

different encoding handling between old ASP and ASP.Net

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Hi...

Just noticed something odd... In old ASP if you had query parameters that were invalid for their encoding (broken utf-8, say), ASP would give you back chars representing the 8-bit byte value of the broken encoding, so you still got something for every input byte.

This appears to have changed radically in ASP.Net, going down to the base System.Text.Encoding object. Now, it appears to simply vaporize bytes that don't fit in the encoding. You don't even get a ? placeholder like you get in so many other contexts in asp.

Could anyone explain why there was such a dramatic change in the handling of error cases? Is there a way using the .net framework to know if you had an encoding error?

An example of the input:

/test.aspx?query=%C7%D1%B1%DB%BA%A3%B3%CA%B9%E6

In the above, C7, A3, B3, and E6 don't make a valid utf-8 stream, but looking for Request.QueryString ("query") gives me the decoded version, just missing any representation of the offending characters, i.e. three characters 1137, 1786, and 697 (which don't render in IE either by the way).

Request.QueryString ("query") in ASP would yield a 10-character string, with each of the original bytes converted to the raw 8-bit value.

Seems like a pretty big difference in handling things and I don't see a way of getting any kind of indication (Exception or something) that there was a conversion error.

Thanks
-mark

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