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Professional Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Integration Services



Synopsis

An in-depth look at the radical changes to the newest release of SSIS Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Integration Services (SSIS) builds on the revolutionary database product suite first introduced in 2005. With this crucial resource, you will explore how this newest release serves as a powerful tool for performing extraction, transformation, and load operations (ETL). A team of SQL Server experts deciphers this complex topic and provides detailed coverage of the new features of the 2012 product release. In addition to technical updates and additions, the authors present you with a new set of SSIS best practices, based on years of real-world experience that have transpired since the previous edition was published. Details the newest features of the 2012 SSIS product release, which is the most significant release since 2005. Addresses the keys to a successful ETL solution, such as using the right enterprise ETL tool and employing the right ETL architecture in order to meet the system requirements. Includes additional case studies and tutorial examples to illustrate advanced concepts and techniques. Professional Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Integration Services is a valuable resource that meets the demands and high expectations of experienced SSIS professionals.

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Customer Reviews

I am a SQL Server database administrator, and I have worked with SQL Server for more than 15 years. Many years ago, I worked with DTS (Data Transformation Services) in SQL 2000, and I have worked briefly with SSIS (SQL Server Integration Services) 2008 R2. I purchased this book because

I recognized some of the authors' names, and I had hoped the book would quickly bring me up-to-speed with SSIS 2012. However, I am disappointed with the book. Unfortunately, the chapter layout did not work well for me. The first seven chapters (i.e., the first 231 pages) contain lots of "stub" code, but I don't recall any end-to-end examples. Chapter 8 (aptly named, "Creating an End-to-End Package") is the first complete tutorial for creating a useful package. However, the entire book is littered with typos. (No, I am not exaggerating here.) A tutorial object will be called one thing when you are asked to create it or rename it, and a later screenshot will display the same object with a different name, or a later reference on the next page will use a different name. And, subtle steps in the examples are skipped. Some of the book's content is out of order. For example, SSIS catalog logging is discussed on page 582, which is 166 pages before the creation of an SSIS catalog. You cannot work through this book from beginning to end. You have to use the index to hop around. Virtually all of the screenshots are tiny. Often, a screenshot is roughly only 2 inches by 2 inches in size, and two screenshots are often placed side by side on the same page. I used a magnifying glass many times to decipher the screenshots, although I have "20/20" corrected vision. Fortunately, the print quality is good enough for a magnifying glass to work. I suppose this is a useful book (if you don't mind scratching your head a lot to figure out how to make the examples work), but it was much harder to use than I anticipated (mostly because of the tiny screenshots and typos). The most useful chapters for me were 6, 8, 12, 16, and 17. Chapter 22 (Administering SSIS), one of the reasons I bought the book, is an absolute mess.

After reading this book I was disappointed. Too many errors in the book. At first I thought I would keep track of them then post them on the site to help others. But it got so bad that I just stopped. I think they just pushed this out to be one of the first. The problem with that is next time many people will not buy their book. I was greatly disappointed with this release. Too many important things left out, and too much talking detail.

The book contains too many errors, typos, bad screenshots, and verbiage that does not match the actual product. It also skips around during exercises and it's difficult to actually follow along, which is how most of us learn. I'm getting a headache from it and I'm only on chapter 6. I don't think I've learned anything at all. I seriously hate this book.

There is no errata and errata submissions receive no human reply, despite the promise of such a reply by the automated reply to an errata submission. I think that there should be a lot of errata.

There are step by step instructions for some actions the user may take, but other actions receive only vague instructions. I imagine that this dichotomy arises from the number of authors, and a lack of coordination among them. The WROX website has a reader forum for the book, but there are few substantial replies. You are on your own. For first time users of SSIS, some discussions are over the top in theoretical depth and will be useful to those who will find the step-by-step stuff too elementary. The authors have not written consistently for any particular audience. I am not happy with this book, and have already ordered another on the topic.

Probably the most disjointed tech book I've ever tried to read. There is absolutely no cohesion to learning or improving your SSIS skills. The book hops around from one subject to the next--too many authors supplying input on their subjects without a design for the complete book. For instance, in trying to reference calling a stored procedure and supplying parameters from an Execute SQL Task, there's a couple of pages near the front and then the subject is dropped without spending properly accorded time on the complete Execute SQL Task, probably the most used task in SSIS. There's also way too much peripheral stuff in here as well not germane to the way SSIS functions as if the authors were trying to impress each other with what they knew on the programming side. These are very knowledgeable people who are capable of much better. I threw mine in the garbage.

Typos? Errors? That could be true based on what I'm seeing from other reviews (however, I haven't been able to find any - and this could be due to how I use this text). *ALL* of the available books on the market on SSIS, including the one published by Microsoft Press, only explain how to use different features and components - that's great, but there is only so much you can do with that information. I can also obtain that info online from tutorials. I needed more of a "under the hood" book that explains to me how components work, how I can optimize them and in some cases how I can program customized versions of the components. At the same time, the book is not too technical and not hardcore - so in essence we are looking at a perfect combination of technical details alongside usage directions. I highly recommend this book to intermediate to advanced users of SSIS. This is not to be used by beginners or people who just need artificial understanding of the tool.

It's almost impossible to find a book about SSIS which covers the topic as best as it has been made in this book! Description of basic components is supplemented with real-life examples and small practical tips which you may spend dozens of hours trying to solve by yourself. A lot of ways of

using SSIS which have not become well-known yet are highlighted. Discover the true power of SSIS and the infinite universe of its applications with this book! (Recommendation from a professional DB developer)

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