

Creating a Com Component in VB.net 2005

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.interop/2008-10/msg00007.html>

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 - *Date:* Fri, 3 Oct 2008 08:12:31 -0700 (PDT)
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Hello I was hoping you guys could help me out. I am new to .net and specifically to VB.net. I have a simple calendar popup class library dll that I want to Com enable. The program in essence works when I create it as a standard windows application. So I think I am good on the end. My trouble comes when I try and create it as a Com Component.

I was told that I should do the following

- 1) Set the Assembly to Com-Visible – Done
- 2) Register as a Com Interop – Done
- 3) Compile by importing System.Runtime.InteropServices – Done
- 4) Just to rule everything out I made all my individual class attributes – Com Class True, Com-Visible True, and Serializable True at every class level
- 5) I made all my individual functions and sub routines attributes public and Com-Visible. I left the disp False

I then compiled the code and it compiled without issue.

I then did a Regasm.exe on my Vbcalendar.dll and that seemed to work because I got back a valid registration message

So If I am doing everything right up to this point (which I am not sure) then something must be going on after this point or I am missing a step or an understanding of something

When I go into another 2005 .net project and want to add it as a reference. I see it my Vbcalendar on the list of Com objects that I can use.(It has the Vbcalendar, version number and the path to the tlb. However when I try and add it to the list I get a message that says

" a Reference to 'VbCalendar' could not be added. The Active X type

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library 'c:\VbCal\VbCalendar\VbCalendar\bin\Debug\VbCalendar.tlb was exported from a .net assembly and cannot be added as a reference.

Add a reference to the .net assembly instead. Can someone explain what this means and how to do it??

I am writing this as a COM Component so that an old legacy application that reads in registered dll's can find the the library(VbCalendar), the classes, and the the members of those classes – Normally we used Regserv32 to register the dll and it would show up in the legacy system however in this case all my library shows up, my classes show up, and my members show up. But when I try and close the dialog with the information I provided it pretty much tells me that the executalbe is not found on the machine

So given all that what do you guys think I might be doing incorrectly? I think the failure for VS Studios to be able to add the com component as a dll is causing the failure in the legacy system. Is this assumption correct or could it be that because the dll itself is registered with regasm instead of regsvr32 that might be causing the problem. If that is the case then do I need to do something to the com component to make it readable by the legacy system?

Sorry for all the questions but I really want to understand this and I feel I am missing a piece because of the entire aspect of a .net component versus the com component that is making me confused.

Can you help?
Thanks
Josh

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