review the audit trail for the change

Run an audit query against the shadow table to verify the change history:

sql

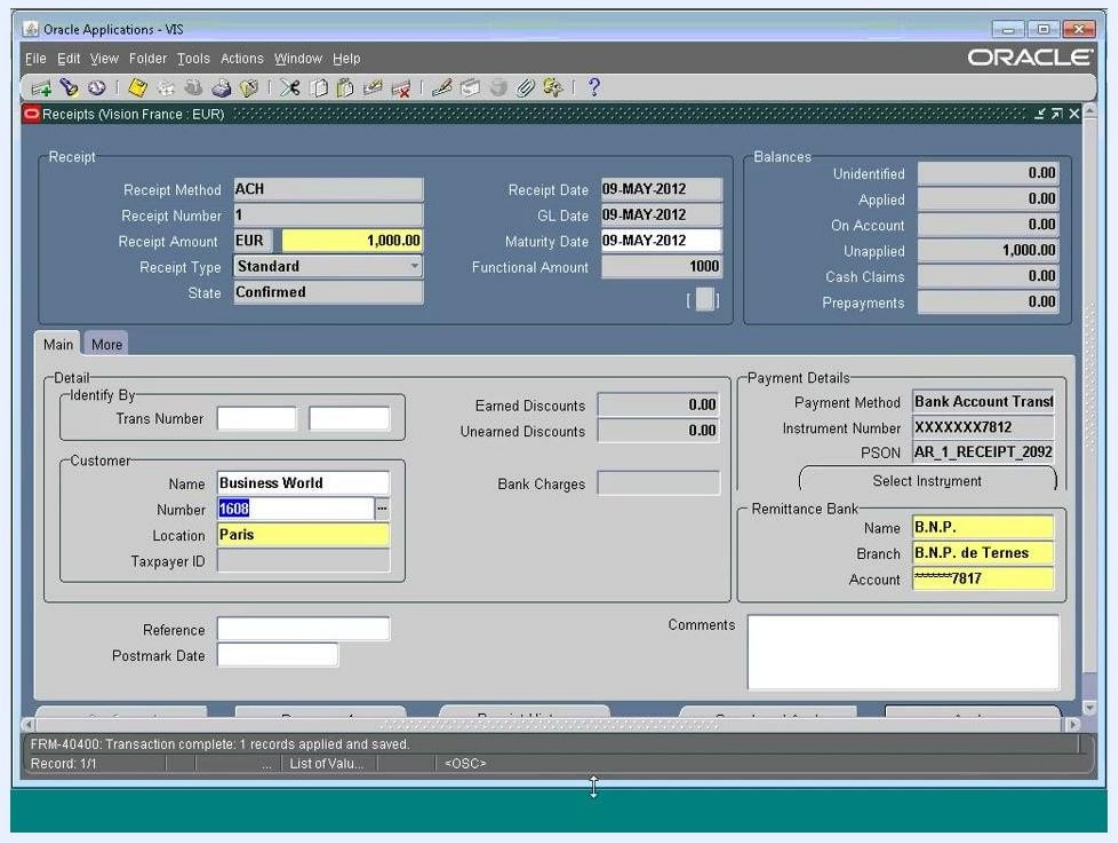
```
select * from AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL_A where cash_receipt_id = 209296;
```

Review the audit trail result:

- **AUDIT_TIMESTAMP:** 09-MAY-14
- **AUDIT_TRANSACTION_TYPE:** U (Update)
- **AUDIT_USER_NAME:** ADRIAN.ARGATU

- **AUDIT_SESSION_ID:** 1728640
- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID:** 1
- **AUDIT_COMMIT_ID:** 1
- **ROW_KEY:** 2014050918

This confirms that the update was performed and logged by the user ADRIAN.ARGATU.



Oracle SQL Developer showing the audit trail for the update, including user name and transaction details

Part 4: Continue auditing receipt and customer changes

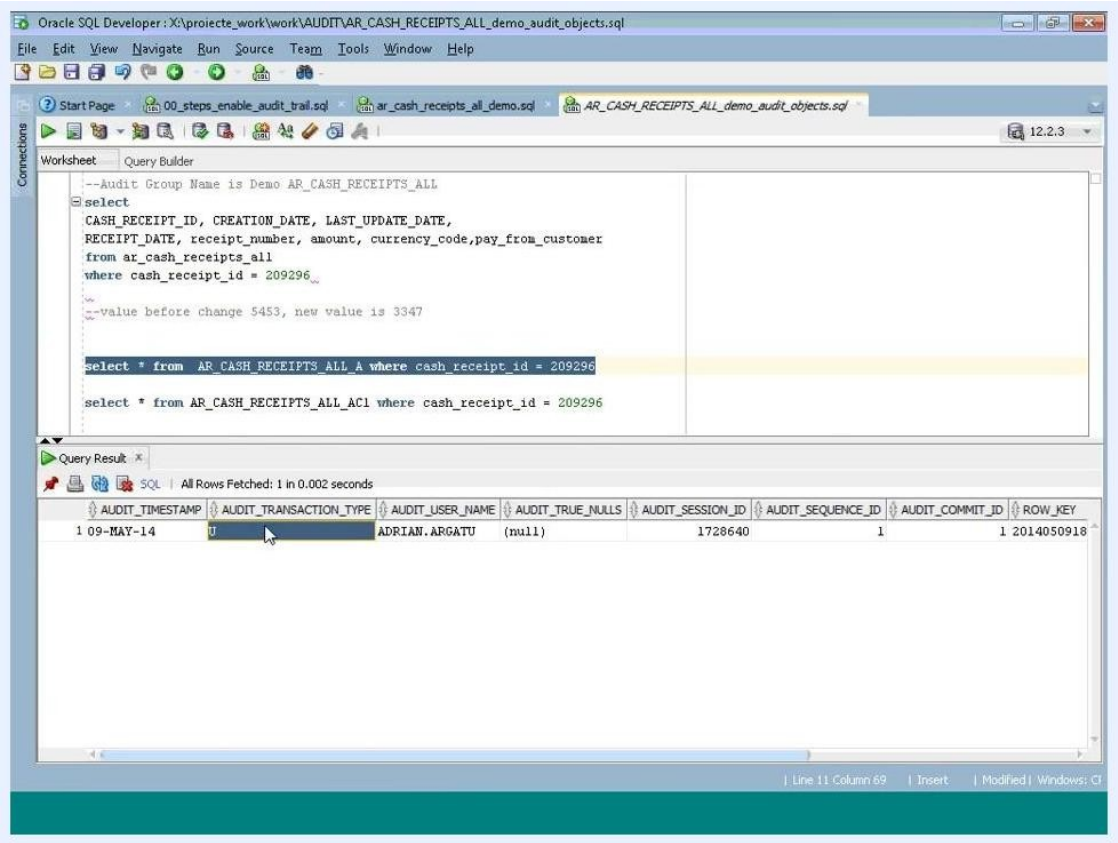
These steps show how further customer updates appear in Oracle Applications and in Oracle SQL Developer.

