

# How to find errors with replication agent jobs

Last updated by | Vitor Tomaz | Jun 8, 2022 at 5:37 AM PDT

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## Summary

This article shows you how you can identify and retrieve the errors reported by a failed replication agent job. Note that this is for the SQL Server Agent job itself, not the replication agent that is started and run by this job.

## Steps

1. In SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS), connect to the Managed Instance at which the agent is running (usually the Distributor MI).
2. Expand the SQL Server Agent node.
3. Open the Job Activity Monitor and identify the replication agent job for which you want to see the error details. Failed jobs are usually marked with a red "X", or might still be running and in retry status.
4. Right-click on the failing job and select **Job History**. This will open the Log File Viewer for the job and will show you the history of the recent start attempts.

Example:

The screenshot shows the SQL Server Enterprise Manager interface. On the left, the 'Object Explorer' pane shows the 'SQL Server Agent' node expanded, with 'Jobs' and 'Job Activity Monitor' visible. The 'Job Activity Monitor' window is open, showing a table of job activity. The table has columns: Name, Enabled, Status, Last Run Outcome, Last Run, Next Run, and Category. The job 'MIHLI REPLICATION DATABASE' is highlighted in blue and has a red 'X' icon next to it, indicating a failed status. A right-click context menu is open over this job, showing options like 'Start Job at Step...', 'Stop Job', 'Enable Job', 'Disable Job', 'Refresh job', 'Delete job', 'View history', and 'Properties'. The 'View history' option is highlighted.

Name	Enabled	Status	Last Run Outcome	Last Run	Next Run	Category
Agent history clean up: Distribution	yes	Idle	Succeeded	2/8/2022 12:3...	not sched...	REPL-History Cleanup
Distribution clean up: Distribution	yes	Idle	Succeeded	2/8/2022 12:2...	not sched...	REPL-Distribution Cleanup
Expired subscription clean up	yes	Idle	Unknown	never	not sched...	REPL-Subscription Cleanup
mihli.8f08e6d34d3b-da-Repl_PUB-P...	yes	Executing:...	Succeeded	3/8/2022 7:44:...	not sched...	REPL-Distribution
MIHLI REPLICATION DATABASE	yes	Failed	Failed	3/9/2022 7:46:...	not sched...	REPL-Snapshot
MIHLI Start Job at Step...	yes	Executing:...	Succeeded	3/8/2022 7:44:...	not sched...	REPL-LogReader
MIHLI Stop Job	yes	Idle	Succeeded	3/9/2022 7:45:...	3/9/2022 ...	REPL-Checkup
MIHLI Enable Job	yes	Idle	Unknown	never	not sched...	REPL-Alert Response
MIHLI Disable Job	yes	Idle	Succeeded	3/9/2022 7:40:...	3/9/2022 ...	REPL-Checkup
MIHLI Refresh job	yes	Idle	Unknown	never	not sched...	REPL-Alert Response

5. To see the error details, click on the last green entry below the entries that have the red "X". The entry with the red "X" or with the retry message does not give any details, only states "I have failed" or "I am retrying".

Example 1 (failed Snapshot Agent job):

Log File Viewer - mihli.8f08e6d34d3b.database.windows.net

Select logs

☒ Job History

☐ Agent history clean up: D...

☐ Distribution clean up: Dist...

☐ Expired subscription clear...

☒ mihli.8f08e6d34d3b.da-R...

☐ MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.D...

☐ MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.D...

☐ Monitor and sync replicati...

☐ Reinitialize subscriptions f...

☐ Replication agents check...

☐ Replication monitoring ref...

☒ SQL Server Agent

☒ Database Mail

Status

Last Refresh:  
3/9/2022 7:47:02 AM

Filter: None

View filter settings

Progress

Done (18 records).

Load Log

Export

Refresh

Filter ...

Search ...

Stop

Delete ...

Help

Log file summary: No filter applied

Date	Step ID	Server	Job Name	Step Name	N...	Message
3/9/2022 7:46:46 AM		MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.DATABASE.WINDOWS.NET	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B...			The job failed. The Job was invoked by User holgerf.
3/9/2022 7:46:48 ...	3	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.DATABASE.WINDOWS.NET	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B...	Detect nonlo...		Executed as user: DB4C1\WF-d6lbWHpeyhK8WHC...
3/9/2022 7:46:47 ...	2	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.DATABASE.WINDOWS.NET	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B...	Run agent.		The replication agent encountered a failure. See the pr...
3/9/2022 7:46:47 ...	2	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.DATABASE.WINDOWS.NET	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B...	Run agent.		at System.IO.__Error.WinIOError(Int32 errorCode, S...
3/9/2022 7:46:47 ...	2	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.DATABASE.WINDOWS.NET	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B...	Run agent.		The replication agent has been successfully started. S...
3/9/2022 7:46:46 ...	1	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.DATABASE.WINDOWS.NET	MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B...	Snapshot Ag...		Executed as user: DB4C1\WF-d6lbWHpeyhK8WHC...

Selected row details:

Step ID

2

Server

MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.DATABASE.WINDOWS.NET

Job Name

MIHLI.8F08E6D34D3B.DATABASE-Repl\_PUB-Publication\_Tran-1

Step Name

Run agent.

