

SQL Traffic Accelerator[®]

Version 2.8



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SQL Traffic Accelerator Home

SQL Traffic Accelerator is a utility that installs on SQL Server and its clients that compresses and optimizes the SQL Server TDS protocol by as much as 90%. This process greatly reduces bandwidth requirements and significantly improves performance.

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Welcome to SQL Traffic Accelerator

The SQL Traffic Accelerator is an innovative technology that compresses network traffic for SQL Server 2000, 2005, 2008, 2012, and 2014. By optimizing the Tabular Data Stream (TDS) protocol, SQL Traffic Accelerator allows for better data transfer performance while reducing bandwidth utilization.

This wiki helps you understand SQL Traffic Accelerator characteristics and provides step-by-step help on how to use all its features.

Need help using SQL Traffic Accelerator? See the following sections:

- [How to install the SQL Traffic Accelerator](#)
- [Start or stop SQL Traffic Accelerator](#)
- [Encrypt returned SQL Server instance data](#)
- [Manage SQL Traffic Accelerator on your instances](#)

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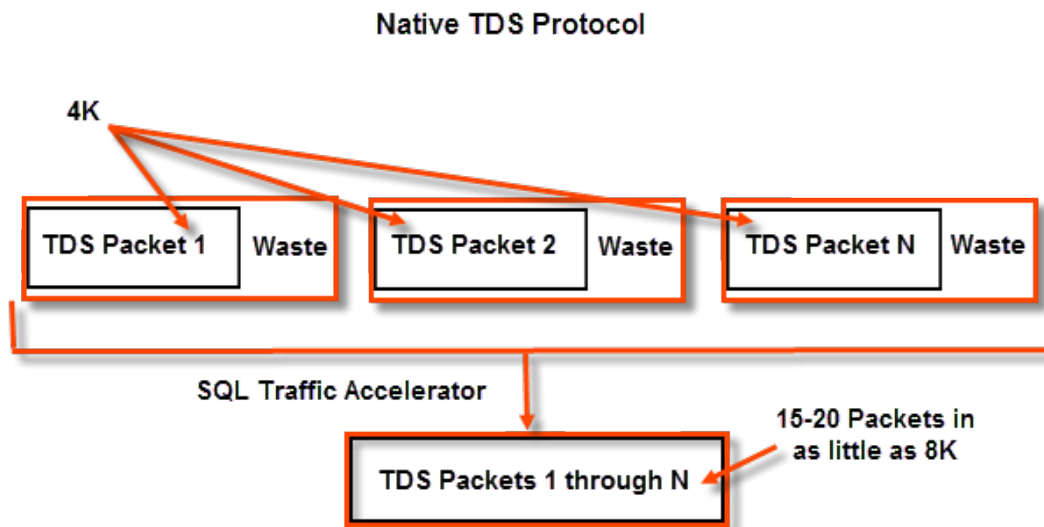
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What is SQL Traffic Accelerator?

Idera SQL Traffic Accelerator sits between SQL Server and its clients and turns the normally inefficient SQL Server TDS protocol into a tight, highly compressed, and optimized protocol. The following image shows the native TDS protocol versus the SQL Traffic Accelerator protocol.

TCP Buffer Usage



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How SQL Traffic Accelerator helps

SQL Traffic Accelerator provides:

- **Efficient use of TCP/IP protocol.** Not only is bandwidth and performance improved through compression, but the TCP/IP protocol is also more efficiently used by turning TDS into a variable length protocol. Whereas the native protocol would transfer one packet of 4096 bytes into a single TCP buffer, SQL Traffic Accelerator packs 15 or more packets into a single buffer. It is not uncommon for a 4K packet to be reduced to a mere 300 or 400 bytes.
- **Improved performance.** Because SQL Traffic Accelerator is specifically developed to optimize the TDS protocol, it has a far greater impact on bandwidth and performance than hardware compression technologies. Additionally, SQL Traffic Accelerator uses adaptive compression technology that automatically detects when uncompressible data is encountered, so SQL Traffic Accelerator never has a negative impact on performance.
- **Simplified networks.** This compression and optimization takes low-speed WAN connections and makes them perform nearly on par with 100 BASE-T connections, and 100 BASE-T connections perform on par with 1000 BASE-T connections or better. Additionally, SQL Traffic Accelerator can be used to free up bandwidth on congested networks, regardless of speed.

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Find answers

This documentation set includes a comprehensive online Help system as well as additional resources that support you as you install and use the product. You can also search the Idera Solutions knowledge base, available at the Idera Customer Service Portal (<http://www.idera.com/support/faq>).

