

CASE STUDY

DATABASE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS: COLLEAGUE OPERATIONS

The Challenge

DIAGNOSING & RESOLVING CRITICAL DATABASE OPERATIONAL BOTTLENECKS.

The IT department at a small liberal arts college with 2,400 students was struggling with operational bottlenecks occurring within its application environment, particularly impacting the performance of its Colleague system. The college needed additional SQL Server expertise and assistance to help diagnose and improve the efficiency of its application database environment.

The Aspect DBA team was engaged, recommending that the college start with Aspect's automated Database Health Check to best identify potential issues across the college's interconnected SQL Server database environment.

The Solution

PERFORM A DATABASE HEALTH CHECK TO IDENTIFY AND REMEDIATE ISSUES.

The Aspect DBA team executed its Database Health Check to audit the college's entire SQL Server database environment, consisting of 42 database instances, and discovered critical issues impacting performance, as well as security and data recovery ability:

- **Performance Improvements:** Aspect identified inadequate hardware resources and made adjustments to memory, updated configuration settings, and adding indexing, which led to immediate operational performance improvements.
- **Data Loss Averted:** The team implemented SQL Server maintenance plans to ensure full backups were in place, and improved backup speed, data integrity and compression.
- **Security Vulnerabilities Remediated:** The team also recommended a clean up of orphaned accounts and a SQL Server version upgrade path, helping to reduce security risks going forward.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

- SQL Server Database Health Check
- Database Performance Improvements with no data loss
- Prioritized Plan for Database Improvements

The Advantage

CLEAR REMEDIATION PLAN LEADS TO OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

Aspect's Database Health check provided the college with a clear, prioritized plan for improving their database environment's performance, security, and recoverability, allowing them to make more informed decisions regarding the timing of remediations. Aspect was able to help the college ultimately implement those remediations and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the databases supporting Colleague as well as other critical applications that college depends upon.