

## Re: shBrowseForFolder procedure run issue

**Source:** <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VB/microsoft.public.vb.controls/2004-07/0282.html>

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**From:** Randy Birch ([rgb\\_removethis\\_at\\_mvps.org](mailto:rgb_removethis_at_mvps.org))

**Date:** 07/13/04

Date: Mon, 12 Jul 2004 22:43:49 -0400

The browse dialog seems to remember previous setting once it has successfully navigated to a folder – that is, it has no problem selecting that folder the second time. However, as I said earlier I can not reproduce your problem with either version of the code, in VB or as a standalone exe. What happens if you compile the modified setup exe as pcode, rather than native code which I suspect you are using?

--

Randy Birch  
MVP Visual Basic

<http://vbnet.mvps.org/>

Please respond only to the newsgroups so all can benefit.

"Arbormead" <Arbormead@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message

news:2EDBDF63-8FF3-458F-BFD1-A4F8FC9B6C13@microsoft.com...

: I've noticed something else. When the program is first run from within VB, it behaves as described previously where My Computer is the start point. After the first time a folder is returned it bahves just like it should. I tried this a few times and each time it worked after the first returned folder was selected. I then packaged it up and installed it. On each successive execution the initial start location was My Computer, but after that it was fine.

:

: Rather than the program itself, could this be something to do with installing something in to memory, perhaps something that isn't happening on first startup. I am not hot on memory issues so I am clutching at staws a little now.

:

:

:

:

: "Randy Birch" wrote:

:

: > Frankly I can not reproduce your problem using either the original code or

: > the modified version. What OS is this failing on?

: >

: > You stated earlier that "I have used the VB6 Package and deployment Wizard

: > and also the Visual Studio Installer, both do the same thing." What does

: > this mean? ... that the browse dialog in those applications also incorrectly

: > show My Computer when a valid drive is specified?

: >

: > Test this for me ... with your drive C:\ specified as the initial

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directory
: > place a breakpoint on the IsValidDrive function and step through (via
F8)
: > the procedure and continue into the calling routine (FixPath) to see
what
: > part of the If..Then condition executes. (The function is actually
wrong,
: > but it works - the fix is below).
: >
: > As coded IsValidDrive should return the string "5" assuming you have an
A:
: > drive on your box, and no B: drive. Because "5" is not false, the If
portion
: > of the If..Then test in Fixpath executes and the drive is tested to
ensure
: > it has a trailing slash . If IsValidDrive fails the If...Then in FixPath
: > will execute the Else condition and remove the trailing slash from the
drive
: > letter. For drives this alone is sufficient to prevent proper selection
of
: > the string, with the default 'My Computer' selected instead.
: >
: >
: > Once you see what's going on with this, make this mod to the
IsValidDrive
: > function ...
: >
: > - change the function declaration to As Boolean from As String
: >
: >     Private Function IsValidDrive(sPath As String) As Boolean
: >
: > - and modify the IsValidDrive = line to include a boolean test:
: >
: >     IsValidDrive = Instr(1, buff, sPath, vbTextCompare) > 0
: >
: > --
: >
: > Randy Birch
: > MVP Visual Basic
: > http://vbnet.mvps.org/
: > Please respond only to the newsgroups so all can benefit.
: >
: >
: > "Arbormead" <Arbormead@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
: > news:D012D7E6-96DF-498A-AB05-D20D40FBEFC1@microsoft.com...
: > : Randy
: > :
: > : I must be missing something. I have checked the ammendments you
suggest
: > and still it starts at My Computer, even if I bypass looking at a
textbox
: > and type in C:\ directly rather than use fixpath. I have included the
code
: > below that has been changed, all the rest is original. Maybe you can
: > something obvious.
: > :
: > : When the folder is selected it performs as expected, it is just the
start
: > up location is not using the textbox path even though I can trace the
: > procedure uses the path right through to the BrowseCallbackProcStr
function
: > where sBrowseDlgInitialPath becomes empty [should this procedure loop 3
```

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```
: > times?].
: > :
: > : Private Function BrowseForFolderByPath(sSelPath As String) As String
'in
: > the form code
: > :
: > :     Dim BI As BROWSEINFO
: > :     Dim pidl As Long
: > :     Dim lpSelPath As Long
: > :     Dim spath As String * MAX_PATH
: > :
: > :     With BI
: > :         .hOwner = Me.hWnd
: > :         .pidlRoot = 0
: > :         .lpszTitle = "Pre-selecting folder using the folder's string."
: > :         .lpfn = FARPROC(AddressOf BrowseCallbackProcStr)
: > :
: > :         'lpSelPath = LocalAlloc(LPTR, Len(sSelPath) + 1)
: > :         'CopyMemory ByVal lpSelPath, ByVal sSelPath, Len(sSelPath) + 1
: > :         '.lParam = lpSelPath
: > :         sBrowseDlgInitialPath = sSelPath
: > :
: > :     End With
: > :
: > :     pidl = SHBrowseForFolder(BI)
: > :
: > :     If pidl Then
: > :
: > :         If SHGetPathFromIDList(pidl, spath) Then
: > :             BrowseForFolderByPath = Left$(spath, InStr(spath,
vbNullChar) -
: > 1)
: > :         Else
: > :             BrowseForFolderByPath = ""
: > :         End If
: > :
: > :         Call CoTaskMemFree(pidl)
: > :
: > :     Else
: > :         BrowseForFolderByPath = ""
: > :     End If
: > :
: > :     Call LocalFree(lpSelPath)
: > :
: > : End Function
: > :
: > :
: > : 'in the module
: > : Public Function BrowseCallbackProcStr(ByVal hWnd As Long, _
: > :     ByVal uMsg As Long, _
: > :     ByVal lParam As Long, _
: > :     ByVal lpData As Long) As Long
: > :
: > :     'Callback for the Browse STRING method.
: > :
: > :     'On initialization, set the dialog's
: > :     'pre-selected folder from the pointer
: > :     'to the path allocated as bi.lParam,
: > :     'passed back to the callback as lpData param.
: > :
: > :     Select Case uMsg
: > :         Case BFFM_INITIALIZED
```

