How to Perform Custom Monitoring using Scripts *with Sentry-go*

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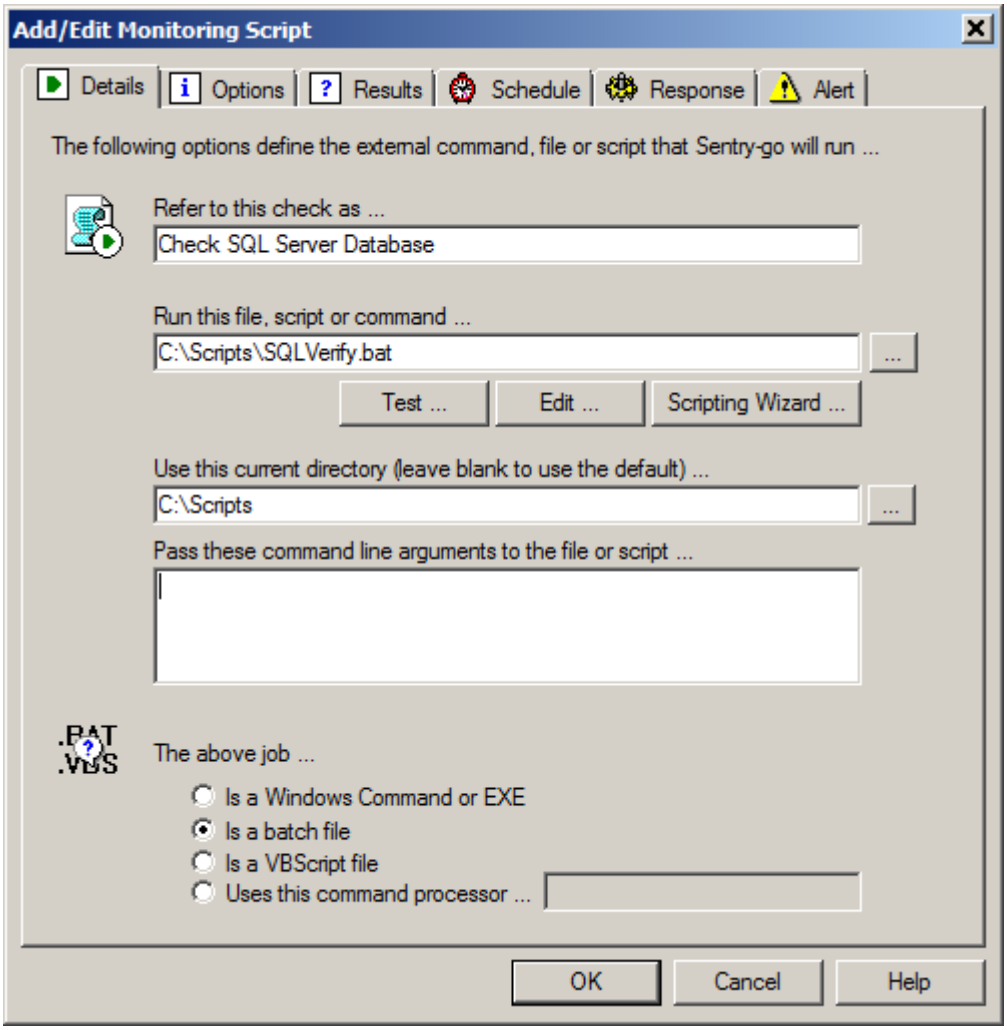
http://www.Sentry-go.com

Be Proactive, Not Reactive!

Monitoring your server, software & devices using command-line tools or scripts is quick & simple with Sentry-go. Once configured, customised monitoring allows you to tune & target your monitoring across many components of your environment, leaving Sentry-go to monitor results, respond automatically and/or alert you when issues are detected.

To do this, follow these steps …

- Start the Easy Access Utility or Client Console, select the monitor & click “Configure”. Click here for more information on configuring Sentry-go.
- Select the “Scripts” button to display the current script configuration list.
- Click “Add” to add a new check. The properties window for the check will be displayed.



- On the first tab, we will define the file or script that we want to run in order to perform the monitoring. For example, to run commands to verify a SQL Server database using the DBCC command line tool …

    - First enter the name of the check.
    - Next enter the path/name of the file or script we wish to run. You can …

        - Enter the path/name of an existing file/script or utility
        - Click the "…" button to navigate to an existing file/script or utility
        - Click the "Scripting Wizard" button to run the Sentry-go Scripting Wizard. This allows you to use predefined templates to generate VBScripts for you.
          Click here for more information on the Scripting Wizard.

        - Access the on-line scripting library to view & download monitoring scripts, files & templates.