Step 24: Observe the update entry in the audit trail

In Oracle SQL Developer, observe the audit trail for the receipt update. The query result displays:

- **AUDIT_TIMESTAMP:** 09-MAY-14
- **AUDIT_TRANSACTION_TYPE:** U (Update)
- **AUDIT_USER_NAME:** ADRIAN.ARGATU
- **AUDIT_SESSION_ID:** 1728640
- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID:** 1
- **AUDIT_COMMIT_ID:** 1
- **ROW_KEY:** 2014050918

This confirms the update action and the user who performed it.



Oracle SQL Developer showing the audit trail with the update transaction for the receipt, user ADRIAN.ARGATU, and session details

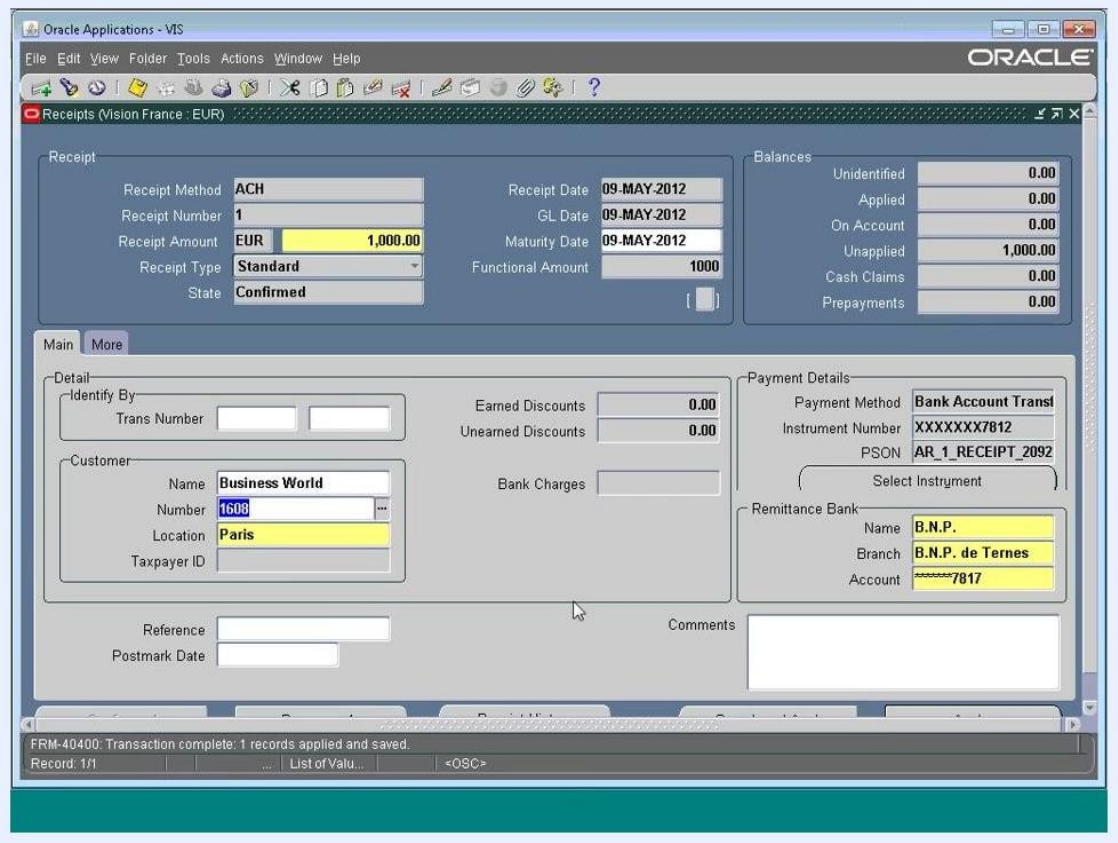
Step 25: Retrieve more audit details

Run a query to retrieve more audit details from the AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL_A1 table. The result shows:

- **CASH_RECEIPT_ID:** 209296
- **AUDIT_TRANSACTION_TYPE:** U (Update)
- **AUDIT_USER_NAME:** ADRIAN.ARGATU
- **AUDIT_SESSION_ID:** 1728640

- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID:** 1
- **AUDIT_COMMIT_ID:** 1
- **ROW_KEY:** 20140509184334000182864O
- **PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER:** 5453

This gives you a detailed record of the update, including the previous customer value.



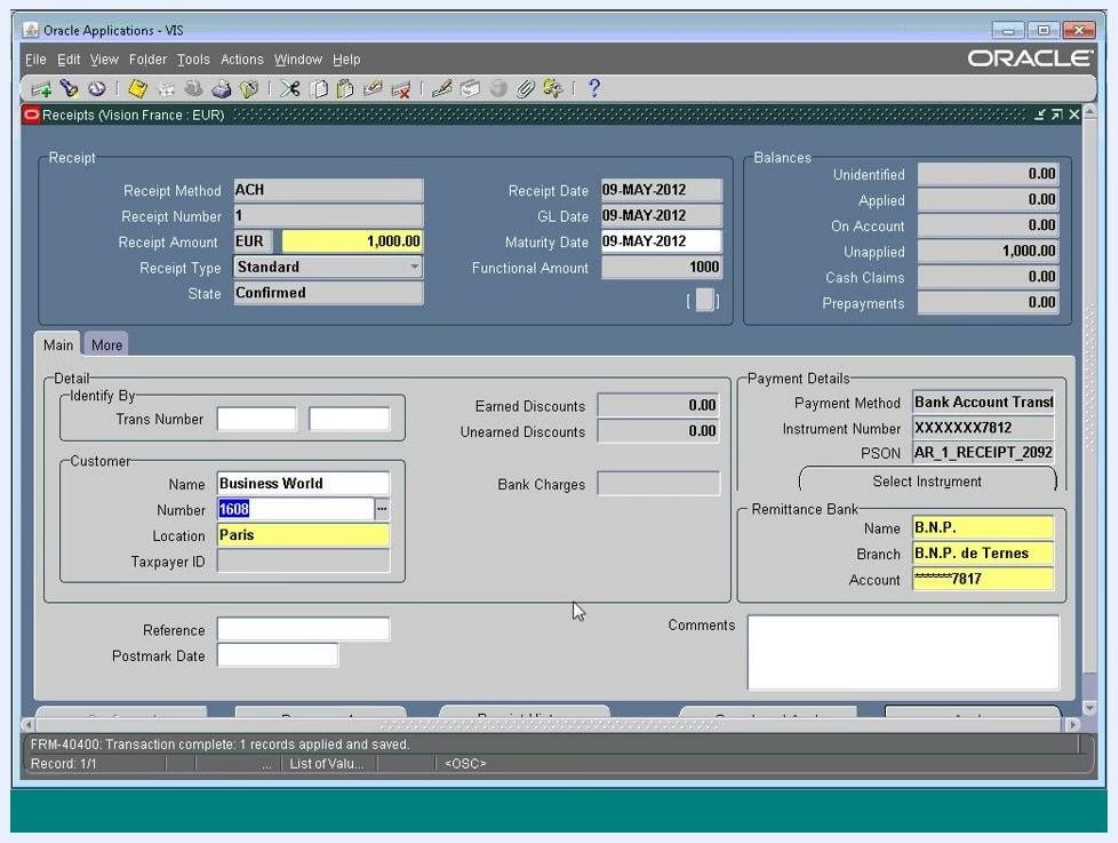
Oracle SQL Developer showing an audit record with PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER = 5453 for receipt ID 209296

