

[MS-OLEDBSTR]: OLEDB Connection String Structure Specification

Intellectual Property Rights Notice for Open Specifications Documentation

- **Technical Documentation.** Microsoft publishes Open Specifications documentation for protocols, file formats, languages, standards as well as overviews of the interaction among each of these technologies.
- **Copyrights.** This documentation is covered by Microsoft copyrights. Regardless of any other terms that are contained in the terms of use for the Microsoft website that hosts this documentation, you may make copies of it in order to develop implementations of the technologies described in the Open Specifications and may distribute portions of it in your implementations using these technologies or your documentation as necessary to properly document the implementation. You may also distribute in your implementation, with or without modification, any schema, IDL's, or code samples that are included in the documentation. This permission also applies to any documents that are referenced in the Open Specifications.
- **No Trade Secrets.** Microsoft does not claim any trade secret rights in this documentation.
- **Patents.** Microsoft has patents that may cover your implementations of the technologies described in the Open Specifications. Neither this notice nor Microsoft's delivery of the documentation grants any licenses under those or any other Microsoft patents. However, a given Open Specification may be covered by Microsoft [Open Specification Promise](#) or the [Community Promise](#). If you would prefer a written license, or if the technologies described in the Open Specifications are not covered by the Open Specifications Promise or Community Promise, as applicable, patent licenses are available by contacting iplg@microsoft.com.
- **Trademarks.** The names of companies and products contained in this documentation may be covered by trademarks or similar intellectual property rights. This notice does not grant any licenses under those rights.
- **Fictitious Names.** The example companies, organizations, products, domain names, e-mail addresses, logos, people, places, and events depicted in this documentation are fictitious. No association with any real company, organization, product, domain name, email address, logo, person, place, or event is intended or should be inferred.

Reservation of Rights. All other rights are reserved, and this notice does not grant any rights other than specifically described above, whether by implication, estoppel, or otherwise.

Tools. The Open Specifications do not require the use of Microsoft programming tools or programming environments in order for you to develop an implementation. If you have access to Microsoft programming tools and environments you are free to take advantage of them. Certain Open Specifications are intended for use in conjunction with publicly available standard specifications and network programming art, and assumes that the reader either is familiar with the aforementioned material or has immediate access to it.

Revision Summary

| Date | Revision History | Revision Class | Comments |
|------------|------------------|----------------|--|
| 06/27/2008 | 1.0 | Major | First release. |
| 10/06/2008 | 1.01 | Editorial | Revised and edited the technical content. |
| 12/12/2008 | 1.02 | Editorial | Revised and edited the technical content. |
| 08/07/2009 | 1.1 | Minor | Updated the technical content. |
| 11/06/2009 | 1.1.2 | Editorial | Revised and edited the technical content. |
| 03/05/2010 | 1.1.3 | Editorial | Revised and edited the technical content. |
| 04/21/2010 | 1.1.4 | Editorial | Revised and edited the technical content. |
| 06/04/2010 | 1.1.5 | Editorial | Revised and edited the technical content. |
| 09/03/2010 | 1.1.5 | No change | No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content. |
| 02/09/2011 | 1.1.5 | No change | No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content. |
| 07/07/2011 | 1.1.5 | No change | No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content. |
| 11/03/2011 | 1.1.5 | No change | No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content. |
| 01/19/2012 | 1.1.5 | No change | No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content. |
| 02/23/2012 | 1.1.5 | No change | No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content. |
| 03/27/2012 | 1.1.5 | No change | No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content. |
| 05/24/2012 | 1.1.5 | No change | No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content. |

Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 1 Introduction | 5 |
| 1.1 Glossary | 5 |
| 1.2 References..... | 6 |
| 1.2.1 Normative References..... | 6 |
| 1.2.2 Informative References | 6 |
| 1.3 Structure Overview (Synopsis) | 7 |
| 1.4 Relationship to Protocols and Other Structures | 7 |
| 1.5 Applicability Statement..... | 7 |
| 1.6 Versioning and Localization | 8 |
| 1.7 Vendor-Extensible Fields..... | 8 |
| 2 Structures | 9 |
| 2.1 Requirements for Connection Strings..... | 9 |
| 2.1.1 Empty Connection String..... | 9 |
| 2.1.2 Case-sensitivity..... | 9 |
| 2.1.3 Multiple Occurrences of the Same Key | 9 |
| 2.1.4 Conflicts Between Keys | 9 |
| 2.2 ABNF Rules | 9 |
| 2.2.1 Common ABNF Rules | 9 |
| 2.2.2 OLE DB Connection String Format | 9 |
| 2.2.2.1 KeyValuePair..... | 10 |
| 2.2.2.2 Key..... | 10 |
| 2.2.2.3 Value | 10 |
| 2.2.2.4 SQUOTE, DQUOTE, SC | 10 |
| 2.2.3 Keys with Compound Values | 10 |
| 2.2.4 Using Symbolic Names in Values | 11 |
| 2.3 Generic Keys..... | 11 |
| 2.4 Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server Connection String | 13 |
| 2.5 Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server Analysis Services Connection String | 15 |
| 3 Structure Examples | 17 |
| 3.1 Integrated Security..... | 17 |
| 3.2 Standard Security Connection | 17 |
| 3.3 Named Instance | 17 |
| 3.4 IP Address as Data Source | 17 |
| 3.5 Initial Catalog..... | 17 |
| 3.6 Network Library..... | 18 |
| 3.7 Encryption | 18 |
| 3.8 Escaped Equals Sign | 18 |
| 3.9 Leading and Trailing Spaces..... | 18 |
| 3.10 Spaces Within a Connection String | 18 |
| 3.11 Multiple Occurrences of the Same Key | 19 |
| 4 Security Considerations | 20 |
| 4.1 Security Considerations for Implementers..... | 20 |
| 4.2 Index of Security Parameters | 20 |
| 5 Appendix A: Product Behavior | 21 |
| 6 Change Tracking | 25 |

7 Index 26

1 Introduction

The OLE DB Connection String Structure Specification is a specification of the format of **connection strings** that are used by **OLE DB consumers**. A connection string is a string that is sent from an OLE DB consumer to an **OLE DB provider** and that specifies the information that is needed to establish a **connection** to a **data source**.

