

Access / DAO – What's the Future

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We are using Access as the "repository" for a C++ MFC application. It's single user.

The schema is complex (100 tables) and can be a few hundred MBytes in size.

We are starting to reach the limits: occasional "Query too Complex" and "Max Lock Files Exceeded". Although some of these we have tackled and got around through better design.

We recently moved to Visual Studio 2005 and of course no longer have the benefit of DAO wizards for creating RecordSets and refreshing them when the schema changes. This too we have got around for now – just using old classes as a model and creating them by hand.

We are about to start the next phase of our product and it will stress the database even more.

The questions:

- o Would you recommend that we change to SQL Server Express?
- o What are our migration options? Do we have to convert everything to ADO right away? I assume we can't use DAO with SQL Server. If we could we migrate slowly – using ADO (or ODBC) for new classes.
- o Or should we use ODBC?

Thanks
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