Step 26: View the creation and update entries together

Run or refresh the audit query to display multiple audit entries. The result now shows two rows:

- The first row (sequence 1) is an update (U) by ADRIAN.ARGATU.
- The second row (sequence 0) is a creation (C) with no user name.

This confirms both the creation and the subsequent update of the receipt record.



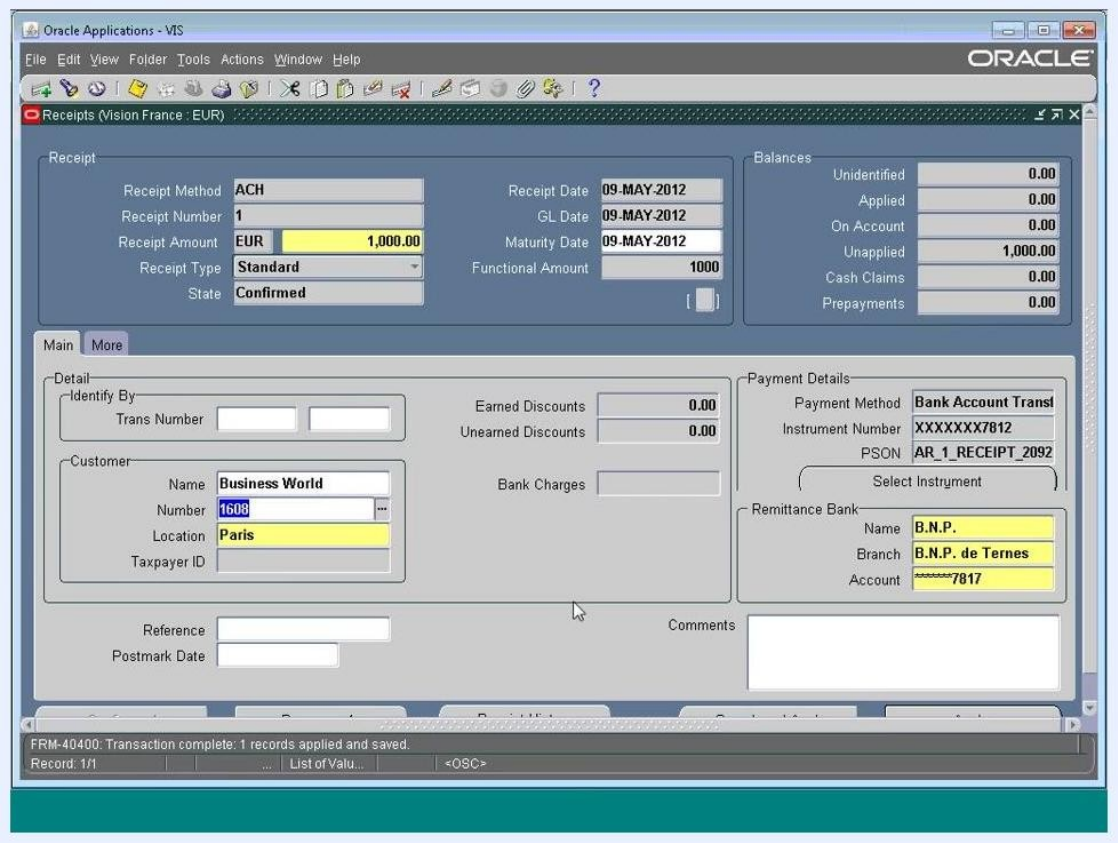
Oracle SQL Developer showing two audit entries for receipt ID 209296, one update (U) and one creation (C)

Step 27: Review the customer in the Receipts window

Switch to Oracle Applications and review the **Receipts** window. Confirm the customer details:

- **Name:** Business World
- **Number:** 1608
- **Location:** Paris

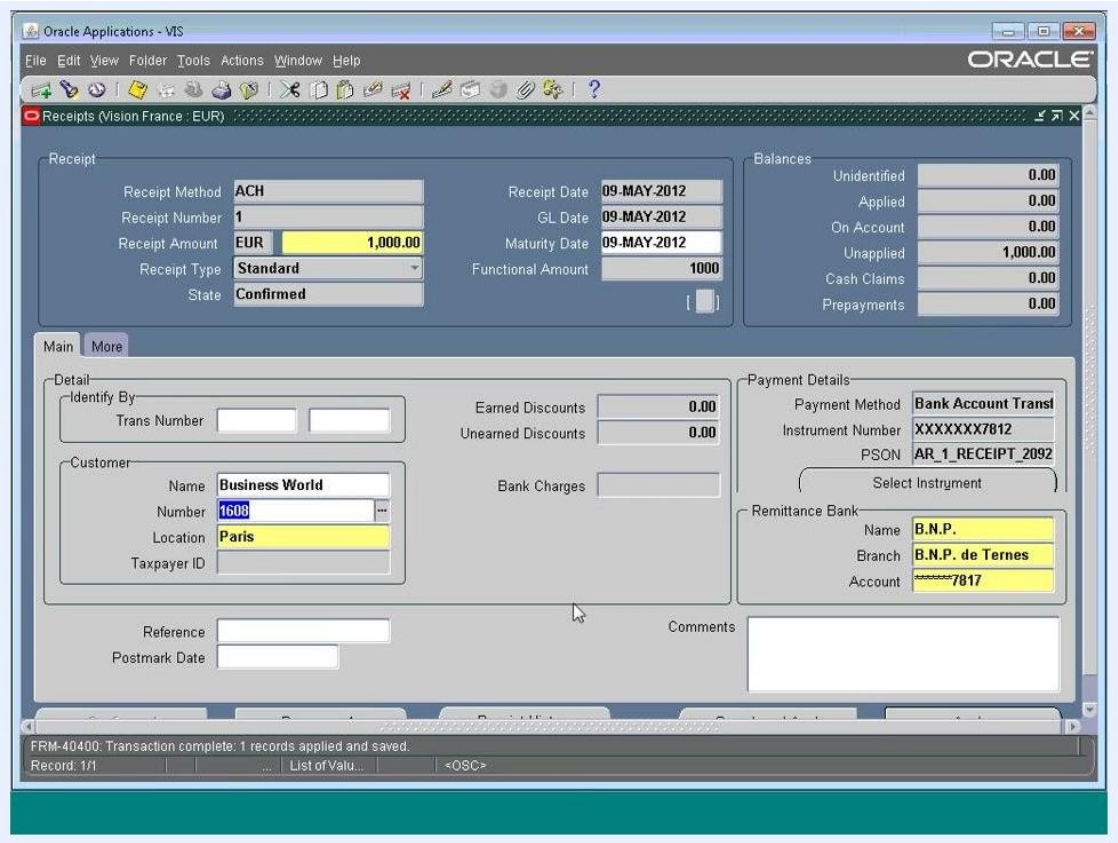
The status bar displays FRM-40400: Transaction complete: 1 records applied and saved. All other receipt and payment details remain unchanged.



Receipts window showing customer Business World, Number 1608, Location Paris, and the transaction complete message

Step 28: Confirm the customer data is stable

Continue reviewing the **Receipts** window in Oracle Applications. Make sure the customer information is still **Name:** Business World, **Number:** 1608, and **Location:** Paris. You make no changes in this step, and the data remains stable.



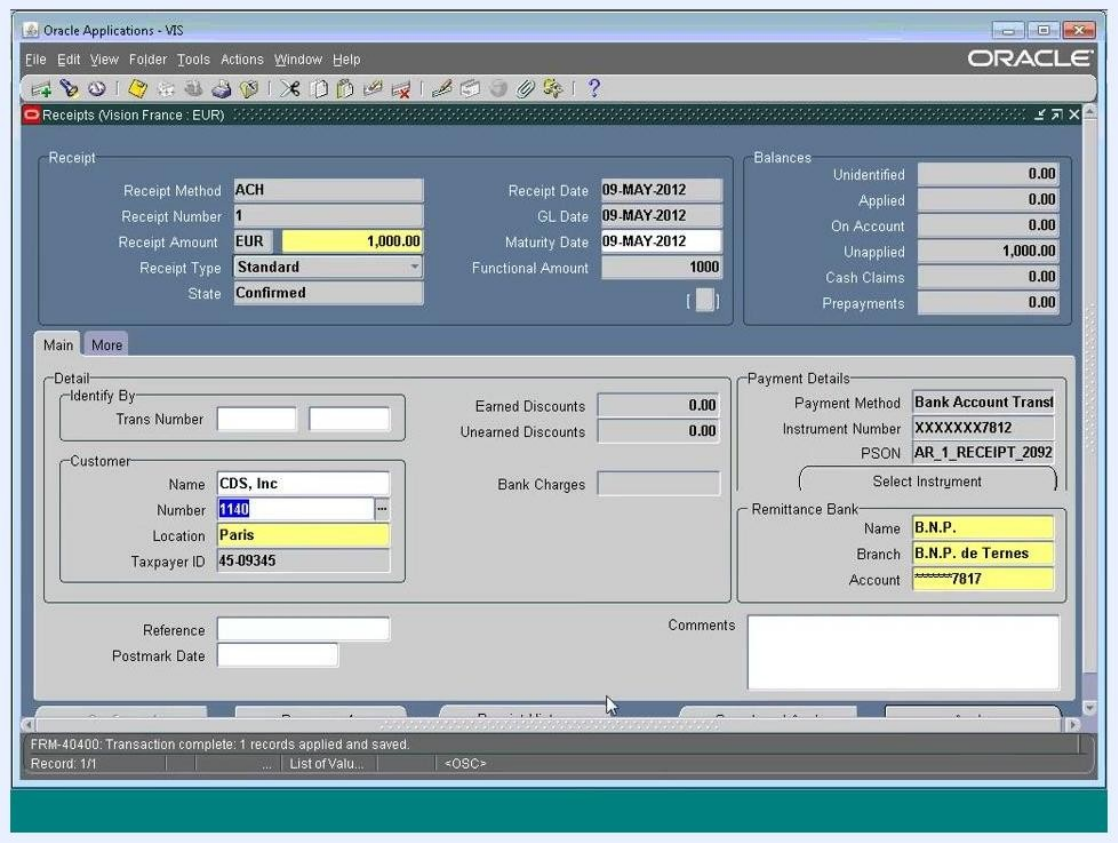
Receipts window with customer Business World, Number 1608, Location Paris, unchanged

Step 29: Change the customer again

In the **Receipts** window, change the customer details:

- **Name:** CDS, Inc
- **Number:** 1140
- **Location:** Paris
- **Taxpayer ID:** 45-09345

The status bar again displays FRM-40400: Transaction complete: 1 records applied and saved. All other receipt and payment details remain unchanged.

