

Re: DTS bug (?): Data Driven Query Task incorrectly replaces empty strings with NULL.

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/SQL-Server/microsoft.public.sqlserver.server/2004-06/3440.html>

From: Allan Mitchell (allan_at_no-spam.sqldts.com)

Date: 06/22/04

Date: Tue, 22 Jun 2004 21:51:21 +0100

I have a table somewhere else I think which explains the difference between CHAR and VARCHAR and the ANSI PADDING settings so I do not think it as easy as saying VARCHAR(50) to CHAR(50) = 50 chars

I'll dig it out tomorrow

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Allan Mitchell MCSE,MCDBA, (Microsoft SQL Server MVP)
www.SQLDTS.com - The site for all your DTS needs.
I support PASS - the definitive, global community
for SQL Server professionals - <http://www.sqlpass.org>
"John Peterson" <j0hnp@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:u937aQIWEHA.1152@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl...
> The problem with converting an empty VARCHAR string to a CHAR string is
that the *value*
> of the data changes due to the space padding inherent in the CHAR. :-(
>
> For example, I have a VARCHAR(50) field that is exhibiting this problem.
If I change the
> VARCHAR(50) in my Source query and Binding table to be CHAR(50) and then
use the DDQ Task
> to invoke a SP that is accepting a VARCHAR(50) to put into a Destination
table with a
> VARCHAR(50), instead of an empty string, I get a string with 50 spaces.
>
> NULL is actually more preferable to me than trying to convert to a CHAR.
If you find out
> a different workaround to this, I'd be obliged.
>
> Thanks for your help! :-)
>
> John Peterson
>
>
> "Allan Mitchell" <allan@no-spam.sqldts.com> wrote in message
> news:OuH8XzHWEHA.1888@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl...
> > Yep the '' is transferred as a NULL
> >
> > Change the VARCHAR to a CHAR and the problem goes away.
> >
> > I am not sure why at the moment but it would look to be something that

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is
> > being interpreted in the Active Script as a straight COPY --> COPY
using a
> > DataPump task works as expected so it is not something that DTS cannot
> > handle.
> >
> > I will do some digging
> >
> > --
> > --
> >
> > Allan Mitchell MCSE,MCDBA, (Microsoft SQL Server MVP)
> > www.SQLDTS.com - The site for all your DTS needs.
> > I support PASS - the definitive, global community
> > for SQL Server professionals - http://www.sqlpass.org
> >
> >
> > "John Peterson" <j0hnp@comcast.net> wrote in message
> > news:OSdXTdHWEHA.2972@TK2MSFTNGP12.phx.gbl...
> > > Allan, could you try your test with a varchar(50) instead of a char(1)
to
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