Project Team

Database EvaluatOr Project Proposal

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# Executive Summary

Secure and efficient database implementation with best practice is one of the biggest challenges for an organization and as well as for a database administrator because,

1. Database authentication and network communication port need to be considered after database installation and essential to check especially in production environment to overcome the safety loopholes.
2. There are critical default installation options include drive and database physical structure selections which are not easy to change after the database is hosted.
3. Old database installation software version is also considered to raise a concern for database performance and security.
4. Other things to consider are memory, CPU, database recovery model and compatibility level parameters which all affect database performance if they are not tuned.

Sometimes it is very difficult for a database administrator to check and create an inventory of all the database parameters which are used and configured as specially for large SQL Server environment. Maintaining the database in accordance to best practice will surely become a challenge when organisation has large of databases. Even managing details of SQL Server configurations is big challenge for a new database administrator who needs to identify the configured parameters values of all SQL Server instances and databases.

With the stated challenges, the group aims to produce a database evaluator that will diagnose and check the basic implementation parameters of SQL Server Instances and Databases. The database evaluator will target all versions of SQL Server starting with SQL Server 2008 and SQL Server 2012. Older versions of SQL server will not be supported. Project will be targeted to finish 04/11/2016. There is no cost include for this project and there is no risk involve with executing a client application on database system as it will not modify any exiting parameters for database and database system. Project team will be responsible do deliver the final products for this project as follows.

1. A website from where a customer can download the client application and upload the database dump files.
2. A client application that will produce a dump file of the client’s database with exiting parameters values only.
3. A database evaluator tool that will generate reports from the dump files uploaded by customers.

It is planned that these dump files will be encrypted for security purposes. The client application is free to download from the product website and profit will be generated instead when customers choose to avail of the database evaluation services.

# Opportunity Context

The project team want to attract Small and medium-sized enterprises who has implemented SQL server in their infrastructure and want to know the implementation risk and verify the configuration of databases and SQL Server. The biggest opportunity with this project are first customer can see what parameters are missing with the exiting database implementation. Large number of SQL Server instances auditing is also very easy performed by this tool.

Customer will get the benefit of an audit report to tune their database parameters in well advance to overcome all the security and performance problems. Sometimes it will costly for a small business to hire a professional or a contractor to evaluate their database system because it is time consuming and costly process.

Therefore, this tool is also for a business or a customer who may not be able to hire a full time database administrator to diagnose their database system.

The team are required to provide a project as part of their degree programme where team needs to find a suitable project client, to develop a solution to meet the client’s requirements to fulfil their project.

# Project Requirements

* Website

Customer can download a client application from website. Installation guide and instruction are available on the website.

The website will allow customer to upload the encrypted files after they have successfully logged in to their account.

* Client Application

A client application is a light weight and small tool which will be executed on a customer database system and gather the exiting configured values for parameters and captures the encrypted files.

The following areas of database from where parameters values will be collected by client application.

* SQL Server Instance

1. Installation

2. Configuration

3. Security

* SQL Server Database

1. Implementation of Database (physical structure)

2. Database Configuration Options

3. Maintenance

4. Security

* Database Simulator

Parameters in encrypted file will be diagnosed with another application called Database Simulator. Database Simulator will check all the parameter against the best practice values and generate the final report.

The final report will display all information about what parameters are not configured and suggest and what will be the parameter values as per suggested best practice.

The customer can download their final report from the website.

The project team’s requirements are 1600 hours of work for each of the project members. The project will be due on the 4nd of November 2016.

# Project Analysis

The team is composed of a Database Specialist, a Web Developer, a Programmer and a certified Project Manager.

Given that our target market are users of Microsoft SQL Servers, we have a Database Specialist who is experienced in handling and administering Microsoft SQL Servers. With their skills, we are confident that a Database Evaluator and a client application will be produced. With standards.

Project team target Relational database management system (RDBMS) is a Microsoft Product, the Database Evaluator and client application should be built using a Microsoft product as well. In this case, the team’s Programmer has a choice between Visual Basic or C# to create the Windows Form Application. The Programmer has experience in programing so the C# will be used. Since there is a fixed deadline that needs to be met, every moment is important so trying to learn a new language with unfamiliar syntax should be avoided. For the IDE, Visual Studio will be used as it already has some drag and drop tools to make the development of the GUI of the desktop application easier.

Besides the actual Database Evaluation tool, a product website is also needed. The product website from where the tool will be downloaded by the users. There are a lot of available technologies that can be used for web development but because time is of the essence, the chosen ones are PHP, WordPress and MySQL. The team’s Web Developer already has experience in creating websites using the said technologies and this will allow us to develop the website quickly along with the tool. Also, WordPress, being a CMS tool, has a lot of Plugins and Themes that just needs to be imported to use. These plugins will make designing the website much easier. Furthermore, finding resources and references for the said technologies will be easier given that many websites are built from them.

A GitHub will be used as document management application to keep track of the code and documentations. The reason is that it is quite easy to use even for first time users given that there is GitHub Desktop for easy upload.

