



President's Remarks

I am super excited to announce that earlier this month I was awarded a Microsoft Access Most Valuable Professional (MVP) Award for 2018-2019! This is a huge milestone for me, and will hopefully lead to benefits for my customers and colleagues as well. I am going to attend a summit in March at the Microsoft campus and meet with other Access and other technology MVPs, as well as spend 3 days in sessions on various products. Although there will be instances where I am privy to information that I cannot pass along to you, hopefully this information will allow me to steer you down the correct path for your application's future, and I should also be one of the first to know about information that CAN be passed along.

Who knows - my newsletter may even improve!

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President
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Access Lunchtime - Securing Your Access Application

Security is on the forefront of nearly everyone's radar lately. This month's Access Lunchtime webinar will cover how to [secure your Access Application](#). Maria Barnes will discuss different methods of providing security and review when to consider each method. Come join us! If you miss this presentation, check the [Access Lunchtime website](#) several days later for a link to the recording of the session.

Microsoft Whiteboard Preview-the freeform canvas for creative collaboration

In December Microsoft made this [announcement](#) detailing a new Microsoft Whiteboard Preview app now available to English versions of Windows 10 devices. I am particularly excited about using this for design meetings. Whiteboards are sometimes immensely helpful to draw out relationships which are difficult to portray on other collaboration tools like OneNote.

Microsoft halts AMD Meltdown and Spectre patches after reports of unbootable PCs

Microsoft has paused distributing its Meltdown and Spectre security updates for some older AMD machines after reports of PCs not booting. See details in this [article](#) from the Verge. Reportedly the issue should be corrected soon!

Should I customize the software or my process?

This is an interesting question. Many businesses purchase commercial off the shelf software, then are frustrated because they can no longer use the same business process that they have been using with the software. One of the first instincts is to hire someone to customize the software to better fit their existing business processes. Another common approach is to have a custom report or software piece built using data from the off the shelf software (this can be cheaper than a SAP consultant if using a tool like Excel or Access for instance). Perhaps you should step back and consider why the software was designed the way it is? It might be better to modify your business process to fit industry standards that were hopefully taken into account during the software design. Food for thought!

