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Community Connector

A Biweekly Newsletter for SQL Server Professionals



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Dear Sandy,

An Open Request...

Chuck Heinzelman
PASS Director of Technical Publications



As I write this editorial every other week, I try to come up with things that will be interesting and meaningful to you - the members of PASS. Sometimes I try to be funny, sometimes I am serious - but I always try to provide insight and information.

Now I am going to ask you for some help.

I need to know what you want from this newsletter. Over the history of the PASS organization we have published newsletters of different types - some technical, some marketing. There have been times when we have had one newsletter and others where we had two. When we have had one newsletter, it combined technical and marketing content. When we had two newsletters, one was generally technical and the other was generally marketing.

We currently have one regular newsletter that is supplemented with periodic targeted newsletters. I have my ideas of what I would like to see in this newsletter, but my opinion is not what is important here. Your opinion is what really matters.

As Director of Technical Publications, it is my goal and responsibility to provide you with the type of publications that will meet your needs. So here is my challenge - send me an e-mail at chuck.heiznelman@sqlpass.org to let me know the type of things you would like to see in this newsletter. Your comments and suggestions will be compiled and used to drive a larger membership survey which will ultimately drive the direction of PASS



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publications for years to come.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Chuck

DBA SIGS

General News

Well, just when we thought we had the Live Meeting events running smoothly, reality intervened once again when our presenter for May found himself in a location with no network connectivity. We have rescheduled his presentation for July. I know we keep promising the recordings of past Live Meeting events and we are still working on this project. Hopefully, we'll have something to announce in the next connector.

Upcoming Live Meeting Events:

Connection information for both of these events will be provided at a later date.

Sharon Dooley, June 25th, Noon Eastern

Sharon Dooley will present "New DBA Toys in SQL Server 2008 - Part 1". SQL Server 2008 introduces four major new capabilities: policy-based management, the Resource Governor, Performance Data Warehouse and auditing. This talk focuses on the first two. Part 2, which will be presented at a later date, covers the last two. Policy-based management allows you to enforce rules for how things should be on one or more servers. The terminology is complex, and the capabilities are immense. The Resource Governor allows you to define workloads and specify the resources, including cpu, memory and i/o bandwidth, a specific workload should have. In this demo-rich presentation, you'll get an introduction to the capabilities of both of these new features and learn how you can make them work for you. This presentation assumes a solid knowledge of Transact-SQL, a good understanding of SQL Server database engine features, as well as an understanding of the performance requirements of different types of queries.

Sharon Dooley (MCP, former SQL Server MVP) has worked with SQL Server since its first release. Her major areas of specialization are database design and performance tuning, though she also does a lot of administration. She has a consulting practice and teaches and writes courses for Learning Tree International, where she is SQL Server Curriculum Manager. She's currently hard at work developing Learning Tree's SQL 2008 Admin course. Ms. Dooley is the author of SQL Server 7.0 Essential Reference (New Riders) and the lead author of Professional SQL Server 6.5 Administration (Wrox). Sharon is an active member of PASS (The Professional Organization for SQL Server) and has presented at numerous conferences. She was named a Microsoft MVP in 2001 and was an MVP for SQL Server until 2004. In her spare time, she enjoys being bossed around by her cats.

James Luetkehoelter, July 23rd, Noon Eastern

James Luetkehoelter will give a presentation titled SQL Server Disaster

Recovery: Recovery/Backup Planning. Disaster recovery planning has essentially two phases: mitigation (trying to prevent or minimize the effect of a disaster) and response (actually recovering from a disaster). In the SQL Server world, the response phase is dominated by the backup and recovery process. When planning for the backup and recovery process, it is imperative to actually think about the process in reverse. Whatever backup scheme you end up using should be driven by the recovery needs the business requires. We'll look at various business cases and discuss possible recovery/backup schemes that might satisfy them.

James Luetkehoelter is an MSCE, MSCD, MCDBA, MCT, and Oracle Certified Professional who has been working in the database field for more than a decade. He is currently the principle consultant and owner of Spyglass LLC, a data-centric consulting company and the author of Pro SQL Server Disaster Recovery published by Apress. James is a frequent presenter at SQL Server conferences, both in the US and in Europe. His teaching and presenting style is best described as "eclectic", though some may say "just plain goofy". In his spare time he catalogues the various pronunciations of "Luetkehoelter". He is currently at 2,017 distinct variations.

Live Meeting Presenters Needed

Interested in presenting at one of our Live Meeting events? Choice of topic is yours. If you're interested, contact sharond@voicenet.com.

BI SIGS

The Business Intelligence Special Interest Group is being resurrected. This special interest group will be diving into areas and SQL Server technologies such as Dimensional Data Modeling, ETL using Integration Services, Analysis Services, Data Mining, Reporting Services and Performance Point. The BI SIG is a place for BI professionals to network with others and share information that may help others with challenges they are experiencing.

We are currently looking for volunteers to kick start the group into high gear by sharing their knowledge and experiences in any of the above mentioned areas. Current plans are to have a kickoff Live Meeting in mid-July.

If you would like to be a BI SIG volunteer, Please feel free to contact me, Amy Lewis, at amylewis_az@hotmail.com.

Please stay tuned... Current plans are to have a kickoff Live Meeting in mid-July. Information about the BI SIG Kickoff meeting will be in the next issue of the Connector.

Webcast Series

Solid Quality™ Mentors & PASS Hosts Webcast Series



Solid Quality Mentors, in partnership with the Professional Association for SQL Server (PASS), is presenting a free webcast series.

The webcasts feature leading SQL Server and business intelligence (BI) experts and are scheduled for every Wednesday from April 30 to June 4, running from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. India Standard Time (GMT + 05:30).

The series includes the following presentations:

April 30

Peter Myers: Introduction to SQL Server 2008 Reporting Services

May 07

Rushabh Mehta: Introduction to SQL Server Integration Services

May 14

Greg Low: Avoiding Stored Procedure Recompiles

May 21

Randy Dyess: SQL Server 2005 Clustering

May 28

Sony Jose: Budgeting with Microsoft Performance Point Server

June 04

Craig Utley: Avoiding Common Analysis Services Design Problems

For more information about any of the webcasts, go to the Solid Quality Mentors [Events page](#); to register, simply click the Register Now button beside the webcast you want to attend.

Information from Microsoft

[Win a Windows Home Server!](#)

Evalu'08 and you could win! Download a free trial or take a Virtual Lab of Windows Server 2008, Visual Studio 2008, SQL Server 2008 or other Microsoft Server products and be entered for a chance to win an HP MediaSmart Server powered by Windows Home Server software.

To sign up and for the official rules, visit [Evalu'08](#).

[Knowledge Base Article: How to extend the Windows Server 2008](#)

[evaluation period](#)

This article describes how to extend, or re-arm, the windows Server 2008 evaluation period up to 240 days.

[Test Drive Windows Server 2008](#)

The Windows Server 2008 test drive allows you to try the latest release from Microsoft instantly. By simply logging onto our test-drive environment using your web browser, you will be able to experience Windows Server 2008 first hand through a collection of short virtual labs and video walk-throughs.

[Webcast Series: 24 Hours of Windows Server 2008](#)

Watch these 90-minute Windows Server 2008 webcasts and learn how your organization can leverage the enhancements in Windows Server 2008 improve your organization's networking infrastructure and security, server performance and reliability, remote resource access, and client deployment. Subject matter experts break down what these upgrades mean for your environment and how to take advantage of them. Tune in for live webcasts and stream or download webcasts for on-demand viewing.

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

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