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Contact Idera

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For a complete list of our partners, please visit our Idera website.

Sales	713.523.4433 1.877.GO.IDERA (464.3372) (only in the United States and Canada)
Sales Email	sales@idera.com
Support	713.533.5144 1.877.GO.IDERA (464.3372) (only in the United States and Canada) www.idera.com/support
Website	www.idera.com

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Using Help

The Idera wiki includes a comprehensive online Help system as well as additional resources that support you as you install and use Idera products. You can also search multiple Idera support solutions, available at <http://www.idera.com/support/faq>

Additionally, Idera helps you by providing:

- 24/7 technical support for critical issues.
- Availability to report cases and access a web-based customer portal for update status.
- Access to our [Knowledge center](#) where you can find FAQs, How To's, Best Practices, and Webcasts.

This wiki includes the following Web browser minimum requirements:

- Internet Explorer 8.0
- Mozilla Firefox 4
- Google Chrome 6

You can access the Idera SQL Admin Toolset Help system through the **Help** icon on the top right section of your window or by pressing F1 on the section where you need more information.

You can print a help topic from the wiki using the Print function in your browser.

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Document conventions

Idera documentation uses consistent conventions to help you identify items throughout the printed online library.

Convention	Specifying
Bold	Window items
<i>Italics</i>	Book and CD titles Variable names New terms
Fixed Font	File and directory names Commands and code examples Text typed by you
Straight brackets, as in [value]	Optional command parameters
Curly braces, as in {value}	Required command parameters
Logical OR, as in value 1 value 2	Exclusively command parameters where only one of the options can be specified

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About Idera

Idera is a leading provider of application and server management solutions. We have a wide variety of performance management products for Microsoft SQL Server, and award-winning server backup solutions for both managed service providers and enterprise customers. Idera products install in minutes and start solving server problems immediately, giving administrators more time, reduced overhead and expenses, and increased server performance and reliability. We are a Microsoft Gold Certified partner, headquartered in Houston, Texas, with offices in Asia Pacific, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, Africa, and Latin America. So we're everywhere your IT needs are.

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Idera products

Our tools are engineered to scale from managing a single server to enterprise deployments with thousands of servers. Idera products combine ease of use with a design that installs in minutes, configures in hours, and deploys worldwide in days. To learn more about Idera products, visit the Idera Web site at www.idera.com.

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Get started

Idera SQL Traffic Accelerator helps you accelerate and secure your SQL Server applications. SQL Traffic Accelerator is a utility that installs on SQL Server and its clients that will compress and optimize the SQL Server TDS protocol by as much as 90%. This greatly reduces bandwidth requirements and significantly improves performance.

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Product requirements

You can easily and quickly install SQL Traffic Accelerator on any computer that meets or exceeds the following hardware, software, and permissions requirements. Consider the following requirements when installing SQL Traffic Accelerator in a typical environment.

Type	Requirement
Disk Space	3 MB
32-bit Operating System (Server)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows 2000 • Windows 2003 • Windows 2008 • Windows 2008 R2
64-bit Operating System (Server)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows 2003 • Windows 2008 • Windows 2008 R2 • Windows 2012 • Windows 2012 R2
32-bit Operating System (Client)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows XP • Windows Vista • Windows 7
64-bit Operating System (Client)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows Vista • Windows 7 • Windows 8 and 8.1
Microsoft SQL Server Standard or Enterprise Edition 32- or 64-bit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SQL Server 2000 • SQL Server 2005 • SQL Server 2008 • SQL Server 2008 R2 • SQL Server 2012 • SQL Server 2014
SQL Server Client 32- or 64-bit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDAC • Windows DAC • SQL Native Client (ADO, ADO.NET OLE DB, and ODBC)

SQL Traffic Accelerator permission requirements

To install SQL Traffic Accelerator, you must have administrative privileges on the target computer. If you receive an access error, check whether your currently logged on Windows

account includes administrator privileges.

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How to install the SQL Traffic Accelerator

You do not have to install SQL Traffic Accelerator on all clients, but only clients that have SQL Traffic Accelerator installed experience a performance improvement. Note that clients with SQL Traffic Accelerator can connect to non-SQL Traffic Accelerator servers.

Install SQL Traffic Accelerator on your computer or workstation. The installation steps are the same for both server and client.

