

# RE: Asp.Net 2.0 Multiple Application Solutions

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- *From:* [stcheng@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:stcheng@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) (Steven Cheng[MSFT])
  - *Date:* Mon, 10 Oct 2005 13:11:18 GMT
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Hi Graham,

Welcome to ASPNET newsgroup.

Regarding on the question you mentioned, here are some of my understanding and suggestion:

1. For formsauthentication, we can separate our web application into multiple parts (sub folders) and set separate access protection on different sections so that certain users/role can only access certain part of the application. So for you scenario, we can consider define two roles , frontend user and backend admin, and admin can access those pages that resides in the admin folder and front end user can access pages in other normal application folders. We can put the front users and admins accounts in the same database (by default), or creating two separate database/table to store them. That's all ok within one single asp.net web application. So I'm a bit unclear on the

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The 2 entities (Admins and Clients) are separate objects in the data model (because of the completely different information pertaining to each), e.g a client would never become an admin and vice versa.

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IMO, we don't care about whether a client is also an admin, we just apply authorization setting for our web folder / pages so that those admin pages can only be accessed by administrators while normal pages can only be accessed by front client users.

2. For the TableAdapter, yes , when creating in asp.net 2.0 project, due to the dynamic compile model, the code file will be put in the App\_Code folder and also can utilize the connectionStrings section in the web.config. While in other Class Library project, the VS.NET ide will by default choose to persiste the connectionStrings in the project assembly's settings data and after compilation it is not possible to flexibly modify them. So overcome this, currently we can use the following means;

Create the DataSet/TableAdapters in a separate Class library project, and after we drag a Table from the Server explorer and created the DataSet/ TableAdapter, we open the DataSet.Designer.cs file , locate the the

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"InitConnection" function of the xxxTableAdapter class, it is the method that initialize the TableAdapter's connection property, it used to be something like:

```
private void InitConnection() {  
this.m_connection = new System.Data.SqlClient.SqlConnection();  
this.m_connection.ConnectionString =  
DSLLibrary.Properties.Settings.Default.NorthwindConnectionString;  
}
```

we can modify it to

```
private void InitConnection() {  
Object obj =  
System.Configuration.ConfigurationSettings.GetConfig("connectionStrings");  
ConnectionStringsSection css = obj as ConnectionStringsSection;  
string connstr =  
css.ConnectionStrings["LocalNorthwindConnStr"].ConnectionString;  
this.m_connection = new System.Data.SqlClient.SqlConnection();  
this.m_connection.ConnectionString = connstr;  
  
}
```

Thus, it'll retrieve the connectionstring from the current Application's AppConfig(web.config for web app) and what we need to do in web application is just provide the proper connectionstring in app.config/web.config file.

Thanks,

Steven Cheng  
Microsoft Online Support

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| From: "Graham" <enlighten@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
| Subject: Asp.Net 2.0 Multiple Application Solutions  
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| I have been having some fun learning and using the new Controls and methods in .Net 2.0 which will make my life in the future easier and faster. Specifically the new databinding practises and wizards.

| But, I have found that trying to do something "outside the norm" adds a rather large level of complexity and/or data replication.

| Background

| I have been commissioned to create a web-based application for a client. It has a formsauthentication secured backend for admins to login and manage system data (clients, categories, geographical regions and their related associations). It also has a frontend where users can search through the clients in the system and view their information. The frontend also contains a formsauthentication secured area where the clients can log in and edit some of their information. The 2 entities (Admins and Clients) are separate objects in the data model (because of the completely different information pertaining to each), e.g a client would never become an admin and vice versa.

| I decided to use Visual Studio 2005 and .Net 2 for this project because it would give me a head start for when the new technologies are released in November.

| The solution is split up into 3 layers – Data Access layer, Businesslogic layer, and Presentation layer (websites)

| Problem

| I think the main problem I have experienced is multiple formsauthentication methods in one website. Because the two entities both have to log into different areas (therefore different login methods) I could not find a way to do this without making the admin section a separate website within the solution (it would actually be a virtual directory in IIS once it is live). Once I did this, I found another problem with having to replicate data.

| I decided early on in the project to make use of the new ObjectDataSource and the DataSet creation wizard within VS 2005. Both websites need to make use of this dataset. When you initially create the dataset it asks for a DB connection string which either has to be hardcoded into it (bad idea) or stored in the web.config (good idea). It then stores the created DataSet in the app\_code directory of the website. This presents a problem when having multiple websites with a single solution (at the moment I have the dataset within both websites app\_code directories).

| Now you might be asking "why not have the DataSet in the Businesslogic or Data Access layers?". One reason – You have to have the DB connection string hardcoded into it, because it cant access the web.config from either of these layers. I understand that. But I havent found a way to set the

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connection string programatically nor does the DataSet compile if the ConnectionString property of each TableAdapter is set to "none".

| Answers?

| In short I would like to know if there is either:

| A way to have multiple types of formsauthentication in a single website (and how); or

| How I can have a shard DataSet somewhere out of a website so that it can be accessed by both websites.

| I hope this makes sense and thank anyone that can provide me with any help.

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- ***Follow-Ups:***

- ◆ ***Re: Asp.Net 2.0 Multiple Application Solutions***

- ◇ *From:* Graham

- Prev by Date: ***Re: REPOST: Guru Challenge***

- Next by Date: ***Re: displaying records with many fields***

- Previous by thread: ***Re: Asp.Net 2.0 Multiple Application Solutions***

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