

IP DIRECTOR APPLICATION NOTE

SQL Server maintenance

09-Apr-2013

Corporate

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INTRODUCTION

This application note describes the entire SQL server configuration used with the IP Director database. You can also find some troubleshooting tools described at the end of the document

IP Director 6.15 is compatible with SQL2005 and SQL2008 R2

SQL SERVER MAINTENANCE DATABASE BACKUP PLAN

It's important to regularly backup the media database to ensure data recovery.

Several backup plans could be implemented depending on the infrastructure used by IP Director.

A daily full backup is considered as the minimal backup strategy but the following procedure ensures an optimal recovery plan:

- > Full Backup every hour
- > Transaction Log Backup every 15 minutes

On the standard platform, a full backup takes less than 10 seconds (DB size:450 Mb => 2Sec/100Mb). Even if this backup operation uses a lot of disk resources, the backup window is so short that this kind of backup could be done every hour without any substantial performance loss.

To shorten the data loss window, a Transaction Log backup is launched every 15 minutes. This complementary backup ensures that we can recover all the data changes up to 15 minutes before the DB corruption.

All these backup files should be stored on a local disk with enough free space (typically on E:\DB_BACKUPS). The backup files retention period is configured to 4h. That means that 4 full backup files and 4h of transactions will be stored in the backup folder (it could be a lot of data. i.e. with a 200 Mb DB and 500 Mb Transaction Log : (4*200)+500=1300 Mb).

The backup files can also be automatically copied to a network share to ensure that they are available if the SQL Server totally crashes. This file copy can be done with Robocopy and is included in the SQL toolkit.

INDEX OPTIMISATION

To keep the database performances at the highest level day after day, it's important to periodically rebuild the indexes defined on each table. This procedure can be done automatically with a SQL job and launched by SQLSERVERAGENT every night.

Index rebuild is a performance consuming process and should be avoided during production hours.

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FULLTEXT CATALOGS REORGANIZE

The IP Director database intensively uses the SQL fulltext catalogs to perform searches. In order to keep them optimized a night job will reorganize them every day at 04:10

SYSTEM DATABASES BACKUP PLAN

In order to complete the backup strategy, MASTER and MSDB must also be saved through a backup procedure.

MASTER and MSDB are usually small, their backup-up should be performed quickly.

A job will backup these two system databases every night at 03:00.

PROCEDURE

All these maintenance actions can be created with the EVS_DB_Tool.hta file contained in the Remote Installer plugins or in the SQL_Toolkit.

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EVS SQL DATABASE TOOL (VERSION 5.9.2)

The EVS_DB_Tool is an HTA file (HTML Application).

It has been developed to easily perform administrative tasks on a SQL server .

These tasks are displayed in the following screenshot :



[CREATE MAINTENANCE JOBS]

This part of the tool creates the maintenance jobs explained in the first part of the document.

Jobs created are :

- 1. A DB Full backup every hour
- 2. A DB Transaction Log backup every 15 Minutes
- 3. A DB Index rebuild every day at 02:00
- 4. Fulltext catalogs reorganize every day at 04:10
- 5. The system database full backup every day at 03:00
- 6. A msdb database clean-up every day at 03:10
- 7. Errorlog cycle every week on sunday

[BACKUP A DATABASE]

Creates a manual full or transaction log backup from the specified database

[RESTORE A DATABASE FROM HISTORY]

Restores a database from the lasts backups. The backup file list is obtained from the local SQL Server. It can be used to easily restore a previous version of the local database but not to restore a database coming from another server.

[RESTORE A DATABASE FROM FILE]

Restores a database contained in a backup file.

The database will be restored with its original name in the local server default directory.

This part of the tool is specially designed to restore databases coming from another server especially with different database folder path.

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[MANUALLY REBUILD DATABASE INDEXES]

Rebuild all the indexes defined in the specified database

[MANUALLY REBUILD FULLTEXT CATALOGS]

Rebuild all FullText indexes defined in the specified database

[CREATE ROBOCOPY JOB]

Creates a jobs that replicates a folder to a network share

[CREATE MAINTENANCE JOBS]

