

# Precise PMDB API Reference Guide

Performance Management Database (PMDB), a Precise repository, stores application performance data for long-term analysis and trending reports. The data is collected by the Precise product suite, which has been designed to provide a comprehensive and methodical performance management solution.

Precise includes the following four major component products: Alerts, Report Manager, Insight, and the Precise family of products. All Precise products use the PMDB to collect and store long-term historical information throughout the application life cycle. For more information, refer to the relevant user's guide and to the [Precise Administration Guide](#).

The *Precise PMDB API Reference Guide* explains how you can customize the infrastructure of the PMDB such as to store and retrieve application data that is not loaded into the database by default. You can then perform correlations between your data and data collected by Precise.

This guide explains how to use Precise utilities to perform the following:

- Define and create your own data structure in the PMDB by means of DDML (Data Definition Markup Language).

Creating DDML Documents details the DDML format and explains how to create the database entities using the provided shell script.

- Load your own data into the PMDB using the Data Loader.

Loading Data details the XML format and explains how to load data into the PMDB.

- Retrieve your own data from the PMDB using the Data Retriever.

Retrieving Data details the XML retrieve format and explains how to retrieve data from the PMDB.

The protocols used to define the data structure, load application data, and retrieve that data when needed are derived from the XML (Extensible Markup Language) technology. XML provides a simple and intuitive way to complete these tasks.

We recommend that you use the Precise utilities to take full advantage of the PMDB capabilities:

- Use the PMDB's aggregation mechanism.
- Use the PMDB's purging mechanism.

Store and handle data efficiently—through partitions in an Oracle database and through partitioned views in a Microsoft SQL Server database.

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