1.1 Glossary

The following terms are defined in [\[MS-GLOS\]](#):

Authentication Service (AS)
code page
connection
domain
encryption
Internet Protocol version 4 (IPv4)
IPv4 address in string format
IPv6 address in string format
Kerberos
language code identifier (LCID)
named pipe
NT LAN Manager (NTLM) Authentication Protocol
OEM character
path
plaintext
remote procedure call (RPC)
session
Stored Procedure
Unicode
XML

The following terms are defined in [\[MS-OFCGLOS\]](#):

connection string
data source
OLE DB

The following terms are specific to this document:

database instance: A database that has a unique set of services that can have unique settings.

data source object: An instance of a COM class that exposes a set of **OLE DB** interfaces. A data source object can be used to establish a **connection** to a **data source**.

generic key: A key in a **connection string**, the meaning of which is the same across all **OLE DB providers**. Different OLE DB providers can define their own valid values (as a subset of the generic valid values) and default values for a generic key.

OLE DB consumer: A software component that requests information through a set of **OLE DB** interfaces.

OLE DB provider: A software component that returns information to an **OLE DB consumer** through a set of **OLE DB** interfaces. Each provider exposes data access to a particular type of **data source**.

provider-specific key: A key in a **connection string**, the meaning of which is determined by an individual provider.

MAY, SHOULD, MUST, SHOULD NOT, MUST NOT: These terms (in all caps) are used as described in [\[RFC2119\]](#). All statements of optional behavior use either MAY, SHOULD, or SHOULD NOT.

1.2 References

1.2.1 Normative References

We conduct frequent surveys of the normative references to assure their continued availability. If you have any issue with finding a normative reference, please contact dochelp@microsoft.com. We will assist you in finding the relevant information. Please check the archive site, <http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/library/E4BD6494-06AD-4aed-9823-445E921C9624>, as an additional source.

[MS-LCID] Microsoft Corporation, "[Windows Language Code Identifier \(LCID\) Reference](#)".

[MS-ODBCSTR] Microsoft Corporation, "[ODBC Connection String Structure Specification](#)".

[MS-SSAS8] Microsoft Corporation, "[SQL Server Analysis Services Version 8.0 Protocol Specification](#)".

[MS-SSAS9] Microsoft Corporation, "[SQL Server Analysis Services Protocol Specification](#)".

[MS-TDS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Tabular Data Stream Protocol Specification](#)".

[RFC791] Postel, J., "Internet Protocol", STD 5, RFC 791, September 1981, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc791.txt>

[RFC793] Postel, J., "Transmission Control Protocol", STD 7, RFC 793, September 1981, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc0793.txt>

[RFC1002] Network Working Group, "Protocol Standard for a NetBIOS Service on a TCP/UDP Transport: Detailed Specifications", STD 19, RFC 1002, March 1987, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1002.txt>

[RFC2460] Deering, S., and Hinden, R., "Internet Protocol, Version 6 (IPv6) Specification", RFC 2460, December 1998, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2460.txt>

[RFC4234] Crocker, D., Ed., and Overell, P., "Augmented BNF for Syntax Specifications: ABNF", RFC 4234, October 2005, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc4234.txt>

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt>

1.2.2 Informative References

[MS-GLOS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Windows Protocols Master Glossary](#)".

[MS-OFCGLOS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Microsoft Office Master Glossary](#)".

[MSDN-CDIM] Microsoft Corporation, "Impersonation Levels", [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms686632\(VS.85\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms686632(VS.85).aspx)

[MSDN-COMCS] Microsoft Corporation, "COM+ (Component Services)", [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms685978\(VS.85\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms685978(VS.85).aspx)

[MSDN-CSOLEDB] Microsoft Corporation, "The Cursor Service for OLE DB", [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms714397\(VS.85\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms714397(VS.85).aspx)

[MSDN-DAD] Microsoft Corporation, "Detaching and Attaching Databases", <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms190794.aspx>

[MSDN-ODBPG] Microsoft Corporation, "OLE DB Programmer's Guide", [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms713643\(VS.85\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms713643(VS.85).aspx)

[MSDN-ODBS] Microsoft Corporation, "OLE DB Services", OLE DB Programmer's Guide, [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms717922\(VS.85\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms717922(VS.85).aspx)

[MSDN-SD] Microsoft Corporation, "Selecting a Database", <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms180770.aspx>

[MSDN-SQLOLEDB] Microsoft Corporation, "SQL Server Provider", [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms720897\(VS.85\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms720897(VS.85).aspx)

[MSDN-UNI] Microsoft Corporation, "Using Named Instances", <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms165614.aspx>

[MSFT-KB313295] Microsoft Corporation, "How to use the server name parameter in a connection string to specify the client network library", <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/313295>

[MSFT-KB328383] Microsoft Corporation, "SQL Server clients may change protocols when the client computers try to connect to an instance of SQL Server", <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/328383>

[PIPE] Microsoft Corporation, "Named Pipes", <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa365590.aspx>

[SSPI] Microsoft Corporation, "SSPI", <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa380493.aspx>

1.3 Structure Overview (Synopsis)

A connection string consists of zero or more key/value pairs that specify a set of properties of a connection to a data source, including information such as the provider name, user ID, password, and provider-specific information.