The DSDM Atern development framework will be used as methodology to develop all the products of the project because the time and cost for DSDM Atern are fixed which leaves us to worry about scope only. Another reason to choose DSDM Atern is because it has a large community worldwide with different companies using this agile methodology. Furthermore, DSDM Atern can be used for large and small projects depending on the needs of the project. Using DSDM Atern, risks will be minimized as the project progresses because of its iterative and incremental approach.

# System Outline

The final products of the project are as follows:

* A client application that will produce a dump file of the client’s database information.
* The client application is a light weight tool which will need to be installed on the customer system. It will connect to the SQL server instance and then execute.
* It will generate the encrypted dump file which contains all the current information of all the configured parameters value of SQL server instance and database.
* Executor have choice to execute the client application either only for SQL Server instance or execute on instance with single database both.
* Executor cannot execute the evaluator on multiple database at a same time.
* The website from where a customer can download the database evaluator and upload the generated dump files.
* A website is used to download client application and upload the dump file.
* A website page also help customer to know the tool installation procedures along with term and conditions agreements between customer and project team.
* The database evaluator tool that will generate final reports from the dump files uploaded by customers.
* The encrypted dump file contains the customer database parameters values only. It is planned that these dump files will be encrypted for security purposes.
* The final report will be generated after executing the database evaluator.

See Data Flow Diagram :



# Approach

Dynamic System Development Model Atern (DSDM Atern), which is an agile development framework, will be used to produce the desired product of this project. DSDM Atern is one of the agile frameworks that companies use due to its features of fixed time and cost. Scope will be the only factor that will change mostly in this project. The Project in a Box has DSDM Atern templates. These will greatly help us in delivering documents and keep us on the right track throughout the project.

This project will use the seven phases of DSDM Atern which are as follows:

1. Pre-project

2. Feasibility

3. Foundation

4. Exploration

5. Engineering

6. Deployment

7. Post-project

The phases of the DSDM Atern will be used as the guide in setting the dates, and distributing and prioritizing tasks. DSDM follows a reverse triangle planning. The project requirements must be extensively and carefully planned at the start before proceeding to the next phases. Delivering the deliverables on time without sacrificing the quality is what makes DSDM hard to use but worth it at the end. Project management techniques will be used to deliver the solution on time. These techniques will act as the blueprint of the project and will be strictly followed by every member in the project.

Core techniques in DSDM Atern are as follows:

1. Time Boxing

2. MoSCoW Prioritisation

3. Facilitation Workshop

The MoSCoW term above stands for the following:

M – Must Have

S – Should Have

C – Could Have

W – Won’t Have this time

“Must Have” are the core tasks and are prioritized for the project. Not all tasks should be assigned under “Must Have” especially if it is not important or if it will not affect the project. Most of the remaining items can be moved to “Should Have” or “Could Have”. “Won’t have this time” will be the tasks that could done once the other important tasks are delivered.

Time Boxing will be used as the task planner of the project. Every task of the project will be done using time box approach. Each member will be assigned a task that must be done for the day and a progress report will be collected by the end of each week regarding the team’s accomplishments.

Facilitation Workshops will also be used. It is composed of meetings where progress is checked and tasks are distributed. This will be the time to talk about any suggestions about the project, risks that may arise, and confusions about each task.

# Organization of the Project

Below is a breakdown of the people involved in project.

* Project Manager, Test Manager
  + Changming Wu
* Database Specialist, Tester
  + Hardik Kansara
* Web Developer, Tester
  + Kwinno Pineda
* C# Developer, Tester
  + - * Patrick Cura

From the details given above, here is a RACI chart that shows which people will be assigned to which tasks:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tasks | Changming Wu | Hardik Kansara | Kwino Pineda | Patrick Cura | Project Advisor |
| 1. Create the Project Specification and Requirements | C | R A | C | C | C |
| 2. Create the Customer Application | I | C | I | R A | C |
| 3. Create the Project Website Application | I | C | R A | C | C |
| 4. Create the Database Evaluator | I | C | I | R A | C |
| 5. Create the Test Plan | R A | C | C | C | C |
| 6. Test the Applications | A | R | R | R | C |
| 7. Database Evaluation Guidelines and the related Query Scripts | I | R A | I | C | C |
| 8. Handle the Project Management Aspects for the team | R A | C | C | C | C |

1. Database Specialist will handle the creation of the project specification and requirements because it is his domain of expertise. He will consult and inform of the team of the scope so as to get a consensus if the team can do it as per their current skills.
2. C# developer will mainly be in charge of creating the customer application (the one to be distributed to customers) and the Database Evaluator. Because database knowledge is needed in getting the needed information from a customer’s computer, the Database Specialist needs to be consulted and asked for help. The other members will be informed of the software development progress.
3. Web Developer will be in charge of creating the website that the customers will be using. He will consult the Database Specialist and C# developer as there might be a chance that their applications will interact in the future. All team members must also be informed of the website development progress.
4. Test Manager will handle the creation of the Test Plan document and will consult and inform the developers and specialist regarding the validity of the test that will be created.
5. Everyone in the team will do testing. Each one will test an application that they did not create to avoid biased testing. The test manager should ensure that everyone will contribute to the testing.
6. Database Specialist will handle the creation of the Database Evaluation Guidelines and the Database Queries associated with it. This is the heart of the project and the specialist will have to apply his expertise for this. The query scripts will be provided to the C# Developer who will generate the database evaluation report.
7. PM would handle the project management aspects for the team and would constantly consult the team if they have issues and needs.

