Microsoft® SQL Server™ 2008

Your Data Any Place, Any Time

Microsoft® SQL Server™ 2008 provides a trusted, productive, and intelligent data platform that enables you to run your most demanding mission critical applications

TOP NEW FEATURES

- Use Resource Governor to manage concurrent workloads
- Enforce policy compliance consistently across the enterprise with the Declarative Management Framework
- Reduce storage requirements and increase query performance with data compression and sparse columns
- Protect sensitive data with Transparent Data Encryption and advanced auditing
- Troubleshoot, tune, and monitor SQL Server 2008 instances across the enterprise with Performance System Analysis
- Build high performance analysis solutions with scalability, performance, data mining, and user interface enhancements in SQL Server Analysis Services
- Take advantage of improved performance, usability, visualization, and integration with the 2007 Microsoft Office suites in SQL Server Reporting Services
- Integrate location-enabled applications through support for spatial data

Trusted

Run your most mission critical applications on a secure, reliable, and scalable platform.

Protect Your Data

Dynamically encrypt your valuable data within an entire database, data files, or log files, without the need for application changes. Simplify increasing regulatory compliance by using the advanced data auditing abilities of SQL Server 2008. Minimize exposure for security attacks by using Surface Area Configuration to enable only the services you require.

Ensure Business Continuity

Seamlessly increase the reliability of applications with Database Mirroring. Simplify the recovery of applications from storage failures. Transfer operational data between the active operational systems and backup systems. Add system resources, like CPU and memory, without affecting applications.

Provide Predictable Response

Ensure consistent performance by using Resource Governor to define resource limits and priorities for different workloads and enable consistent performance. Reduce your storage costs and improve performance of large I/O bound workloads by using data compression.
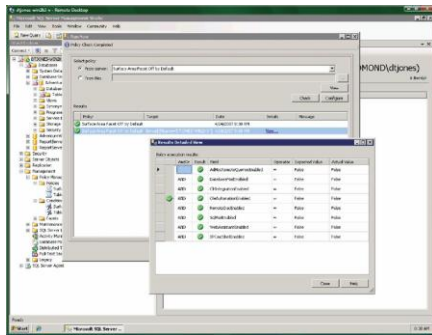
Productive

Reduce the cost of managing your data infrastructure while streamlining development of data applications.

Spend Less Time on Operations

Manage your enterprise data infrastructure easily with Declarative Management Framework (DMF). Reduce the time spent on daily maintenance operations by defining a common set of policies for most database operations like query optimizations, naming conventions, backup and restore operations, and index management. Apply policies to many servers for consistent management across the enterprise. Enable Performance System Analysis by collecting performance data from your system and store it in a centralized data repository. View reports to benchmark and analyze system performance and health.
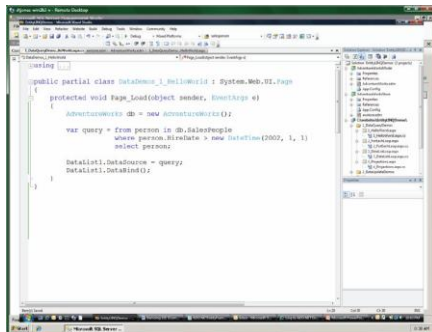
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Declarative Management Framework

Accelerate Development

Access data by defining business entities instead of tables and columns with the ADO.NET Entity Framework. Query and retrieve these entities natively within any .NET language with Language Integrated Query (LINQ). Enable developers to work with the logical entity model, and administrators to define the physical implementation of the model as tables and columns.

LINQ to Entities

Access Your Data from Anywhere

Create flexible, occasionally connected applications that can function when disconnected from the network. Create a next generation of applications that can work on a local data store and automatically synchronize the local store with a central store when a connection is available.

Store and Consume Any Type of Data

Use the new FILESTREAM data type to manage unstructured data such as documents and images outside the database. Store XML efficiently and enable easy access with XQuery. Improve the handling of temporal data by using new date and time data types.

Deliver Location Intelligence

Consume, use, and extend location-based data through spatial-enabled applications. Build location-aware applications by using new spatial data capabilities in SQL Server 2008.
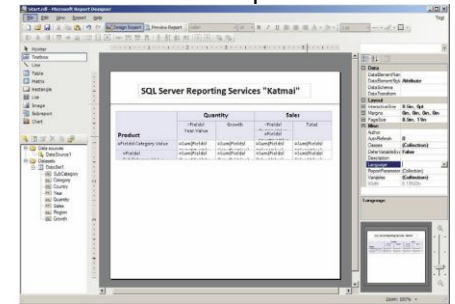
Intelligent

Drive business intelligence throughout your organization, manage reports and analysis of any size or complexity, and empower users by providing powerful visualization and integration with the Microsoft Office System.

Integrate Any Data

Scale and manage large numbers of users and data with improved query performance on large tables. Optimize queries for data warehousing scenarios, and increase I/O performance with efficient and cost effective data storage. Integrate growing volumes of data from disparate systems with the scalable data integration features of Integration Services. Consolidate real-time data into the data warehouse with Change Data Capture functionality.

Deliver Relevant Information

Empower users to answer complex questions by providing the relevant information through reports with powerful visualizations and rendered in Microsoft Office Word and Microsoft Office Excel®. Enable users to create complex reports and share them internally and externally with customers and partners.

Drive Actionable Insight

Provide a consistent set of KPIs and business metrics to all users by using the comprehensive and scalable analysis platform of SQL Server Analysis Services that has intuitive access through Office Excel. Integrated Data Mining enables predictive analysis so you can investigate common issues like forecasting and identifying key influencers for decisions. Develop scalable analysis models with enhanced designers that incorporate best practices into the design experience. Increase the scale and performance of analysis by using enhanced analytical capabilities and complex computations and aggregations.

Additional Information

For more information about Microsoft SQL Server 2008, visit http://www.microsoft.com/sql.

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