1.4 Relationship to Protocols and Other Structures

None.

1.5 Applicability Statement

This document specifies a persistence format for **OLE DB** connection strings. The connection strings are used to facilitate establishing a connection between an OLE DB consumer and a data source in scenarios in which network or local connectivity is available.

Further, this document specifies the format of a connection string that is used to establish a connection between an OLE DB consumer and the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for Microsoft® SQL Server® and the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server Analysis Services. This persistence format provides interoperability with OLE DB consumers that create or use portions of documents that conform to this structure.

1.6 Versioning and Localization

None.

1.7 Vendor-Extensible Fields

Vendors can define **provider-specific keys** and can specify the meanings of these keys and the corresponding valid values. The name of a provider-specific key **MUST** conform to the naming rules that are specified in section [2.2](#) and **MUST NOT** be the same as the name of any **generic key** that is specified in section [2.3](#).

2 Structures

An OLE DB connection string MUST be a **Unicode** string and MUST conform to the ABNF [\[RFC4234\]](#) grammar that is specified in section [2.2](#).

2.1 Requirements for Connection Strings

2.1.1 Empty Connection String

A connection string can be empty.

2.1.2 Case-sensitivity

Keys are case-insensitive.

2.1.3 Multiple Occurrences of the Same Key

If the same key occurs multiple times in one connection string, the value from the last key/value pair MUST be used.

2.1.4 Conflicts Between Keys

If there are conflicts between values that are specified for different keys, the behavior of the provider is provider-specific.

2.2 ABNF Rules

2.2.1 Common ABNF Rules

The following ABNF [\[RFC4234\]](#) rules are used by sections [2.2.2](#) and [2.2.3](#) and are included for reference.

ABNF Syntax:

| | | | | |
|---------------|---|-----------|---|-------------------------|
| SC | = | %x3B | ; | semicolon |
| HTAB | = | %x09 | ; | horizontal tab |
| SP | = | %x20 | ; | space |
| WSP | = | SP / HTAB | ; | space or horizontal tab |
| SQUOTE | = | %x27 | ; | single quote |
| ESCAPEDSQUOTE | = | 2SQUOTE | ; | escaped single quote |
| DQUOTE | = | %x22 | ; | double quote |
| ESCAPEDDQUOTE | = | 2DQUOTE | ; | escaped double quote |
| EQ | = | %x3D | ; | equals sign |
| ESCAPEDEQ | = | 2EQ | ; | escaped equal sign |
| PLUS | = | %x2B | ; | plus sign |
| MINUS | = | %x2D | ; | minus sign |

2.2.2 OLE DB Connection String Format

OleDbConnectionString specifies a set of keys and associated values. The string MUST conform to the following ABNF [\[RFC4234\]](#) grammar:

```

OleDbConnectionString = *(ConnStringClause SC) [ConnStringClause [SC]]
ConnStringClause = KeyValuePair / *WSP
KeyValuePair = *WSP Key *WSP EQ *WSP Value *WSP
Key = (ESCAPEDEQ / NonWSPSemiColonEqualChar) [* (ESCAPEDEQ / NonSemiColonEqualChar)
(ESCAPEDEQ / NonWSPSemiColonEqualChar)]
Value = NotQuotedLiteralValue / SQUOTE SQuotedLiteralValue SQUOTE / DQUOTE
DQuotedLiteralValue DQUOTE / CompoundValue
NotQuotedLiteralValue = [NonWSPQuoteSemiColonEqualChar [ *NonSemiColonChar
NonWSPSemiColonChar] ]
SQuotedLiteralValue = *((ESCAPEDSQUOTE) / NonSQUOTEChar)
DQuotedLiteralValue = *((ESCAPEDDQUOTE) / NonDQUOTEChar)
NonWSPSemiColonEqualChar = %x01-08 / %x0A-1F / %x21-3A / %x3C / %x3E-FFFF
NonSemiColonEqualChar = %x01-3A / %x3C / %x3E-FFFF
NonWSPQuoteSemiColonEqualChar = %x01-08 / %x0A-1F / %x21 / %x23-26 / %x28-3A / %x3C / %x3E-
FFFF
NonSemiColonChar = %x01-3A / %x3C-FFFF
NonWSPSemiColonChar = %x01-08 / %x0A-1F / %x21-3A / %x3C-FFFF
NonSQUOTEChar = %x01-26 / %x28-FFFF
NonDQUOTEChar = %x01-21 / %x23-FFFF

```

CompoundValue is specified in section [2.3](#).

2.2.2.1 KeyValuePair

A **KeyValuePair** is composed of a key and a value, separated by an "EQ".

2.2.2.2 Key

A key can be composed of any character except "%x00", "SC", or "EQ", unless the "EQ" is part of an "ESCAPEDEQ".

2.2.2.3 Value

A value that is a string can be enclosed by SQUOTE or DQUOTE. Any space that precedes the first quote is not a part of a key and MUST be ignored. Characters other than "WSP" MUST NOT be included after the second quote. To include preceding or trailing spaces in a value, the value MUST be enclosed in either SQUOTE or DQUOTE.

2.2.2.4 SQUOTE, DQUOTE, SC

SQUOTE, DQUOTE and SC each have a specific meaning in a connection string. If a value contains one of these characters, the value MUST be enclosed in either SQUOTE or DQUOTE.

To include a single quote character in an **SQuotedLiteralValue**, ESCAPEDSQUOTE MUST be used. To include a double quote character in a **DQuotedLiteralValue**, ESCAPEDDQUOTE MUST be used.

