Moving a DSM SQL Database

DSM SQL is a multi-client system that accesses data from an SQL database running in mixed mode. The SQL architecture is flexible and has many tools and utilities available to maintain and manage your important DSM data. This guide will cover the process of relocating a DSM SQL database to a new SQL Server instance.

Move the Document and Backup Shares

By default, DSM SQL installs two shares (one for documents and the other for backups) along with the SQL server. In most situations it is a good idea to keep those shares on the same server where the data resides. The default location for the shares is in the DSM SQL program directory (C:\Program Files\Peak Software Systems\DSMSQL) as Documents and Backups. Recreate the shares on the new server granting the Everyone group Full Control of the directories. Copy the Documents and backups to the new locations. Make the appropri¬ate changes in the DSM SQL system configuration to point it to the new location. Launch DSM SQL and log in as a user with administrative privileges. Go to File > Administration > System Configuration. Choose the File Paths tab and change the UNC path to the new location.

Prepare the New SQL Server Instance

DSM SQL uses the SA credentials to make critical changes to the database structure. After the initial installation or relocation of the DSM database it is possible to switch it to a different user that has full rights to the DSM database only, but not other databases of the same SQL server instance. Install SQL in mixed mode and enable the TCP/IP protocol. Enable the SA user and set the password. By default DSM SQL uses dsm$QL13 for the SA password of its SQL Express installation.

SQL comes with a basic configuration tool, but for the process of relocating a database, you will need the more powerful Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio. If you do not have it installed and you are running an enterprise or professional version of SQL Server then you will need to install it from the installation media. If you are using an SQL Express version, then you can download the Management Studio Express from Microsoft's web site.

If SQL Server was installed with the default options, you can make the necessary changes by launching the SQL Server Configuration Manager from the Windows Start menu. Expand SQL Server Network Configuration, then Protocols for… and then right click on TCP/IP and choose enable. Next, launch the SQL Server Management Studio and log in to the SQL Server hosting the DSM SQL data. To change the server to mixed mode, right click the server from the tree on the left and choose Properties. Select the Security page and change Server Authentication to SQL Server and Windows Authentication Mode. To enable the SA user, expand Security (the one directly under the main node), then Logins. Right click on the SA login and choose Properties. Choose the Status page and select Enabled under Login.

Once the necessary changes have been made, restart the SQL server by right clicking on it in the tree and choosing restart. This will only restart the SQL server, not the computer it is running on.

Create a Test Database

DSM SQL has a built in utility for duplicating the produc¬tion database to another database instance for testing purpos¬es. This utility will be used to make a test copy of the production data, which will then be abandoned and the test database will become the production database. Launch DSM SQL, log in with administrator rights and go to File > Administration > SQL Server Utilities > Create Test Database.

Enter in the credentials and details for the source database

(where the data will be moved from) as well as the credentials for the destination database (where the data will be moved to.) The default test database name is the same as the source, but with the suffix _TEST. Since the source and the destination of the data will be different SQL instances, it is alright to use the same name for the destination.

Once the duplication is complete, disable the old production server by disabling the SQL Server. From the Win¬dows Start menu choose Run. Type services.msc and click OK. Find the SQL Server service and double click on it. Change the Startup Type to Manual, click Stop and then OK. This will ensure that users will not inadvertently connect to the old data and begin using it.

Connect DSM SQL Clients to the New SQL Database

The final step is to point the workstations to the new data source. On each workstation, launch DSM SQL and since the client will not be able to connect to the old production database (if the SQL Service was stopped as instructed earlier) a prompt will appear notifying of the failure to connect and asking to review the connection settings. Choose yes and update the settings.

Remove the Test Database Definition from DSM SQL

The test database definition must now be removed from DSM SQL so as not to inadvertently overwrite or delete the production database. As a user with administrative rights in DSM SQL, go to File > Administration > SQL Server Utilities > Edit / Remove Test Databases. Select the test database definition created earlier and choose edit. Modify the database name so that DSM SQL will not be able to make any changes to it. Choose OK and then click Test Connection. The connection should fail. If it doesn't, edit the definition so that it does. Finally, delete the test database definition.