-		
EYS	[SQL] Database Tool	
	Click on the action you want to perform	
	[Create Maintenance Jobs]	
	1. Create jobs for the DB :	
	InRemote	
	Backup Folder : Cidb backups Browse	
	Create Jobs	
	[Backup a Database]	
	[Restore a Database from History]	
	[Restore a Database from File]	
	[Manually Rebuild Database Indexes]	
	[Create ROBOCOPY job]	
	[Status] Currently connected to server ((Local)	
	HELP 1	
his part of the tool o	reates SQL Jobs	
System Databases	(Master, Mrdb) backup every day at 03:00	
Full Database back		
Transaction Log Ba	sckup every 15 Minutes	
Database moet in	eluna every any at all out	
ne toor also verifies	in the backup rolder exists, in the bacabase recovery model is full	

- > Click on [Create Maintenance Jobs] to display the tool options
- > Choose the database to "maintain" in the local database list
- Choose the folder where the backups will be stored (default : C:\DB_Backups or E:\DB_Backups on DB Servers). The folder will be created if it doesn't exist.
- > Click on "Create Jobs" to create the maintenance jobs for the chosen database.

The tool creates

- 1. A Full backup job scheduled every hour
- 2. A DB Transaction Log backup job scheduled every 15 Minutes
- 3. A DB Index rebuild job scheduled every day at 02:00
- 4. A Fulltext Catalogs reorganize job scheduled every day at 04:00
- 5. The msdb and master full backup job scheduled every day at 03:00
- 6. A job that cleans the msdb database and keep a 15 days backup history
- 7. A ERROLOG cycle every week on sunday

The jobs are first deleted if they already exist.

If the tool detects that the service is configured to be launch with the LocalSystem Account, you will see the following information :

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If the SQL Jobs must access to a network resource, such as copy a file to a shared folder or access to another SQL Server, the account used to start the SQLServerAgent Service must be a Local or Domain User.

The Jobs created by the tool and their status can be listed in the SQL Server Management Studio in the following screen

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File Eds View Project SQL Refactor SQL Frangt Tasis Window Community 2 New Konny () () () () () () () () () () () () ()	. Hep		
Okjest Bapterer X	Object Explorer Datails		- ×
Cannad - 👷 = 🍸 💽			
BORDM SG. Sever 31. 2017 - 005500 BORDM SG. Sever 31. 2017 - 005500 BORDM SG. Sever 31. 2017 - 005500 Sever 19 Sever 19 Sever 19 Anno	Jobs BBICSITEQUEServer agent Janua		(Bure))
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Image: Section 2014 Image: Section 2014 Image: Section 2014 Image: Section 2014 <td>On Textury Internet (Casange On Consudial Strains (Leg On Consudial Strains (Leg On Consudial Strains) On Consudial Strains On Consudial Strains On Consudial Strains On Consudial Strains On Consudial Strains On Consult S</td> <td>Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting</td> <td></td>	On Textury Internet (Casange On Consudial Strains (Leg On Consudial Strains (Leg On Consudial Strains) On Consudial Strains On Consudial Strains On Consudial Strains On Consudial Strains On Consudial Strains On Consult S	Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting Rat avanting	
Tegisteret Levers 🐉 Object Bylaner			
Ready			

The schedules applied to the maintenance jobs can be modified only through the SQL Server Management Studio (Job properties – Schedules tab)

If you want to modify the backup file retention period previously described in this document (by default 4 hours), it could be done by modifying the command line executed by the backup jobs (Full AND Log).

To modify the file retention period, right-click on the corresponding backup job and choose "properties". Click on the "Steps" tab.

Job Properties - EVS Me	dia Full Backup		Job Properties - EVS Mer	dia Full Backup	
School a serve	Scret - Unteb Name: Owner: Category: Desception:	Investment and an	Alekted sawe के Greens के Schedules के Schedules के Modification के Tagets	Scref + [] Hele Job mp kit Gr. Hand 1 Smolt Dis Mitsolup Tomoso. Gut hey 1 Smolt Dis Mitsolup	sos On Failure o. Quir the job.
Server BEMSM Correction: EVSSM View connection properties Progress Ready	Enabled Source: Created Last modified Last executed View_lob History	26/05/2009 19 52 52 26/05/2009 19 52 52	Connection BEMBH Connection Program Programs Programs	More step: Start step:	Delete

Select the backup job step and click on "Edit"

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You can carefully modify the command line and change the 4HOURS parameter to the retention time you want (12HOURS,24HOURS,2DAYS,...)

EXEC master.dbo.xp_sqlmaint N'-D IPRemote -WriteHistory -VrfyBackup -BkUpMedia DISK -BkUpDB C:\DB_BACKUPS -DelBkUps 4HOURS -BkExt BAK'

Click OK to save your changes.