2.2.3 Keys with Compound Values

Some keys can have compound values. A compound value for a key consists of zero or more valid value components, separated by the pipe character (|). Either the symbolic names of the valid value components or their corresponding numeric values can be used. Symbolic names are case-insensitive.

CompoundValue specifies a compound value for a key. The format of the string MUST conform to the following ABNF [\[RFC4234\]](#) grammar:

```

CompoundValue = *((SymbolicComponent / NumericComponent) *WSP "|" *WSP) (SymbolicComponent/
NumericComponent)
SymbolicComponent = 1*SymbolicComponentChar
SymbolicComponentChar = %x01-08 / %x0A-1F / %x21-3A / %x3C / %x3E-7B / %x7D-FFFF
NumericComponent = HexValue / OctValue / DecValue
HexValue = ("+0" / "-0" / "0") ("x" / "X") 1*(HEXDIG / %x61-66)
OctValue = ("+0" / "-0" / "0") *%x30-37
DecValue = ("+" %x31-39 / "-" %x31-39 / %x31-39) *DIGIT

```

2.2.4 Using Symbolic Names in Values

When a symbolic name is used in a value, the symbolic name is case-insensitive.

2.3 Generic Keys

The following table specifies generic keys that can be used in a connection string. [<1>](#)

| Key | Meaning |
|-------------------------|--|
| Provider | Specifies the name of the OLE DB provider. <2> |
| Cache Authentication | Specifies whether authentication information can be stored in a cache of the OLE DB provider. The valid values are "true" and "false". |
| Encrypt Password | Specifies whether the password is encrypted before it is sent to the data source. The valid values are "true" and "false". |
| Integrated Security | Specifies the name of the Authentication Service (AS) that the data source uses to identify the user who is using the identity that is provided by an authentication domain . <3> |
| Mask Password | Specifies whether the password cannot be sent to the data source in plaintext . The valid values are "true" and "false". |
| Password | Specifies the password to be used when connecting to the data source. |
| Persist Encrypted | Specifies whether the OLE DB consumer requests authentication information to be encrypted if the connection string is persisted. <4> The valid values are "true" and "false". |
| Persist Security Info | Specifies whether authentication information can be persisted by the OLE DB provider. The valid values are "true" and "false". |
| User ID | Specifies the user ID to be used when connecting to the data source. |
| Asynchronous Processing | Specifies the asynchronous processing operations that the OLE DB consumer requests to be performed on the data source object . This key can have a compound value. Only the following value component is valid: "Initialize": Specifies that the data source object is initialized asynchronously. <5> The corresponding numeric value is 0x1. |
| Bind Flags | Reserved and MUST NOT be used. |
| Initial Catalog | Specifies the name of the database to be used after the connection is established. |
| Data Source | Specifies the name of the data source to which to connect. <6> |
| General | Specifies the number of seconds before a request for a data source object times out. |

| Key | Meaning |
|---------------------|--|
| Timeout | The valid values are signed integers that range from greater than or equal to -2147483648 to less than or equal to 2147483647. |
| Window Handle | Specifies the element of a graphical user interface that a provider can use to prompt for additional connection information. The valid values are signed integers that range from greater than or equal to -2147483648 to less than or equal to 2147483647 on a 32-bit platform and that range from greater than or equal to -9223372036854775808 to less than or equal to 9223372036854775807 on a 64-bit platform. |
| Impersonation Level | Specifies the OLE DB consumer-requested impersonation level that is to be used by the data source when it is impersonating the data source object. For more information about impersonation levels, see [MSDN-CDIM] . The valid values are the following: "Anonymous": Anonymous level. The corresponding numeric value is 0x0. "Identify": Identify level. The corresponding numeric value is 0x1. "Impersonate": Impersonate level. The corresponding numeric value is 0x2. "Delegate": Delegate level. The corresponding numeric value is 0x3. |
| Locale Identifier | Specifies the language code identifier (LCID) to be sent to the data source. <7> The valid values are an LCID or one of the following predefined literals: "User Default": The default LCID of the user of the OLE DB consumer. "System Default": The default LCID of the system of the OLE DB consumer. |
| Location | Specifies the path to the data source. <8> |
| Lock Owner | Reserved and MUST NOT be used. |
| Mode | Specifies the mode in which the OLE DB consumer requests to open the data source. This key can have a compound value. The valid value components are the following: "Read": Read-only access permission. The corresponding numeric value is 0x1. "Write": Write-only access permission. The corresponding numeric value is 0x2. "ReadWrite": Read/write access permission. The corresponding numeric value is 0x3. "Share Deny Read": Prevents other data source open requests from opening a connection in read mode. The corresponding numeric value is 0x4. "Share Deny Write": Prevents other data source open requests from opening a connection in write mode. The corresponding numeric value is 0x8. "Share Exclusive": Prevents other data source open requests from opening a connection in read/write mode. The corresponding numeric value is 0xC. "Share Deny None": Specifies that neither read nor write access can be denied to other data source open requests. The corresponding numeric value is 0x10. |
| OLE DB Services | Specifies the services that the OLE DB consumer requests the OLE DB Services component to enable or disable for the data source object. For more information about OLE DB Services, see [MSDN-ODBS] . This key can have a compound value. The valid value components are the following: "ResourcePooling": Resource pooling is enabled. The corresponding numeric value is 0x1. "TxnEnlistment": Sessions in a Component Services environment are automatically enlisted in a global transaction where required. See [MSDN-COMCS] for more information about Component Services and Global Transaction. The corresponding numeric value is 0x2. "ClientCursor": The Client Cursor Engine is enabled. <9> See [MSDN-CSOLEDB] for |

