

# External data source error 'xxx' already exists in EDS cache in memory

Last updated by | Peter Hewitt | Dec 29, 2022 at 3:52 AM PST

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## Issue

When trying to create an external data source (EDS) in SQL Database the following exception occurs:

*An external data source conflicting with 'xxx' already exists in EDS cache in memory. Use alter step to change the location or credential. Drop and re-create to change the EDS name*

The error occurs even though the EDS causing the conflict is already dropped and no longer exists. Trying to drop it again manually, for example using SSMS, returns the expected exception:

*Cannot drop the object 'xxx', because it does not exist or you do not have permissions.*

## Mitigation

There is a fix for this but it's not enabled by default. The reason is that the issue only affected one client, as of December 2022, and the engineering team never managed to replicate the issue.

To activate the fix, enable the feature switch **AllowEdsExistingCacheEntryUpdateOnCreation**. This requires an lCM to the *SQL DB Perf: Expression Service* team.

Contact PG person for more information is: Nikola Vujic.

## RCA

### For the customer

You receive an error ('xxx' already exists in EDS cache in memory) when creating an external datasource. This is confirmed by internal investigation. The cache the message is referring to is an in-memory cache of external datasources used. Its purpose is to retrieve the definition of each datasource from metadata only once hence improving performance. The error occurs because the external datasource the customer tries to create is present in the cache but there is no existing metadata (it cannot be found using `select * from sys.external_data_sources`). This error prevents you from creating this external datasource. The engineering team has a repair item and fix created to address this code defect.

**Internal** The customer gets an error ('xxx' already exists in EDS cache in memory) when creating an external datasource. A dump was taken when this error occurred and it was confirmed: it is indeed in the cache even

though no corresponding metadata exists.

## Internal Reference

[IcM 287860107: An external data source conflicting with XYZ already exists in EDS cache in memory.](#) 

[IcM 342903274: An external data source conflicting with XYZ already exists in EDS cache in memory.](#) 

PG bug item [1723493: EDS corrupted cache](#) 

## Root Cause Classification

Cases resolved by this TSG should be coded to the following root cause:

*Root Cause: Azure SQL v3\Performance\SQL Server Engine bug\Other*

## How good have you found this content?



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