

Re: Is this possible??

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.tablesdbdesign/2007-09/msg00341.html>

- *From:* "Pat Hartman \ (MVP)" <please no_email@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 21 Sep 2007 14:19:13 -0400
-

If you think your BE will eventually become SQL Server, it is best to design the application from the beginning using client/server concepts such as forms bound to queries that include selection criteria to limit the data retrieved by the form. Search here or the KB for articles on client/server optimization so you understand that to make use of server-side processing, you need to severely restrict the data retrieved.

Access 2007 does have some great new features and as long as you're not an existing Access user, you shouldn't have any trouble with it. Old-timers like myself are struggling because we have to keep a foot in each version and switching back and forth is a real pain.

As far as security goes, desktop applications are frequently secured by using the security included in Windows that restricts access to server shares. You would keep the back end database on the server where only authorized people could get to it and the front ends on the local machines. What you loose with A2007 is the ability to secure objects in the database itself. However, you can use A2007 as your development/runtime environment but keep the application in the A2003 database format. That gives you the advantage of the new development features but it still allows you to implement replication and user-level security.

"Shanin" <Shanin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:06389081-7CFC-431B-BA74-DBAD5EDDBCBF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

I was thinking SQL from the get go just due to the size it may become, although I've never worked in that. You may not know the answer, but is it hard to convert a backend Access table to SQL?

I also looked at Access 2007 and some of the features seem to be what may work for the frontend, such as the clicking on info in a report to open a form. We are thinking of upgrading our software anyway since it's been a while. Reading about the lack of security in A07, I think we'd probably want

Re: Is this possible??

to go to a backend SQL anyway to secure the tables since we wouldn't want every user to be able to access wage information of employees. Thanks for the info

"Pat Hartman (MVP)" wrote:

For starters, if you're going to do this, you would need to keep the data in Access and from Access, produce any Word or Excel documents needed for reporting. If the data comes to you from many places or people, you can use Outlook Forms or Excel workbooks to gather the basic data and then import it into Access. It is possible the much of the saving of documents can be dispensed with once the data is in a single place.

Access can handle millions of rows if each row is not very large. If the actual data is too large for Access or if you have too many concurrent users (over ~ 25), you can use SQL server or another RDBMS as the back end while still using Access as the front end.

It is seven years and three versions since A2K was released. Microsoft will be discontinuing support for A2K in the not too distant future. It might be time to upgrade to A2003 while copies are still available. Converting to A2007 is a huge change due to the complete recreation of the user interface and your company might not want to spring for the training involved with that.

"Shanin" <Shanin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:AC4B0474-1945-4091-A4CF-FF2507413A20@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I have a co-worker that would like me to build a database that centralizes a huge amount of data and am wondering if Access would even be the avenue to try and do this in. My thoughts initially are this would be a huge undertaking and would probably lead to a swollen database and would be better served by something other than Access.

Re: Is this possible??

What they want is this, a database that they can click on a client's name, where this would pull up a main screen which would show who worked for that client, and several other options like med errors for this person, the person's budget, the person's plan and even being able to click on the staff that work for the client and being able to view their trainings, schedule, etc. The main problem I see in all of this is all of this stuff is in numerous different applications. All HR/staff trainings, employee information is in an Access Database I already built. Schedules are in a FoxPro database which also is our timekeeping system. I have our HR database linked to that to pull schedules so that is not a problem. Budgets, errors, etc, these are under the clients folder on a server and are in Excel and Word, some are even still in Lotus. The part I would find hard is the budget forms come from the State and have to be in that form and you have to have a new one every month, sometimes more than one if an amendment is made so you would have a hard time trying to link to something where the file name would be constantly changing.

Without a total re-work of the agency on how things are reported, I don't see this as being possible and even then, I don't think Access would be the best solution to store that much data.

Re: Is this possible??

Re: Is this possible??

Any thoughts?