

LifeCheck Technical Note

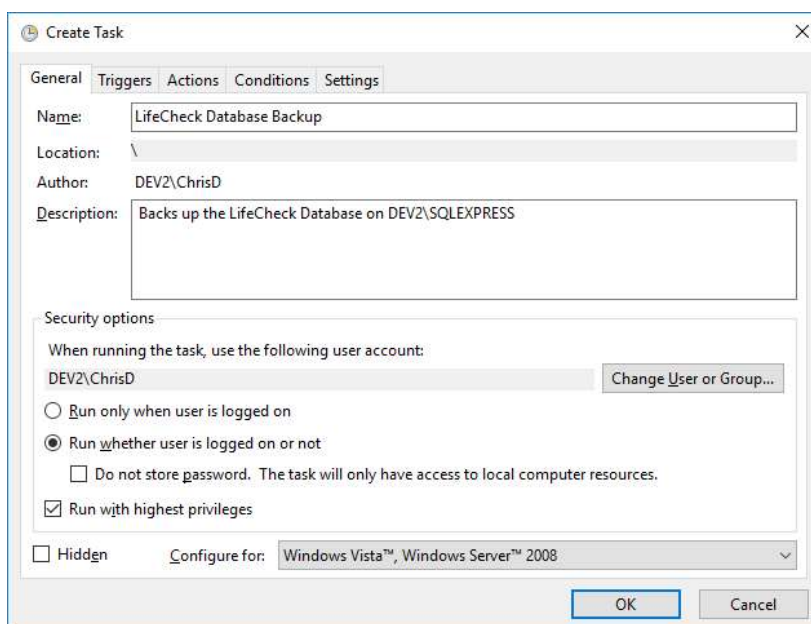
ID: TN0002
Created: 21-April-2016
By: Chris Drew
Description: Auto-Backup of the LifeCheck Database using Windows Task Scheduler

The purpose of this technical note is to detail the way in the LifeCheck database can be automatically backed up using Windows Task Scheduler as an alternative to the inbuilt functionality within LifeCheck as this relies on being run on the database server or at least have access to a folder on the server.

This should be performed on the Server or PC holding the instance of Microsoft SQL Server used by LifeCheck.

Open the Windows Task Scheduler

Create a new task, give it a name and description and configure to run regardless of whether or not the user is logged on as shown below :-



Switch to the 'Triggers' tab and add a new trigger

Set the trigger to 'daily' and define a time at which the task will run – probably after the end of your working day to avoid problems as shown next :-

New Trigger

Begin the task: On a schedule

Settings

☐ One time
☒ **Daily**
☐ Weekly
☐ Monthly

Start: 21/04/2016 18:00:00 ☐ Synchronize across time zones

Recur every: 1 days

Advanced settings

☐ Delay task for up to (random delay): 1 hour
☐ Repeat task every: 1 hour for a duration of: 1 day
☐ Stop all running tasks at end of repetition duration
☐ Stop task if it runs longer than: 3 days
☐ Expire: 21/04/2017 09:56:16 ☐ Synchronize across time zones
☒ Enabled

OK Cancel

Now select the 'Actions' tab and click 'New' to define a new action. Ensure action is to start a program and set the program/script to be 'sqlcmd' and move to 'Add Arguments'. This should be set to similar to that below.

```
-U sa -P lifeccheck123 -S DEV2\SQLEXPRESS -i E:\lifeccheck\lifeccheck-backup.sql
```

In the above command we are logging in to SQL using the 'sa' account with a password of 'lifeccheck123' and the SQL instance 'DEV2\SQLEXPRESS'. The final argument is the name of an SQL script file which will be executed to actually perform the backup. The contents of this file are as follows :-

```
DECLARE @SQL varchar(255)

DECLARE @backupName varchar(255)

DECLARE @dateString varchar(255)

SET @dateString = convert(varchar, getdate(), 112)

-- If we need a date stamped backup then use this line

SET @backupName = 'E:\LIFECHECK\BACKUP\LIFECHECK.BAK'

BACKUP DATABASE [lifeccheck]

TO DISK = @backupName
```

WITH NOFORMAT, INIT, NAME = N'lifecheck-full Database Backup',

SKIP, NOREWIND, NOUNLOAD, STATS = 10

GO

Disclaimer:

Please note that while every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this document, Trenchant Technology, Ltd may not be held responsible for any errors or omissions or any data loss which may occur through the use of this document. It is highly recommended that a backup of the LifeCheck database is made prior to making any changes such as importing parts.