Duration

00:00:01

Sql Severity

0

Sql Message ID

0

Operator Emailed

Operator Net sent

Operator Paged

Retries Attempted

0

Message

at System.IO.\_\_Error.WinIOError(Int32 errorCode, String maybeFullPath)  
at System.IO.FileStream.Init(String path, FileMode mode, FileAccess access, Int32 rights, Boolean useRights, FileShare share, Int32 bufferSize, FileOptions options, SECURITY\_ATTRIBUTES secAttrs, String msgPath, Boolean bFromProxy, Boolean useLongPath, Boolean checkHost)  
at System.IO.FileStream..ctor(String path, FileMode mode, FileAccess access, FileShare share, Int32 bufferSize, FileOptions options, String msgPath, Boolean bFromProxy, Boolean useLongPath, Boolean checkHost)  
at System.IO.StreamWriter.CreateFile(String path, Boolean append, Boolean checkHost)  
at System.IO.StreamWriter..ctor(String path, Boolean append, Encoding encoding, Int32 bufferSize, Boolean checkHost)  
at System.IO.StreamWriter..ctor(String path, Boolean append, Encoding encoding)  
at Microsoft.SqlServer.Replication.OutputFile..ctor(OutputVerboseLevelParameter outputVerboseLevel, Boolean noTimeStamp, String filename)

Close

https://supportability.visualstudio.com/AzureSQLDB/\_wiki/wikis/AzureSQLDB.wiki/595181/How-to-find-errors-with-replication-agent-jobs

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## Example 2 (Log Reader job is retrying after a connectivity error):

Log File Viewer - milunkasavic-gp-000.tr10.southeastasia1-a.worker.sqltest-eg1.msdc.com

Select logs

- ☒ Job History
  - ☐ Adaptive Index Defrag
  - ☐ Agent history clean up: distribution
  - ☐ block1
  - ☐ block2
  - ☐ block-select
  - ☐ Distribution clean up: distribution
  - ☐ Expired subscription clean up
  - ☐ MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOUTHEASTASIA1-A.W-ValidationDB1-6
  - ☒ MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOUTHEASTASIA1-A.W-ValidationDB1-8
  - ☐ MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOU-ValidationDB1-ValidationDB1\_Publication
  - ☐ MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOU-ValidationDB1-ValidationDB1\_Publication
  - ☐ milunkasavic-gp-000.t-ValidationDB1-ValidationDB1\_Publication-milunkasavic-gp-1
  - ☐ milunkasavic-gp-000.t-ValidationDB1-ValidationDB1\_Publication-milunkasavic-gp-1
  - ☐ Monitor and sync replication agent jobs
  - ☐ Reinitialize subscriptions having data validation failures
  - ☐ Replication agents checkup
  - ☐ Replication monitoring refresher for distribution.
  - ☐ Restore TPCC 500GB
  - ☐ test\_cmd\_EchoHello\_2min

Status

Last Refresh: 8/13/2018 10:46:41 PM

Filter: None

[View filter settings](#)

Progress

Done (7 records).

Log file summary: No filter applied

Date	Step ID	Server
8/13/2018 10:46:08 PM		
8/13/2018 10:46:08 PM	2	MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOUTHEASTASIA1-A.WORKER.SQLTEST-EG1.MSC
8/13/2018 10:46:08 PM	2	MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOUTHEASTASIA1-A.WORKER.SQLTEST-EG1.MSC
8/13/2018 10:46:08 PM	2	MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOUTHEASTASIA1-A.WORKER.SQLTEST-EG1.MSC
8/13/2018 10:46:08 PM	1	MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOUTHEASTASIA1-A.WORKER.SQLTEST-EG1.MSC

Selected row details:

- LoginTimeout 1
- HistoryVerboseLevel 2
- OutputVerboseLevel 2
- XJOBID 0x7A6CD745400DA047AF8E52DC46EE3CF7
- XJOBNAME MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOUTHEASTASIA1-A.W-ValidationDB1-8
- XSTEPID 2
- XSUBSYSTEM LogReader
- XSERVER MILUNKASAVIC-GP-000.TR10.SOUTHEASTASIA1-A.WORKER.SQLTEST-EG1.MSCDS.COM
- XCMDLINE 1
- XDB
- XHOST np:\\.\pipe\DB-9-A287913532EA\sql\query
- XCancelEventHandle 0000000000001944
- XParentProcessHandle 0000000000001B44

2018-08-13 22:46:08.120 Connecting to Distributor Pipe 'np:\\.\pipe\DB-9-A287913532EA\sql\query.master'

2018-08-13 22:46:08.136 [8/13/2018 10:46:08 PM]np:\\.\pipe\DB-9-A287913532EA\sql\query.master: exec sp\_helpdistpublisher ?

2018-08-13 22:46:08.136 [8/13/2018 10:46:08 PM]np:\\.\pipe\DB-9-A287913532EA\sql\query.distribution: exec sp\_MShelp\_repl\_agent ?, ?, null, null, null, 2

2018-08-13 22:46:08.136 Disconnecting from Distributor Pipe 'np:\\.\pipe\DB-9-A287913532EA\sql\query'

2018-08-13 22:46:09.152 Status: 0, code: 20015, text: 'Named Pipes Provider: Could not open a connection to SQL Server [53]. A network-related or instance-specific error has occurred while establishing a connection to SQL Server. Server is not found or not accessible. Check if instance name is correct and if SQL Server is configured to allow remote connections. For more information see SQL Server Books Online. Query timeout expired, Failed Command: '.

2018-08-13 22:46:09.152 Named Pipes Provider: Could not open a connection to SQL Server [53]. A network-related or instance-specific error has occurred while establishing a connection to SQL Server. Server is not found or not accessible. Check if instance name is correct and if SQL Server is configured to allow remote connections. For more information see SQL Server Books Online. Query timeout expired, Failed Command:

2018-08-13 22:46:09.152 Disconnecting from SQL DB

Close

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