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DBA Tools: sp_who3

By Mircea Nita, 2010/04/15

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Assuming you have a large number of databases with hundreds of active users on a server, it is often very difficult to follow a blocking chain that affects one of the databases, since sp_who2 returns all the processes for all the databases available.

This is the reason why I have modified sp_who2 and the new stored procedure called sp_who3 limits its scope only to the database name passed as parameter, or databases that match the substring in the parameter.

Without a parameter sp_who3 returns a listing similar to the output of sp_who2 ordered by SPID. (**exec sp_who3**)

Another way of using sp_who3 is passing a database name as parameter. The stored procedure will return only those user processes relating to the specified database. It is therefore easy to follow a blocking chain for example. (**exec sp_who3 'DatabaseName'**).
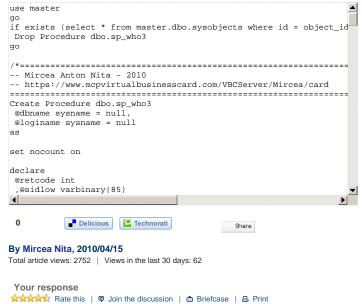
You can also use sp_who3 by passing a part of the database name as parameter.

This is particularly useful if for example you have a large number of Test databases and a large number of Beta databases on the same server and you have a consistent naming convention, like <DatabaseName>Test and <DatabaseName>Beta.

You can use sp_who3 to display user processes relating to a database subset of all databases available on the server like this: **exec sp_who3 'Beta'**

This is what I use to rapidly find out which users are logged on to the Beta system. This allows me to see at a glance whether the logged users are just backend services, or if real operators use the Beta system for testing.

I hope that you will find **sp_who3** useful and easy to use.

```
use master
go
if exists (select * from master.dbo.sysobjects where id = object_id
 Drop Procedure dbo.sp_who3
go

/*================================================================
-- Mircea Anton Nita - 2010
-- https://www.mcpvirtualbusinesscard.com/VBCServer/Mircea/card
=================================================================
Create Procedure dbo.sp_who3
 @dbname sysname = null,
 @loginame sysname = null
as

set nocount on

declare
 @retcode int
 ,@sidlow varbinary(85)
```

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