

Determine when server is unavailable

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- *From:* "sklett" <sklett@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
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I need to support "offline operation" – that is, if the DB server for whatever reason is unavailable (network communication down, server crashed, someone cut the users cat5, etc) I need to store the data locally until communication is restored at which point I will catch-up on a worker thread and update everything.

My problem is determining when the server is unavailable. I have tried to come up with a clever process to catch events and exceptions that would indicate loss of server availability, but they end up being a little too all encompassing. In other words, I want avoid a bug on my part throwing an exception and being treated as a server outage.

I guess I could resort to running Reg. Expressions on the exception message?

Have any of you had to implement something like this? If so, how did you handle this?

Thanks,
Steve

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