To install SQL Traffic Accelerator:

1. Review the [product requirements](#).
2. Log in to the target computer using an account that has administrator permissions.
3. Download SQL Traffic Administrator.
4. Run the **SQLTrafficAccelerator.msi** file. The system displays the SQL Traffic Accelerator wizard.
5. Complete the installation wizard. The package installs the following files on the system:
 - **IderaTrafficManager.exe** (on 32-bit) or **IderaTrafficManager64.exe** (on 64-bit)
 - **IderaTrafficWatch.exe** (on 32-bit) or **IderaTrafficWatch64.exe** (on 64-bit)
 - **SQLTraffic.sys** (on 32-bit) or **SQLTraffic64.sys** (on 64-bit)
 - **SQLTrafficClient.dll** (on 32-bit) or **SQLTrafficClient64.dll** (on 64-bit)
 - **SQLTrafficPerformance.h**
 - **SQLTrafficPerformance.ini**
 - **SQLTrafficPrfInfo.dll** (on 32-bit) or **SQLTrafficPrfInfo64.dll** (on 64-bit)
 - **Idera license agreements**
6. Once the wizard is complete, you must restart your SQL Server and client applications.

To manually deploy SQL Traffic Accelerator:

1. Copy the previously-mentioned files to the target server and clients.
2. Use the following commands to manually register and then start the SQL Traffic Accelerator Service:
 - on 32-bit: `ideratrafficwatch -i`
or on 64-bit: `ideratrafficwatch64 -i`
 - on 32-bit: `ideratrafficwatch -s`
or on 64-bit: `ideratrafficwatch64 -s`

Silent install

Alternatively, you can use the Microsoft Installer in silent or quiet mode to simplify deployment. For more information about performing a silent installation, run `msiexec -?` to access the Microsoft installer command line documentation.

Terminal services install

When installing under terminal services it is important to ensure that you:

- Connect under administration mode
- Connect to the Console (session 0). To do this use the following command line:


```
mstsc -v:servername /F -console
```

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Configure your deployment

SQL Traffic Accelerator is designed to work seamlessly in the client-server model. Any application that is using MDAC or the SQL Native Client to connect to a SQL Server, such as SharePoint or SQL Management Studio, can use SQL Traffic Accelerator to compress and optimize the traffic. SQL Traffic Accelerator also supports server-to-server connections, such as Linked Servers, SSIS, Replication, or Analysis Services.

 All clients and servers are *not* required to have SQL Traffic Accelerator installed, but only connections that have SQL Traffic Accelerator on both ends will see a performance improvement.

After initially installing SQL Traffic Accelerator, there are a few tasks you might want to do to further customize and streamline your deployment including:

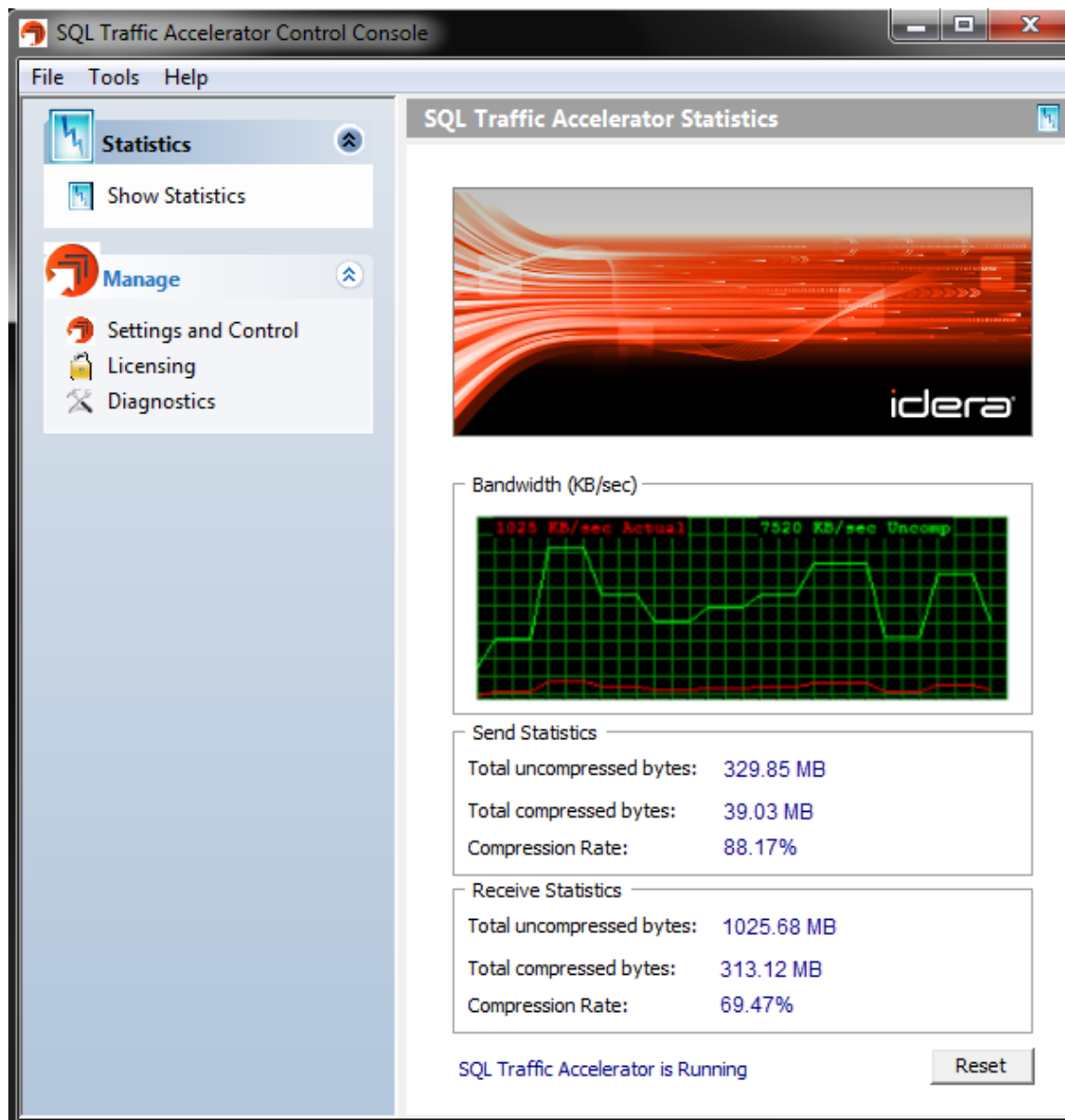
- [Access the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console](#)
- [Manage license](#)
- [Start or stop SQL Traffic Accelerator](#)
- [Encrypt returned SQL Server instance data](#)