# Management

* Collocation

Project team should work in the Lab B105 every Monday to Wednesday at Weltec. The rest time they should work in their home or private space to follow the form which includes the tasks and schedule that they have created at the beginning at the week.

* Weekly meetings

In order to track the project management, the development team will use 0.5 hour to have weekly meeting on every Tuesday 11 am – 11:30 am.

In weekly meeting, the development team will summarize and analyse the weekly project status, reflect and discuss issues which cannot be solved, and adjust the project tasks for next week plan.

* Advisor Meeting

The development team will use 0.5 hour to have weekly meeting with project.

The project advisor will inspect the completed work on weekly schedule of the development team and give the corresponding feedbacks and suggestions.

* Meeting Agenda

Before each meeting, project manager should send the meeting agenda to project advisor and team members. The meeting agenda should include the following:

(1) Familiarize participants with the topics to be discussed and issues to be raised;

(2) Indicate what prior knowledge would be expected from the participants;

(3) Indicate what outcome the participants may expect from the meeting

* Meeting Minutes

Each meeting will to be recorded including clearly reflected in each project record, party views the current state of the project and decision-making. Project manager should make the meeting minute after each meeting and send an email to project advisor and project team members including meeting minute and prior meeting agenda.

* Daily administration

Daily administration is for developers to record daily work content, time spent and the problems encountered in the course of their work, ideas and solutions to problems.

* Management tool

This project will use Github to manage materials in progress, and the deliverables. It is not only can create a repository to make sure everyone has good access to the work product but also it can backup appropriately and write comments for each changed.

* Change control Form

Project team will use the change control form to control all the necessary change in the project which will be sign by the all agreed project members.

See on appendices 1

# Plans and Procedures

See on appendices 2

* This is a breakdown of the project plan based on the phases of the DSDM Methodology:

1. Identification
   * Tools
   * Software
   * Basic Requirements
2. Design
   * UI Design for Web
   * UI Design for Database Evaluator
3. Construct and Build

* Building of the Web Application
* Building of the Database Evaluator

1. Evaluation and Risk Analysis
   * Create Test Plan
   * Execute Test Plan
   * Create Risk Plan

# Staff

The project team of this project as follows:

* + - Changming Wu: Project Manager, Test Manager
    - Hardik Rajendrakunar Kansara: Database Specialist, Tester
    - Kwinno Laxamana Pineda: Web Developer, Tester
    - Patrick Ian Espinosa Cura: C# Developer, Tester

Project team will spend 31 hours of work each week on this project, totalling 435 hours and 11 weeks.

Steve McKinlay as the project advisors will inspect the completed work on weekly schedule of the development team and give the corresponding feedbacks and suggestions during the weekly advisor meeting.

# Deliverables

* Project milestones and deliverables with their estimated completion dates are as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Milestone | Due Date |
| Project Proposal | 22/07/2016 |
| Project Proposal |  |
| Project Plan/Gantt Chart | 22/07/2016 |
| Project Plan/Gantt Chart |  |
| Scope of Project |  |
| Analysis and Design Documents | 05/08/2016 |
| Requirements Analysis |  |
| Analysis and Design Documents |  |
| Methodology and Techniques |  |
| Web Application Development | 06/09/2016 |
| Website Development | 06/09/2016 |
| Database Evaluator Development | 30/09/2016 |
| System Test Plan | 07/10/2016 |
| Test Case for System Test |  |
| Integration Testing | 12/10/2016 |
| Test Results/Record for System Test |  |
| Project Presentation | To be announced |

# Resumes (CVs)

* + - See Changming Wu CV
    - See Hardik Kansara CV
    - See Kwinno Pineda CV
    - See Patrick Cura CV

# Relevant Background Information

* See Client Brief Document

# Resources

Kwinno Pineda as the Web Developer will use the following material:

* + - Eclipse Php editor and Notepad ++
    - XAMPP
    - Wordpress
    - MySQL Database

Patrick Cura as the Software Developer for the Client Application and Database Evaluator will use the following material:

* + - Microsoft Visual Studio 2015 Enterprise Edition
    - Install Shield Limited Edition for Visual Studio
    - Microsoft .NET Framework 4.5.2
    - SQL Server Express
    - SQL Server Management Studio

All of the materials mentioned are available over the internet and will be downloaded by the developer in need of them.

# Team Acceptance

* See Team Contact

# Appendices

* Change Control form
* Project Plan
* Client Brief Document
* Team Contact