| Key | Meaning |
|---------------------|---|
| | <p>more information about Client Side Cursor. The corresponding numeric value is 0x4.</p> <p>"AgrAfterSession": Services that operate beyond the session level, including the Client Cursor Engine, are enabled. The corresponding numeric value is 0x8.</p> <p>"EnableAll": All services are enabled. The corresponding numeric value is 0xFFFFFFFF.</p> <p>"DisableAll": All services are disabled. The corresponding numeric value is 0x0.</p> |
| Prompt | <p>Specifies the OLE DB consumer-requested level of prompting for connection information during initialization of a data source object. The connection information that is required is provider-specific. The valid values are the following:</p> <p>"Prompt": Always prompt for connection information. The corresponding numeric value is 0x1.</p> <p>"Complete": Prompt only if the connection string does not contain sufficient information to establish a connection. The corresponding numeric value is 0x2.</p> <p>"CompleteRequired": Prompt only for required information if more required information is needed. The corresponding numeric value is 0x3.</p> <p>"NoPrompt": Do not prompt for connection information. The corresponding numeric value is 0x4.</p> |
| Protection Level | <p>Specifies the OLE DB consumer-requested level of protection for the data that is sent between a data source object and a data source. This key applies only to network connections other than remote procedure call (RPC) connections. The valid values are the following:</p> <p>"None": Performs no authentication of data sent to the data source. The corresponding numeric value is 0x0.</p> <p>"Connect": Authenticates only when the data source object establishes the connection with the data source. The corresponding numeric value is 0x1.</p> <p>"Call": Authenticates the source of the data at the beginning of each request from the data source object to the data source. The corresponding numeric value is 0x2.</p> <p>"Pkt": Verifies that all data received is from the data source object. The corresponding numeric value is 0x3.</p> <p>"Pkt Integrity": Verifies that all data received is from the data source object and that it has not been changed in transit. The corresponding numeric value is 0x4.</p> <p>"Pkt Privacy": Verifies that all data received is from the data source object and that it has not been changed in transit, and encrypts the data. The corresponding numeric value is 0x5.</p> |
| Extended Properties | Specifies provider-specific extended connection information. |
| Connect Timeout | Specifies the amount of time, in seconds, to wait for a connection to complete. The valid values are signed integers that range from greater than or equal to -2147483648 to less than or equal to 2147483647. |

2.4 Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server Connection String

A Microsoft OLE DB Provider for Microsoft® SQL Server® connection string is an **OleDBConnectionString** that has additional provider-specific keys allowed. For more information about the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server, see [\[MSDN-SQLOLEDB\]](#). The following table specifies the provider-specific keys for the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server.

| Key | Meaning |
|---------------------------|--|
| Application Name | Specifies the name of the OLE DB consumer. This key does not have a default value. |
| Auto Translate | Specifies whether the OLE DB consumer requests the provider to convert OEM characters or ANSI characters between the code page of the OLE DB consumer and the code page of the database when characters are retrieved from or sent to the database. The valid values are "true" and "false." The default value is "true". |
| Current Language | Specifies the language that is used for database message selection and formatting. This key does not have a default value. |
| Network Address | <p>Specifies the network address of an instance of the database server. If the value of the Network Address key is not specified, the default value is the value of the Data Source key. If the value of the Data Source key contains an instance name, the instance name that is contained in the value of the Data Source key will be appended to the value of the Network Address key. For more information about instance names, see [MSDN-UNI].</p> <p>The network address MUST be in TCP format or NP format.</p> <p>TCP format</p> <p>tcp:<host name>\<instance name> tcp:<host name>,<TCP/IP port number></p> <p>TCP format MUST start with the prefix "tcp:" and is followed by the database instance, specified by a <host name> and an <instance name>.</p> <p>The <host name> MUST be specified in one of three ways: NetBIOSName [RFC1002], IPv4Address [RFC791], or IPv6Address [RFC2460].</p> <p>The <instance name> is used to resolve to a particular TCP/IP port number [RFC793] on which a database instance is hosted. Alternatively, a <TCP/IP port number> can be specified directly. If both <instance name> and <port number> are not present, the default database instance is used.</p> <p>NP format</p> <p>np:\\<host name>\pipe\<pipe name></p> <p>NP format MUST start with the prefix "np:" and is followed by a named pipe name.</p> <p>The <host name> MUST be specified in one of three ways: NetBIOSName [RFC1002], IPv4Address [RFC791], or IPv6Address [RFC2460].</p> <p>The <pipe name> is used to identify the database instance to which to be connected.</p> <p>If the value of the Network Library key is specified, the prefixes "tcp:" and "np:" SHOULD NOT be specified. <10></p> <p>For more information about the format of the Network Address key, see [MSFT-KB313295].</p> <p>For more information about named pipes, see [PIPE].</p> |
| Network Library | This key is the name of the network component that is used to communicate with the database server*. This key does not have a default value. |
| Packet Size | Sets the network packet size in bytes (as specified by the PacketSize field in section 2.2.6.3 of [MS-TDS]) to be used for data exchange between the data source object and the database. The valid values are unsigned integers that range from greater than or equal to 512 to less than or equal to 32767. The default packet size is 4096 bytes. |
| Use Procedure for Prepare | <p>Specifies that the OLE DB consumer requests a temporary stored procedure to be created on the database when a command is prepared. The valid values are the following:</p> <p>"1": A temporary Stored Procedure is created when a command is prepared. All</p> |

