

**Abstract:**

An order entry and wireless data collection system using Tcl and SQLite.

Author: Steve Redler IV, SR Technology Aug 11, 2008

The challenge of acquiring, testing, deploying and running a new enterprise software package is a daunting task. But, after the failure of such an exercise, the next logical solution was to roll our own. The new challenge was to do it in an accelerated time frame with fewer resources. Enter Tcl & SQLite.

Within one month's time, a complete order entry system was written using pure Tcl/Tk and a simple Tcl based fixed record database server. As data accumulated, database performance dropped drastically due to the linear searching. One afternoon, the database i/o driver was swapped out for a quick performance test, which yielded a 4000 fold increase in searching speed. After evaluating the SQLite based engine for 4 months we have found no compelling reasons to swap it out with anything else.

This paper covers the process of selecting the design and tools to complete this project, as well as the challenges that were solved using pure Tcl/Tk and the SQLite database extension.