

Re: Wish I was using .net

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Michael,

Two major problems with VB 6 File IO statements. First, they simply aren't interoperable with Unix (or IBM MVS) end of line markers. dotNet is. Second, unless you set len = 1, you can't flush files to disk under program control. When writing log files, you either end up with a very, very slow log file or chance loosing the last few log entries. Yes, both of these could have been fixed within the construct of the classic BASIC file io statements, but they were certainly broken in VB 6. I lost count of the number of times I had to FSO to handle Unix files and I ended up using the Windows API directly for my logfile class.

Now I'm beginning to understand your problem with VB6 file IO. I just couldn't understand why FileGet(1, A\$, 1) was so superior to Get 1, 1, A\$. You should probably take a short course on binary file IO. It would do you good (even for .NET development). By the way, I haven't used Line Input #, nor Input # for about 15 years now. Aside from the additional error trapping necessary (try opening a file for input that doesn't exist), there is no comparison in speed. Both Karl and Rick give you samples of how to open your Unix file and the options of using split, and replace to do what you want. If the file is not too large, read it at one go. If it is very large read it in 64K chunks. You would be suprised how fast VB6 file IO is. Using VB6 I can load a very large file, parse the information, reorganize it, and save it reorganized in roughly the same time that it takes to copy the file from the command line. Although binary file IO in .Net is quiet a bit slower than in VB6 it is still much faster than sequential file IO.

As to Flush, I must admit that it should have been included in VB long ago. But there is a very simple workaround. Simply close the file and reopen it after each operation. You would be suprised how fast VB6 can do that. In fact, if you are creating a log file to which multiple users are writing, the way to do it is to have each user open it as a locked file, write their info and close again. Works fine.

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Another suggestion, stay away from FSO.

Gary

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