



Article # 1166

Technical Note: How to Move AccountMate for SQL/Express to a Different Server

Difficulty Level: Intermediate Level AccountMate User and Beginner Level MSSQL Programmer

Version(s) Affected: AccountMate 7 for SQL and Express

Module(s) Affected: SM

Posting Date: 03/10/2010

DESCRIPTION

For optimal performance of your AccountMate installation, you may upgrade your Microsoft SQL Server or acquire a new server machine. Consequently, you may need to move AccountMate to a different server.

This technical note enumerates the requirements to move AccountMate to a different server and discusses two methods you can use to accomplish the transfer.

SOLUTION

This Technical Note is composed of two sections. It is important that you review the items listed in the Checklist section before you move AccountMate to another server. The Procedures section discusses the two methods that you can choose from to perform the transfer of your AccountMate installation.

Note: The term "server" used in this document is referring to the physical server machine as opposed to "SQL Server" which is referring to the Microsoft SQL Server application used as the database engine for AccountMate. In addition, the terms "different server", "new server", and "destination server" are used in this document to refer to the server where your AccountMate installation will be moved.

A. Checklist

Prior to moving your AccountMate installation to another server, review and comply the requirements listed below to facilitate the move.

1. Verify databases in the source SQL Server

Verify that the databases in the source SQL Server are not marked for replication.

2. Hardware and software requirements

The destination server must meet the following minimum hardware and software requirements for your AccountMate program to run effectively:

- **Hardware requirements**

- Pentium III processor
- 512 MB memory
- 5 GB free space

- **Operating System**

- Windows Server 2008 Standard/Enterprise Edition (*applicable for AccountMate 7.5 for SQL/Express and higher versions*)
- Windows Server 2003 Standard/Enterprise Edition (SP1) or
- Windows Server 2003 Enterprise Edition (SP1) or
- Windows 2000 Server (SP4) or
- Windows 2000 Advanced Server (SP4) or
- Windows Small Business Server 2003 (SP1)

- **SQL Server requirements**

- *For AccountMate 7 for SQL:*
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2008 Standard/Enterprise Edition (*applicable for AccountMate 7.5 for SQL and higher versions*)
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition (SP1) or
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Enterprise Edition (SP1) or
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Workgroup Edition (SP1) or
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Express Edition (SP1) or
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2000 Standard Edition (SP4) or
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2000 Enterprise Edition (SP4)
- *For AccountMate 7 for Express:*
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2008 Express Edition (*applicable for AccountMate 7.5 for Express and higher versions*)
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Express Edition (SP1) or

IMPORTANT: If you are installing SQL Server in a new server, verify that the new SQL Server installation has the same server collation as that of the source SQL Server.

3. Backup

Back up your AccountMate application and all AccountMate databases including the system database (AMWSYS), sample and live company databases prior to moving to a new server. **DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP!**

4. AccountMate CD, and product key

Have your AccountMate 7 CD and product key ready. You will need them to install AccountMate in the new server.

5. Administrator rights

You must have System Administrator privileges on both the source and destination SQL Servers. Be sure that you know the password for user "sa" to access the SQL Server. You must also have full control permission to the folder into which you will copy the AccountMate installation files and

databases. It is also vital that you have administrative rights to the server where you are re-installing AccountMate; otherwise, the VFP run-time libraries and Crystal Report drivers will not be installed and/or will not be properly registered in the server.

6. Microsoft SQL Server installation

Install Microsoft SQL Server if you have not previously done so. Be sure to select the **Mixed Mode** setting in order to support both SQL and Windows Authentication; then, follow Microsoft's guidelines to complete the installation. After installing Microsoft SQL Server, be sure to enable the TCP/IP Protocol and restart the SQL Server Service.

B. Procedures

There are two ways to move AccountMate to a different server. Choose the method with which you are most comfortable based on your level of SQL Server knowledge.

The procedures below are based on the assumption that you have installed Microsoft SQL Server on the destination server.

Moving AccountMate using backup and restore procedures

1. In the destination server perform these procedures:
 - a. Be sure to exit all Windows programs.
 - b. Install AccountMate and choose the Compact installation type to install the run-time files.
 - c. Create a folder and restore the AccountMate installation files you backup from the source server.
 - d. Open the AMSETUP file from the AccountMate root directory and change the server definition to point to the new SQL Server. Versions AM7.2 and lower require that you configure the ODBC driver for AccountMate by performing these steps:
 - i. Create a new data source and select the SQL Server driver.
 - ii. Enter "AMMS" as the System Data Source name.
 - iii. Type the correct SQL Server/Express instance name.
 - iv. Set the ODBC to use SQL Server Authentication.
 - v. Mark the check box "Connect to SQL Server to obtain default settings for the additional configuration options".
 - vi. Use 'sa' for the login ID and use a valid password.
 - vii. Test the connection and verify that your test results will read, "Tests completed successfully".
 - e. Create the AccountMate system database and the same company databases that you set up in the source server. Select one of the two options below to create these databases in SQL Server.
 - i. Create databases using the AccountMate Administrator program.