SQLServerAgent is not installed with a SQL2005 Express Edition. The HTA detects which SQL version is used by IP-Director and creates windows jobs instead of SQL Jobs in case of Express edition.

The jobs created by the HTA are :

a full database backup of all databases every hour

a DB Reindex on all databases every day at 2:00

The jobs use the application ExpressMaint.exe that must exist in the c:\windows folder

[BACKUP A DATABASE]

The EVS_DB_Tool can also be used to easily backup a database by choosing [Backup a Database]

- > Choose the Local Database name
- > Choose the database type (full or Transaction Log)
- > And Click on "Backup DB"

The backup file will be stored in the c:\DB_Backups folder and will be named *DatabaseName_BackupType_DateTime*.BAK (i.e. Media_db_201206291100.BAK)



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EVS Database Maintenance	e Tool	
EVS	[SQL] Database Tool	
	Click on the action you want to perform	
	[Create Maintenance Jobs]	
	[Backup a Database]	
	1. Choose the DB you want to backup	
	Database : IpRemote	
	Backup Type : © Full	
	O Transaction Log	
	Backup DB	
	[Restore a Database from History]	
	[Restore a Database from File]	
	[Manually Rebuild Database Indexes]	
	[Create ROBOCOPY job]	
	[Status]	
	Currently connected to server 1 (Local)	2
	The Database back-up file is c:\db_backups\IpRemote_Db_200710221057.bak	
	Backup completed successfuly	
	Quit Application	
	GuirAppication	
This sector is a sector of the	[HELP]	
You have the choice b The backup file forma	ackop ute ustabase specificu jetveen a Full Backup or a Transaction Log Backup at is DatabaseName_BackupType_Timestamp.BAK	
	© EVS Broadcast Equipment - Version 4.4.1 - 26/09/07	
Δ ΠΔΤΔΕ	SASE FROM HISTOR	y١
		•

Two Restore types are available in this tool.

The first is based on the backup history stored on the local SQL server.

You have just to specify the local database to restore.

The tool will access the local SQL server and list the lasts backups performed on the database.

It then takes the last full database backup and the following transaction log backups and restores them on the specified database.

EVS	[SQL] Database Tool
	Click on the action you want to perform
	[Create Maintenance Jobs]
	[Backup a Database]
	[Restore a Database from History]
	1. Choose the DB you want to restore
	Database : IpRemote
	Restore DB
	[Restore a Database from File]
	[Manually Rebuild Database Indexes]
	[Create ROBOCOPY job]
	[Status] Currently connected to caruer i (Local)
	contently connected to server received
	[HELP]
his part of the tool re he backup list is retri	stores the last full and logs backups made on the local SQL server. eved from the local server backup history.
ne packup filez must	© EVS Broadcast Equipment - Version 4.4.1 - 26/09/07

This first restore tool is designed to restore a corrupted database from the last backups performed on this database (locally)





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[RESTORE A DATABASE FROM FILE]

The second restore tool is based on a file restore and can be used to restore any database.

You have just to specified in which file the backup is stored (the entire file path)

The tool opens the backup file and reads the database name associated to the backup (only one backup must be stored in the file).

It restores this database in the local default database folder or on the local database location if it already exists (and not the originating file location stored in the backup file)

atabas	e Maintenance Tool
EÝ	S [SQL] Database Tool
1	Click on the action you want to perform
	[Create Maintenance Jobs]
	[Backup a Database]
	[Restore a Database from History]
	[Restore a Database from File]
	1. Choose the DB Backup File you want to restore
	Backup Filename : CVDB_BACKUPSVpRemote_db_200708011100.BAK Browse
	Bestore DB
-	[Manually Rebuild Database Indexes]
-	[Create ROBOCOPY job]
	[Status]
	Currently connected to server I (Local)
part of	[NELP] the tool restores the backup contained in the specified backup file (Full Backup mandatory).
Databa	Is restored in the Local default database folder and not in the original database location © EVS Broadcast Equipment - Version 4.4.1 - 26/09/07

The tool is designed to restore a backup file whatever the database and the originate server configuration.

[MANUALLY REBUILD DATABASE INDEXES]

This part of the tool gives the opportunity to an operator to manually rebuild the database indexes. This operation is resource consuming and should be launched during low activity period otherwise it could cause locks and application slowdowns.

Index Rebuild can improve database performance by reorganising data in the database.

