Single-Column Lookup Table: Why Avoid Them?!
A Case Study

Application: Hotel Reservation

TBL-ROOM-TYPE ←————————————→ TBL-RESERVATION

Management Reporting:
Q: What percentage of our reservations has been for our Suites?

Fact:
The room type that used to be called *Corporate Suite* was later changed to *Suite*.

Single-Column Lookup Table

BEFORE name change

TBL-ROOM-TYPE   TBL-RESERVATION

ROOM-TYPE
Single
Double
Corporate Suite

RES-ID			ROOM-TYPE
1			Double
2			Single
3			Double
4			Corporate Suite

AFTER name change

TBL-ROOM-TYPE   TBL-RESERVATION

ROOM-TYPE
Single
Double
Suite

RES-ID			ROOM-TYPE
1			Double
2			Single
3			Double
4			Corporate Suite
5			Suite
6			Suite

Q: What percentage of our reservations has been for our Suites?
A: 2/6 = 33%

Double-Column Lookup Table

BEFORE name change

TBL-ROOM-TYPE

ROOM-TYPE-ID	ROOM-TYPE
1	Single
2	Double
3	Corporate Suite

TBL-RESERVATION

RES-ID			ROOM-TYPE
1			2
2			1
3			2
4			3

AFTER name change

TBL-ROOM-TYPE

ROOM-TYPE-ID	ROOM-TYPE
1	Single
2	Double
3	Suite

TBL-RESERVATION

RES-ID			ROOM-TYPE-ID
1			2
2			1
3			2
4			3
5			3
6			3

Q: What percentage of our reservations has been for our Suites?
A: 3/6 = 50%