- a) Run the AccountMate Administrator program to create the system database and sample company.
 - b) Enter your product key and activate the modules
 - c) Create the same companies you set up in the source server.
- ii. Create new databases directly in SQL Server.
 - a) Create AMWSYS and the same company databases you set up in the source server. Use the same database name that you assign for each database in the source server.
- f. Restore the system database (AMWSYS) backup from the source server to the newly created system database.
- g. For each company, restore the company database backup from the source server to the newly created company database.
- h. Create the user 'amlogin' in SQL Server if you have selected the option to create the AccountMate databases directly in SQL Server.
- i. Assign the user 'amlogin' as owner to all AccountMate databases in SQL Server regardless on how you created the AccountMate databases in the new server.
- j. Launch AccountMate, and generate reports to verify that the databases are successfully restored. You may generate a Trial Balance, General Ledger Listing and GL Transfer Report in the subsidiary modules. Compare them with the same reports printed from the source server.
- k. Perform the following in each workstation from which you will run AccountMate:
 - i. Share with full access rights the AccountMate folder in the new server; then, map the shared directory in the workstation.
 - ii. Unless you are using AM7.3 and higher, configure the ODBC driver to connect the workstation to the new server.

Moving AccountMate using detach and attach procedures

1. In the destination server perform these procedures:
 - a. Be sure to exit all Windows programs.
 - b. Install AccountMate and choose the Compact installation type to install the run-time files.
 - c. Create a folder and restore the AccountMate installation files you backup from the source server.
 - d. Open the AMSETUP file from the AccountMate root directory and change the Server definition to point to the new SQL Server unless you have installed AM7.2 or lower. If you have installed the latter, you must configure the ODBC driver for AccountMate by performing these steps:

- i. Enter "AMMS" as the System Data Source name.
- ii. Type the correct SQL Server/Express instance name.
- iii. Set the ODBC to use SQL Server Authentication.
- iv. Mark the check box "Connect to SQL Server to obtain default settings for the additional configuration options".
- v. Use 'sa' for the login ID and use a valid password; and, as much as possible, do not use a blank password.
- vi. Test the connection and verify that your test results will read, "Tests completed successfully".

2. In the source server perform these procedures:

- a. Locate the AccountMate system and company database files.

You can find the following system database files in the AMWSYS folder under the AMDATA folder:

- smsystemdata.mdf
- smuserdata.ndf
- smlog.ldf

Each company created in AccountMate has its own set of database files. You can find these files stored in the designated company database folder under the AMDATA folder:

- amsystemdata.mdf
- amuserdata.ndf
- amlog.ldf

Note: The company database folder name is specified in the Database Name field of the AccountMate Administrator's Edit Company function window.

- b. Detach the system and live company databases from SQL Server.

3. Go back to the destination server, and perform these steps:

- a. Create a folder into which you will copy the system and company database files.
- b. Copy to the newly created folder the following files from the source server:

System database files (AMWSYS):

- smsystemdata.mdf
- smuserdata.ndf
- smlog.ldf

Each live company database files:

- amsystemdata.mdf
- amuserdata.ndf
- amlog.ldf

- c. Attach the system and company databases in SQL Server.

- d. Create the user "amlogin" and assign it as owner to the system and company databases in SQL Server.
 - e. Launch AccountMate, and generate reports to verify that the databases are successfully restored. You may generate a Trial Balance, General Ledger Listing, and GL Transfer Report in the subsidiary modules. Compare them with the same reports printed from the source server.
4. Perform the following in each workstation from which you will run AccountMate:
- a. Share with full access rights the AccountMate folder in the new server; then, map the shared directory in the workstation.
 - b. Unless you are using AM7.3 or higher, configure the ODBC driver to connect the workstation to the new server.

Moving from one AccountMate server to another needs to be done smoothly and quickly to avoid prolonged downtime. To achieve this, it is important to plan properly, strictly comply with the requirements, and perform either one of the methods presented, whichever is more efficient and convenient for you.

This information is provided "AS IS" without warranty of any kind. AccountMate Software Corporation disclaims all warranties, either express or implied. In no event shall AccountMate Software Corporation be liable for any damages whatsoever including direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, loss of business profits, or special damages, even if AccountMate Software Corporation has been advised of the possibility of such damages.
