

Error Synonym

'dbo.MSreplication_subscriptions' refers to an invalid object when using the GUI

Last updated by | Ricardo Marques | Mar 30, 2023 at 3:03 AM PDT

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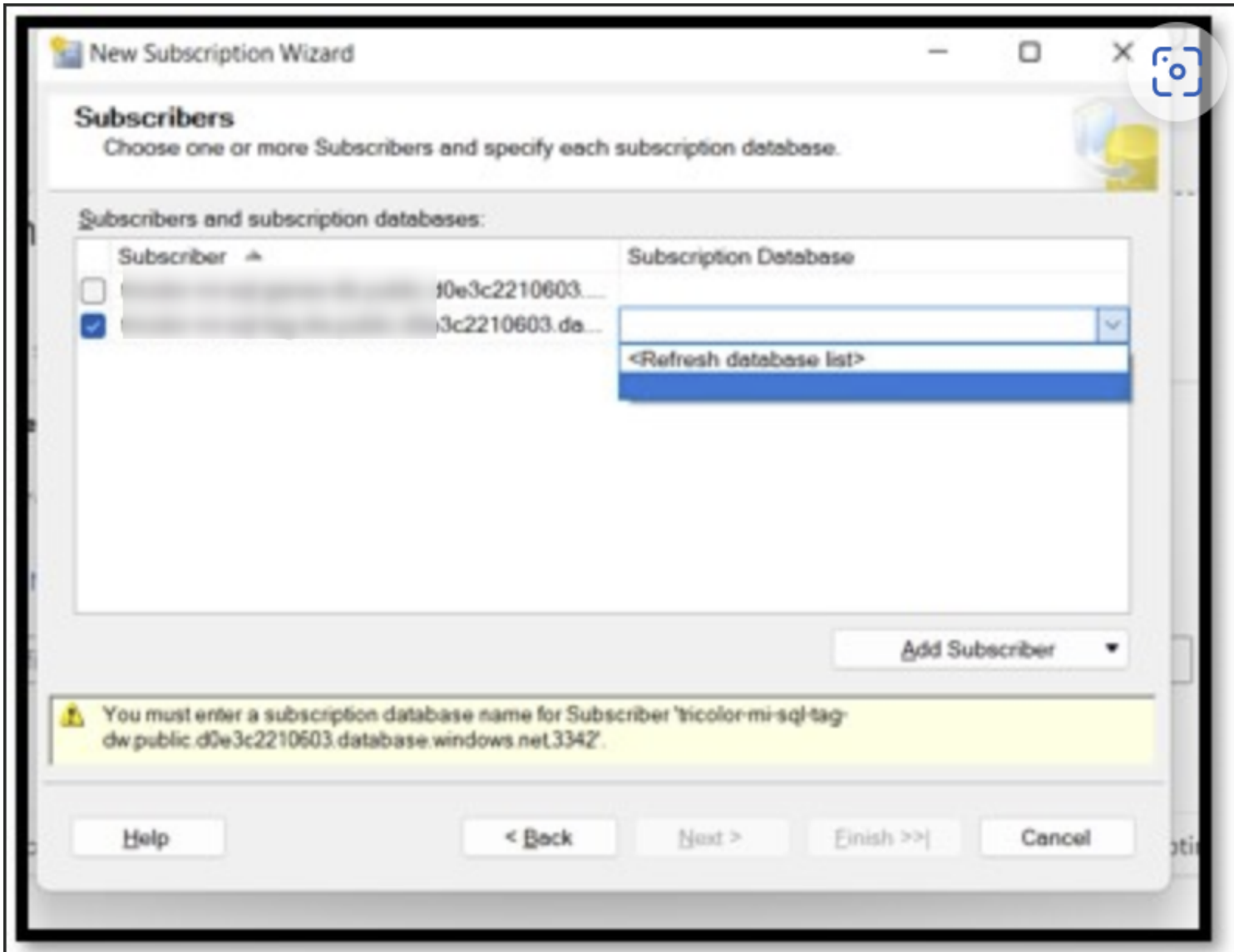
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Issue

Customer unable to expand the subscriber on SSMS.

Synonym 'dbo.MSreplication_subscriptions' refers to an invalid object

If he tries to setup a new subscriber the database is not listed.



Investigation/Analysis

In short, a [synonym](#) is a feature that allows to provide an alternative name that refers to another object.

On this error we have an indication that an existing synonym is pointing into an object that doesn't exist anymore.

To list the synonym referred on the error message:

```
execute master.sys.sp_MSforeachdb 'use [?];
if (exists (select 1 from sys.synonyms where base_object_name like ''%MSreplication_subscriptions%''))
begin
    select ''?' as dbname, *
    from sys.synonyms
    where base_object_name like ''%MSreplication_subscriptions%'
end
'
```

On this case it would return something like:

dbname	name	object_id	principal_id	schema_id	parent_object_id	type	type_desc
<database_physical_name>			MSreplication_subscriptions		837122273	NULL	1 0 SN

When trying to select from the base object returned on **base_object_name** column:

```
select * from [<database_name>].[dbo].[MSreplication_subscriptions]
```


we will get the error:

```
Invalid object name [<database_name>].[dbo].[MSreplication_subscriptions]
```

Mitigation

This is caused by leftovers of a previous setup.

Make sure that the customer followed [Clean up resources](#)  described on the public documentation.

Also, the customer might have to [drop the synonym](#)  explicitly.

Internal reference

[371707305](#) 