

Re: ProcessStartInfo.WorkingDirectory and Mapped Network Drives

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When a windows service starts, no one is logged into the computer. Until someone logs in, there are NO mapped drives! So, you will have to use UNC paths (//server/share1/dir1).
Bob

"mhetherington" <mhetherington@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:D1961D07-866B-4753-99E0-01EC564E2D78@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Just discovered a critical piece of the puzzle...

The Start() method fails, as described below, only when running as a Windows Service. When I try the same thing from a straight Console App while logged in as the service account user, Start() succeed. However, when running as a Windows Service it doesn't seem I can set WorkingDirectory to any mapped drives...even though I have confirmed that the mapped drive does exist and is accessible to the service account.

So, a refinement of my question should read "Has anyone successfully set ProcessStartInfo.WorkingDirectory to a mapped network drive while running as a Windows Service?"

"mhetherington" wrote:

Has anyone successfully called the Start() method on a System.Diagnostics.Process object with the object's ProcessStartInfo.WorkingDirectory set to a path on a mapped network drive?

For example, if I have "w:" mapped to "\\serverA\share1" and set ProcessStartInfo.WorkingDirectory = "w:\dir1", my calls to Process.Start()

Re: ProcessStartInfo.WorkingDirectory and Mapped Network Drives

always fail with the error "The directory name is invalid".

Whereas, if I do the same thing with WorkingDirectory = "c:\dir1", calls to Process.Start() always succeed.

Before anyone asks, yes the directory "dir1" does exist on w: and is readable under the user context calling the Process.Start() method.

If no one has successfully executed Process.Start() with WorkingDirectory pointing to a mapped network drive, does anyone have any (MS) reference article confirming that this is not possible and perhaps explaining why?

Thanks in advance.