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Access the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console

After installing SQL Traffic Accelerator, you can launch the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console by double-clicking the icon in the system tray or by right-clicking the icon, and then selecting **Open SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console**. The Console appears and shown in the following image.



Automatically start SQL Traffic Accelerator

By default, the **Auto start SQL Traffic Accelerator at system startup** box is checked to make sure you collect statistics while your system is in use. You can disable this feature in the SQL Traffic Accelerator Settings and Control window by clearing the checkbox.

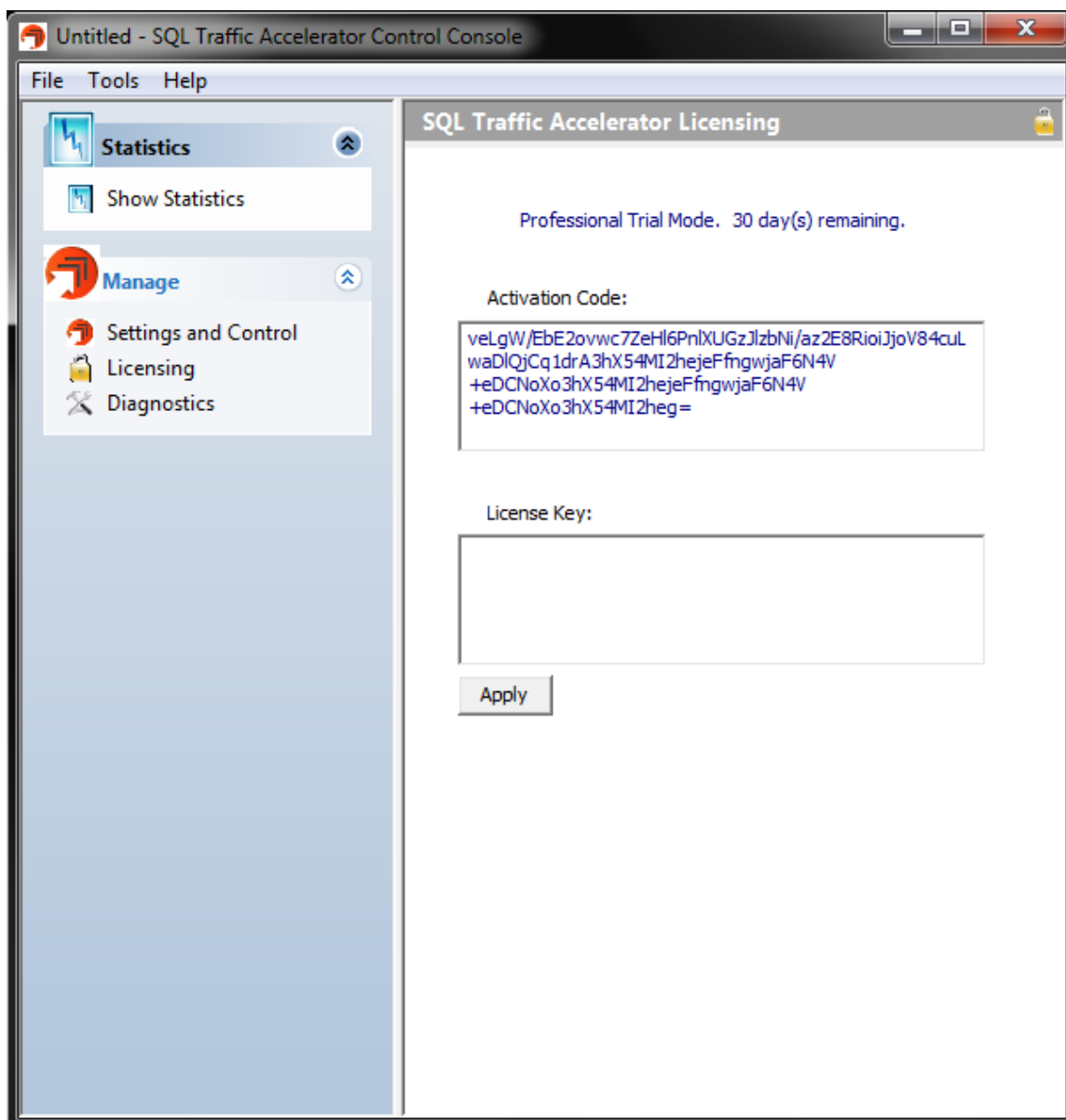
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Manage license

