

## Re: Converting .lib to .dll

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.compactframework/2008-06/msg002>

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- *From:* "Andy Baker" <[abaker@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:abaker@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 19 Jun 2008 17:59:43 +0100
- 

Thanks for the tips. We are in a bit of a hurry – but I do take your point and when we have more time I will look at this in more detail.

Andy Baker

"Paul G. Tobey [eMVP]" <[p space tobey no spam AT no instrument no spam DOT com](mailto:p space tobey no spam AT no instrument no spam DOT com)> wrote in message [news:u7q82li0IHA.4416@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:u7q82li0IHA.4416@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Right. So the code there, until you include that header file, does not know about GetCurrentConfig(). This would be the equivalent of you referencing a method of a managed class when the namespace was not referenced with a 'using' statement (C#) or 'Imports' statement (VB.NET), and wasn't in the list of references for the project.

Adding the header file to the project does nothing. That's a convenience for you to quickly open the file, but that's it. Header files are *\*only\** useful when they are #include-ed in actual .cpp or .c files. They are not compiled separately. If you've added that #include statement and compiled the .cpp file to which you added it, it seems that it should be defined. However, as with managed code, there are many ways in which things that seem like they should be defined might not be (there might be some #if statements in the header that prevent the compiler from seeing the declaration unless you define some symbol for the compiler, for example). Without having the file in front of us, I don't think we're going to hit on the right answer.

I'm not on the OpenNETCF staff; I just know that they know what they're doing. Neil is one of the guys to talk to about that. I would not expect it to be very expensive, if they're just doing the DLL and not the P/Invoke declarations. Maybe a little more to give you a complete managed code solution. If you're in a hurry, that's absolutely the right way to go. If you have some weeks in which to get this completed, learning what's going on, how to read C/C++ header and source files, how to build DLLs in native code, etc. will make you a much better .NET CF developer in the long run.

Paul T.

Re: Converting .lib to .dll

"Andy Baker" <abaker@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
news:-pmdnUq5MifVGMfVnZ2dneKdnZydnZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxx

```
The function that I am trying to call is as follows:-
VPSUMMIT_API SDCERR VP_GetCurrentConfig(DWORD *num, char
*name)
{
return GetCurrentConfig(num, name)
}

```

and the error message I am getting is error C3861: 'GetCurrentConfig': – identifier not found.

If I select Project/Compile I still get the error, I have added #include <sdc\_sdk.h> to the source file though. When I created the project, VC++ created 2 files VPSummit.cpp and VPSummit.h. I have added the supplied header file sdc\_sdk.h to the project, and changed the lines in the sdc\_sdk.h file and the VPSummit.cpp file by adding VP\_ to each function definition. If I replace the 'return GetCurrentConfig(num, name)' line in the above call with 'return SDCERR\_SUCCESS' and build the project, I get a DLL file. If I inspect the DLL file with dumpbin, I can 'see' the function definitions that I have exposed, all with the VP\_ prefix, as I was expecting. Also, as the error message refers to GetCurrentConfig and not VP\_GetCurrentConfig, this suggests to me that the definitions in the header file are correct and for some reason it is not finding the sdk.lib file, even though I have added it to the linker additional dependencies. Please correct me if I am wrong, I obviously am wrong somewhere! I am really inexperienced with C/C++ – you can probably tell that, so I agree it probably would be best to get someone to do it, especially in the first instance. This is what the hardware suppliers were going to do, but don't have time at present and the longer it goes on, the worse it is getting for us. What charges do OpenNETCF consulting make for doing jobs like this and how long would it take? I will put it to the boss. Thanks for your help so far.

Andy Baker

"Paul G. Tobey [eMVP]" <p space tobey no spam AT no instrument no spam DOT com> wrote in message  
news:elvfsHi0IHA.2068@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Give us the full error. You have something like this in your code, yes?

```
EXPORT_SETTING int VP_DoWhatever( int parameter1,
int parameter2 )
{
return DoWhatever( parameter1, parameter2 );
}

```

And when you compile this, you get 'DoWhatever undefined' during

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\*compile\*? Or during link?

If compile, it seems that you forgot to add #include  
<yoursummitheader.h> to the source file, right?

If link, it seems that you probably forgot to add the LIB file  
to your  
list of linked inputs for the project (this goes on the Link  
page in the  
project settings).

If you're really inexperienced with C/C++, you might be  
better off just  
having someone who knows how to do this in their sleep do  
it for you and  
give you the DLL source and project back in a finished form,  
ready to be  
called from managed code. OpenNETCF Consulting, I'm  
sure, would do  
it...

Paul T.