        - In our example, we have a small batch file called C:\Scripts\SQLVerify.bat and contains the following …

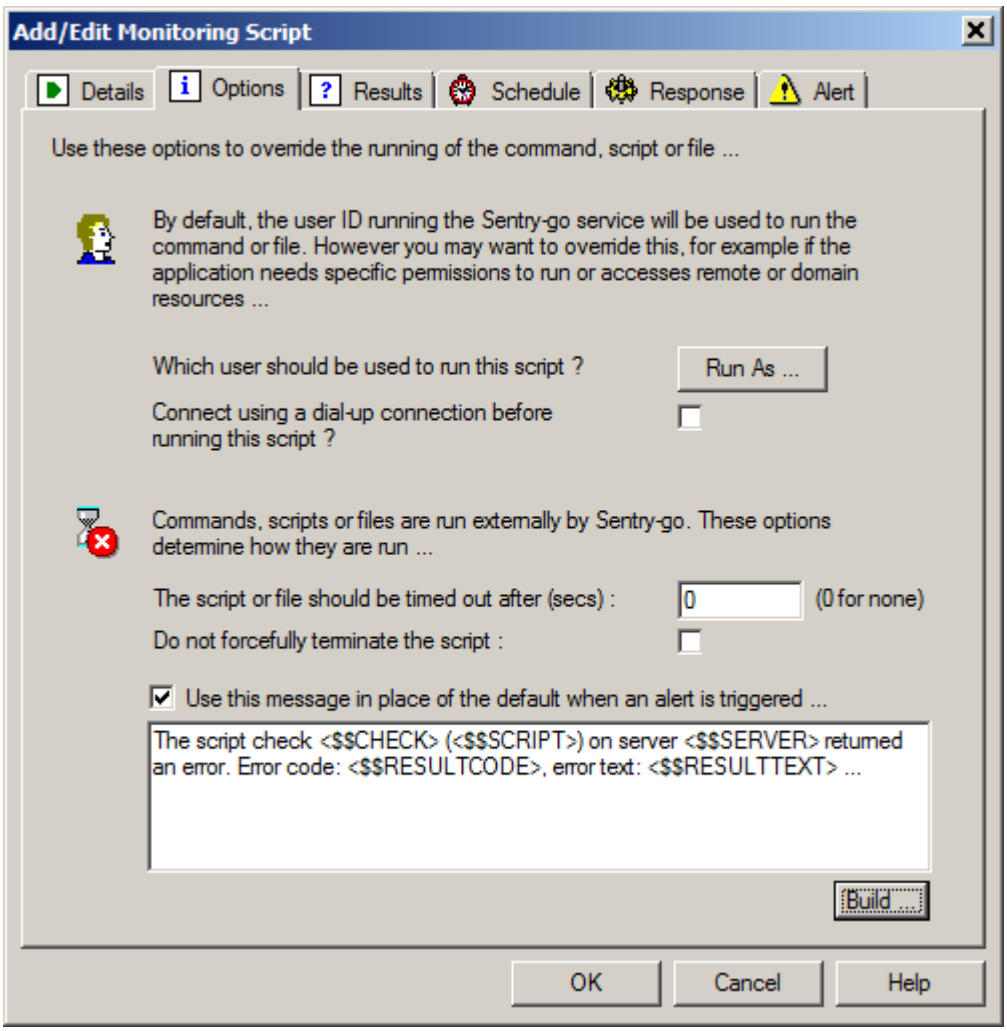
          ```
          sqlcmd -S localhost -U DBUser -P password -d MyDatabase -i VerifyDB.sql
          ```

          This SQL command connects to the SQL Server and runs the file "VerifyDB.sql". This file contains the following …

