**Server Side Trace Instead of SQL Profiler**

**What is the Server Side Trace?**

While the SQL Profiler (using the GUI) is a great tool, it does come at a cost to performance.  To circumvent the resource utilization, we can use the Server side Trace to capture the same data as the SQL Profiler.  The Server Side Trace actually executes the TSQL scripts on the server rather than using the GUI.  And this is a better alternative to the SQL Profiler.

The benefits of using SST allows us to monitor:

      long-running traces

      Reduce network bandwidth as the script is executed on the server

      can automate the script with a job

      Easy customizable scripts

The Server Side SQL Trace uses four stored procedures to execute the trace.  They are:

sp\_trace\_create

sp\_trace\_setevent

sp\_trace\_setfilter

sp\_trace\_setstatus

Here is the site to review in detail the four sprocs

https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms190362.aspx

To review the SST here are a few TSQL commands:

-- Shows you the path, status, ID of the saved SST

SELECT \* FROM sys.traces

SELECT \* FROM fn\_trace\_getinfo(default);

Exec sp\_trace\_setstatus 1, 0 -- 0 = stop trace with id 1

Exec sp\_trace\_setstatus 1, 2 -- 2 = delete trace with id

-- find the properties of the trace

SELECT \* FROM sys.traces

Exec sp\_trace\_setstatus 2, 0 -- 0 = stop trace with id 1

Exec sp\_trace\_setstatus 2, 2 -- 2 = delete trace with id

---generate activity:

use master

go

create database test123

use test123

go

create table names

(col int)

drop table names

use master

go

drop database test123