Workflow for blocking and deadlocks

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Contents

The following TSG is intended to guide you on a blocking or deadlock situation.

1 Identify the problem

Frist determine what is the problem - blocking or deadlocks. Remember, despite of the two concepts being related with locks, they are actually a different thing.

Generate an ASC report for the period reported by the customer. When completed go **Performance->Overview**. On the **Instance Wait Statistics** graph, look waits and see if you had blocking related waits (LCK_...).

Now go to **Performance** -> **Blocking & Deadlocking**. Here you have details Blocking (4 sections in total), and a last section for Deadlocks.

Make sure that you are looking at data for the period.

Also note that for a blocking situation the customer might report that:

- we have query timeout
- the query doesnt finish

And on a deadlock situation he will have clear error messages, like "*Transaction (Process ID xx) was deadlocked on resources with another process and has been chosen as the deadlock victim. Rerun the transaction*"

If it his a blocking issue go to 2.

For a deadlock issue go to 3

2 Blocking

This TSG contains information on how to get details on how to troubleshoot and solve blocking scenarios. Two points to always have in mind when troubleshooting blocking issues:

- always focus on the lead blocker.
- if the lead blocker is in sleeping state, its not a performance problem, but a transaction left open (user or application issue).
- if the lead blocker is running, start the troubleshooting as single query tuning. Follow this workflow

3 Deadlocks

Check this TSG for deadlock capture.

Also take a look at this TSG where we break down the different types of deadlocks and possible solutions on each one.

How good have you found this content?