

Re: FindFirstFile and underscore

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Hi,

Randy Birch schrieb:

>

> *Just because you can force a file to start with a . doesn't mean it's a
> normal or supported practice.*

In the Unix world a leading dot for files and/or directories is quite common. I personally use some unix tools like apache, analog (an apache log analyzer) or unison (a file synchronization/backup tool), which all may use leading dots for files and/or directories. QT from Trolltech (GUI toolkit and framework for OS independent application development) uses dotprefixed folders.

There are many more tools which come from the unix world and are available for WIN oses too. But "native" WIN apps sometimes use dotprefixed names too.

Sharp develop (an open source C# development environment) uses them. Borlands JBuilder (Java programming IDE) uses a directory called ".jbuilder".

MS .NET products sometimes have files/folders/links with a dot in front (like the ".NET Framework Config" folder):-)

I don't think that it is that unusual using leading dots for file system item names and therefore should be taken into account when doing file system item searches. And it is supported by the OS and perfectly legal.

In the after DOS days a file system item name is just a series of characters from a given character set, whith each character in the set having lost any special meaning and may be freely used. OK, this last dot in a file system item name still has a, but vague, meaning of being the separator of the formerly so called file extension from the rest of the name, but you cannot really count on it being that, nowadays.

> *rather than test for the ASC code for the dot.*

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BTW, this is slower (if used with VB strings) than doing a simple comparison using the equal operator ;-).

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