Microsoft Certified Master
Microsoft SQL Server 2008

Microsoft CERTIFIED Master

Microsoft Certified Master for Microsoft SQL Server 2008: Recognizes and Certifies Technical Excellence

MCM PERSPECTIVES

"Be among the top one percent of IT professionals in the world with Microsoft Certified Master credentials."

Norm Judah
Chief Technology Officer, Services
Microsoft Corporation

WHAT IS THE MICROSOFT CERTIFIED MASTER PROGRAM?

The highest level of technical certification that recognizes and validates an individual's ability to design, implement, and troubleshoot solutions built on Microsoft software and technologies.

THE VALUE AN MCM BRINGS TO AN ORGANIZATION

A Microsoft Certified Master helps an organization assess its current data needs, map major initiatives and projects, rate the impact of identified gaps (value, cost, level of effort), and prioritize investments for maximum impact, lowest cost, and greatest leverage.

In today's competitive market, data management requirements are more complex and diverse than ever before. Transactional and business intelligence data must be managed efficiently while providing enhanced security, availability, reliability, manageability, integration, performance, and data integrity. The investment in Microsoft SQL Server 2008 provides a more secure, reliable and scalable platform for storing mission critical information, and delivering the right information to users, while reducing the time and cost of managing data. An organization that wants to make the most of its data should have a Microsoft Certified Master (MCM) for Microsoft SQL Server 2008 on staff.

The MCM program for Microsoft SQL Server 2008 is designed to provide the most experienced and talented IT Professionals worldwide with validation and recognition of their deep technical expertise in Microsoft SQL Server (SQL Server).

A Microsoft Certified Master for SQL Server 2008 is the highest level of SQL Server technical certification offered by Microsoft and can be achieved by passing these two exams in the following sequence:

1. Exam 88 970: Microsoft Certified Master: SQL Server 2008 Knowledge Exam

2. Exam 88 971: SQL Server 2008 Microsoft Certified Master: Lab Exam

Test your technical skills for today's complex data management requirements, and tomorrow's challenges. Designed by experts for experts, these challenging exams tests your deep technical knowledge and validates your ability to make effective design, deployment, and operational decisions using SQL Server 2008.

Certified individuals prove their technical mastery
To obtain MCM SQL Server 2008 Certification you must prove your mastery in a virtual lab environment that emulates an enterprise infrastructure of the Microsoft SQL Server 2008 platform. You are tasked to troubleshoot and diagnose configuration and performance issues, and demonstrate and deploy the detailed knowledge and skills that are required to successfully design, operate, and manage an enterprise-class SQL Server 2008 infrastructure.

Organizations looking to onboard large, complex, or highly available SQL Server solutions benefit from the expertise of a SQL Server MCM.

These experts work with customers to successfully design, implement, troubleshoot, and support SQL Server 2008 solutions, in a number of scenarios, including:

All Microsoft Certified Masters become an immediate part of an exclusive community of SQL Server experts that includes fellow MCMs and members of the SQL Server Product Group. This membership provides valuable resources to which they can contribute, and they can draw the collective knowledge of that community at any time

www.microsoft.com/learning/ mcp/master

- Public-facing Web sites serving millions of customers
- Enterprise intranet solutions serving global organizations with hundreds of thousands of users
- Consolidation platforms hosting terabytes of content for large organizations
- SQL Server 2008 consolidation scenarios, multi-tenancy, enterprise data warehousing, and business intelligence
- Highly available solutions requiring constant uptime
- High transaction volume systems requiring optimally configured solutions to ensure maximum throughput

www.microsoft.com/sqlserver/2008/en/us/overview.aspx

Preparing for the required exams

Although the most effective preparation is real-world, hands-on experience, there are learning resources that can help prepare you for the Knowledge and Lab Exams.

- **Videos.** Take advantage of several hours of freely accessible MCM-level instruction delivered via video by some of the top SQL Server instructors in the world: http://technet. microsoft.com/en-us/sqlserver/ff977043.aspx

- **Books and White Papers.** A list of readiness resources is available and updated on the MCM web site at www.microsoft.com/learning/mcp/master

An individual must hold the following two Microsoft Certifications before they can register to take the MCM: SQL Server 2008 Certification exams:

- MCITP: Database Administrator 2008
- MCITP: Database Developer 2008

You must pass the MCM: SQL Server 2008 Knowledge Exam before you can take the MCM: SQL Server 2008 Lab Exam

Taking the required exams

Now available worldwide, the MCM for SQL Server 2008 exams are delivered at select Prometric testing centers. For information on exam availability, or to schedule an exam, visit the Prometric registration website. Currently available only in English, additional languages may be available in the future, based on demand.

Recommended skills and experience

Individuals interested in pursuing a Microsoft Certified Master SQL Server credential typically have five or more years of hands-on SQL Server experience in mission critical environments, with competencies that include:

- Designing and implementing high-performance, scalable, secure enterprise environments
- Troubleshooting the most challenging SQL Server issues
- Managing multiple instances of SQL Server, including the use of a variety of features and tasks using a thorough understanding of SQL Server design and architecture.
- A thorough understanding of SQL Server core engine components and dependencies, such as OLTP, high availability, disaster recovery, performance-tuning and optimization, SQLOS, storage engine, relational engine, security, manageability, and data distribution.

www.microsoft.com/learning/ master-sql