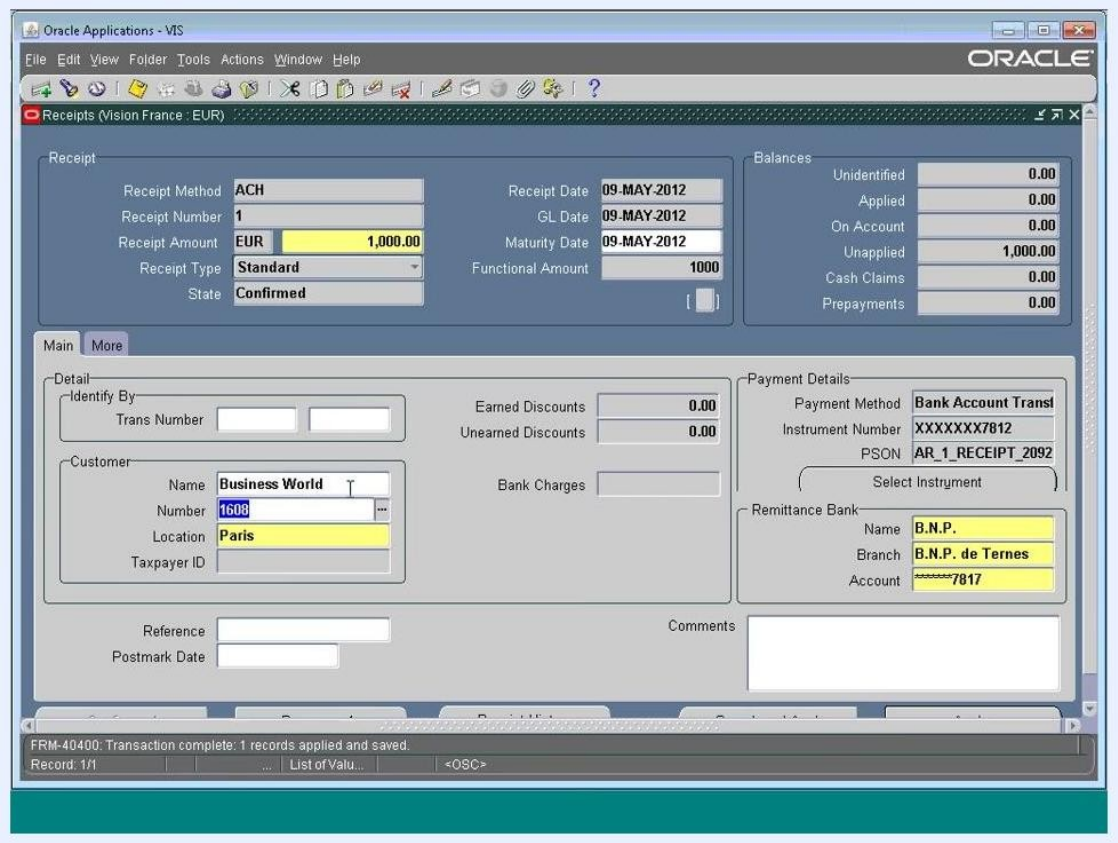


Receipts window showing the updated customer CDS, Inc, Number 1140, Location Paris, and the transaction complete message

Step 30: Check the latest value in the database

Return to Oracle SQL Developer and rerun the query for the receipt. The result now shows PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER: 1287, which reflects the latest customer change.

The script comment is updated to read: "value before change 5453, new value is 3347, last value 1287". This confirms the most recent customer update is recorded in the database.



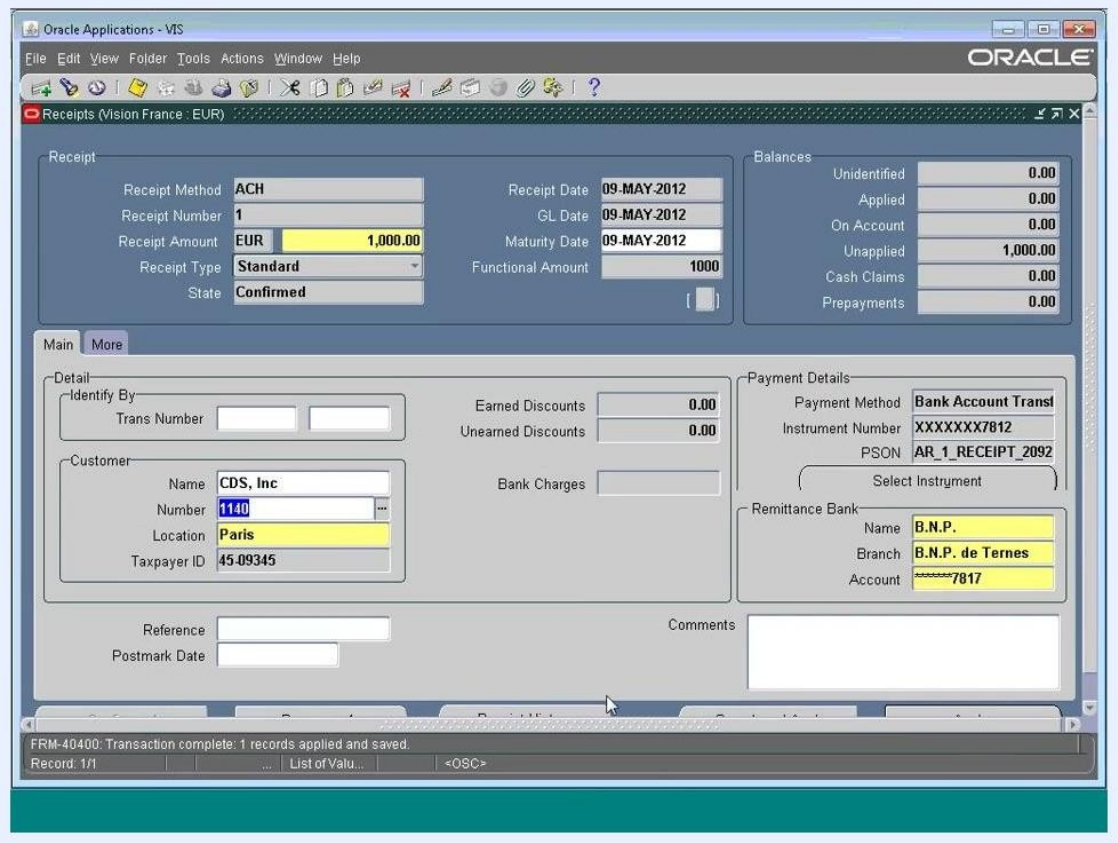
Oracle SQL Developer showing PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER = 1287 for receipt ID 209296, with the script comment tracking value changes

Step 31: Review the audit entries for both updates

Run or refresh the audit query to display all audit entries for the receipt. The result shows two entries, both by ADRIAN.ARGATU:

- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID:** 1, **PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER:** 5453
- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID:** 2, **PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER:** 3347

This provides an audit trail of the customer changes for the receipt.



