

RE: Access to MSDE

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Does the PC with MSDE have MS Web Data Administrator? It's a freeware tool (you can download it from MS) that allows you to access SQL Server DBs including MSDE. All you need is the .NET framework installed on the PC along with IIS. MSWDA has an import feature that works well as well as just generally being an all purpose (though lightweight) GUI for SQL Server. Additionally if you enabled network connections when you installed MSDE, IIS and MSWDA don't even have to be on the same PC as the MSDE instance you're trying to access.

This is really more of a hack than a method but it works and it doesn't involve any C#, however, this will only work for DB tables and queries. Anything else (forms, reports, modules, etc) really fall outside the database anyway and involve windows forms or web forms and for these things you'll end up completely rewriting your code whatever you do.:

-----To Create the DB-----

1) use OSQL or MS Web Data Admin to create your database and assign user rights

-----To Copy your tables from Access to MSDE-----

1) create a system DSN to your MSDE instance and new database
2) do an export to an ODBC database and then use the DSN you just created to connect to your MSDE instance.

as alternate to 1 & 2 you could do the following but this method takes longer and is more error prone. however it does give you a chance to tweak your settings.

1 alt) export each table from access as a .xls file
2 alt) use Excel to do whatever formatting you need to do on the data and when you're done save the data as a text file. Then go back in and create a table definition at the top of each table's data file.
3 alt) use MS Web Data Admin to import your text file or run it through OSQL

-----To copy your queries over, (i.e. you want to use as stored procs)-----

1) view each query's SQL in design view and copy the sql to the a text file
2) use a text editor to do any formatting on the SQL that's necessary
3) use MS Web Data Admin to import your text file or run it through OSQL

