THE EDGE®

The Edge and MSSQL

In addition to Microsoft Access, The Edge includes support for Microsoft SQL Server (SQL).   We recommend that you upgrade to SQL if:

- Your Access database is larger than 1.5GB; Access is limited to 2GB. SQL Express can handle up to 10GB, more expensive editions are practically unlimited.
- You are using (or plan to use) wireless networking for more than just physical inventory, or if your wired network is slow or unreliable; SQL is more tolerant of network issues.
- You have a large configuration (a single-store configuration bigger than 10 workstations, or a multi-store configuration bigger than 15 total workstations).

We feel that Access is a better solution for stores that don't fit these criteria.

The following considerations are important when contemplating an upgrade to SQL:

- You will need a dedicated server machine that meets certain minimum specifications.
- General maintenance is somewhat more complicated.
- The backup and restore procedures are somewhat more complicated.
- You will need to find a local technician who is familiar with SQL.
- Note that we offer a semi-managed server hardware and software solution to alleviate, but not eliminate, the above considerations.
- There are some costs associated with upgrading to SQL:
    o There is a 10% Edge software license upcharge.
    o There is a service fee to perform the upgrade, equivalent to 10% of your total license fee.
    o The Edge annual support contract increases from 15% to 20% of your total license fee. Example: If you have a single store with 4 workstations, then the license upgrade will be $550, the upgrade service fee will be $550, and your annual service fee will increase from $824.25 to $1208.90.

Upgrading to SQL takes significant time, effort, and coordination, and it is not a do-it-yourself process. We will upgrade customers on a first-come, first-served basis. We will continue to support both Access and SQL until such time as Microsoft discontinues support for Access or until SQL becomes a better solution for smaller configurations.

As an alternative to upgrading to SQL purely due to database size, we offer a "database trimming" service that will delete older transactions. Be aware that such trimming is irreversible.