SAP® MaxDB™ Expert Session

SAP® MaxDB™ New Features Version 7.8

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2015
News - General Remarks

- Some functionality might have been changed or expanded over the years.
- Recommendations might have changed.

→ For each expert session an update with the most important changes is published.

- Check the additional remarks after having heard or read the expert session.
- Feedback to the responsible author is welcome if you recognize outdated information within the session.
Agenda

1. Problems with longer passwords
2. Do not use log partitions
3. Additional new features
Problems with longer passwords

- Related to page 12 describing the allowance of long passwords
- Be aware that in different situations diverse problems may occur if long passwords are used.

- Check note 2120775 (summary note) for possible problems.
  - Note 1761717: Connection test fails in DBA-Cockpit, DB59 or LC10 because of a problem with long passwords of the client software
  - Note 1882932: Long passwords are destroyed during software update in dedicated versions and have to be reset
  - Additionally the summary note provides solutions how passwords can be reset in different environments.
Do not use Log Partitions

- Related to page 9 (and following) of the original expert session.
- The recommendations concerning the use of log partitions have changed!
- Because of the occurrence of some severe errors SAP does not recommend to use log partitions!
- The errors could not be pinpointed so far as they turned out to be conceptual deficiencies.

Potential problems:

Endlessly running log backup: log backup cannot be created as the kernel does not seem to find the correct starting point; see also http://maxdb.sap.com/webpts?wptsdetail=yes&ErrorType=0&ErrorID=1252365

Recovery problem: unspecific problem that the log backup could not be restored
Log Partitions

What to do when you already defined log partitions?

- Use the description of the following HowTo document how to reset the configuration to only one partition:

  http://wiki.scn.sap.com/wiki/display/MaxDB/HowTo+-+Usage+of+Multiple+Log+Partitions

  Section: Reverting to one single log partition

- Do not use the Database Studio to reset log partitions as there is a known and unsolved problem. The next restart following reconfiguration actions will fail.

  http://maxdb.sap.com/webpts?wptsdetail=yes&ErrorType=0&ErrorID=1252241
Additional new features (I)

- Be aware that this expert session about "new" features in 7.8 has been created in April 2010.
- 7.8 is a still vivid release which is in maintenance.
- Not only error corrections have been done but also functionality originally designed for the next major version 7.9 was included afterwards.

- Check Note 1364181 „Feature List 7.8" for additional changes!
Additional new features (II)

- **Repair database software permissions:**
  You can use SDBVERIFY to reset access mask and owner/group to its installation default: 
  `sdbverify -repair_permissions`

- **Move database to another installation:**
  The tool DBMRELOCATE allows to move databases between installations and/or data paths.

- **Additional prefetching mechanisms:**
  - Improved LOB reading and table scan performance by using Read Ahead
  - Better DROP performance

- **Faster CREATE INDEX:**
  Improved index creation time, because temporary result sets are now read asynchronously
  via prefetching plus clustered read is supported, if needed pages are located in the same
  volume area

- **Check index functionality implemented:**
  New DBM command: `check index <index_name> on <table_name>`
Additional new features (III)

- **DBM Server: Handling of parameter changes improved:**
  If a database parameter is usermodified (userdefined) a newly entered value that violates
  the parameter constraint implicitly drops the usermodified/userdefined flag;
  additional column in ACTIVECONFIGURATION to show the status

- Update of file directory counters improved for LOB tables;
  new option `CHECK TABLE <tab> UPDATE COUNTERS` introduced

- **Reduced disk I/O:**
  In case of `DeleteLeafsWithoutRead = YES` dropping files doesn't read the leaf pages any
  more.

- **Enhanced Update Statistics:**
  New database parameter `UpdateStatServerTasksPerTable` introduced to configure how
  many server tasks should be used for SQL optimizer statistics calculation on one table in
  parallel.

- **Faster restart of big databases**
Thank you

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