This functionality has been added to easily rebuild indexes when the corresponding maintenance job is disabled or not executed (regarding its schedule)

	anna, tuut	
EÝS	[SQL] Database Tool	
	Click on the action you want to perform	
	[Create Maintenance Jobs]	
	[Backup a Database]	
	[Restore a Database from History]	
	[Restore a Database from File]	
	[Manually Rebuild Database Indexes]	
	1. Choose the DB you want to Re-Index	
	Database : IpRemote	
	Rebuild Indexes	
	[Create ROBOCOPY job]	
	[Status]	
	contently connected to server h (coter)	
part of the tool r	ebuild all the dustered indexes defined in the specified database.	
process should h	EVS Broadcast Equipment - Version 4.4.1 - 26/09/07	

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[MANUALLY REBUILD FULLTEXT CATALOGS]

IP Director 6 uses the SQL Fulltext Search Engine to perform 'Google' like searches on the database.

The Fulltext Search Engine stores indexed words in the Fulltext Catalogs. These catalogs can then be rebuilt by this HTA.

You typically need to rebuild the Fultext Catalogs on an IP Director database if :

- 1. You don't find anything when you search for a word in the IP Director Database Explorer but you find something when you search for **word**
- 2. You don't find your new clips containing the word you are searching for but you find the older ones.



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[CREATE ROBOCOPY JOB]

This part of the tool gives the opportunity to create a job that replicates files between a local drive and a network share

V s	[SQL] Database Tool
1	Click on the action you want to perform
	[Create Maintenance Jobs]
	[Backup a Database]
	[Restore a Database from History]
	[Restore a Database from File]
-	[Manually Rebuild Database Indexes]
1	Please configure the file copy (robocopy) job
5	surce folder : [C.100_060kups (a local path on the D6 server)
0	(a network shared rolder)
	Create Robocopy Job
	[Status]
	Currently connected to server (Local)
	[HELP]
art of the	a tool creates a job that vill create an exact copy of the backup folder on a shared folder.

The Robocopy job can be used to replicate files between mirrored DB Servers.

In this case, the jobs should be created on both servers (main and backup) and have the following source and destination paths:

Source folder : \\Virtual_IP_Address\Share

Destination folder

: \\Local_IP_Address\Share

Remark : the "SQLServer" user must exist on the destination server or must be recognized by the destination folder

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EVS SQL LOGS (EVS-DB-LOGS.HTA)

The "EVS SQL Logs" tool retrieves the major monitoring information related to an IP Director database.

You can either perform each operation one by one or either launch them all at once and store their result in a log file, with the last option.



[GET SQL CONFIGURATION]

This option retrieves the version of the SQL server used by IP Director

[GET BLOCKING CONNECTIONS LIST]

This option tries to list the connection that blocks other connections.

If you detect blocking connections, click several times on the [Get blocking connections list] menu to verify that the blocking connection disappears by itself.

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A blocking connection is not necessarily an issue and is part of the normal behaviour on a loaded DB server.

However, if the same blocking connection stays for a long period of time (typically more than a minute), it could become a real issue for IP Director and it could explain misbehaviours in IP Director.

[GET LOCK LIST]

This option list the locks asked by the connections on the SQL objects.

This list can be really big on loaded servers.

[GET INDEX FRAGMENTATION REPORT]

The option performs a check on the database you have selected in the list to detect if indexes are fragmented.

[Get index fragmentation report]											
Please choose the database you want to analyse											
Database : Media.											
	Get	t Fragmentatic	on info								
The result shows several statistics for all tables defined in the database.											
[Status]											
		DBCC SHOWCON	TIG								
ObjectName Rebuild	IndexName	IndexId Rows Pages	Extents Extent	Scan	Best	Actual	Logical	Extent			

Log		PK_Log	1	14	1	1	0	100	1	1	0
TC2Fie	ld		0	180	5	5	4	20	1	5	0
Some of them will be highlighted in colour to reflect the size and the fragmentation of the table.											

RemoteBSendToList		PK_RemoteBSendToList	1	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0
TargetToDo			0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0
BinElem	rebuild	PK_ElemBin	1	44863	179	33	53	42.59	23	54	26.82	90.91
ConfigGPI			0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0

0 0

14

18646

0

1

17

100

100

0 0 0

10

0 77.78

0 60

If a table is identified as too fragmented, a "rebuild" link will be added next to the table name.

Pressing this link will rebuild the indexes on the table.

[GET MIRRORING STATISTICS]

PK_KeyWordGridAccess

PK GroupVarID

PK_Log

This option gives statistics for database in mirroring state.

