

Installing Multiple Versions of SQLXPress

Introduction

When a new version of SQLXPress becomes available, you may wish to test it first, before you upgrade your existing version.

This technical note describes how to install multiple versions of SQLXPress on the same PC, and on the same NonStop server.

The basic principle is that you install the new version in its own independent environment. On the PC, this involves installing the new client code in its own folder. On the NonStop server, this involves installing the server components in a new subvolume, with a new instance of the SQLXPress database, and using a different port number for TCPIP sessions.

Note that when you install the new version, the SQLXPress database will be empty. Any execution plans, environments, or queries that were defined in the previous version of SQLXPress will not be available in the new version. However, you will still be able to access them using the previous version of SQLXPress.

When you have completed your testing of the new version, you have the option of upgrading your existing version of SQLXPress. This allows you to access your existing execution plans, environments, and queries using the new version of SQLXPress. An upgrade install preserves the existing SQLXPress database.

Installing the PC Components

When you run the SQLXPress setup program (for example sqlx340.exe), it prompts you for various configuration values.

Password

This is the setup program password. Contact us at support@merlon.com if you don't know the password.

Select Destination Location

This is the folder in which setup will place the SQLXPress files.

If you wish to install a new version of SQLXPress while keeping a previous version, you should choose a folder name that does not already exist (or does exist, but is empty).

If you wish to upgrade your existing version, choose the folder in which the existing version is installed.

When you click Next, setup will check to see if SQLXPress is already installed in the selected folder. If it is, you will be asked to confirm that you wish to overwrite the existing version. If you wish to keep your existing version, you should answer No, and select a different folder name for the new version.

Select Start Menu Folder

This is the start menu folder in which links to the various SQLXPress client programs will be placed.

If you wish to install a new version of SQLXPress while keeping a previous version, you should choose a new name. You will have a new start menu folder for the new version,, while preserving the start menu folder for the previous version.

If you wish to upgrade your existing version, choose the start menu folder of the previous version, it will be updated to point to the new version.

Installing the NonStop Server Components

When you launch SQLXPress from the setup program, it will display the Configuration And Installation wizard. This steps you through the configuration of the client PC and the NonStop server, and optionally installs the NonStop server components of SQLXPress.

Here is a summary of the configuration information that you will be asked for.

Session Profile

A session profile contains the information required by the client program to connect to the NonStop server. You should create a separate session profile for each installed instance of the SQLXPress server components.

If SQLXPress was not previously installed on this PC, simply choose a profile name for the new version. If SQLXPress was previously installed on your PC, the existing session profile will be selected by default.

If you wish to install a new version of SQLXPress while keeping a previous version, you need to choose a different profile name for the new version. Subsequently, when you logon to SQLXPress you can choose the session profile that matches the version of the SQLXPress server that you wish to access.

Here is a tip if you have an existing profile:

Select the existing profile name, and click Continue. This will populate the wizard with default values from that profile. Now, click Go Back to return to the Session Profile step, and enter a new profile name, and click Continue again. Now you will be creating a new Session Profile, but the defaults will be based on the existing profile. You will need to change some of the configuration values as you proceed through the wizard, but some values can be kept as the default.

If you wish to upgrade your existing version, use the existing session profile.

Connection And Logon information

IP Address or Host name.

Identifies the NonStop server and TCPIP process to use. This can be the same as before.

Port Number

Port number used for connections.

If you wish to install a new version of SQLXPress while keeping a previous version, this must be different to the previous version.

If you wish to upgrade your existing version, use the same port number as before.

Tip:

The port number must be unique within the TCPIP process you are using on the NonStop server. You can use the SCF STATUS PROCESS command to find out the port numbers that are in use already.

User Name and Password

You Guardian logon name and password.

NonStop Server Communication

FTP and Telnet IP address and port numbers.

These are used by the installation wizard when communicating with the NonStop server. FTP is used to transfer the server component package file to the NonStop server. Telnet is used to issue TACL commands.

These can be the same as before.

NonStop Server File Locations

The subvolumes in which to install the SQLXPress server components, and a work-file subvolume.

If you wish to install a new version of SQLXPress while keeping a previous version, these must be different than the previous version.

If you wish to upgrade your existing version, use the same subvolumes as before.

NonStop SQL Database

Only if you selected a new installation subvolume.

We recommend using SQL/MX for the SQLXPress database if you have MX installed on your server.

NonStop SQL/MX Database Location

Only if you selected a new installation subvolume.

Name of the MX schema to use.

We recommend that you choose a schema that is dedicated to SQLXPress. You cannot use an existing schema that contains an SQLXPress database.

If the schema does not exist, it will be created.

NonStop SQL/MP Database Location

Name of the MP catalog to use.

We recommend that you choose a catalog that is dedicated to SQLXPress.

If the catalog does not exist, it will be created.

Server TCP/IP Configuration

TCP/IP process name.

This can be the same as the one used for an existing version. It must match the IP address specified in the Connection and Logon Information step. If required, use SCF INFO SUBNET to confirm the IP address.

Merlon LISTEN process name.

If you wish to install a new version of SQLXPress while keeping a previous version, this must be different than the name used for the previous version.

Use a name that is not used by any other process on the system.

Home Term and Out file.

This can be the same as before (we recommend using \$ZHOME).

Background Processing

We recommend that you use Netbatch.

If you choose the Merlon batch monitor, and you wish to install a new version while keeping a previous version, you must use a different process name than the previous version.

Auditing

The level of auditing to be performed by SQLXPress. (New in 3.40).