Using the databases of the boek 'Databases and SQL'



Using Access

the software package Access

In order to use the Access database the Access software must be installed on your PC. As an alternative you can use an Access database in SQL-server.

the database itself

Immediately after downloading the Access database you can start using it. In the Access database the tables of both databases of the book are present. These databases are described in chapter 6 of the book. In this chapter you will also find the content of the tables.

how to make queries using Access

In order to make queries in Access you need to do:

- click on the file of the database. An Access screen will be shown. On that screen you can get the question whether you want to allow expressions/options. There can also be the question whether you will allow unsafe options of the database. In order to be able to use the database correctly you will have to allow all of these things
- select the screen with queries. The first query you will find there is 'BOOK query'
- click on 'BOOK query'. You will get a screen with the output of the 'BOOK query'
- go to the output screen in SQL mode. You can do this by clicking on the top beam of the query screen using the right side mouse click. In that screen you can alter the query into any query you would like to execute
- in the screen in SQL mode there is a button 'execute', shown as an exclamation mark. For executing the query you need to click on this button
- save the query you made by (while the screen with the query is active) by using 'save as', clicking 'save object' and using the button 'save as' that comes up. Give it a new name and use 'query' for 'as'.

In this way you can again and again make and store new queries.

Using Oracle

script and database environment

For using Oracle you need to download and execute the script CRDBSCRe.txt (see the website tonderooij.com --> downloads). The script makes the databases available for Oracle. On your PC Oracle or a client for Oracle must be installed. You can download the script. It is called CRDBSCRe.txt. It is a text file (TXT) without formatting.

installing the practice databases

The script installs the two practice databases as one database. This is possible because the names of all tables that are part of the databases have different names. This makes it possible to enter SQL instructions like queries for each of the databases without changing to another database.

executing the script CRDBSCRe.txt

In order to install the practice databases the script (named CRDBSCRe.txt) and 'SQL Plus' is needed. Put the script in a location of which you know how you can indicate it. For example in a folder 'sql' on the C disk.

Installing is done as follows:

- start 'SQL Plus'
- log in in de database
- 'SQL Plus' gives the prompt 'SQL>'
- start the script. You do this by typing after the prompt:

SQL> START C:\sql\crdbscr.txt <type enter>

It may take a few moments. After that you will see the prompt again ('SQL>'). The two practice database are installed and you can immediately use them.

The practice database are described in the book in chapter 6. There you can also find the content of the tables.

Using 'SQL Plus' to make and execute queries

Start 'SQL Plus'. You can issue SQL commands after the prompt 'SQL>'. An SQL command can be spread by using multiple lines. This is not the case for all commands you can issue. Non-SQL commands, like the earlier mentioned START command are executed immediately after typing an enter. An SQL command like the the SELECT command starts its execution as soon as you enter a line ending with ;. You must use the ; at the end of the last line of the command.

Please try:

SQL>	select *	<type enter=""></type>
2	from location;	
Туре е	nter.	

This returns:

LOCNAME	BRANCH	CITY
FASTBITE	CATERING	KINGSTON
FONG	CATERING	KINGSTON
MADISON	HOTEL	BRENTWOOD
OKOTEL	HOTEL	BRENTWOOD
RHODOS	CATERING	LAKEWOOD
SEAVIEW	HOTEL	FREEPORT

The 2 that comes up on the next line after typing 'select *' and typing enter is a continuation prompt that 'SQL Plus' generates itself. Every line after that gets a number. This continues until you end the command with ; of with / (when you use / than this must be the only character on the line).

Editing commands in 'SQL Plus'

Editing commands in 'SQL Plus' is possible but it is not something that I recommend. It is better to use Word for editing separately from 'SQL Plus' (or some other text

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editor).

Compose and execute a command as follows:

- compose the command by using a text editor (Word)
 - copy and paste the command after the SQL prompt (the things you did previously stay on the screen. You can even scroll back the entire session)
 - close the command with ; or with / (the / only when the cursor is on a line where nothing else is written) and type enter

If you want to alter the SELECT command do this in your text editor. After you have done this you can paste the altered command after the new SQL prompt, et cetera.

Use of the script in other software environments

The script CRDBSCRe.txt can be used in other SQL environments for creating the databases. The script has been made uses general SQL syntaxis. After you have executed the script the tables of the book will be available and you can try out your queries on them.