

Quest Benchmark Factory 4.7.1

Summary: You can gauge the performance of your database environment with this software package that wins our Editor's Choice Award for speed and value.

Price: \$865

www.quest.com

★★★★★

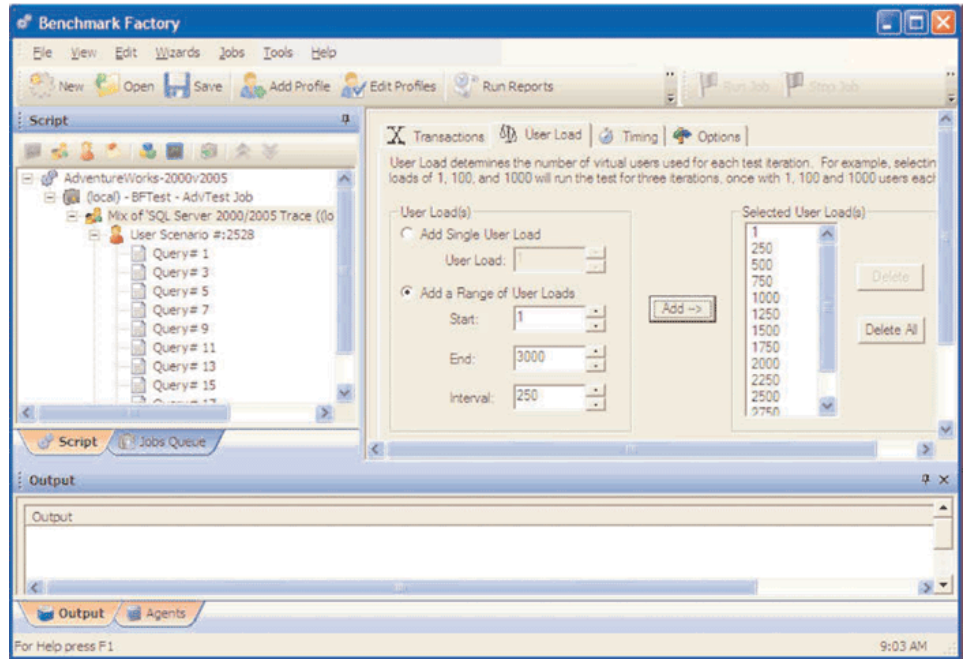


Database systems are used in almost all phases of a business operation and many administrators consider it of key importance in determining how well the environment works with different applications in comparison to the various schemas involved. Simple testing operations are available with most database products and many are able to analyze certain elements of the database, however they don't have the capacity to provide key metrics and information about the overall performance of the system. One of the leaders in the production of database tools is Quest Software. Their Benchmark Factory 4.7.1 package is capable of providing this data and it receives our Editor's Choice Award for speed and value.

One of the major problems that a database system can encounter is how well it manages a high user load. While working this scenario based on calculation can be somewhat accurate, it is unable to gauge the actual statistics when put into a development, test or production environment. The Benchmark Factory 4.7.1 software package is capable of emulating this type of setting by using what the company calls virtual users. These users can actually provide a stress-testing environment and measure the overall performance of the system to provide key data on possible breaking points of the database.

The Quest Software Benchmark Factory has the capacity to validate

It uses virtual users to stress-test the user load of the database environment.



database structures prior to use and can integrate with the company's SQL Tuning products. This allows developers and administrators to test database code prior to implementation and make changes for a better performance. If your company is using one of Oracle's database products it can be used to determine the number of RAC nodes to deploy in your production environment to attain the best performance.

There are several different database products that can implement the Benchmark Factory which includes IBM's DB2 UDB 7/8, Oracle 7 through 10g, Microsoft's SQL Server versions 7 through 2005, MySQL 4.5/5.0 and Sybase ASE 11, 12 and 15. While some features are unavailable with certain databases, the limitation is due to the database environment rather than this Quest Software package. It connects to the databases through a standard ODBC-compliant connection.

While many software products have the capacity to benchmark computer hardware, Quest Software's Benchmark Factory Version 4.7.1 is capable of providing key metrics about various database environments. The cost of this product starts out at \$865 for a single user and 100 virtual users. Additional virtual users can be purchased in packages of 500. You can download a test version of this software and find more information on the company's web site that is located at www.quest.com.