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KeywordGridAccess

LogsheetAssetMaterielID

GroupVarID

Log

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[Cot Mirroring Statistice]
Please choose the database you want to analyse
Database : Media
Get Mirroring Stats

The statistics give information on :

- > The mirroring status
- The connection with the witness
- > The mirror commit overhead (avg delay)

[90005]														
	DB Mirroring Monitor Result													
DBName	Role	Mirroring State	witness status	log gen rate	unsent log	send rate	unrestored log	recovery rate	tran delay	tran per sec	avg delay	local time		
Media_	1	In Sync	No	44	0	44	0	0	14	47	0	10/25/2012 5:06:11 PM		
Media_	1	In Sync	No	54	0	54	0	0	15	42	0	10/25/2012 5:05:55 PM		
Media_	1	In Sync	No	35	0	35	0	0	14	46	0	10/25/2012 5:05:39 PM		
Media_	1	In Sync	No	36	0	36	0	0	30	45	0	10/25/2012 5:05:23 PM		

If the mirror commit overhead (avg delay) is constantly higher than 10-30 seconds, it reveals a performance issue on the mirror server and it could highly impact the performances of IP Director

[GET FULLTEXT STATISTICS]

This option gives fulltext indexing statistics for IP Director databases.

It mainly shows, for each indexed table, the number of row processed by the Fulltext engine and the size of the indexing queue (pending changes).

The "pending changes" reveals the number of data modification that are not applied to the fulltext index yet.

-													
	[Get FullText Statistics]												
	Please choose the database you want to analyse												
	Database : Media												
	Get FullText Stats												
	[Dump all the information to a log file]												
					[status	1							
				Ful	lText Index	king Stat	ts						
	Cat Name	Table Name	Is Enabled	Population Status	Change Tracking	Item Count	Doc Processed	Pending Changes	Nbr failure	Unique idx name			
	FT_Cat_Media	Bin	True	Idle	Auto	24	0	0	0	PK_Bin			
	FT_Cat_Media	Category	True	Idle	Auto	1	0	0	0	PK_Category			
	FT_Cat_Media	Keyword	True	Idle	Auto	294	0	0	0	PK_KeyWord			
	FT_Cat_Media	LogsheetMetaProfile	True	Idle	Auto	0	0	0	0	PK_LogsheetMetaProfile			
	FT_Cat_Media	Media	True	Idle	Auto	15395	0	0	0	PK_VirMedia			
	FT_Cat_Media	MediaItem	True	Idle	Auto	15527	0	0	0	PK_Media			
	ET Cat Madia	Dlaulist.	True	Tdla	Auto	26	0	0	0	DK Disulist			

If you see the "pending changes" value constantly increasing (and never decreasing) it could mean that the fulltext indexing process is blocked.

If the indexing is blocked, new objects inserted in the database (i.e. new clips cerated in IPD) will never be returned by a search (typically a search in the DB explorer).

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[DUMP ALL THE INFORMATION TO A LOG FILE]

This option launches all tasks available in the tool and stores their result in a log file in c:\evslogs\.

This option can be useful to send monitoring result to EVS support team.

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SQL SERVER CONFIGURATION MEMORY

The standard server used to host SQL Server is configured with 3 GB RAM.

SQL server must be configured to take a maximum of 2,5 GB Ram to prevent the service to disturb other processes.

This configuration can be changed manually through the SQL Server Properties (Memory tab) or automatically with the script "SQL_MaxMemory.sql" contained in the SQL toolkit

SERVICE PACKS

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To ensure that SQL Server is up-to-date, it's recommended to apply the latest Service Pack available for SQL Server.

For SQL Server 2005, the last validated Service Pack is the SP3.

The file SQLServer2005SP3-KB955706-x86-ENU.exe EXE can be applied to SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition.

The file SQLEXPR32_ADV.EXE integrating SP3 can be applied to SQL Server 2005 Express Edition.

SQL 2005 Express Edition Advanced is needed for IP Director 6

WINDOWS CONFIGURATION

EVENTLOG

SQL Server records a lot of messages in the application log. The log size should be configured to store all the application messages during at least one week.

To avoid any kind of message loss, it's important to configure the Application Log "Max Log size" property to more than 5 Mb without retention period (Overwrite Events as Needed)

A script can be applied to the servers to configure the maximum log size to 25 Mb. "Set_AppLog_Size.vbs" is available in the SQL toolkit

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