Idera requires a license for all server configurations, but client installations do not need a license to operate. You can use the same SQL Traffic Accelerator installer for both server and client installations. Note that on the client side, once the trial license expires, you can continue to use the product without a permanent license.

SQL Traffic Accelerator provides a licensing window for you to enter any new license key you may receive. To access this window from the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console, click **Licensing**. SQL Traffic Accelerator displays the SQL Traffic Accelerator Licensing window as shown in the following image.



To update your license key, enter the key in the **License Key** field, and then click **Apply**.

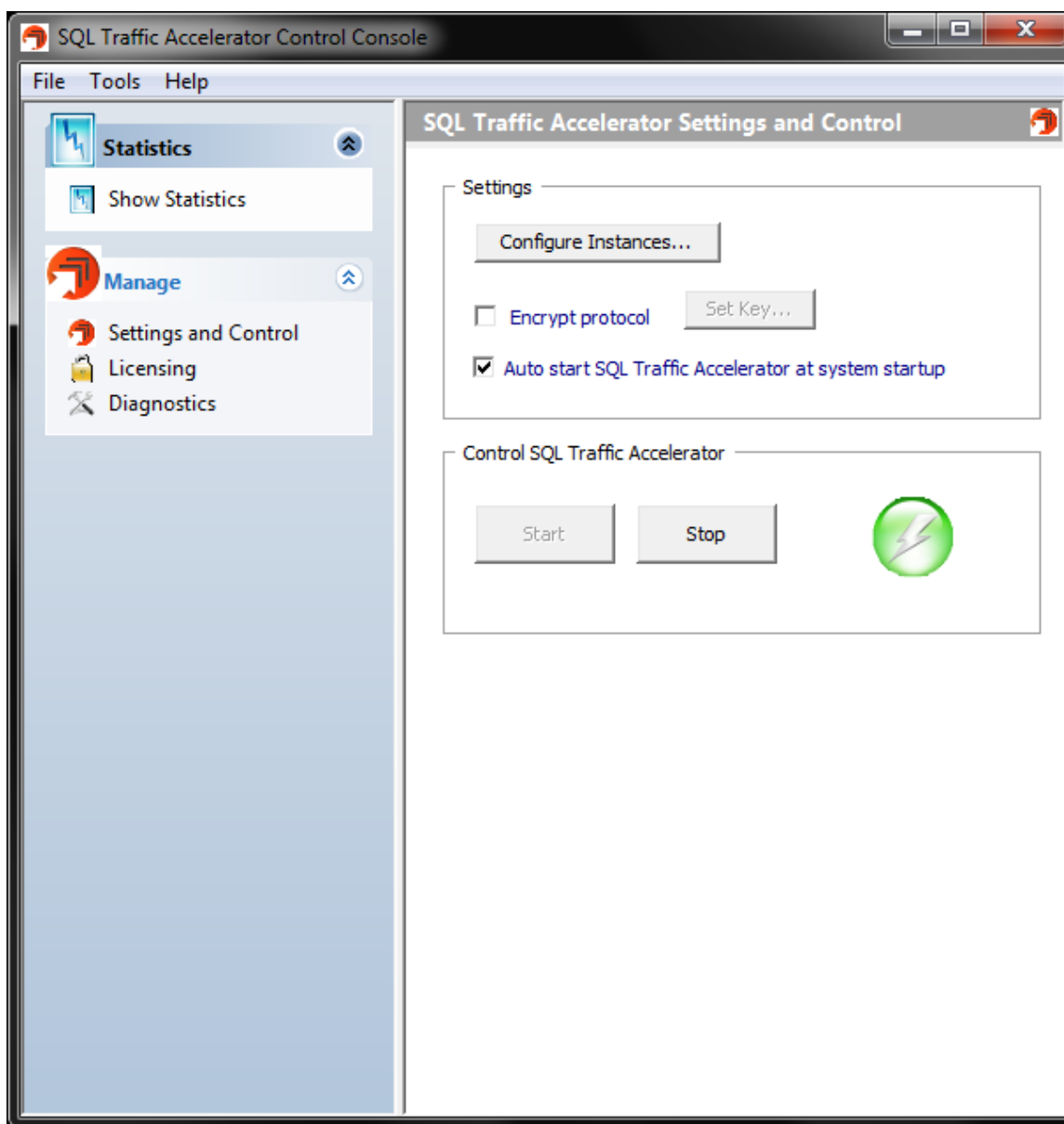
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Start or stop SQL Traffic Accelerator

