

Re: Combining tables from two copies of DB

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.queries/2006-01/msg02525.html>

- *From:* "BruceM" <bamoob@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 31 Jan 2006 08:12:25 -0500
-

Thanks for replying. I didn't know quite where to post, so I chose here. Perhaps I could have made a more appropriate choice. For the simpler situation I searched around for a while, and eventually came up with a search string that led me in the right direction. First an append query (omitting the autonumber field), which left me with a table containing duplicates of many records (the ones that were created before the network split). Made a new blank table with the same fields, and combined several fields into a primary key. Then I appended the table into that new table, which forced Access to omit records with duplicate PK values. There is only one child record per record in that table, and since records in that table never change (new ones are added, but old ones don't change) there was no problem there.

I agree that the challenge with the other database is the junction table. The table containing information about the training session is the basis for the main form. The subform record source is the junction table, which is linked to the Sessions table through a foreign key field. Employee names (linked through EmployeeID to the Sessions table) are added to the junction table by way of the subform.

tblSession
SessionID (autonumber PK)
TrainingDescription
Instructor, etc.

tblEmployee
EmployeeID (PK)
FirstName, etc.

tblEnrollment
EnrollmentID (Autonumber PK)
SessionID (FK)
EmployeeID (FK)
Date

There really are not that many records that were entered into the wrong DB, maybe 40 or so, so I could just repeat the data entry. One reason I am looking for another approach is that part of what I am doing is an exercise

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to learn how to do this sort of thing.

Another approach would be to append the records into tblSession, then add the employee names. That would greatly reduce the amount of data entry I would have to do. I don't see any problem with lost child records if I go at it from this direction. Am I missing anything?

But what could I do to replace records in tblSessions and their corresponding records in tblEnrollment? I would need to replace SessionID in tblEnrollment with the new SessionID for each of the affected records. That could be tricky. Anything I can think of would involve several steps at least, and there are still plenty of details I can't quite work out. The more I think about it the more I think that my second option (tblSession records only, and add the names manually) is the most practical, but do you know of a general approach to automating the process? I keep coming back to thinking I would need to do something like change Autonumber to Number, then loop through the records and renumber that field to its current value plus 100 (or whatever). I think that cascading update would renumber corresponding records in tblEnrollment, but I don't know for sure that it would, nor do I know how to loop through the records to change the number. Assuming that would work, I could identify the last record in tblEnrollment that is shared by both databases, then make a table with the same fields but containing only the records created since the split. Finally I would append that new truncated table to the other tblEnrollment. Of course, I would have to come up with a new way to assign a number to SessionID (DMax + 1 as the default value) as new records are created.

It would be quite an exercise, I'm sure. At this point I am asking more because of general interest, and to learn new things about Access, than out of any expectation that such an approach makes sense for relatively few records.

"[MVP] S.Clark" <steve.clark_NOSPAM@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:O\\$%23czIfJGHA.1728@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:O$%23czIfJGHA.1728@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

- > Although Queries will help in this situation, there probably isn't a
- > single query that will do it. You will need to determine what got added,
- > when, and where, and figure out where to put it.
- >
- > The hardest part is if there are child records when you have to change the
- > autonumber value.
- >
- > btw, appending a row to an autonumber table will assign a new number(just
- > leave the autonumber field out of the query.)
- >
- > Good luck,
- >
- > --
- > Steve Clark, Access MVP
- > <http://www.fmsinc.com/consulting>
- > *FREE* Access Tips: <http://www.fmsinc.com/free/tips.html>
- >

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> "BruceM" <bamoob@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
> news:eeH6cEaJGHA.1312@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
>> Our network person did something pretty incredible when changing
>> computers over to a new server. There were some difficulties in the
>> transition, so he simply stopped changing over. As a result, for a while
>> people were entering data in copies of databases on both the new and old
>> server. I will call this time the Period of Confusion. This had been
>> going on for at least a week before I discovered that some people weren't
>> seeing changes I had made because I made the changes to only one copy of
>> the database.
>> Two databases seem to have been affected. One is a repair record
>> database. The active table (tblRepairRecord) includes the job number, PO
>> number, etc. The other table (tblRepairDetails) is for the repair
>> details. For instance, there may be a record for Repair Manual 123456,
>> Repair 1; and another for Manual 123456, Repair 7. Once one of these
>> records is added to tblRepairDetails it doesn't change. tblRepairRecord
>> links to one of these static records. No records were added to
>> tblRepairDetails during the Period of Confusion. Records were added to
>> the active table. They have an autonumber primary key. Now that
>> everybody is once again using the same copy of the database, how best to
>> combine the tables?
>> The other database is for training records. Each employee participates
>> in many training sessions, and each training session may be attended by
>> many employees, so there is a many-to-many relationship between Sessions
>> and Employees that is resolved through a junction table. If it matters,
>> there is no Course table. Training sessions are about the latest
>> revision to a work method, and things of that sort. Each record in the
>> Training table contains a record of a unique training session. Records
>> were added to the Training table in both copies of the database during
>> the Period of Confusion. With each such record a listing of employees
>> who attended appears in the junction table. Again, I need to combine the
>> tables. I mention the database structure in case it has a bearing on how
>> I combine tables.
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>

• **References:**

- ◆ **Combining tables from two copies of DB**
 ◇ From: BruceM
- ◆ **Re: Combining tables from two copies of DB**
 ◇ From: [MVP] S.Clark

- Prev by Date: **Re: INNER JOINS in Access**
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