

# Copy CMTrace.exe into the Full Windows OS in a task sequence

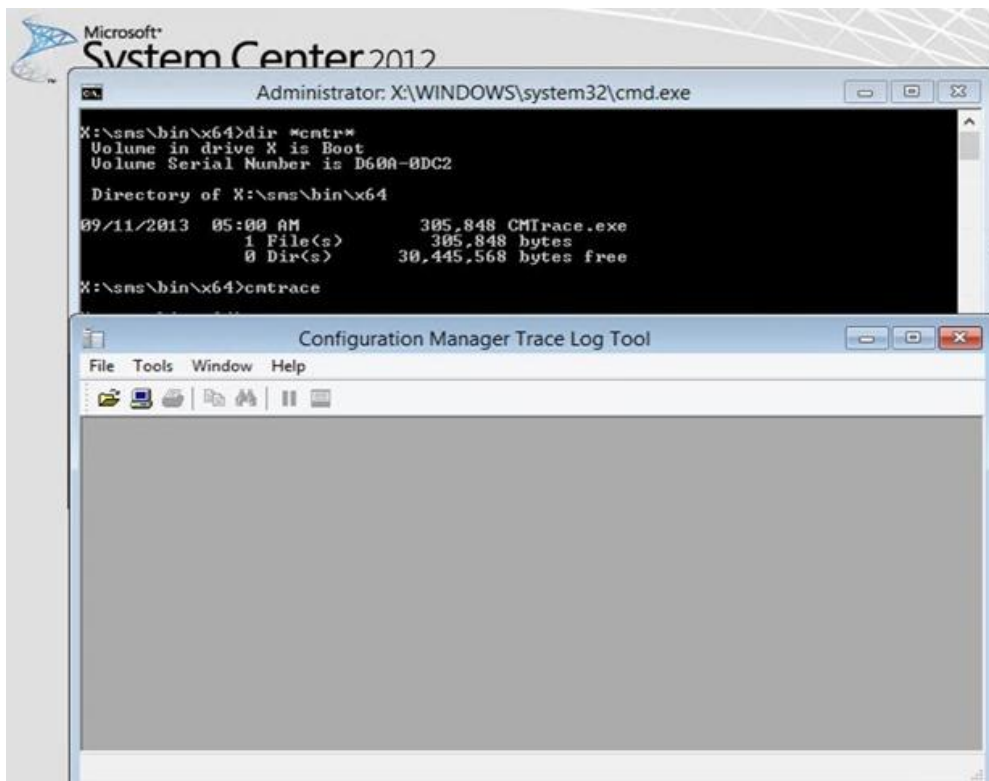
 [Justin Chalfant](#) August 7, 2014 **11** Technet

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## \Scenario:

I often work with customers using operating system deployment. We usually end up using **CMTrace.exe** (Log viewing tool for ConfigMgr 2012) to troubleshoot or understand what's happening in the background.

This is really easy to do in WinPE (Windows PE) portion of a task sequence since **CMTrace.exe is built into the boot image** in ConfigMgr 2012 R2.



Once the task sequence installs the operating system, it will then reboot into the full operating system from WinPE. Viewing logs becomes a little more tricky now since **CMTrace.exe is not built into any of our operating systems**.

You would have to map a network drive to a location where CMTrace.exe is located to view logs in while running a task sequence after you are in the full OS.

## Adding CMTrace.exe into the full OS:

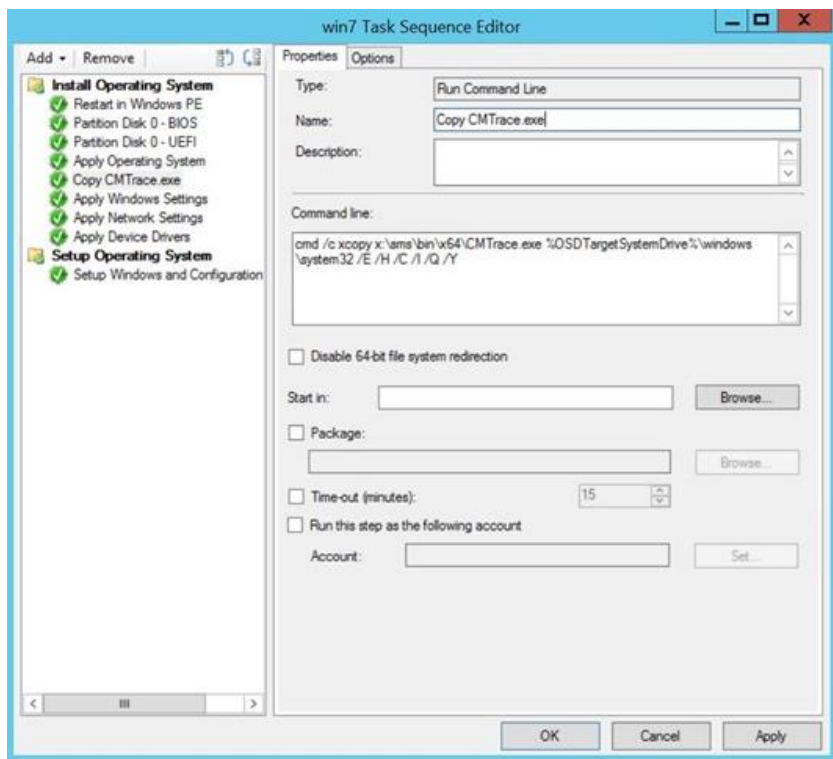
I'm going to show an easy way to **copy CMTrace.exe while still in WinPE phase of the task sequence to the volume where the OS WIM was applied.**

We will use the **"Run Command Line" step in the task sequence right after the "Apply Operating System" step.** At this point of the task sequence, we are still in WinPE so we will have access to CMTrace.exe from the X: drive.

The command line we need to run is for **x64 boot images: cmd /c xcopy x:\sms\bin\x64\CMTrace.exe %OSDTargetSystemDrive%\windows\system32\ /E /H /C /I /Q /Y**

The command line we need to run is for **x86 boot images: cmd /c xcopy x:\sms\bin\i386\CMTrace.exe %OSDTargetSystemDrive%\windows\system32\ /E /H /C /I /Q /Y**

This is simply going to copy CMTrace.exe WinPE / X: drive to the volume where the OS WIM file was applied.



This will allow us to **run CMTrace.exe when we get into the full OS** portion of the task sequence or anytime after the task sequence is completed as well.

If you are running a **"Build and Capture" task sequence** it would probably make more sense to run this step during that instead of the deploy task sequence.

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