

# RE: Encoder.PrepareToEncode gives Unspecified Error

---

*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Media/microsoft.public.windowsmedia.encoder/2006-05/msg00058.html>

---

- *From:* Samir <[Samir@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Samir@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 9 May 2006 23:41:02 -0700
- 

Hi Ganesh, I still have the issue open.

I hope Neil will notice this thread and can provide a common solution to us.  
:)

As Neil has suggested to have try catch block, I have debug statements writing to a log file and it shows that it fails at PrepareToEncode() method.

I created the setup on windows 2003 server in our intranet and have kept one more line for log to know the executing user and it is "Network Services". Adding this inbuilt user to Administrators group makes encoding work smoothly. ( I know this is not a practical solution and we can not add the user to administrator group.) And surprisingly adding a local user named "anothermedia" to administrators group does nto produce same result.

I am pasting below various outputs if that can help in anyway.

(NOTE: NETWORK SERVICE IS ADDED TO ADMINISTRATORS GROUP AND MACHINE RESTARTED)

```
Create instance of profile
Load Profile from file
Profile has set.
Executing User : NT AUTHORITY\NETWORK SERVICE
SetInput file : C:\Temp\PFCSongs\b238aeed-f16e-41df-9aeb-cba368225168.mp3
Set Target file :
C:\Temp\PFCSongs\Other\2bd41695-f5e2-4412-a09c-9cba9fa2de1e.wma
Set Information
WMEncoderLib.WMEncoderClass
Prepare to encode
Start Encoding
Finish encoding
```

(NOTE: anothermedia IS ADDED TO ADMINISTRATORS GROUP BUT MACHINE NOT RESTARTED)

```
Create instance of profile
Load Profile from file
```

RE: Encoder.PrepareToEncode gives Unspecified Error

Profile has set.

Executing User : SQL2005\anothermedia

SetInput file : C:\Temp\PFCSongs\b238aeed-f16e-41df-9aeb-cba368225168.mp3

Set Target file :

C:\Temp\PFCSongs\Other\33932212-fb12-48f4-a4fa-366dced7090f.wma

Set Information

WMEncoderLib.WMEncoderClass

ErrorMessage : Object reference not set to an instance of an object.

(NOTE: anothermedia IS ADDED TO ADMINISTRATORS GROUP AND MACHINE RESTARTED)

Create instance of profile

Load Profile from file

Profile has set.

Executing User : SQL2005\anothermedia

SetInput file : C:\Temp\PFCSongs\f577b721-3f1f-427c-8529-263a6bf4210e.mp3

Set Target file :

C:\Temp\PFCSongs\Dance\ed1e4e7c-c7eb-4494-8e4e-67daa23814de.wma

Set Information

WMEncoderLib.WMEncoderClass

ErrorMessage : Object reference not set to an instance of an object.

(NOTE: anothermedia given permissions on PFCSongs folder)

Create instance of profile

Load Profile from file

Profile has set.

Executing User : SQL2005\anothermedia

SetInput file : C:\Temp\PFCSongs\f577b721-3f1f-427c-8529-263a6bf4210e.mp3

Set Target file :

C:\Temp\PFCSongs\Dance\e73b781c-304a-4134-a7ac-cc8df3d19910.wma

Set Information

WMEncoderLib.WMEncoderClass

ErrorMessage : Object reference not set to an instance of an object.

(NOTE: anothermedia given execute permissions on wmenc.exe file)

Create instance of profile

Load Profile from file

Profile has set.

Executing User : SQL2005\anothermedia

SetInput file : C:\Temp\PFCSongs\f577b721-3f1f-427c-8529-263a6bf4210e.mp3

Set Target file :

C:\Temp\PFCSongs\Dance\38b668dd-c528-4290-97b0-3792bf9c65ea.wma

Set Information

WMEncoderLib.WMEncoderClass

ErrorMessage : Object reference not set to an instance of an object.

Hope this may give some direction to proceed.

RE: Encoder.PrepareToEncode gives Unspecified Error

RE: Encoder.PrepareToEncode gives Unspecified Error

Regards,

Samir

"Ganesh.NET" wrote:

Hi Samir,

I am using windows 2000 Professional with .NET Framework 1.1 . i got the same error. How to overcome this ? . And alos i am not tested in Windows Professional.

My error details

-----  
System.Web.Services.Protocols.SoapException: Server was unable to process request. ----> System.NullReferenceException: Object reference not set to an instance of an object. at WMEncoderLib.WMEncoderClass.PrepareToEncode(Boolean bPrepare) at WMETest.Service1.cam\_control(String state) in c:\inetpub\wwwroot\WMETest\Service1.asmx.vb:line 76 ---- End of inner exception stack trace ----

U have any solution ,plz forward to me.

"Samir" wrote:

Hi kngsn,

Thanks for the information.

Yes, it works on XP and gives error on 2003. Trying with identity impersonation just hcanged the error to "Object reference not set to an instance of an object."

Any idea on wht all folders and files should be given what permissions for the user specified in impersonation user?

OR

What are the windows user rights required for encoding an audio file on windows 2003 server through a web application?

Thanks in advance.

Samir

RE: Encoder.PrepareToEncode gives Unspecified Error

"kngsn" wrote:

"kngsn" wrote:

I have the same error. Interestingly, this do not happen on the WinXP Pro, but on the all of our Win2003 servers

But there

... is a partial solution found: You may add this string in th Web.Config:  
<identity impersonate="true" userName="somebody" password="secret" />

Also, its worthing to put attention on the WMEncoder.EncoderDRMContentAuthor property :-).

Let me know if you failed with it