SQL - DEFAULT CONSTRAINT

The DEFAULT constraint provides a default value to a column when the INSERT INTO statement does not provide a specific value.

Example:

For example, the following SQL creates a new table called CUSTOMERS and adds five columns. Here, SALARY column is set to 5000.00 by default, so in case INSERT INTO statement does not provide a value for this column, then by default this column would be set to 5000.00.

```
CREATE TABLE CUSTOMERS(
      ID   INT              NOT NULL,
      NAME VARCHAR (20)     NOT NULL,
      AGE  INT              NOT NULL,
      ADDRESS  CHAR (25) ,
      SALARY   DECIMAL (18, 2) DEFAULT 5000.00,
      PRIMARY KEY (ID)
);
```

If CUSTOMERS table has already been created, then to add a DFAULT constraint to SALARY column, you would write a statement similar to the following:

```
ALTER TABLE CUSTOMERS
   MODIFY SALARY  DECIMAL (18, 2) DEFAULT 5000.00;
```

Drop Default Constraint:

To drop a DEFAULT constraint, use the following SQL:

```
ALTER TABLE CUSTOMERS
   ALTER COLUMN SALARY DROP DEFAULT;
```