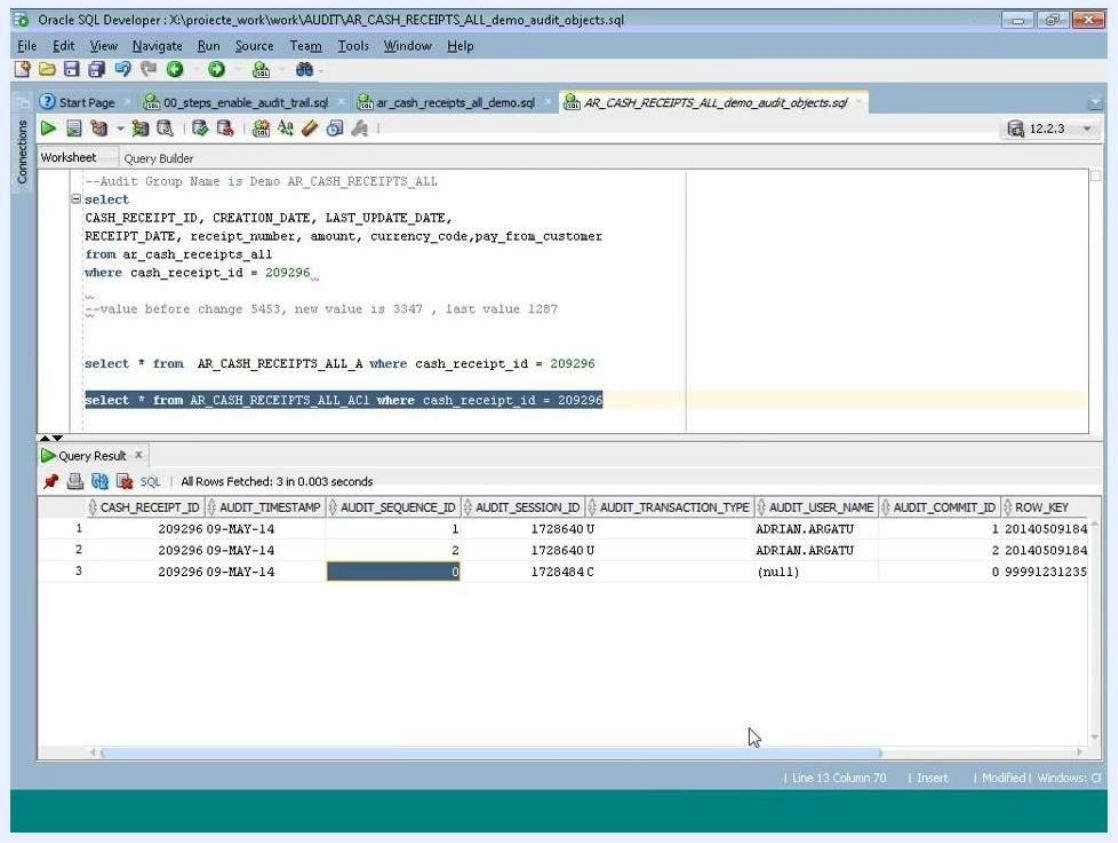
Oracle SQL Developer showing two audit entries for receipt ID 209296 with PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER values 5453 and 3347

Step 32: Include the creation entry

Run or refresh the audit query to display all audit entries, including the creation entry. The result now shows three entries:

- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID:** 1, **AUDIT_TRANSACTION_TYPE:** U, **PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER:** 5453
- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID:** 2, **AUDIT_TRANSACTION_TYPE:** U, **PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER:** 3347
- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID:** 0, **AUDIT_TRANSACTION_TYPE:** C, **PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER:** not shown

This confirms the full history of creation and updates for the receipt.



Oracle SQL Developer showing three audit entries for receipt ID 209296, including the creation and two updates

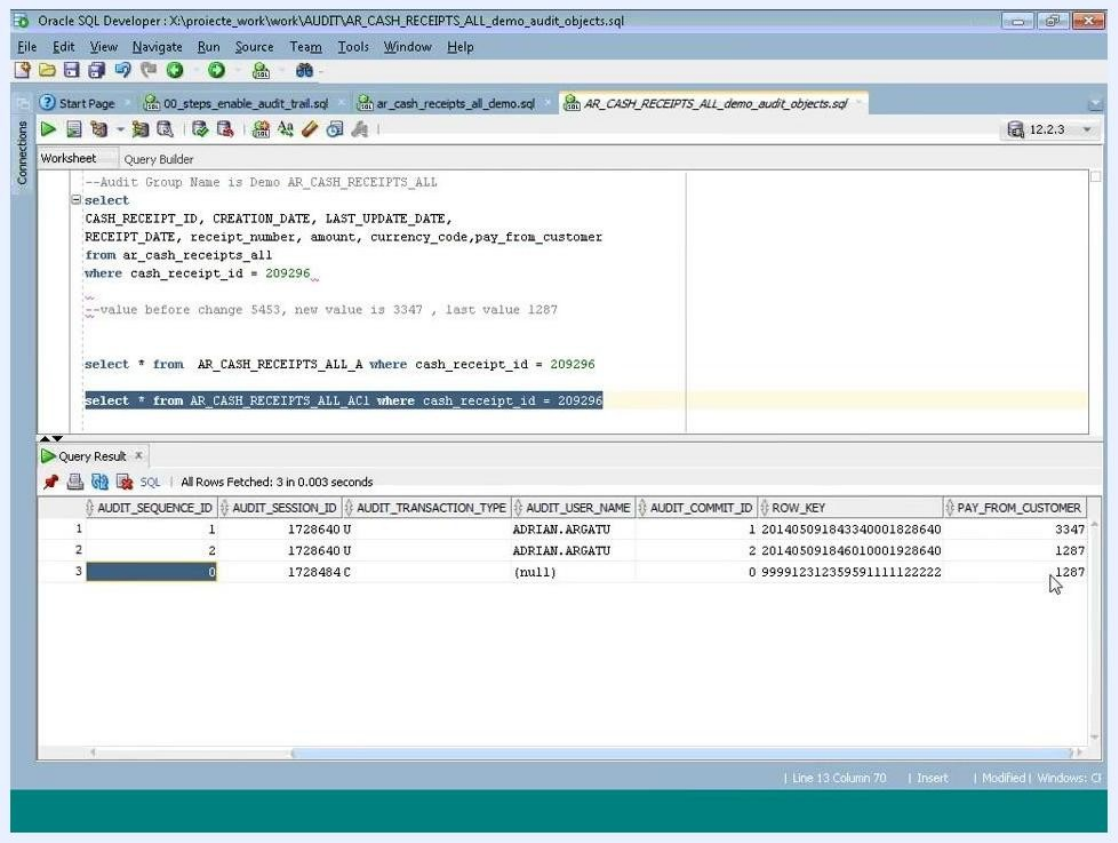
Step 33: Review the final audit trail query results

In Oracle SQL Developer, observe the final audit trail query results. The SQL worksheet displays a query selecting from AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL_A where cash_receipt_id = 209296. It also shows the comment "value before change 5453, new value is 3347, last value 1287".

