

Passing arrays from VB6 to C# ActiveX

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Hi all,

I ran into this problem and I don't really know which piece of software it to blame. Anyway, all I'm trying to do is to pass an array of strings (variable size) from a VB6 client to C# class that exposes an ActiveX interface. I tried to do various things without much success

1. Do nothing – just declare a class in C# that has a public method that takes an array of strings and register the class for interop. If I DONT use `ClassInterface(ClassInterfaceType.None)`, attribute in C# I dont get the list of available member functions in VB but the code WORKS. My guess is because it uses late binding here. If I use `ClassInterface(ClassInterfaceType.None)`, attribute in C# then I'm getting the following error message "Function or interface marked as restricted, or the function uses an Automation type not supported by VB"
2. Use `[MarshalAs(UnmanagedType.SafeArray)]` in the declaration in C# code. The result is same as above.
3. Use `[MarshalAs(UnmanagedType.SafeArray)]` in the declaration in C# code. The result is also rather strange. The method is dropped from the type library and therefore is not available in VB. The type library file looks like this

```
[
  odl,
  uuid(DC6ECF1D-1E43-46BD-AC2D-FBC322BB938),
  version(1.0),
  dual,
  oleautomation,
  custom({0F21F359-AB84-41E8-9A78-36D110E6D2F9},
  "com.gweiss.Portal.Class1")
]
interface IPPriceFeedExActiveX : IDispatch {
  [id(0x60020000)]
  HRESULT m1([in] aa* value);
}
```

```
[id(0x60020001)]
HRESULT m2([in] aa* value);
[id(0x60020002)]
HRESULT m3([out, retval] VARIANT_BOOL* pRetVal);
[id(0x60020003)]
HRESULT m4([out, retval] BSTR* pRetVal);
[id(0x60020004)]
HRESULT m5(
    [in] ISymbolId* p_sRic,
    [in] SAFEARRAY(BSTR) p_aFieldNames,
    [out, retval] VARIANT_BOOL* pRetVal);
[id(0x60020006)]
HRESULT m7(
    [in] ISymbolId* p_sRic,
    [out, retval] VARIANT_BOOL* pRetVal);
[id(0x60020007)]
HRESULT m8(
    [in] ISymbolId* p_sRic,
    [out, retval] VARIANT_BOOL* pRetVal);
};
```

Notice the missing entry of m6(...)

I'm really bothered by all these things. I use VS.NET 2003 and VB6 SP5.

Also, everything works fine when calling C# ActiveX from an Excel spreadsheet.

If anyone can explain these anomalies I'd like to hear it!!

Thanks,

Eugene