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Come Learn with Us

SQL Server

[Advanced T-SQL Querying, Programming and Tuning for SQL Server 2005 & 2008](#)

Feb. 8-12, Beaverton, OR - Itzik Ben-Gan
Feb. 22-26, Sacramento, CA - Itzik Ben-Gan

[Business Intelligence Deploying, Operating, and Tuning an Analysis Services 2008 Solution](#)

Feb. 1-3, Minneapolis, MN - Mentor TBD (Remote learning available)

[Enterprise ETL with SQL Server Integration Services 2005 & 2008](#)

Feb. 8-11, Beaverton, OR - Mentor TBD (Remote learning available)
Mar. 8-11, Minneapolis, MN - Mentor TBD (Remote learning available)

[SQL Server 2008 End-to-End](#)

December 2009

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TECH FEATURES

'Twas the Week Before Christmas...

And all across the world, Solid Quality Mentors was stirring with ideas for the New Year. With 2009 quickly drawing to a close, a few of our Mentors share their holiday wish lists in hope for a brighter technology future for you and yours. Follow us this holiday season and throughout 2010 on Twitter at @solidq, and add your own wish lists using the #solidq hashtag!

[Read the wish lists](#)

From Inside Microsoft SQL Server 2008: T-SQL Programming **UDF Performance Costs**

Inside Microsoft SQL Server 2008: T-SQL Programming - a comprehensive new T-SQL programming reference by Itzik Ben-Gan and coauthors Dejan Sarka, Roger Wolter, Greg Low, Ed Katibah, and Isaac Kunen - gives database developers and administrators best practices, expert techniques, and code samples to master the language and solve complex problems with real-world solutions.

This sneak peek inside the book covers how invoking scalar user-defined functions (UDFs) in queries has a high cost when you provide the function with attributes from the outer table as inputs. In this excerpt from Chapter 2, "User-Defined Functions," see how you can perform a simple performance test to find the high cost involved with UDFs compared to inline expressions in a query.

[Read the excerpt](#)

PASS Speaker Q&As

- Peter Myers: [BI Within Reach](#)
- Erik Veerman: [Data Warehousing Friends and Enemies](#)

SPOTLIGHT

Business Intelligence Workshop

Feb. 15-19, Minneapolis, MN - Mentor TBD (Remote learning available)

Solving Business Problems with MDX in SQL Server 2008

Mar. 9-11, Minneapolis, MN - Tim Peterson (Remote learning available)

For more information or to register for these or other courses, see the [Solid Quality™ Learning full course schedule](#).

Need a different date or to schedule any of our courses as a private class at your premises?

Contact info@solidq.com.

Testimonial

"AMAZING, AMAZING! Did Itzik Ben-Gan develop the standards and write the SQL engine? He knows his stuff. Simply amazing!"

Our Mentors

Congratulations to...

Rushabh Mehta, Managing Director, Solid Quality Mentors India, on his election to President of the Professional Association for SQL Server (PASS) for 2010-2011. [Read more](#)

Brian Moran, co-founder of and Managing Partner for Solid Quality Mentors, for his election to the PASS Board. [Read more](#)

Solid Quality Mentors "Gets Real" with The SolidQ Journal and SolidQ University

Solid Quality Mentors is excited to announce the launch of two groundbreaking initiatives under the banner "Real Practices for the Real World"™:

- **The SolidQ Journal** - a free, interactive, monthly publication, featuring in-depth articles, practical case studies, on-target advice, and behind-the-scenes discussions from the organization's roster of global experts
- **SolidQ University** - a comprehensive virtual training and conference program, bringing SolidQ's knowledgeable speakers and industry-leading courses, seminars, and presentations directly to IT pros wherever they are

"Everyone likes to talk about best practices, but real life is messy," notes SolidQ Co-Founder and Managing Director Brian Moran. "Sometimes best practices aren't possible or aren't the best for a particular real-world situation. The SolidQ Journal and SolidQ University will offer the world-class knowledge and Real Practices™ you need to succeed within the complex SQL Server ecosystem."

[Learn more](#)

TRAINING, MENTORING & SERVICES

What Can PowerPivot Do for You?

PowerPivot for Excel 2010 promises to put the power of self-service Business Intelligence solutions in the hands of users while giving IT the tools to efficiently manage those solutions through SQL Server 2008 R2. What can this new data analysis tool do to speed the delivery of better business insights for your organization? Solid Quality Mentors is currently involved in several PowerPivot client engagements, and we'd love to explore the possibilities with you. If you're curious, just give us a call at 1-800-757-6543 or drop us an email at info@solidq.com.

Featured Course: Deploying, Operating, and Tuning an Analysis Services 2008 Solution

During this one-of-a kind, 3-day course, you'll learn to deploy, operate, and tune an Analysis Services solution. Learn how to prepare for the successful deployment of an Analysis Services solution, see how to update data in a production environment while minimizing its impact on performance, and explore how to collect and analyze data to improve processing and querying performance.

[Learn more and register](#)

BI Jumpstart Videos on SQLServerPedia.com: Get started with Microsoft BI using SolidQ's more than 20 screencast videos on SQLServerPedia.com; just search for Peter Myers, who recorded the videos.

Attention, Local User Groups: Our Mentors would love to speak at your user group when they're in the area. Contact us at info@solidq.com to make arrangements.

HOT LINKS

[Pinal Dave: "Fillfactor, Index and In-Depth Look at Effect on Performance"](#)

[New White Paper: Allan Hirt's "Consolidation Using SQL Server 2008"](#)

[Joe Chang: "SQL Server Benchmarks, November 2009"](#)

[SQLDownUnder Podcast: SQL Server MVP Jamie Thomson on SSIS Best Practices](#)

[Watch SolidQ Mentors' 24 Hours of PASS Sessions](#)

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