The **Query Result** pane shows three audit entries:

- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID 1:** Session 1728640, Update (U), User ADRIAN.ARGATU, Commit 1, PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER 3347.
- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID 2:** Session 1728640, Update (U), User ADRIAN.ARGATU, Commit 2, PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER 1287.
- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID 0:** Session 1728484, Creation (C), no user, Commit 0, PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER 1287.

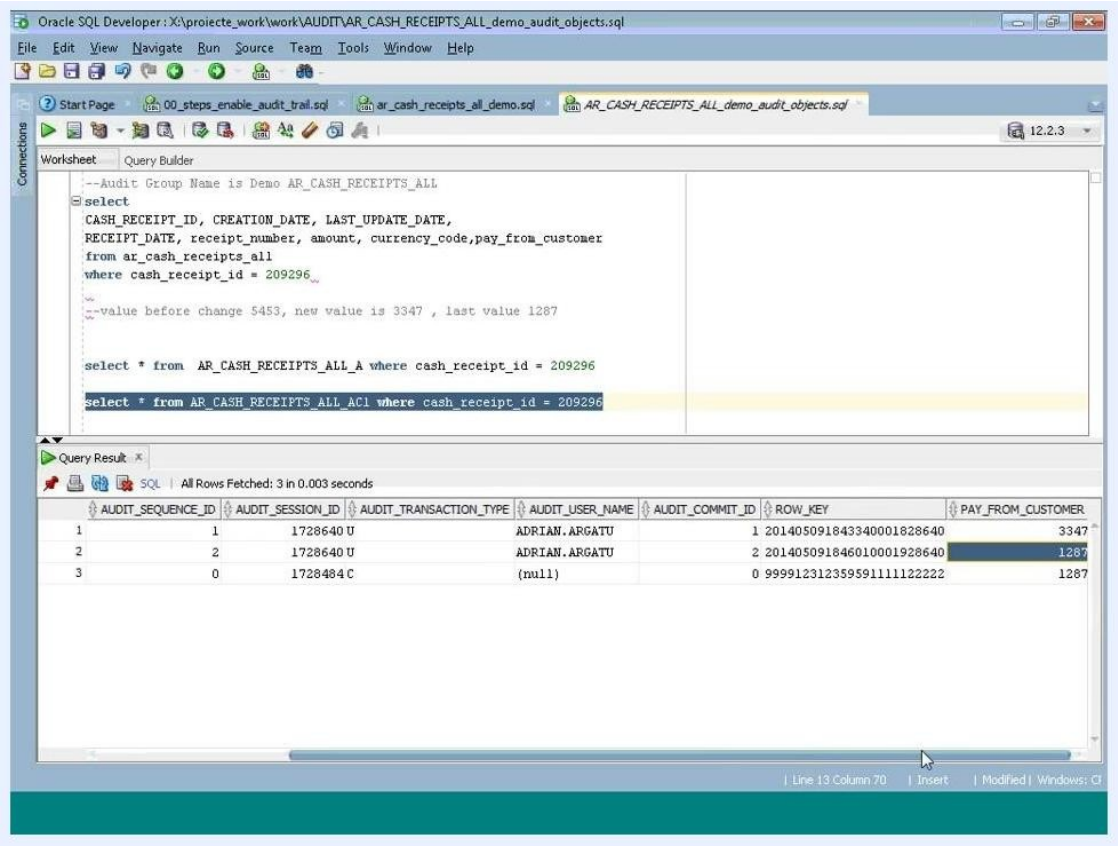
This confirms the sequence of customer changes and the creation for the receipt.



Oracle SQL Developer showing three audit entries for receipt ID 209296 with PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER values 3347, 1287, and the creation entry

Step 34: Inspect a specific audit entry

In the **Query Result** pane, click to highlight the row with **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID 2** (PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER 1287). Highlighting the row lets you inspect that update entry more closely. All other details in the worksheet and query remain unchanged.



Oracle SQL Developer with the PAY_FROM_CUSTOMER 1287 row highlighted in the audit trail results

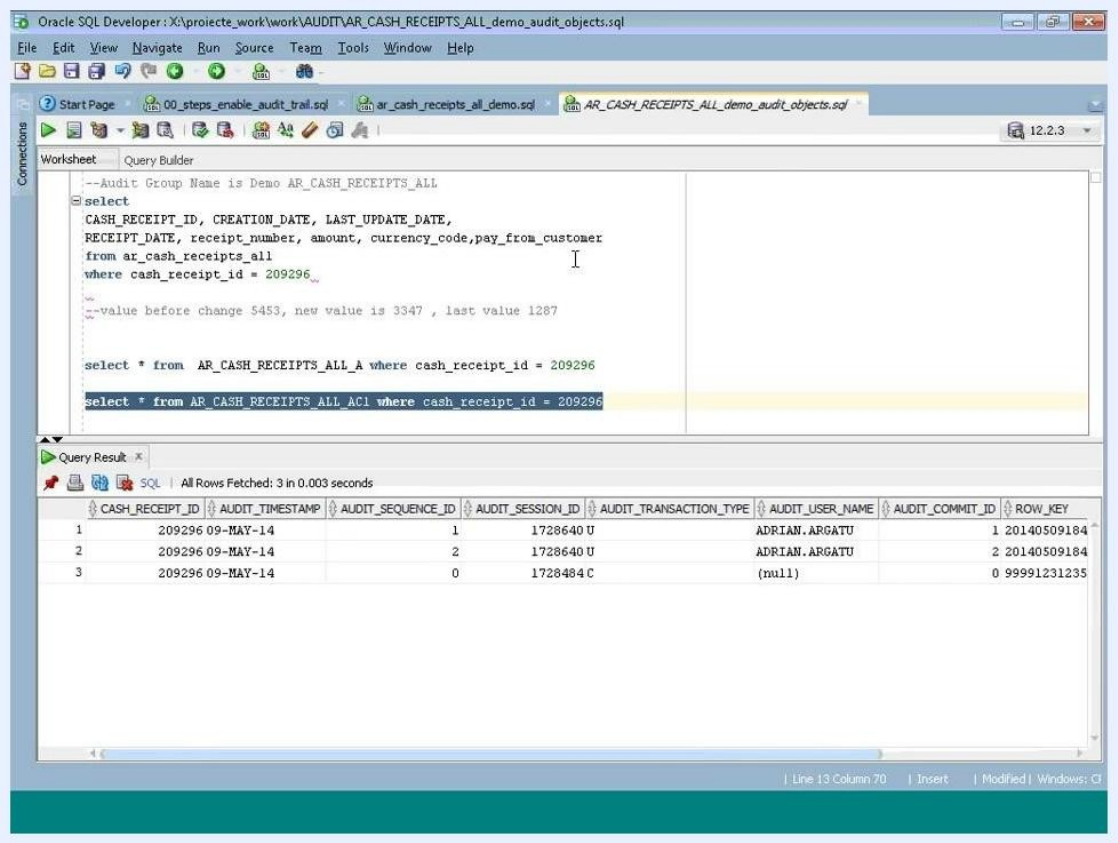
Step 35: Add timestamp details to the audit query

