

Distribution Agent Error 20598

Last updated by | Holger Linke | Mar 30, 2022 at 12:41 AM PDT

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Issue

User sees error 20598 in the Distribution Agent log history

```
...
<timestamp> Connecting to Subscriber 'vm002.repldns.com\INST1'
<timestamp> Initializing
<timestamp> 42000 The row was not found at the Subscriber when applying the replicated UPDATE command for Tabl
...
...
<timestamp> Connecting to Subscriber 'vm002.repldns.com\INST1'
<timestamp> Error executing a batch of commands. Retrying individual commands.
<timestamp> Disconnected from Azure Storage '\\testlab.file.core.windows.net\replsnaphost' with OS result code
<timestamp> Agent message code 20598. The row was not found at the Subscriber when applying the replicated UPD
<timestamp> Category:COMMAND
Source: Failed Command
Number:
Message: if @@trancount > 0 rollback tran
<timestamp> Category:NULL
Source: Microsoft OLE DB Driver for SQL Server
Number: 20598
Message: The row was not found at the Subscriber when applying the replicated UPDATE command for Table '[dbo].
```

Possible causes

It is highly possible that the user might have updated a table at the subscriber (i.e. destination table) and this should not be done under transactional replication.

This scenario can be reproduced by deleting an arbitrary row from the table at the subscriber and you will see a similar error.

Mitigation

Either of the following steps will help to overcome the immediate error:

- [Reinitialize the subscription](#) ☐ from a new snapshot - **THIS IS THE PREFERRED SOLUTION**
Reinitializing a subscription will make the Distribution Agent to bulk copy all data from the publication table(s) to the Subscriber table(s) for the next synchronization. This is the clean solution for this issue, but

might be very painful for the customer, especially if the replicated database is very large. It might take several hours or even days to complete.

- Insert the row(s) missing at the Subscriber for a failing Update/Delete.
This might help if only one or a few rows are affected; often enough a lot more rows are affected, but it is still worth a try.
- Use the -SkipErrors parameter on the Distribution Agent to skip errors 2601:2627:20598. Or use the corresponding agent profile "Continue on data consistency errors"
The distribution agent will overcome the immediate error, but there is a high probability that data remains different on Publisher and Subscriber, causing data inconsistencies between the Publisher and the Subscriber tables. This may or may not be acceptable for the customer.
- Drop the affected article from the publication and re-add it later.
Applies if you are sure that only this one article is affected, and if the article is not referencing any other articles in the publication. It may or may not resolve the issue.

More Information

The error 20598 "Row not found" is only one from a group of errors that have the same root cause. Please refer to article [Distribution Agent errors 2601 2627 20598](#), for a more detailed discussion, especially if the customer is reporting that the issue has occurred repeatedly.

Internal Reference

IdM [276937784](#) 

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