

Cache performance in ASP.NET 2.0

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Hi,

We have recently upgraded an application from .NET 1.1 to .NET 2.0. It is a medium size enterprise application that makes quite heavy use of the ASP.NET caching API to improve performance. Since moving to .NET 2.0 we have observed a marked degradation in performance in certain areas of code. In particular one function which accesses the cache within a For loop seems to take considerably longer under high load conditions. Under normal load there doesn't appear to be any difference in performance. Extensive investigations have shown the under high load the CPU of the web server is not maxed out, but performance of the application drops off. I have investigated the cause of this and it appears to be to do with contention on the cache between multiple worker threads. On examining the framework code with reflector there do seem to be some changes around locking between .NET 1.1 and .NET 2.0: specifically the addition of a new method `WaitInsertBlock` inside the class `CacheSingle`. Can anyone give me any information about how the functionality has changed between the framework versions and whether it is a likely cause of the problems I'm experiencing.

Thanks,

Rob

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