Run or refresh the audit query to include timestamp details. The **Query Result** pane now displays:

- **CASH_RECEIPT_ID:** 209296
- **AUDIT_TIMESTAMP:** 09-MAY-14
- **AUDIT_SEQUENCE_ID:** 1, 2, 0
- **AUDIT_SESSION_ID:** 1728640, 1728640, 1728484
- **AUDIT_TRANSACTION_TYPE:** U, U, C
- **AUDIT_USER_NAME:** ADRIAN.ARGATU, ADRIAN.ARGATU, (null)
- **AUDIT_COMMIT_ID:** 1, 2, 0

- **ROW_KEY:** as previously shown

This gives you a view of the audit trail, including when each action occurred.



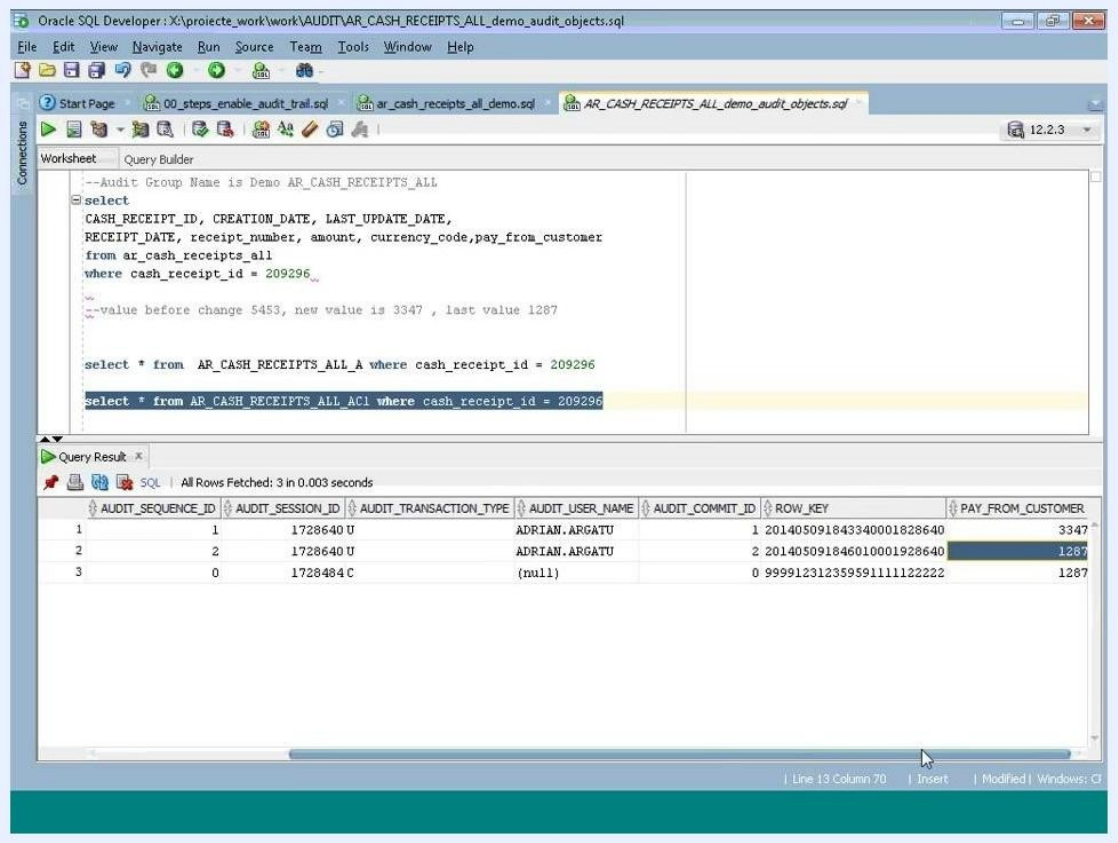
Oracle SQL Developer showing the audit trail with timestamps for receipt ID 209296, including the creation and two updates

Step 36: Use the checklist to confirm your setup

Switch to the SQL worksheet tab titled 00_steps_enable_audit_trail.sql. Review the documented steps for enabling audit trail in Oracle Applications:

1. **Activate profile:** Set to Yes (site level).
2. **Setup table and columns to audit:** Ensure the table has a primary key.
3. **Setup audit group.**
4. **Verify application/module is audit enabled.**
5. **Run AuditTrail Update Tables report** to enforce the setup.
6. **Run AuditTrail Report for Audit Group Validation** to check if all objects are valid.

The test section specifies **Table:** ar_cash_receipts_all and **Column:** pay_from_customer. This gives you a concise checklist for setting up and validating audit trails.



Oracle SQL Developer worksheet showing the six steps to enable audit trail, the test table and column, and the closing note

Summary

To enable audit trail in Oracle EBS, you:

- Set **AuditTrail:Activate** to **Yes** at the **Site** level.
- Select the table and columns to audit (the table needs a primary key).
- Set up an audit group.
- Run the **AuditTrail Update Tables** report.
- Run the **AuditTrail Report for Audit Group Validation** and confirm every object is **VALID**.

You then tested the setup by changing the customer on a receipt and reading the history in the AR_CASH_RECEIPTS_ALL_A shadow table. That

history showed the creation entry and each update with the user name, session, sequence, and commit IDs.

What's next

- Add more columns to your audit group using the optional column step.
- Repeat the validation report after any change to your audit setup.
- Use the shadow table queries in this guide to review changes to other audited columns.