          ```
          DBCC CHECKDB
          ```

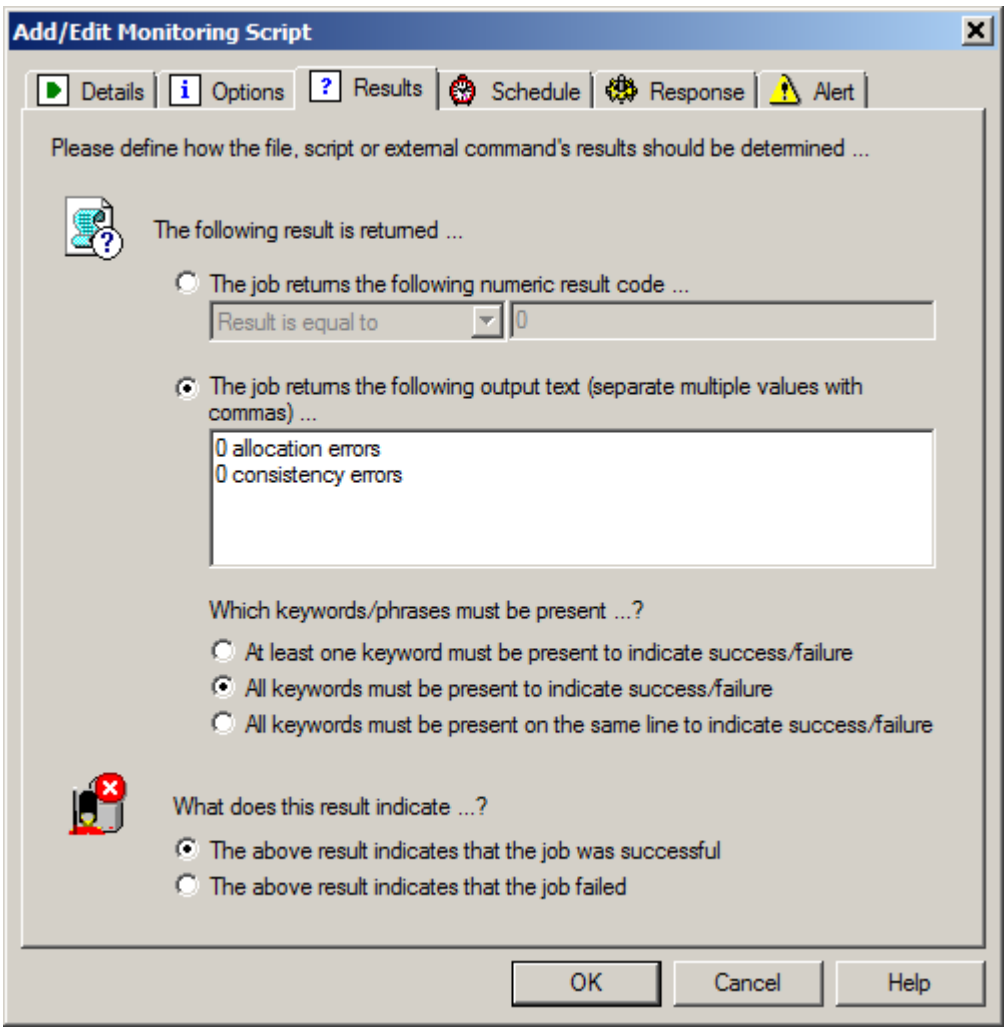
    - To run the file or script from a named directory (the current directory), enter it next. To run it from the monitor's default directory, leave this field blank.
    - To pass any command line arguments to the file or script, enter them next.
    - Select the type of file or script you are running.
    - Click the "Edit" button to edit the file or script defined using Notepad.

- Click the next tab …



- The “Options” tab allows you to define how the file or script will be run …
    - By default the file or script will be run as the user running the monitor. To override this, for example, to use a domain account with permissions to access remote resources or specific software referenced by the script, click the “Run As” button and enter the appropriate details.
    - To use a dial-up connection to run the file or script, tick the next option.
    - To ensure the file or script doesn’t run continually – e.g. it doesn’t hang if an error occurs, enter a suitable timeout period.
    - If the file or script should not be terminated (e.g. if cancelling it may cause other problems), tick the “Do not forcefully terminate the script” option. This is only normally needed under exceptional circumstances.
    - To override the default error message, tick the final option and enter your text in the field below. To add in script & error-specific information, click the “Build” button.
      Click here for more information on using place-markers within the Sentry-go configuration.

- Click the third tab …



- The “Results” tab allows you to define how the monitor should interpret the results returned from the file or script and how it should determine whether it succeeds or fails …
    - Select the first option if the file or script returns a numeric value. If it does, enter the value returned that indicates success or failure etc.
    - Select the second option if the success or failure is not based on a numeric value, but based on the output of the command or script. In our example, the DBCC CHECKDB command outputs the number of allocation & consistency errors found so we can look for 0 of both of those to indicate success. If these values are not found, we can assume something its wrong and an alert should be triggered.

      In this case, also select the appropriate option that determines whether the file or script worked or failed. In our case both phrases must simply be present anywhere in the output.

    - Lastly, select whether the above value or phrases indicate success or failure. In our example, the phrases above indicate success so we select that option.

- Click “Schedule” to perform the check at specific times (as opposed to the default no. minutes as specified at the bottom of the main list).
  Click here for more information on Scheduling Sentry-go checks.

- Click “Response” to define any automatic action you wish Sentry-go to take in the event the check fails. These settings include …

    - How many errors should occur in succession before action is taken.
    - The auto-response the monitor should take, if any, if the check fails.
    - Click here for more information on defining automatic responses.

- Click “Alert” to define the alert that should be triggered in the event the check fails. This includes …

    - Which group should be notified of the failure.
    - How members of the group should be notified.
    - When notifications should be run etc.
    - Click here for more information on defining alerts.

- Click OK to add the new check to the main list.

More Information

If you need more help or information on this topic …

- Contact our Support Team.
- Watch demonstrations & walkthrough videos on-line.
- Visit http://www.Sentry-go.com.