You can stop or start the SQL Traffic Accelerator service from the System tray icon by right-clicking the icon, and then selecting **Start SQL Traffic Accelerator** or **Stop SQL Traffic Accelerator**.

You can also access this functionality through the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console window by clicking **Settings and Control**. SQL Traffic Accelerator displays the SQL Traffic Accelerator Settings and Control window as shown in the following image.



To start SQL Traffic Accelerator, click **Start**. Note that the icon in the **Control SQL Traffic Accelerator** box changes from red to green.

To stop SQL Traffic Accelerator, click **Stop**. The system displays a confirmation message to make sure you want to stop the service. Click **Yes** to continue. Note that the icon in the **Control**

SQL Traffic Accelerator box changes from green to red.



Available options

Note that the **Start** button is available only when SQL Traffic Accelerator service is stopped, and the **Stop** button is available only when SQL Traffic Accelerator service is started.

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Encrypt returned SQL Server instance data

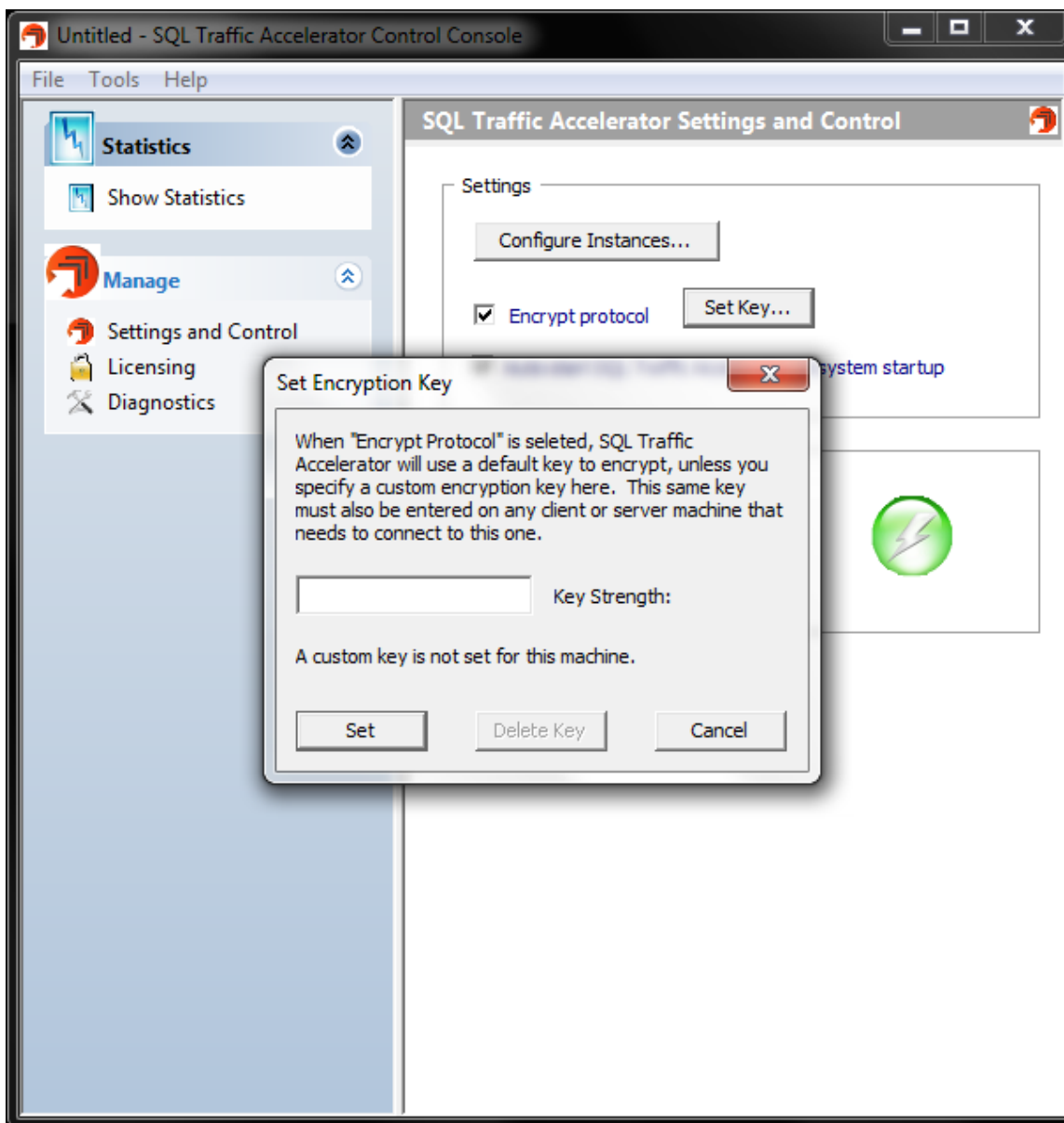
SQL Traffic Accelerator allows you to enable a high-speed, 128-bit encryption algorithm to encrypt the data returned from the server. Note that you need to enable this option only for the server-side installation.

