

# Re: VS.NET 2005 and the "allowDefinition='MachineToApplication'" error

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet/2006-11/msg01490.html>

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- From: "deathtospam@xxxxxxxx" <deathtospam@xxxxxxxx>
  - Date: 10 Nov 2006 07:11:11 -0800
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Juan --

So whether or not I need to use a virtual directory depends on whether I make use of any of the sections that have [allowDefinition='MachineToApplication'] in machine.config.comments? I'm assuming I can determine what sections I use by poring over all the "using <namespace>" statements at the top of my code-behind -- is that correct? Here's a list of those using statements from the top of my codebehind (CS) page:

```
=====
using System;
using System.Data;
using System.Configuration;
using System.Collections;
using System.Web;
using System.Web.Security;
using System.Web.UI;
using System.Web.UI.WebControls;
using System.Web.UI.WebControls.WebParts;
using System.Web.UI.HtmlControls;
using System.Globalization;
=====
```

From what I can tell, I don't use any of the namespaces

[allowDefinition='MachineToApplication'] declared in the machine.config.comments file. Or am I still missing something?

-- Tek Boy--

Juan T. Llibre wrote:

re:

Re: VS.NET 2005 and the "allowDefinition='MachineToApplication'" error

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Do I need to create a virtual directory for each and every project I want to test?

No. Only for the ones which use sections defined as allowDefinition='MachineToApplication' in its configuration file.

re:

Is that belief mistaken?

No, it's not, but the same rules apply for the internal web server as for IIS. If you need to use 'MachineToApplication' sections, you must create a virtual directory.

Take a look at machine.config.comments in:  
Drive:\WINDOWS\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v2.0.50727\CONFIG

Search for allowDefinition="MachineToApplication" in that file. You will find 17 sections marked as allowDefinition="MachineToApplication".

If you use any of those sections, you'll need to create a virtual directory. If you don't use any of those sections, you don't need to create a virtual directory.

Juan T. Llibre, asp.net MVP  
asp.net faq : <http://asp.net.do/faq/>  
foros de asp.net, en español : <http://asp.net.do/foros/>

=====  
<deathtosпам@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:1163169612.271654.256720@xx](mailto:news:1163169612.271654.256720@xx)

I don't understand, though -- \*what\* became unmapped? I haven't touched IIS on my machine to date, which is running a vanilla installation of Windows XP Professional and Visual Studio .NET 2005. Do I need to create a virtual directory for each and every project I want to test?

I thought VS.NET 2005 came with its own internal IIS-Lite webserver, which is why you can debug a project without configuring IIS, and which is why you also see a dynamic port number when you debug a script without actually deploying it. Is that belief mistaken?

-- Tek Boy --

Alvin Bruney [MVP] wrote:

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hmmm, you are best served by inspecting the IIS virtual directory to see if it \*somehow became unmapped. If it is, just create a new virtual directory pointed to the application. And watch out for the little elves that change things when no one is looking :-)

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Warm regards,  
Alvin Bruney [MVP ASP.NET]

[Shameless Author plug]  
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<deathtospam@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:1163111193.739754.239210@xx](mailto:news:1163111193.739754.239210@xx)

A day or two ago, I wrote a quick ASPX page with a CS codebehind using Visual Studio .NET 2005 --- it worked, I saved it and closed the project. Today, I came back to the project, reopened the solution, and was greeted with the following error:

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It is an error to use a section registered as allowDefinition='MachineToApplication' beyond application level. This error can be caused by a virtual directory not being configured as an application in IIS.

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I did some searching on Google, and all of the solutions to this problem involved tweaking IIS. The thing is, I didn't have to touch IIS when I wrote, compiled and ran the ASPX the first time around --- why would I have to do it during a subsequent visit?

If anybody has any suggestions on how to

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resolve this problem, I would  
greatly like to hear them. Thanks in  
advance!

-- Tek Boy --