Announcing Veco AuditMate[™] from Eurolink Technology Ltd

Record any data changes to any SQL Server database from any application

Database audit trails (recording changes to data) are often a requirement of medium to large organisations that have to satisfy company auditors. Additionally, audit trails are useful for internal quality controls and monitoring. Unfortunately, not all front-end applications have in-built facilities to provide this level of information.

Veco AuditMate[™] is a complete "data change auditing" software package for Microsoft SQL Server. It allows you to monitor changes to any field from any table in any database.

Veco AuditMate[™] can monitor <u>any</u> database and create an audit trail every time a new record is entered; every time data within a record is changed; and every time a record is deleted.

- The **audit trail** will tell you:
 - The name of the table that was changed
 - The primary key value of the record (eg GUID)
 - The name of the field that was changed
 - The before and after values of the field
 - The date and time the change was made
 - o The application used
 - The workstation name
 - The user making the change
 - Any optional reference field from the table
- No programming required Veco AuditMate[™] makes the necessary database changes automatically via a simple graphic interface
- Decide to audit inserts, updates, or deletions to your databases
- Easy to use An understanding of the database structure is required but Veco AuditMate[™] does the hard work for you
- **Reporting** Audit data is stored within the database being monitored and is accessible via any reporting solution (such as Power Grids, Crystal Reports, etc)
- Compliance Veco AuditMate[™] can be used as part of your business auditing requirements
- Quality Control for training and testing purposes, monitor who is making changes to your data
- **Dynamic Changes** simply add or removed fields to be audited according to new requirements without losing any previous history

Veco AuditMate[™] allows you to see the value of any audited field at any point in time

Veco AuditMate[™] Requirements:

- Microsoft SQL Server 2000, 2005, or 2008
- Microsoft Windows XP, Vista, 7, 2003 or 2008

Veco AuditMate[™] Price:

• TBD

Veco AuditMate[™] FAQ

How does Veco AuditMate[™] record data changes?

Veco AuditMate[™] installs a "trigger" on the tables you select to audit. Triggers are events that automatically execute every time a row in a given table is inserted, updated, or deleted.

Do I have to change my existing applications?

No. Veco AuditMate[™] is independent of any front-end application used to make changes to your database.

What information is captured by Veco AuditMate™?

Veco AuditMate[™] captures before and after information for each record that is inserted, updated, or deleted. Also recorded are the date/time of the change; table name; primary key; user making the change; the application used to make the change; the workstation where the change was made.

How many databases can I monitor?

Veco AuditMate[™] allows you to audit as many SQL Server databases as you want.

Where is the audit trail data stored?

Audit trail data is stored within a single table created within each database being monitored. In order to do this you must have full database access rights to the database you wish to monitor.

Do I have to audit everything in the database?

No. You can decide to audit just specific tables, and only certain fields within those tables. Each trigger added to a table will have a slight impact on SQL Server performance, so if the database has a large number of tables and fields it is not recommended to audit every field within every table.

Do I have to audit every database operation?

No. You decide for each table whether to audit inserts (new records), updates (changes to records), or deletions.

Will there be an impact on speed?

Possibly. Adding triggers to database tables will have a slight impact on SQL Server performance. If the database has a large number of tables and fields it is not recommended to audit every field within every table unless your SQL Server machine is quite powerful and has sufficient memory.

What field types are supported?

All field types are supported with the exception of fields containing "memo" data – eg NTEXT, or BLOB type fields.

How can I view the changes to my database?

Veco AuditMate[™] includes an audit data "Viewer" facility to allow you to see changes made to specific tables. As the audit trail data is recorded in a single easy-to-read table within each database being monitored, it is possible to use any reporting tool to build queries using the audit table.

What versions of SQL Server are supported?

Veco AuditMate[™] supports SQL Server 2000, 2005, 2008 including SQL Server Express editions.

Using Veco AuditMate[™]

Installation

- 1. Download the "AuditMate.msi" program from the Veco website as provided by Eurolink.
- 2. "Run" the downloaded file. This will install the software and create a shortcut on your desktop.
- 3. If you are using Veco AuditMate[™] with the Veco onesystem[™] software right-click on the desktop icon and change the "Start In" path to match your Veco desktop icon.
- 4. That's it!

Running Veco AuditMate[™] for the first time

If you are not using Veco AuditMate[™] with the Veco software, when you run the program you will be asked to specify the connection details for the SQL Server database you wish to monitor. You will be asked this each time you use the software. If you have changed the desktop shortcut to match your normal Veco shortcut this database connection stage will be skipped.

Configuring Veco AuditMate™

After loading Veco AuditMate[™] you will see details of the tables relating to your selected SQL Server database.

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The left-hand side of the screen will show the names of all the tables within your selected database.

As you highlight a table on the left the right-hand section of the screen will show the field names of the selected table.

To monitor changes in the selected database:

- 1. Highlight a table in the left-hand section
- 2. Tick the "Insert", "Update", and/or "Delete" columns depending on whether you wish to monitor new records, data changes, or record deletions.
- 3. If you tick "Update" in order to monitor changes to data in the table you must then select the fields in the right-hand section you wish to "Audit".
- 4. Tick the "Audit" column alongside each field you wish to monitor.
- 5. Note: You cannot monitor any field marked as a "Primary Key" because this field value will never change and will be recorded automatically. The "Primary Key" field can be used in reporting tools to "join" with other tables in order to produce reports.
- 6. For every field you audit Veco AuditMate[™] will also record:
 - the time and date the change was made
 - the name of the table being monitored
 - the name of the field being monitored
 - the before and after values of the field
 - the name of the application making the change
 - the database username
 - the workstation name
- Some applications have an internal "user" name that gets recorded against records when changes are made within the application. This might be a specific application user login. For each table being monitored Veco AuditMate[™] allows two additional fields to be recorded along with change details.

Veco AuditMate™

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In the image above the "Contacts" table is being monitored for inserted records, amended fields, and deleted records.

The right-hand section shows that within the "Contacts" table, a number of fields (eg "strAccountNumber", and "StrBACSReference") are being monitored for changes.

Additionally, the fields called "strAmendedBy" and "strFileAs" are being stored each time a change occurs for any of the audited fields. Use of these "Store" fields makes it easier to identify which records have been changed by storing some "real world" data.

8. After selecting the tables and fields to be monitored, click "Save". Note, however, that the monitoring will only begin when you create "Triggers" on the database.

Triggers Menu Options:

 Changes to data in the database are monitored by the use of "triggers". Use the "Triggers" menu to "Create" (and update) triggers, and to "Clear All Triggers". The monitoring will take effect immediately.

Viewing Data Changes:

- 10. To see the changes being made to data within the selected tables double-click on any table being monitored.
- 11. The changes list can be "filtered" by using the "filter bar" immediately below the headings, and "grouped" by right-clicking on any column heading.
- 12. The changes can also be printed or exported in a number of formats.

Audit Menu Options:

13. Use the "Audit" menu to "Purge Audit Records" up to a chosen date, or to completely "Remove Database Auditing". If this second option is used you will be prompted to confirm this is what you really want to do.

Change Database:

14. Use this option to change to a different database

Viewing Changes with Veco onesystem™

If you are using Veco AuditMate[™] to monitor changes within Veco onesystem[™] the details of any changes can be accessed directly from within Veco by opening any of the main records – Contact, Property, Owner Group, Tenancy – and then pressing **Alt+L**.

Reporting

All audited data is stored in a table within the database being monitored. The audited details can be used within your own reporting tools (or Veco "Power Grids") by joining with a table called **AuditMate_Audit**