To enable encryption:

1. Open the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console, and then click **Settings and Control**. The system displays the SQL Traffic Accelerator Settings and Control window.
2. Check the **Encrypt protocol** box. The system enables the **Set Key** button. ***If you want to use the default encryption key***, you are done. ***If you want to specify a custom encryption key***, continue with the next step.

 You must restart SQL Traffic Accelerator after setting a custom encryption key for the key to become active.

3. Click **Set Key**. The Set Encryption Key dialog box appears as shown in the following image.



4. Type a custom encryption key in the available field, and then click **Set**. SQL Traffic Accelerator displays a confirmation message to remind you that you must restart the program before you can begin using the key.
5. Click **OK** to close the message.

To delete a custom key, simply open the Set Encryption Key dialog box, and then click **Delete Key**. SQL traffic Accelerator displays a confirmation message to inform you that the key is deleted. Click **OK** to close the message.

To disable encryption:

1. Open the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console, and then click **Settings and Control**. The system displays the SQL Traffic Accelerator Settings and Control window.
2. Clear the **Encrypt protocol** box. The system disables the encryption protocol.

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Troubleshooting

If you are not seeing any compression statistics in the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console, ensure the following:

- SQL Traffic Accelerator was installed under an administrator account.
- Your SQL Server service was restarted after installation.
- You are connecting using the TCP/IP protocol. You may need to create an alias to do this, or simply disable the other protocols.
- If connecting locally, make sure that the shared memory protocol is disabled.
- If connecting from a client that was installed under terminal services, make sure the *Installing Under Terminal Services* section was followed.
- If you have reinstalled SQL Traffic Accelerator, that the machine has been rebooted.
- If you have restarted the SQL Traffic Accelerator Watch service, that your SQL client has been re-launched.
- All client applications that send traffic to SQL Server were re-launched. *Please note* that during testing, any time SQL Traffic Accelerator is started or stopped (via the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console or by starting/stopping the SQL Traffic Accelerator Watch service), your client applications must be closed and then re-launched.

SQL Traffic Accelerator also includes a diagnostic tool, which may be helpful in troubleshooting. You can access this tool via the help menu in the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console. This diagnostic output includes:

- Which SQL Servers are detected by SQL Traffic Accelerator and the protocols that are enabled for each.
- Whether SQL Traffic Accelerator's client-side functionality is currently enabled on the system, which usually indicates whether the SQL Traffic Accelerator Watch service is started or stopped.