| Key | Meaning |
|---|---|
| | temporary Stored Procedures are dropped when the session is released. "2": A temporary stored procedure is created when a command is prepared. The procedure is dropped when the command is unprepared, when a new command is specified, or when all application references to the command are released. The default value is "1". |
| Workstation ID | Sets the workstation identifier as specified by the ibHostName and cchHostName fields in section 2.2.6.3 of of [MS-TDS] . The default value is the name of the workstation that is running the OLE DB consumer. |
| Initial File Name | Sets the name of the primary file of an attachable database as specified by the ibAtchDBFile and cchAtchDBFile fields in section 2.2.6.3 of of [MS-TDS] . This key does not have a default value. For more information about attachable databases, see [MSDN-DAD] . If a value for this key is specified, a value for the Initial Catalog key MUST also be specified. |
| Use Encryption for Data | Specifies whether data should be encrypted before sending it over the network. The valid values are "true" and "false". The default value is "false". |
| Replication server name connect option | Sets the server name (as specified by the ibServerName and cchServerName fields in section 2.2.6.3 of of [MS-TDS]) and replication login type (as specified by the fUserType field in section 2.2.6.3 of [MS-TDS]) that the OLE DB consumer requests to send to the database server. |
| Tag with column collation when possible | Specifies whether the OLE DB consumer requests that data be tagged with collation information that is obtained from the database server instead of from the code page on the provider. The valid values are "true" and "false". The default value is "false". |

*There are several of these named components (values), [<11>](#) each of which implements a specific protocol behavior.

2.5 Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server Analysis Services Connection String

A Microsoft OLE DB Provider for Microsoft® SQL Server® Analysis Services connection string is an **OleDbConnectionString** that has additional provider-specific key allowed. The following table specifies the provider-specific keys for the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for Microsoft® SQL Server® 2005 Analysis Services [\[MS-SSAS9\]](#) and the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for Microsoft® SQL Server® 2000 Analysis Services [\[MS-SSAS8\]](#).

| Key | Meaning |
|----------|--|
| SSPI | Specifies the type of Security Support Provider Interface that is requested by the OLE DB consumer. For more information about Security Support Provider Interface, see [SSPI] . The valid values are the following: "Negotiate": Negotiate authentication "Kerberos": Kerberos authentication "NTLM": NT LAN Manager (NTLM) Authentication Protocol authentication "Anonymous": No authentication The default value is "Negotiate". This key applies to the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2005 Analysis Services [MS-SSAS9] and the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2000 Analysis Services [MS-SSAS8] . |
| Protocol | Specifies the OLE DB consumer-requested encoding format for XML messages on this |

| Key | Meaning |
|-----------------------|--|
| Format | <p>connection. The valid values are the following:</p> <p>"Default": Binary encoding</p> <p>"XML": Text encoding</p> <p>"Binary": Binary encoding</p> <p>This key applies to the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2005 Analysis Services [MS-SSAS9].</p> |
| Transport Compression | <p>Specifies whether the OLE DB consumer requests messages on this connection to be compressed. The valid values are the following:</p> <p>"Default": Messages are compressed.</p> <p>"None": Messages are not compressed.</p> <p>"Compressed": Messages are compressed.</p> <p>This key applies to the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2005 Analysis Services [MS-SSAS9].</p> |
| Compression Level | <p>Specifies the OLE DB consumer-requested level of compression when the value of the Transport Compression key is "Compressed". A value of "0" specifies minimum compression, and a value of "9" specifies maximum compression. The valid values are integers that range from greater than or equal to 0 to less than or equal to 9.</p> <p>When the value of the Transport Compression key is not "Compressed", the value of the Compression Level key MUST be ignored if present.</p> <p>This key applies to the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2005 Analysis Services [MS-SSAS9].</p> |
| SessionID | <p>Specifies the ID of the session to use in this connection. <12></p> <p>This key applies to the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2005 Analysis Services [MS-SSAS9].</p> |
| Auto Synch Period | <p>Specifies the OLE DB consumer-requested frequency, in milliseconds, of synchronization between the OLE DB provider and the server. The default frequency is 10000 milliseconds.</p> <p>This key applies to the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2000 Analysis Services [MS-SSAS8].</p> |

3 Structure Examples

The following examples illustrate the structure and syntax of OLE DB connection strings that are used in common scenarios.

Identical key/value pairs that occur in multiple examples are described in only the first example in which they occur but have the same meaning in each example.

3.1 Integrated Security

```
Provider=sqloledb;Data Source=ServerName;Integrated Security=SSPI;
```

"Provider=sqloledb" specifies that the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for Microsoft® SQL Server® is the OLE DB provider for this connection.

"Data Source=ServerName" specifies that "ServerName" is the name of the data source to which the connection is established.

"Integrated Security=SSPI" specifies that Security Support Provider Interface [\[SSPI\]](#) is used as the Authentication Service (AS) for this connection.

3.2 Standard Security Connection

```
Provider=sqloledb;Data Source=ServerName;User Id=UserName;Password=UserPassword;
```

"User ID=UserName" specifies that "UserName" is the name of the user who is establishing the connection.

"Password=UserPassword" specifies that "UserPassword" is the password of the user who is establishing the connection.

3.3 Named Instance

```
Provider=sqloledb;Data Source=ServerName\InstanceName;Integrated Security=SSPI;
```

"Data Source=ServerName\InstanceName" specifies that the connection is being established to the "InstanceName" named instance on the server whose name is "ServerName".

3.4 IP Address as Data Source

```
Provider=sqloledb;Data Source=192.168.2.1\InstanceName;Integrated Security=SSPI;
```

"Data Source=192.168.2.1\InstanceName" specifies that the connection is being established to the "InstanceName" named instance on the server whose **IPv4** address is 192.168.2.1.

3.5 Initial Catalog

```
Provider=sqloledb;Data Source=ServerName;Initial Catalog=DatabaseName;Integrated Security=SSPI;
```

"Initial Catalog=DatabaseName" specifies that the database named "DatabaseName" is used after the connection is established.

