

Gain Deeper Insights from All Your Data as You Move Toward Industry 4.0

Drive manufacturing efficiencies and other critical improvements with Microsoft SQL Server on Dell Technologies solutions.



If you're in manufacturing today, you're keenly aware of Industry 4.0 and the importance of embracing digital transformation to reap benefits that were not possible just a few years ago. You've likely had a glimpse of how technology can enable digital connections between systems, capital machines, products and people. And you may be wondering, what's your next move?

Making these connections isn't always easy, especially when you have remote workers out in the field (the far edge), production engineers and maintenance planners at the factory, your IT experts located centrally (at the traditional data center or private cloud), and your data spread across edge and hybrid cloud environments. The ever-growing amount of disparate data also makes it difficult to efficiently tap into data formats (structured and unstructured) and resources (such as ERP systems, sensors and cameras).

As manufacturers continue to roll out modernization initiatives, explore new use cases, and extend the digital thread further, it's clear that data is more important than ever. Getting the right information to the right people is imperative — on the right devices and in a timely manner.

Strategic use of your data can ultimately help you boost agility, reduce costs, generate supply chain efficiencies, improve product quality, optimize equipment assets, and so much more. And your ability to extract information for more effective decision-making will determine your success moving forward.

The good news is that Dell Technologies and Microsoft can help you unleash your data and revitalize business processes with greater insights and analytics. Using Microsoft® data platform solutions — including Azure® SQL Edge, SQL Server® 2019 and Azure Arc data services — and powering them with Dell Technologies infrastructure can extend your digital thread while supporting, managing and optimizing all data.

Draw insight from all data with SQL Server.

As modern manufacturing processes generate and consume more data, an increasingly efficient database solution is needed. Microsoft SQL Server is a proven solution that can be effective wherever your manufacturing processes are taking place. It enables you to access your data wherever it resides, without having to perform inefficient, time-consuming and risky extract, transform, load (ETL) processes.

Operating in the core, SQL Server 2019 enables data virtualization using PolyBase technology, which accesses and combines both relational and non-relational data residing in different locations.

Data virtualization is the process of abstracting data — rather than copying or moving it — from different sources, locations and formats into a single logical data layer. As data sets grow larger and it becomes harder to copy or move them around, accessing that data where it resides is often the best option. Administrators can query that information from a single, unified interface. Also, since SQL Server supports Python® and R, developers can implement machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) models that natively process data stored in SQL Server databases.

Technology advancements in SQL Server 2019 help simplify and unify your data management platform, providing analytics, resources and insight over all data from a common interface. SQL Server 2019 Big Data Clusters (BDC) is a unified big data platform that combines SQL Server, Apache® Spark®, and Hadoop® Distributed File System (HDFS) across a cluster of Kubernetes® nodes. This new architecture includes support for Linux® OS, database containerization and PolyBase technology.

Azure SQL Edge is designed specifically for edge deployments. A small-footprint, edge-optimized SQL database engine with built-in AI, Azure SQL Edge offers data streaming and time series, with in-database ML and graph features for low-latency analytics. It brings the security and performance of the SQL Server engine to the edge, helping you process your data while also optimizing bandwidth, reaction time and cost. The data can be synchronized back to on-premises SQL Server 2019 servers.

For hybrid cloud strategies that need to share data and applications between on- and off-premises, Azure Arc enables manufacturers to standardize Microsoft Azure data services anywhere across locations. You can build applications using Kubernetes within Azure and port them to any location within the data center or at the edge.



Dell Technology solutions are optimized for SQL Server at the edge, private cloud or public cloud.

Dell Technologies has the compute, storage, networking and data protection solutions optimized to run SQL Server 2019 data estates. More importantly, these solutions are designed to support your technology environment and business needs today and well into the future.

- Dell EMC PowerEdge servers help organizations meet the demands of digital transformation with a secure infrastructure that is equipped to meet analytics and business intelligence demands. Every PowerEdge server is designed with intrinsic security from concept to retirement. The PowerEdge portfolio is your innovation engine, delivering technology and solutions to help you innovate, adapt and grow.
 - Dell EMC PowerEdge XE servers are purpose-built for complex, emerging workloads that require high performance and large storage. These robust servers deliver the reliability and security for demanding applications either inside the data center or in extreme conditions.
- Dell EMC Storage solutions can be right-sized for performance and capacity at initial deployment, and scale to meet future needs. This includes inline data efficiencies and integrated copy data management, which provide orchestration and self-service for database administrators (DBAs).
- Dell EMC Data Protection solutions eliminate the complexity of traditional backup software. This makes it easier for SQL Server administrators to protect data and manage backup requirements on their own terms, leveraging the most trusted backup storage software and infrastructure on the market today.
- Dell Technologies Open Networking solutions are designed for highly distributed SQL Server environments. Our full line of Ethernet switches and software deliver the performance, flexibility, scalability and connectivity needed to collect data that's distributed across the data estate — from edge to core to cloud — and enable you to query SQL instances from any location.

When supported by a Dell EMC infrastructure, optimized for SQL Server BDC, manufacturers can deploy scalable Kubernetes clusters of Spark, HDFS and SQL Server. With Dell EMC Container Storage Interface (CSI) plugins, you can deliver secure, isolated containers quickly and easily while simplifying provisioning, management and orchestration of container storage. CSI connections for block and file storage systems allow extensible, secure and reliable data service persistency for big data workloads on containers.

We offer flexibility and choice to design a solution that aligns with your strategy — whether that's bare metal, a virtualized or containerized environment, on-premises, or as a hybrid cloud. And, with an eye to the future, our solutions are designed to scale as your business grows, enabling you to take advantage of technology enhancements down the road.

You're never alone with Dell Technologies and Microsoft.

As you embrace digitization across your ecosystem and develop Industry 4.0 capabilities, take advantage of insights along the way. Whether you're relying on sensor data or information pertaining to your supply chain, doing predictive analytics on connected machinery, or incorporating data from your ERP system, use that information and take your decision-making to the next level.

You do not have to embark on your SQL Server modernization journey alone. Dell Technologies and Microsoft have partnered for over 30 years — from joint development to solution validation to customer support. Dell Technologies has the breadth and depth — from edge to core to cloud — with the services expertise needed to support you every step of the way.

Dell Technologies Services and data-centric specialty teams can help you set a solid, foundational set of goals and develop a roadmap for modernization, including migration, consolidation and upgrading to SQL Server 2019. Our industry experts offer strategic guidance and proven practical capabilities to help you accelerate time to value of your SQL Server objectives. Our team can help your organization achieve its full potential with a data strategy designed to meet you where you are, on any platform, with the tools and languages of your choice.

Drawing upon our deep industry expertise and collaborative approach, we help you control costs, increase profitability and maximize return on technology investments. Hundreds of well-known engineering-intensive manufacturers worldwide trust Dell Technologies Services to deliver technology and processes that help meet the most challenging business goals. Our customers include leading manufacturers in aerospace and defense, automotive, durable goods, high tech, industrial equipment, mill products and processing operations.

At the same time, Dell Financial Services, part of the Dell Technologies family, delivers innovative payment solutions for hardware, software and services. Simply align and scale the cost of IT solutions with technology consumption and budget availability. We can help you make it happen.



Contact us today.

Discover the advantages of Azure SQL Edge and SQL Server 2019 and how Dell Technologies solutions can move you closer to a data strategy that delivers manufacturing insights across your entire ecosystem — from the edge to the data center and your hybrid cloud.



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