

Re: Weird Cast operator

Source:

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1. Try making @in string contain '003' (instead of '00-3'. You will notice that both sqls work. From this, we know that trying to return int type is not the problem.

2. Now, I guess my question is, even when we have
CAST(CAST(@in AS INT) AS VARCHAR(6))
(like in the first sql in my posting), server has to do CAST(@in AS INT) in order evaluation the whole expression, right. Why doesn't it give a syntax error while trying to do that?

3. We did determine that "Cast(Cast(@in as int) as varchar)" works for our scenario. But, we are only trying to understand ****WHY**** one works while the other doesn't.

-Ganesh

"David Portas" <REMOVE_BEFORE_REPLYING_dportas@acm.org> wrote in message news:<jsKdnfODHbicatjcRVn-pA@giganews.com>...

> CASE can only return a single datatype. In your second CASE one expression
> is INT and the other VARCHAR. The rules of datatype precedence give INTEGER
> a higher priority than VARCHAR so SQL attempts to convert the string to a
> numeric, which causes an error.

>

> Change the second CASE expression to:

>

> ...

> THEN CAST(CAST(@in AS INT) AS VARCHAR(6))

> ...