

Re: General Sanity Check on Programmatic Resetting of Links

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.modulesdaovba/2007-10/msg00475.html>

- *From:* LarryP <LarryP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 16 Oct 2007 14:05:00 -0700
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Don't know the answer at this point. I think the large majority will be desktop PCs, but some of the managers may be on laptops. I see the value of the "first run" thing so the link-resetter doesn't need to run with every startup. FWIW, since all the databases involved are read-only, looking at data that gets downloaded from the mainframe over the weekend but not manipulating it in any way, we've even got a "Plan C" that would put all the files on each user's hard drive at the start of his first Monday run. That would no doubt make everything run lightning fast, but (1) we're not comfortable with the assumption that every drive will have 2-3gb free for that purpose, and (2) pulling all those files across that itty-bitty 10-Base T wire from the home office could be a real ordeal. If 50 different remote users all try to do it simultaneously, the whole remote site might go up in smoke!

"John Nurick" wrote:

Hi Larry,

You sound perfectly sane<g>. Lots of databases do this sort of thing.

Will all the front ends be on desktop machines and not move once installed, or will some of them be on laptops that move between offices?

If all-desktop, you could just put a "FirstRun" record in your "Settings" or "Defaults" table. Check its value when the database opens, and only if it's true call the routine that asks for the location and then reads the "Source files" table and re-links the linked tables, then set FirstRun to false.

If you have to deal with laptops, you'll need to test on startup whether the source files are where expected. See <http://www.mvps.org/access/tables/tbl0009.htm> and <http://www.mvps.org/access/tables/tbl0007.htm> for some sample code.

On Tue, 16 Oct 2007 09:59:00 -0700, LarryP

Re: General Sanity Check on Programmatic Resetting of Links

<LarryP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

We have several Access 2003 databases that link to numerous source files on a workgroup server at our main location. Unfortunately, people at some of our sublocations can't make use of these databases because of bandwidth issues: although they can "see" the main location server and the relevant files, when they try to run the databases things get really, REALLY slow. Screens that display in 10–15 seconds here take 20 minutes there, etc. The IT guys say not to hold our breath waiting for a hardware fix, it ain't gonna happen any time soon.

So, we're contemplating copying all the necessary files, currently about 2GB worth, to a server at the remote location once a week. Doing that, though, would involve resetting a couple dozen links in the front ends of the various databases. For obvious reasons we don't want to have to maintain multiple front end versions, so we're envisioning a procedure in the common front end that says "If I'm logging on at the home office, set all the links to xxxxxxx, but if I'm logging on at sublocation A, set the links to yyyyyyyy, ..." etc. The necessary data about what the links should be for each location would be stored in a table.

Has anybody tried anything like this, and if so, with what result? What problems might we encounter, and what suggestions might anyone offer to make the transition to this solution as painless as possible? Just hoping for general guidance before we put a lot of effort into this.

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John Nurick – Access MVP