



Plan. Gather. Analyze. Monitor. Report. Succeed. Microsoft SQL Server 2008

Microsoft is at it again, releasing the latest version of its popular database management system. SQL Server Business Intelligence (BI) 2008 is the most comprehensive release of SQL Server yet! There are many enhancements to the product that will benefit your business. SQL Server 2008 BI offers enhancements to security, data encryption and backup and compression technologies that will make it a complete data management platform. In addition, many of the enhancements made to SQL Server 2008 BI are developer-friendly. New data types, language syntax and data-access methods for writing applications that access SQL are much faster than ever before. SQL Server 2008 BI offers many improvements to its robust set of high-availability solutions. Ready to make the move to SQL Server 2008 BI? Today Dell offers a wide range of technology solutions to run your new SQL 2008 BI systems. Dell has the expertise to help you to migrate from your older SQL Server environments to the latest in enterprise performance and reliability. Dell's line of PowerEdge servers and PowerVault storage systems provide the high- performance and high-availability platforms for your new SQLBI Server 2008 environment. Use the following nine reasons to justify migrating to SQL Server 2008 BI on Dell PowerEdge servers with PowerVault Storage.

S	Q	L	B	I	S	E	R	V	E	R
SCALABILITY	QUERY PROCESSING	LARGE-SCALE POLICY FRAMEWORK	BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE	INTEGRATION	SPATIAL DATA SUPPORT	ENCRYPTED	RESOURCE GOVERNANCE	VITAL MONITORING FEATURES	EFFICIENCY	REPORTING SERVICES
The resource management capabilities of SQL Server 2008 BI empower management of databases ranging from megabytes to terabytes. It offers support for large databases and 64-bit processors. Dell PowerEdge servers with AMD multi-core processors provide against overloads.	In SQL Server 2008 BI, performance of a number of parallel query plans is enabled that executes against partitioned tables and indices. Partition information can now be monitored in graphical, text-based or XML displays. There is also a new partition-sensitive seek function for partition elimination.	The Declarative Management Framework enables the administrator to define a broad variety of policies, both watching compliance and forcing compliance as needed. Create your own custom policies or use built-in policies; apply them at the server, database or database-object levels.	Business intelligence (BI) is growing as an important database application. For analysis purposes, new modifications in this server have made it easier to create better dimensions and cubes. Cubes are leaner and more focused than earlier versions, and improvements are built-in to enhance the ability to build cubes from single, denormalized tables.	SQL Server 2008 BI augments BI integration services that improve its ability to move and transform data, including an enhanced Lookup transformation (which increases the size of tables to be stored in a reference table cache) and opens the Scripting task, allowing developers to use either Visual Basic or C#.	Additional new data types have been added to SQL Server 2008 BI, including ways to separate data and time, as well as offsets for dealing with tricky time zone issues. Native spatial data support is available, with GEOGRAPHY and GEOMETRY data types that enable geodetic and planar data. Spatial capabilities conform to the Open Geospatial Consortium standards.	Security is signed, sealed and delivered with Transparent Data Encryption. The transparency shows up in that data encryption is done in real time over both the SQL Server BI database and the log files. Key management is extensible over third-party security modules. Third-party vendors can register their devices with SQL Server 2008 BI, and then users can use encryption keys supplied by the modules with the SQL Server 2008 BI data.	An essential new tool, the Resource Governor defines database engine workloads and sets limits on processor and memory resources. The limits may be configured in real time, without interrupting ongoing processes. The Resource Governor does not limit access to the server by the dedicated administrator connection.	Monitoring enhancements start with Extended Events, the foundation for a new type of event tracing system. Running alongside SQL Trace/Profiler and Perfmon, Extended Events is characterized by its generality and integration with future Windows versions. Other monitoring features include SQL Dependency Reporting, Memory Monitoring DMVs, and new deprecation events and Perfmon performance counters.	High availability and less unplanned downtime are delivered with SQL Server 2008 BI's Backup Compression. Database image backups are compressed on disk or tape and automatically uncompressed when the database is restored. Backup compression in SQL Server 2008 BI affects only the backup images, not the SQL Server BI data and log files.	An essential part of the BI toolkit, this new server offers useful relational reporting features with analytical cube browsing and a strong new Report Designer. New Row Groups and Column Groups boxes appear on the screen, along with the controls for the report and a treeview of the parameters, images and fields. New Table and Matrix controls provide reporting flexibility. Powerful Dundas® charting tools are on-board.

About the author
Mark Ferelli is the former vice president of West World Production Inc., and editor in chief of its magazine group: Computer Technology Review, Storage Inc., Storage Management Solutions, Storage And Government and Storage And Entertainment. Mark is a nationally known, award-winning journalist, covering mass storage and information management technologies and since 1988 has written hundreds of articles on those subjects. You can reach him at mferelli@yahoo.com.

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References:
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