

## Writing empty string to SQL Server table using Db-Library

**Source:**

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Hello,

I am experiencing problems in writing empty strings (initialized to "") to SQL Server (2000) using Db-Library. The following example illustrates what I am trying to do.

Let's say there are three varchar fields in a table. When the data is populated to the table only one of the columns will have the data.

Binding of the variables –

```
DBCHAR val1[11];
DBCHAR val2[15];
DBCHAR val3[13];

if(bcp_bind(dbproc, (LPCBYTE) val1, 0, -1, (LPCBYTE) "", 1, 0, 1) ==
FAIL)
    iDbBindCols = false;

if(bcp_bind(dbproc, (LPCBYTE) val2, 0, -1, (LPCBYTE) "", 1, 0, 2) ==
FAIL)
    iDbBindCols = false;

if(bcp_bind(dbproc, (LPCBYTE) val3, 0, -1, (LPCBYTE) "", 1, 0, 3) ==
FAIL)
    iDbBindCols = false;

// Fill the variables
...

if (bcp_sendrow(dbproc) == FAIL)
    sendError = true;
```

In the above example, if val1 and val2 are initialized to "" and val3 contains the text "John", after calling bcp\_sendrow the database table

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contains NULL for val1, val2 fields and John for val3 field when you execute the query from the Query Analyzer.

The table schema doesn't allow NULLs for the columns. So, I am guessing that columns that hold val1 and val2 might contain '\0'. Also, I can't open the table using the Enterprise Manager (Open Table -> Return all rows) after populating the table. The error message "Runtime Error: Data provider or other service returned an E\_FAIL status." is displayed from the enterprise manager.

Any clues on how to bind the variables to write empty strings to the database table?

Thanks