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```
: > :
: > :         'Call SendMessage(hWnd, BFFM_SETSELECTIONA, _
: > :             True, ByVal lpData)
: > :
: > :         If (hWnd <> 0) And Len(sBrowseDlgInitialPath) > 0 Then
: > :             DoEvents ' <this may not be required
: > :             Call SendMessage(hWnd, BFFM_SETSELECTIONA, 1, ByVal
: > sBrowseDlgInitialPath)
: > :             End If
: > :
: > :         Case Else:
: > :
: > :     End Select
: > :
: > : End Function
: > :
: > : "Randy Birch" wrote:
: > :
: > : > My mistake ... because the demo calls SHBrowseForFolder in the form,
: > but
: > : > BrowseCallbackProcStr is in a BAS module, the variable
: > : > 'sBrowseDlgInitialPath' should be declared Public in the general
: > : > declarations section of the BAS module where BrowseCallbackProcStr
: > lives. I
: > : > just re-tried the browse code with these changes and C:\ (and all
: > other
: > : > folders and shares I fired at it) were all properly selected.
: > : >
: > : > 'BAS module
: > : > Option Explicit
: > : > Public sBrowseDlgInitialPath As String
: > : >
: > : > --
: > : >
: > : > Randy Birch
: > : > MVP Visual Basic
: > : > http://vbnet.mvps.org/
: > : > Please respond only to the newsgroups so all can benefit.
: > : >
: > : > "Arbormead" <Arbormead@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
: > : > news:70C30773-60E8-4106-A7C5-9DF9CFD9A656@microsoft.com...
: > : > : Randy
: > : > :
: > : > : You are right I am using the string method. However, I have made
: > the
: > : > adjustments you recommend but I am unsure where to declare the
: > public
: > : > bas-level string variable : Private sBrowseDlgInitialPath As String.
: > : > Declaring this at the start of the module and making the changes
: > below
: > : > starts the browse at My Computer each time it runs, even though
: > fixpath
: > : > is
: > : > : set to c:\
: > : > :
: > : > : Could you help me out a little further with the location of the
: > : > declaration and where I may be going wrong? The only changes I have
: > made
: > : > is
: > : > : to set the spath value as follows where IOPath is the contents of a
: > : > : textbox
```

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```
: > : > populated from an ini file on form load. I did change the fixpath
: > default
: > : > value in the fixpath function to a server location
[\\server\folder\"
: > but
: > : > for ease I have changed tback to c:\ in case this was where I was
going
: > : > wrong
: > : > :
: > : > : spath = FixPath(IOlPath.Text)
: > : > : getdir = BrowseForFolderByPath(spath)
: > : > :
: > : > : I look farward to your comments
: > : > :
: > : > : "Randy Birch" wrote:
: > : > :
: > : > : > You don't mention specifically if you're using the PIDL or
string
: > : > method,
: > : > : > but I suspect the string version of the code. Try this
modification
: > to
: > : > the
: > : > : > way the callback is set ... the routine/code quoted here is the
same
: > as
: > : > from
: > : > : > my page, so make any appropriate translation if you renamed
: > variables or
: > : > : > procedures:
: > : > : >
: > : > : > 1) Define a new public bas-level string variable called
: > : > : > sBrowseDlgInitialPath ...
: > : > : >
: > : > : > Private sBrowseDlgInitialPath As String
: > : > : >
: > : > : >
: > : > : > 2) comment out the following lines in the BrowseForFolderByPath
: > : > function:
: > : > : >
: > : > : > lpSelPath = LocalAlloc(LPTR, Len(sSelPath) + 1)
: > : > : > CopyMemory ByVal lpSelPath, ByVal sSelPath, Len(sSelPath)
+ 1
: > : > : > .lParam = lpSelPath
: > : > : >
: > : > : >
: > : > : > 3) add this line in place of the lines above (sSelPath was
passed to
: > : > : > BrowseForFolderByPath as the initial path):
: > : > : >
: > : > : > sBrowseDlgInitialPath = sSelPath
: > : > : >
: > : > : >
: > : > : > 4) in the BrowseCallbackProcStr function, comment out the line:
: > : > : >
: > : > : > Call SendMessage(hWnd, BFFM_SETSELECTIONA, True, ByVal
: > lpData)
: > : > : >
: > : > : >
: > : > : > 5) and add this block in its place:
: > : > : >
: > : > : > If (hwnd <> 0) And Len(sBrowseDlgInitialPath) > 0 Then
```

