# Module 4: MERGE and INSERT OVER DML

# **Introducing MERGE**

- Four statements in one
  - SELECT (with JOIN)
  - INSERT
  - UPDATE
  - □ DELETE
- And even more...
  - OUTPUT clause
  - INSERT OVER DML
- Operates on a join
  - Between source and target
  - Type of join based on merge clause(s)
- More maintainable—and efficient—than individual statements
  - 100% compatible with existing business logic
  - Existing triggers continue to work

## **MERGE Syntax**

```
MERGE target
 USING source
 ON join
  WHEN MATCHED
   UPDATE | DELETE
  WHEN NOT MATCHED [BY TARGET]
   INSERT
  WHEN NOT MATCHED BY SOURCE
   UPDATE | DELETE
```

Using MERGE to manage a stock portfolio

Replicating Tables with MERGE

Examining the Query Execution Plan for MERGE

# **Introducing INSERT OVER DML**

## **DML Output**

- INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, and MERGE all support the OUTPUT clause
  - Captures before-and-after snapshots of modified data via INSERTED and DELETED pseudo-tables (just like triggers)
  - MERGE adds \$action virtual column (returning INSERT, UPDATE or DELETE)
- OUTPUT INTO can capture the change data to a table or table variable
  - Suffers from one limitation no filtering
  - Solution use INSERT OVER DML
- INSERT OVER DML Syntax
  - Wrap an INSERT around any DML that has an OUTPUT (not OUTPUT INTO) clause
  - Use CHANGES to map OUTPUT columns from the inner DML statement for use in the outer INSERT statement

## **INSERT OVER DML Syntax**

```
INSERT INTO target(columns)
SELECT columns FROM
  (any DML statement with OUTPUT)
CHANGES(columns)
WHERE filter
```

Capturing Change Data with OUTPUT INTO

Capturing Change Data with INSERT OVER DML