3.6 Network Library

```
Provider=sqloledb;Data Source=ServerName;Integrated Security=SSPI;Network Library=DBMSSOCN;
```

"Network Library=DBMSSOCN" specifies that the name of the network component that is used to communicate with the data source is "DBMSSOCN".

3.7 Encryption

```
Provider=sqloledb;Data Source=ServerName;Integrated Security=SSPI;Use Encryption for Data=true;
```

"Use Encryption for Data=true" specifies that the OLE DB consumer is requesting that the OLE DB provider encrypt the data.

3.8 Escaped Equals Sign

```
Provider=ProviderName;Data Source=ServerName;Verification==Security=True;Many====One=Valid
```

"Provider=ProviderName" specifies that "ProviderName" is the OLE DB provider for this connection.

"Verification==Security=True" specifies that the provider-specific key **Verification=Security** has the value "True".

"Many====One=Valid" specifies that the provider-specific key **Many=One** has the value "Valid".

3.9 Leading and Trailing Spaces

```
Provider=ProviderName;Data Source=ServerName;  
MyKeyword1=" My Value1 ";MyKeyword2=' MyValue2 '
```

This example illustrates the use of leading and trailing spaces in the value of a key/value pair. To include preceding or trailing spaces in the value, the value is enclosed in either single or double quotes.

3.10 Spaces Within a Connection String

This example illustrates that white space between the parts of a connection string is ignored. The following connection string

```
Provider=sqloledb;Data Source=ServerName;Integrated Security=SSPI;
```

is equivalent to the following connection string:

```
Provider = sqloledb ; Data Source = ServerName ; Integrated Security = SSPI ;
```

3.11 Multiple Occurrences of the Same Key

This example illustrates the fact that if multiple occurrences of the same key occur in a connection string, the value from the last key/value pair overrides all previous occurrences. For example, in the following connection string, "user2" is used as the value of the **User ID** key:

```
User ID = user1; User ID = user2
```

4 Security Considerations

4.1 Security Considerations for Implementers

A connection string can contain credential information in clear text. Applications should take special care when accessing credential information, and should avoid passing this information in the connection string whenever possible. Instead, it is recommended that applications use the **Integrated Security** generic key.

4.2 Index of Security Parameters

| Security Parameter | Section |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cache Authentication | Section 2.3 |
| Encrypt Password | Section 2.3 |
| Integrated Security | Section 2.3 |
| Impersonation Level | Section 2.3 |
| Mask Password | Section 2.3 |
| Password | Section 2.3 |
| Persist Encrypted | Section 2.3 |
| Persist Security Info | Section 2.3 |
| Protection Level | Section 2.3 |
| SSPI | Section 2.5 |
| Use Encryption for Data | Section 2.4 |
| User ID | Section 2.3 |

5 Appendix A: Product Behavior

The information in this specification is applicable to the following Microsoft products or supplemental software. References to product versions include released service packs:

- Microsoft® SQL Server® 2005
- 2007 Microsoft® Office system
- Windows Vista® operating system
- Windows Server® 2008 operating system
- Microsoft® SQL Server® 2008
- Microsoft® Office 2010
- Windows® 7 operating system
- Windows Server® 2008 R2 operating system
- Microsoft® SQL Server® 2012

Exceptions, if any, are noted below. If a service pack or Quick Fix Engineering (QFE) number appears with the product version, behavior changed in that service pack or QFE. The new behavior also applies to subsequent service packs of the product unless otherwise specified. If a product edition appears with the product version, behavior is different in that product edition.

Unless otherwise specified, any statement of optional behavior in this specification that is prescribed using the terms SHOULD or SHOULD NOT implies product behavior in accordance with the SHOULD or SHOULD NOT prescription. Unless otherwise specified, the term MAY implies that the product does not follow the prescription.

[<1> Section 2.3:](#)

| Key | Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server Requirements |
|-----------------------|---|
| General Timeout | The valid values are unsigned integers that range from greater than or equal to 0 to less than or equal to 65534. A value of 0 specifies an infinite time-out. The default value is 0. |
| Window Handle | This key does not have a default value. |
| Integrated Security | The valid values are "SSPI" or an empty string. The default value is an empty string. The value "SSPI" specifies that Security Support Provider Interface [SSPI] is used as the Authentication Service (AS) for this connection. |
| Locale Identifier | The language code identifier (LCID) that is specified is supported by the operating system on which the data source object resides. |
| Password | This key does not have a default value. |
| Persist Security Info | If the value of this key is "true", the provider persists the value of the Password key if requested to persist the connection information. If the value of this key is "false", the provider does not persist the value of the Password key. |
| User ID | This key is the SQL Server login name. This key does not have a default value. |

| Key | Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server Requirements |
|---------------------|--|
| Prompt | The default value is "NoPrompt". |
| Initial Catalog | If a value for this key is not specified in the connection string, the provider opens the user's default database on the data source by default. For more information about default databases, see [MSDN-SD] . |
| Data Source | This key is the name of the SQL Server instance to which to connect. If a value for this key is not specified in the connection string, the provider connects to the database server on the same computer that is hosting the data source object by default. |
| Connect Timeout | The valid values are unsigned integers that range from greater than or equal to 0 to less than or equal to 65534. A value of 0 specifies an infinite time-out. If a value for this key is not specified in the connection string, a connection fails if the login time exceeds 15 seconds. |
| Extended Properties | The provider accepts an ODBC connection string as specified by [MS-ODBCSTR] . This key does not have a default value. |

The following table specifies the generic keys that are supported by the Microsoft SQL Server Analysis Services OLE DB Provider. Unless specified otherwise, a key is supported by both the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2005 Analysis Services [\[MS-SSAS9\]](#) and the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2000 Analysis Services [\[MS-SSAS8\]](#).