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```
: > : > : > DoEvents ' <this may not be required
: > : > : > Call SendMessage(hwnd, BFFM_SETSELECTIONA, 1, ByVal
: > : > : > sBrowseDlgInitialPath)
: > : > : > End If
: > : > : >
: > : > : > Here we've removed the passing of the initial folder from the
: > callback's
: > : > : > lpData member (and removed the need to allocate the memory for
that
: > : > string
: > : > : > in the call), and simply used the public string variable to set
the
: > : > initial
: > : > : > path. The lParam member of the BrowseInfo UDT is not used, nor
is
: > the
: > : > lpData
: > : > : > member of BrowseCallbackProc. I find this always works, whereas
I
: > did
: > : > : > experience a problem with the lpData method on Windows 2000
which
: > : > prompted
: > : > : > me to devise this workaround.
: > : > : >
: > : > : > --
: > : > : >
: > : > : > Randy Birch
: > : > : > MVP Visual Basic
: > : > : > http://vbnet.mvps.org/
: > : > : > Please respond only to the newsgroups so all can benefit.
: > : > : >
: > : > : >
: > : > : > "Arbormeade" <Arbormeade@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in
message
: > : > : > news:501D74F8-70C2-4CD5-8E3C-DE916322F5F9@microsoft.com...
: > : > : > : I have used the shBrowseForFolder procedure as supplied by
Randy
: > Birch
: > : > at
: > : > : > VBNet and have come across a small problem when packaging up the
: > : > project.
: > : > : > :
: > : > : > : Basically the procedure starts at a predefined path as laid
out in
: > a
: > : > text
: > : > : > box, the contents of which are loaded at the start. This works
fine
: > : > with
: > : > : > VB6 but when I package up the project and then install it, the
same
: > : > : > procedure starts at My Computer. After selecting a path the
second
: > time
: > : > I
: > : > : > run it it works fine. Obviously I would like to run it fine the
: > first
: > : > time
: > : > : > but I'm unsure why this is happening.
: > : > : > :
: > : > : > : I have used the VB6 Package and deployment Wizard and also the
```

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```
: > Visual
: > : > : > Studio Installer, both do the same thing.  Is there anywhere
else I
: > : > should
: > : > : > be looking to resolve this issue?  I can post the code if
required
: > but
: > : > : > basically it is a very minor modification od the one I found at
: > : > : > http://vbnet.mvps.org/code/callback/browsecallback.htm
: > : > : > :
: > : > : > : Let me know if I can provide more information
: > : > : > :
: > : > : > : many thanks
: > : > : >
: > : > : >
: > : >
: >
: >
```