

# TracePlus32/ODBC

Version 2 (March 1996)

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## Using TracePlus32 with Visual Basic 4.00

To use TracePlus32 to trace Visual Basic 4.00 applications in DESIGN MODE, do the following:

1. Select the **Filters** item from the **Trace** menu.
2. Check the box next to the words *Launch application below*.
3. Press the *Choose Application* button. Find the Visual Basic 4.00 .EXE file, i.e. VB32.EXE (It usually is in the \VB40 directory). Double-click on it. The *Choose Application* dialog box will disappear, and the filename will appear in the **Filters** dialog box.
4. Press *Ok* to close the **Filters** dialog box.
5. Press the **Start** button on the toolbar, or select **Start** from the **Trace** menu.

## Special Notes for the 32 bit version of TracePlus:

- 32 bit versions of TracePlus use the standard Microsoft defined debugging interface for Win32 applications. The Microsoft interface does not permit detaching from a process after debugging has started. Therefore, if TracePlus is terminated, it will also terminate all processes being traced. Stopping the trace will not detach TracePlus from a process.

Be sure that if you are tracing a server application, leave the TracePlus32 application running after stopping the trace, or terminate the server application, and restart it (be sure that TracePlus32 is not running or the trace is stopped before starting the server

application again).

32 bit versions of TracePlus have an option called Trace Processes started from Desktop. This option is found in the **Filters** dialog box on the **Trace** menu. This feature will automatically trace an application under two conditions:

- The application has a main window (i.e., not a Win32 console application).
- The trace will be initiated at the point where the main window receives the WM\_CREATE message. This means that any API calls made before this message is received will not be traced.

The procedure for tracing 32 bit applications launched from the desktop is as follows:

1. Make sure that a checkmark is next to the item Trace processes started from desktop in the Filters dialog box.
2. Unselect the option *Launch specified application*
3. Press OK (not *Cancel*) to close the **Filters** dialog box.
4. Click on the *Start* button on the toolbar, or press Ctrl+S.
5. Launch the Win32 application that you want to trace. Make sure that it creates a main window.

## Sample Log File

We have included a trace log file that was generated using the new Export feature, so that you can see what this feature provides. To load the sample log file, select Import from the Trace menu, then choose SAMPLE.RDF (it will be in the same directory as TracePlus). Be sure to view the PC Configuration (This log was generated from the author's machine).

## New features for version 2.0

1. SQL Capture utility records all SQL statements obtained during tracing and the elapsed time of the statement execution. This information can be exported in tab delimited as well as comma delimited (CSV) formats.
2. Detailed data source and driver information dialog. View the columns and Indexes for each table in a selected data source.
3. Launch the ODBC Administrator from within TracePlus/ODBC.
4. Recursion level displayed in square brackets next to task name.
5. Columns are identified by name rather than by number.
6. The contents of each column in the result set are displayed in the SQLFetch/SQLExtendedFetch function displays.
7. Can save contents of the trace buffer to a file without previously specifying a file as a destination.
8. Append comments to a trace log while a trace is running.
9. Send your own formatted strings to the trace log via SSTPrintf()/SSTPrintfEx(). SSTPrintfEx() formats the string with the filename and line number prepended to the string.
10. Search for strings in the trace log from the Main Window. This facility previously existed only in the **Details** dialog box.

11. Import Trace logs from another copy of TracePlus/ODBC.
12. Export trace logs from a customer site to a file that can be imported into another copy of TracePlus/ODBC running on your PC.
13. Manually enter application names for tracing.
14. Set TracePlus to remain "on top" of other applications while tracing.
15. Specify a "machine name" for the workstation where TracePlus is running. This is used to differentiate users when tracing multiple workstations by writing to the same log file on a network drive.
16. All bug fixes up to April 31, 1995.

## Sample Log File

We have included a trace log file that was generated using the new *Export* feature, so that you can see what this feature provides. To load the sample log file, select **Import** from the **Trace** menu, then choose SAMPLE.RDF (it will be in the same directory as TracePlus). Be sure to view the *PC Configuration* (This log was generated from the author's machine).

## Compatibility

TracePlus/ODBC has been tested with Microsoft SQL Server 4.21a, Microsoft Visual C++ 1.51, Microsoft Visual Basic 3.0, Microsoft Access 2.0, and PowerBuilder Desktop 3.0. ODBC drivers tested include the Microsoft ODBC Desktop Driver Kit 2.0. TracePlus/ODBC is fully compliant with Microsoft ODBC version 1.0 through 2.10.

## Application notes

**Tracing Borland Turbo Pascal for Windows applications:** When an API error is detected, the Stack Trace listbox will only have one entry. This is due to the way that Borland manipulates the stack in a nonstandard way. Borland C/C++ programs do not exhibit this behavior, however.

**OS/2 Users:** If you want to debug a Windows application running on the OS/2 desktop, the application must be launched by **TracePlus** itself, so that **TracePlus** and the Windows application share the same memory space. OS/2 creates a separate instance of Windows for each application that is launched from the OS/2 desktop.