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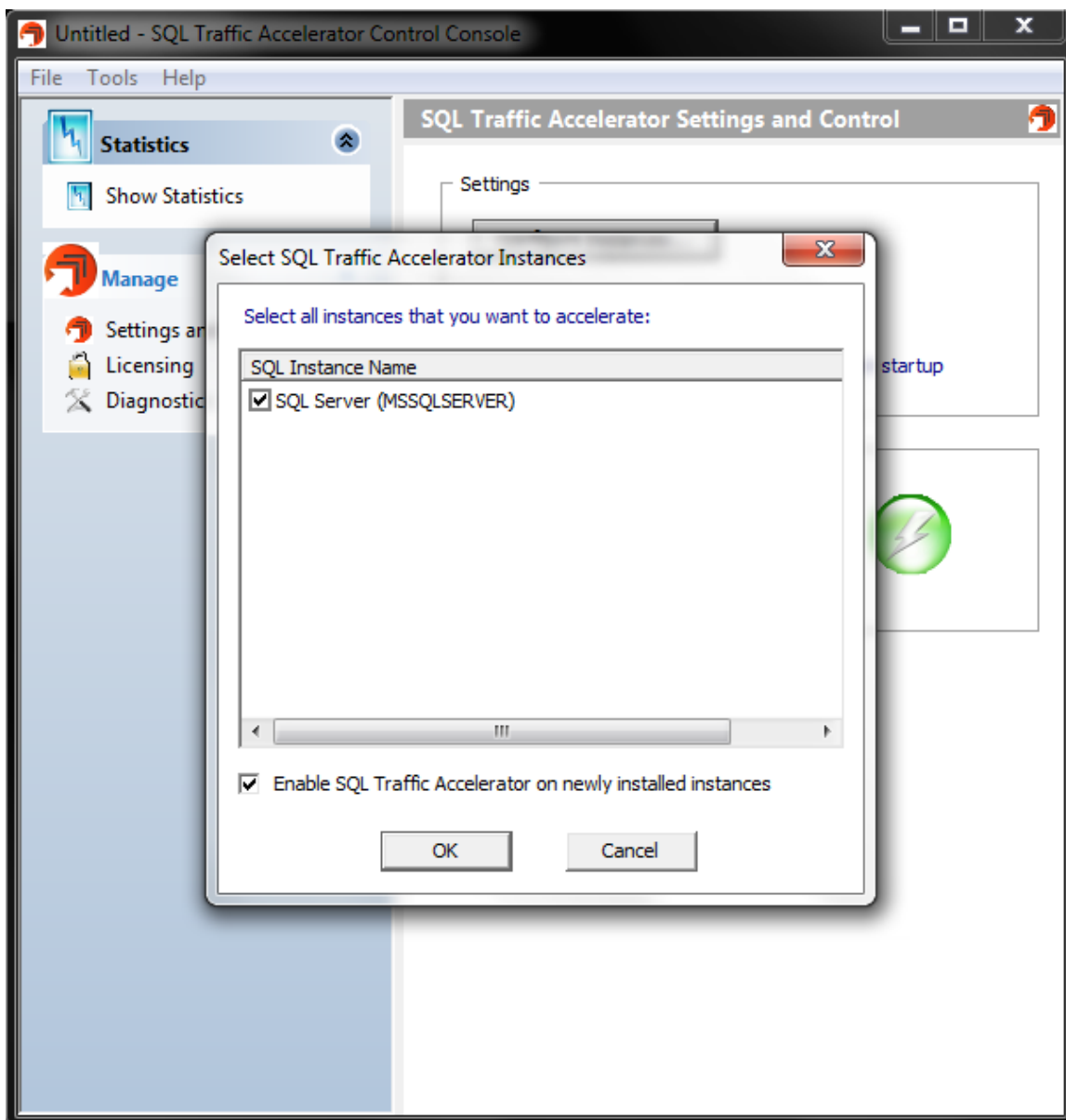
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Manage SQL Traffic Accelerator on your instances

By default, SQL Traffic Accelerator is enabled on all SQL Server instances in your environment. You can also select an option that automatically enables SQL Traffic Accelerator on each newly-installed instance.

To select a SQL Server instance for acceleration:

1. Open the SQL Traffic Accelerator Control Console, and then click **Settings and Control**. The system displays the SQL Traffic Accelerator Settings and Control window.
2. Click **Configure Instances**. The system displays the Select SQL Traffic Accelerator Instances window as shown in the following image.



3. Check the box(es) of any SQL Server instance on which you want to enable SQL Traffic Accelerator, and then click **OK**.

Enable SQL Traffic Accelerator on new instances

You can avoid accidentally leaving off a SQL Server instance from the SQL Traffic Accelerator list by enabling the product on all newly-installed instances.

To enable this feature, open the Select SQL Traffic Accelerator Instances window, check **Enable SQL Traffic Accelerator on newly installed instances**, and then click **OK**.

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