

December 19, 2007



Community Connector

A Biweekly Newsletter for SQL Server Professionals



[Visit the Sponsor of this edition of the Connector](#)

In This Issue

[Editorial - Chuck Heinzelman](#)

[Call For Speakers - European PASS Conference](#)

[Free SQL Server 2008 CTP5 Beta](#)

[PASS Goes Virtual](#)

[European PASS Conference 2008](#)

Quick Links

[Early Bird Registration for Summit 2008](#)

[PASS Website](#)

Founding Partners



Join Our Mailing List!

Dear Sandy,

Another Year...

Chuck Heinzelman

Director of Technical Publications



Another year has come and gone. At this time of year, I often find myself looking back and asking, "What have I accomplished in the past year?" If you are anything like me, you do not accomplish nearly as much as you would like over the course of a year. The important thing, in my opinion, is to learn from the past and use it to guide the future.

You might be thinking to yourself, "What does this have to do with SQL Server or PASS?" Well, the future is quite bright for the SQL Server community. We're working with a strong and stable data platform in SQL Server 2005. Plus, there's going to be a new version of SQL Server released sometime next year - along with Windows Server 2008 and Visual Studio 2008 (which is already out). And, the 2008 PASS Community Summit is going to be held in Seattle next November - which has always been a good time and location for the conference.

If you have not adopted SQL Server 2005 yet, there's still time before support sunsets on SQL Server 2000. Or, if you are so inclined, start investigating the SQL Server 2008 CTP program - a new CTP was just released last month. I'll be loading it on a server in the very near future to start testing some of the new functionality. I am personally looking forward to migrating from 2005 to 2008 as soon after RTM as I can.

So, what's your favorite new feature in SQL Server 2008? Is it BI-related, or is it something from the core engine? Personally, I can't wait for the new date data types. Drop

me a line if you wish at chuck.heinzelman@sqlpass.org.

Call For Speakers for 2008 European PASS Conference

The 2008 European PASS Conference Call for Speakers is now open! PASS would like to encourage you to submit an abstract today!

[Click here](#) to submit your abstract.

PASS is an association for users, run by users. It is important that our members be involved and help build the community they are a part of.

As a speaker at the [2008 European PASS Conference Summit](#) in Neuss, Germany (Near Dusseldorf), April 15 and 16, 2007 , you will receive:

- Complimentary registration to the 2008 European PASS Conference
- Industry recognition
- Networking opportunities with hundreds of attendees

Microsoft employees are encouraged to submit presentations using the online submission form, however, please note that these submissions will be reviewed and abstract status will be determined by Microsoft.

The deadline to submit a presentation is January 31, 2008. If you have any questions, please e-mail speakerbureau08@european-pass-conference.com. Thank you and we look forward to your participation!

SQL Server 2008 CTP5 Beta Now Available for Free in a Secure Hosted Environment!

PASS, MaximumASP, Dell and Intel have partnered to offer this advance preview...

Try out real-world data online in a secure, hosted environment - you don't have to download or install a thing - and your feedback will influence the final version!

Get started today at www.sqlserverbeta.com and discover the powerful functionality of the **latest** version of SQL Server 2008 including:

- Reporting Services
- Language Integrated Query (LINQ)
- Predictable Query Performance
- Transparent Data Encryption
- Integrated Full Text Search
- Sparse Columns
- Spatial Data Types
- Grouping Sets

Visit www.sqlserverbeta.com today!

PASS Goes Virtual on January 24, 2008...

PASS is pleased to be participating in the 'Get Ready for SQL Server 2008' virtual event to be held January 24, 2008. Response to the event has been strong with over 500 attendees registered already. This virtual event is organized by SQL Server Magazine, Solid Quality Mentors and PASS, and will consist of five in-depth online seminars by some of the top SQL professionals in the industry.

This event offers members a sneak peek at some of the types of sessions that PASS is planning for at Summit 2008 - November 19-21 - early bird registration is available till December 29, 2007 - so book now and save!

Here are the topics on the agenda:

Developing Data-Centric Applications with SQL Server 2008

[Ken Spencer](#), Solid Quality Mentors

Getting a Handle on Data Cleansing in SSIS

[Erik Veerman](#), Solid Quality Mentors

Performance Tuning

[Itzik Ben-Gan](#), Solid Quality Mentors

Reporting Services with SQL Server 2008

[Andrew Potter](#), Microsoft .NET Consultant

SQL Server Virtualization

[Michael Otey](#), SQL Server Magazine

ABOUT THE VIRTUAL SHOW

The event will include a virtual tradeshow, which will include interactive virtual exhibits that provide attendees valuable information about a company's products and services. Virtual

exhibitors will have live booth staff available to interact with attendees and answer questions about their offering and organization. The experience is a true exhibition, all without the expenses related to travel and in-person events.

THE EVENT URL:

<http://events.unisfair.com/index.jsp?eid=157&seid=291>

European PASS Conference 2008

April 14th - 16th, 2008

The European PASS Conference is being held in Neuss, Germany in 2008.

It is a 2 day conference with 24+ technical sessions and an additional German track to choose from. The Keynote speaker this year is Greg Low. Spotlight speakers include James Luetkehoelter (Spyglass LLC), Allan Mitchell (Konesans), Remus Rusanu (Rusanu Consulting) and Chris Webb.

Two tracks of Pre-Conference seminars are also offered: BI with Reed Jacobsen (Hitachi Consulting), and DBA with Joseph Pilov and Bob Ward (Microsoft PSS).

Get a chance to deep dive into the new Microsoft SQL Server 2008 features - right after it's officially launched!

Click [here](#) for more information.

PASS Organization & Mission

PASS was founded by Microsoft and CA to provide users of SQL Server a peer network and to help build a body of expertise to help educate millions of SQL Server users around the world.

Currently, PASS is a global community for more than 25,000 SQL Server professionals. It is the first independent, user-run, not-for-profit association dedicated to providing SQL Server users around the world with the tools and knowledge to achieve unparalleled business results.

Our Mission:

- Provide a forum for SQL Server education
- Build and grow the SQL Server Community
- Facilitate member networking & provide an infrastructure to enable the exchange of information within SQL Server disciplines- DBA/Developers, BI Professionals, etc.

- Work with Microsoft to influence the direction of the SQL Server product and services
- Publish high quality technical materials including the Connector & the SQL Server Standard Magazine
- Build the largest archive of user created SQL Server and Business Intelligence reference material

[Forward email](#)

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to sandy@ccevent.com by hq@sqlpass.org.

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing



Professional Association for SQL Server | Suite 2100 - 203 North LaSalle | Chicago | IL | 60601