

Recovering from a Failed DG Broker Switchover

Problem Description

Should you find yourself in a situation where a Data Guard Broker switchover to Standby has failed and left your environment with 2 Physical Standby Databases, follow this simple procedure to switch the failed switchover Standby Database back to Primary.

You may also see the following error from a DGMGRL "show configuration" command:

```
ORA-16816: incorrect database role
```

Solution

1. Logon (as sysdba) to the instance that was your Primary database instance before the switchover.

2. Confirm the database role.

```
SQL> select database_role from v$database;
```

```
DATABASE_ROLE
-----
PHYSICAL STANDBY
```

3. Shutdown the instance.

```
SQL> shutdown immediate;
```

4. Mount the database.

```
SQL> startup mount;
```

5. Cancel the MRP process. You will receive "ORA-16136: Managed Standby Recovery not active" if it is not running, but you can ignore.

```
SQL> alter database recover managed standby database cancel;
```

6. Terminate the current switchover to Standby that never completed fully.

```
SQL> alter database recover managed standby database finish;
```

7. Now switchover to Primary.

```
SQL> alter database commit to switchover to primary with
session shutdown;
```

8. Open the database.

```
SQL> alter database open;
```

9. Confirm the database role.

```
SQL> select database_role from v$database;
```

```
DATABASE_ROLE
-----
PRIMARY
```

Additional Steps

When attempting to open the Primary Database you may suffer the following error:

```
SQL> alter database open
*
ERROR at line 1:
ORA-16649: possible failover to another database prevents this
database being opened
```

In this case, before you can open the database, you must disable Data Guard Broker as follows:

```
SQL> alter system set dg_broker_start=false scope=both
sid='*';
```

System altered.

```
SQL> alter database open;
```

Database altered.

Now re-install Data Guard Broker.