| Key | Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server Analysis Services Requirements |
|-----------------------|---|
| General Timeout | The valid values are unsigned integers that range from greater than or equal to 0 to less than or equal to 65534. A value of 0 specifies an infinite time-out. The default value is 0. |
| Window Handle | This key does not have a default value. |
| Integrated Security | The valid values are "SSPI" or an empty string. The default value is "SSPI". The value "SSPI" specifies that Security Support Provider Interface [SSPI] is used as the (AS) for this connection. |
| Locale Identifier | The LCID that is specified is supported by the operating system on which the data source object resides. |
| Password | This key does not have a default value. |
| Persist Security Info | If the value of this key is "true", the provider persists the value of the Password key if requested to persist the connection information. If the value of this key is "false", the provider does not persist the value of the Password key. |
| User ID | This key does not have a default value. |
| Prompt | The default value is "NoPrompt". |
| Initial Catalog | If a value for this key is not specified in the connection string, the provider can default to any database on the data source. |
| Data Source | This key is the name of the Microsoft SQL Server Analysis Services instance to which to connect. The value for this key is specified. |
| Connect Timeout | The valid values are unsigned integers that range from greater than or equal to 0 to less than or equal to 65534. A value of 0 specifies an infinite time-out. The default value is 60 seconds. |

| Key | Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server Analysis Services Requirements |
|---------------------|--|
| Impersonation Level | The default value is "Impersonate". This key is supported by only the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2005 Analysis Services [MS-SSAS9] . |
| Protection Level | The supported values are "None", "Connect", "Pkt Integrity" and "Pkt Privacy". The "Call" and "Pkt" values are not supported. The default value is "Pkt Privacy". This key is supported by only the Microsoft OLE DB Provider for SQL Server 2005 Analysis Services [MS-SSAS9] . |

If an OLE DB provider does not support a given generic key or if the key has an invalid value, the behavior of the OLE DB provider is provider-specific.

<2> [Section 2.3](#): If the **Provider** key is not specified in a connection string, OLE DB Services [\[MSDN-ODBS\]](#) uses the following default values:

"MSDASQL" on 32-bit operating systems, including Microsoft Windows-32-bit-On-Windows-64-bit (WOW64)

"SQLOLEDB" on 64-bit operating systems

<3> [Section 2.3](#): If a value is specified for the **Integrated Security** key, the values of the following keys are ignored if present: **Cache Authentication**, **Encrypt Password**, **Mask Password**, **Password**, **Persist Encrypted**, **Persist Security Info**, and **User ID**.

<4> [Section 2.3](#): When the value of the **Persist Security Info** key is "false", the value of the **Persist Encrypted** key is ignored if present.

<5> [Section 2.3](#): The initialization process returns immediately, but the actual initialization of the data source object is performed asynchronously. If the "Initialize" value is not specified, the data source object is initialized synchronously.

<6> [Section 2.3](#): The OLE DB provider can use the value of the **Data Source** key together with the value of the **Location** key to determine the location of the data source.

<7> [Section 2.3](#): Using the **Locale Identifier** key does not guarantee that all text that is returned to the consumer will be translated according to the LCID.

<8> [Section 2.3](#): The OLE DB provider can use the value of the **Location** key together with the value of the Data Source key to determine the location of the data source.

<9> [Section 2.3](#): When the "ClientCursor" value is part of the compound value for the **OLE DB Services** key, the "AgrAfterSession" value is ignored if present.

<10> [Section 2.4](#): If the value of the **Network Library** key is specified as "DBNETLIB", the protocol prefix ("tcp:" and "np:") can still be used.

<11> [Section 2.4](#): For Windows Vista, the behaviors of the values are listed in the following table.

| Value | Meaning |
|----------|---|
| DBNMPNTW | The DBNMPNTW component implements the named pipes protocol [PIPE] . |
| DBMSSOEN | The DBMSSOEN component implements the TCP/IP protocol. |
| DBMSSPXN | The DBMSSPXN component implements the NWLink IPX/SPX protocol. |

| Value | Meaning |
|----------|--|
| DBMSRPCN | The DBMSRPCN component implements the Multi-Protocol protocol. |
| DBMSVINN | The DBMSVINN component implements the Banyan Vines protocol. |
| DBMSADSN | The DBMSADSN component implements the ADSP protocol. |
| DBMSSHRN | The DBMSSHRN component implements the Shared Memory protocol. |
| DBMSLPCN | The DBMSLPCN component implements the Shared Memory protocol. |
| DBNETLIB | The default search order of network component can be used. |

If the specified value is not listed in this table or if the **Network Library** key is not specified, the default search order of network component can be used. For more information about the default search order of network component, see [\[MSFT-KB328383\]](#).

<12> [Section 2.5](#): If a value for the **SessionID** key is not specified, a new session is created for the duration of this connection.

6 Change Tracking

No table of changes is available. The document is either new or has had no changes since its last release.

7 Index

A

[Applicability](#) 7

C

[Change tracking](#) 25

E

Examples
[overview](#) 17

F

[Fields - vendor-extensible](#) 8

G

[Glossary](#) 5

I

Implementer
[security considerations](#) 20
[Index of security parameters](#) 20
[Informative references](#) 6
[Introduction](#) 5

L

[Localization](#) 8

N

[Normative references](#) 6

O

[Overview](#) 7

P

Parameters
[security index](#) 20
[Product behavior](#) 21

R

[References - informative](#) 6
[References - normative](#) 6
[References - overview](#) 6
[Relationship to other protocols](#) 7

S

[Security - implementer considerations](#) 20
[Security - overview](#) 20
[Security - parameter index](#) 20

Structures
[overview](#) 9

T

[Tracking changes](#) 25

V

[Vendor-extensible fields](#) 8
[Versioning](#) 8