

Description: a comparison between the available free SQL Servers.

OS Requirement: Win 2000, XP Pro, Server 2003, Vista, Server 2008, Windows 7

General Requirement: General database knowledge

Introduction

There are many free SQL Servers in today's competitive world, sometimes it's difficult to choose one to use. ICONICS GENESIS32 version 9.2 is fully compatible with MSDE 2000 and up. The content of this document is simply to compare the freely distributed versions of Microsoft SQL Server.

If you are currently using SQL 2000 or MSDE, please refer to the Application Note: *BizViz - Choosing the Correct Edition of MS SQL Server* to see why you should upgrade. You can also learn more about the different versions of SQL 2005 by visiting: <http://www.microsoft.com/sqlserver/2005/en/us/compare-features.aspx>. If you wish to learn more about the different versions of SQL 2008, you can visit: <http://www.microsoft.com/sqlserver/2008/en/us/editions-compare.aspx>.

GENESIS32 v8 SP1 and Prior Releases

GENESIS32 v8 SP1 release and those releases prior to it have not been officially tested with SQL 2005 or SQL Express 2005. ICONICS does not support the use of any of our Configurator databases being stored on SQL 2005 or SQL Express 2005 in those previous versions.

In v8 SP1 and releases prior, ICONICS will support the products that connect to databases for data mining and reporting such as the DB OPC Server, ReportWorX, and BridgeWorX when customers want to connect to SQL2005 and SQL Express. For more information on the supported SQL servers, please refer to the application note *ICONICS – Compatibility Software and Operating Systems*.

Table 1 shows the major differences between MSDE 2000, SQL 2005 Express and SQL 2008 Express. For more information on how these products differ, please refer to Microsoft documentations on their website.

Table 1 - Major Differences Between free MS SQL Versions

	SQL Server 2008 Express	SQL Server 2005 Express	MSDE 2000
GUI Tools	Yes, available in separate download	Yes, available in separate download	None
Database size limit	4 GB	4 GB	2 GB
Throttle	None	None	Enforced 5 concurrent workloads
Max # of Processors	1 CPU	1 CPU	2 CPU
Max RAM	1 GB	1 GB	2 GB
SQL Agent		No	Yes
Integration with Visual Studio	Deep integration	Deep integration	Basic integration
Operating Systems	Windows Server 2003 Service Pack 2; Windows Server 2008; Windows Vista; Windows Vista Service Pack 1; Windows XP Service Pack 2; Windows XP Service Pack 3	Windows 2000 Service Pack 4; Windows Server 2003 Service Pack 1; Windows XP Service Pack 2	Windows 98, Windows ME, Windows XP, Windows NT4, and Windows 2003
CLR Support	Yes	Yes	No
DTS runtime	Yes, available in separate download	Yes, available in separate download	Yes
MDAC Requirement	None, which means easier deployment	None, which means easier deployment	Yes
Installation	EXE and MSI	MSI only – easy to service	MSI and MSM – MSM is hard to service
Replication	Subscriber Replication for Transaction, Merge, and Snapshot	Subscriber Replication for Transaction, Merge, and Snapshot	Merge/Snapshots publication supported in addition to replication subscription
64-bit Support	Yes	Windows on Windows (WOW)	No