

Performance and Resource Usage on the OpenVMS System

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CONNX was designed to use the VMS server and PC client most efficiently either as an interactive or network process, depending on your server configuration. The workload of query processing is distributed between the two in a true client/server model. The client consists of the ODBC driver and an OLE server that resides on the PC. The server consists of the CONNX image that runs on the VAX or Alpha system. All decisions about which records match the criteria of a SQL query request are made on the server. This keeps network traffic to an absolute minimum. Additionally, only the fields requested in a query are returned to the PC.

For example, let's say a record contains 70 columns, each 10 characters in length, resulting in a total record length of 700 bytes. Using the ODBC driver, a single column (10 bytes only) or several columns (n columns \times 10 bytes) may be requested, resulting in less data being sent back to the client from the server. This increases query performance, and reduces the load on the network.

Other activities like data conversion and sorting are performed on the client. This frees up the VAX or Alpha server for other tasks, and minimizes the resources required on the server when performing complex SQL statements. As a result, the CONNX Server takes up very little CPU time on the VAX or Alpha server.

A great amount of time has been given to CONNX performance when joining data from multiple RMS files. The CONNX proprietary RFFA (RMS Fast File Access) technology allows it to perform joins between very large RMS files when using an RMS key. For example, if a join is being performed between a master table, and one or more code description tables, CONNX only sends each code description over the network once to the client, even though the description may be referenced hundreds of times by the master table.

In summary, CONNX was designed with performance and resource management as its Number One goal. In most cases, the VAX or Alpha servers are already taxed with existing applications, and could not take the punishment of another CPU-intensive application. CONNX provides immediate access to your data, without paying a heavy penalty.

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