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Table Schema Info in SQL Server 2005

By Wallace "Wally" McClure

Many times, I have right clicked on a table in Sql Server 2005 Management Studio and been able to get the definition for that table. That's all well and good, but what if you want more information, such as triggers, indexes or multiple tables?

I've been using the 'lather-rinse-repeat' method of right clicking on each object, scripting the object, copying to my file and moving onto the next object. I knew that there had to be a better way to get *all* table schema info with Sql Server 2005 Management Studio.

Thanks to some help from a friend, I now have what I need. Here are the steps:

1. Right click on a database and select Tasks.
2. Select the option to "Generate Scripts".
3. A wizard pops up.
4. Select the database.

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The Fixed Price Model for Developing Software

By Stu Lustman

When the software developer talks to the non-tech oriented business owner, it's not unlike a conversation among diplomats, where one person is speaking English and the other is speaking Russian. The goal is the same: to understand what each party brings to the table and to reach an agreement. But it's very easy for miscommunications and non-communications to occur, such that it seems more like two ships passing in the night than a real agreement.

One of the results of these miscommunications is the Fixed Price Model of paying for software. This involves estimating the number of hours a project will take, coming up with an hourly rate and multiplying the two to come up with the fixed price. "Our research indicates that the project will take 400 hours and that the cost will be \$45,000 for the completed product," for instance. In essence, the fixed price model is the easy, or lazy, way out when it comes to pricing a software development project.

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Beginning ASP.NET 2.0 AJAX

By Luci Harrell

A followup to *Beginning AJAX with ASP.NET*, which was released last year, *Beginning ASP.NET 2.0 AJAX* will continue to provide helpful tips and tricks for developers looking to utilize the latest useful features that AJAX technology provides.

For this book, Scalable Development co-founder Wallace McClure teamed up with fellow Microsoft MVP's Scott Cate, Paul Glavich, Steve C. Orr, Steven A. Smith and Craig Shoemaker.

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SQL Server

5. Make sure that you generate scripts for indexes, triggers, and anything else that is important to you.
6. Select the object types that you want to script. Typically, I just script the tables, but practically anything can be scripted.
7. Select the objects that you want to script.
8. From there, you can finish it up. ■

Fixed Price

The business owner feels great about this pricing model because he/she thinks that they have an established fixed cost for the project and that the project won't go over budget. If it does, tough for the developer, right? WRONG. The biggest disadvantage of this model is the case where it takes longer than expected to do the project.

How often do your projects require more time than you initially expect? According to SDI, the answer is almost every time. If the cost and hours are fixed and the hours go over but the compensation doesn't, we create a disincentive for the developer to work on that project for the extra hours that are required. This is true in every case, but especially when that same developer has projects that pay by the hour. So they are trading a project that won't pay them anything else for one that will.

As John Croft stated in his two previous articles,¹ estimating time and hitting that goal takes programming talent and experience, and even then the estimations are wrong most of the time. If talented programmers can't always estimate properly, then we know mediocre ones can't either.

The business owner thinks they are getting a good deal by agreeing to a fixed price software development project but, as you can see, that's clearly not true. They will likely end up with the proverbial 'car they paid for but can never drive.' The developer cheats his reputation, his client and himself if he resorts to the lazy way out in the beginning of the process by using the Fixed Price pricing model. ■

¹ see *Why Software Projects Go Astray: Part I* in Issue #3, December 2006, and *Why Software Projects Go Astray: Part II* in Issue #4, January 2007.

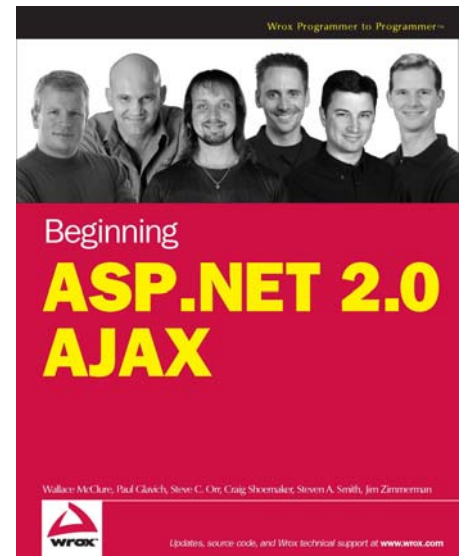
AJAX

Description from Wrox Press

- Written by a high-power team of Microsoft MVPs, this book provides a comprehensive introduction to the ASP.NET AJAX features
- After a quick overview of the architecture and features of ASP.NET 2.0 AJAX, coverage then goes on to show developers how to build richer, more responsive dynamic Web sites and Web applications
- Dives into such topics as ASP.NET 2.0 AJAX user interface design issues, JavaScript enhancements with AJAX, how to use the UpdatePanel for implementing server-side controls, and XML scripting in AJAX
- Also offers an outline of the ASP.NET 2.0 AJAXControl Toolkit, and discusses implementing drag and drop functions, databinding, debugging and security, ASP.NET services, and bridging and gadgets
- The companion Web site provides readers with a rich set of code examples

This book is for programmers who use AJAX with ASP.NET, and serves as a followup to *Beginning AJAX with ASP.NET*.

For more information, or to order your own copy, visit amazon.com. ■



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