

Re: How to release heap memory that is marked as 'free'

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- *From:* Kurt Grittner <grittkmg_NO_SPAM_@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 17 Apr 2006 12:06:29 -0500
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Hi Michael,

If your VBS/ADODB code is behaving badly with regard to heap fragmentation and you don't control the code then you can do little except to put it in a process by itself, then periodically let that process exit (thereby freeing all of its memory and the associated fragmentation), then reload it. You could use a memory mapped file to connect to it. You could use registered Windows messages to trigger events.

In other words, put the bad actor in a sandbox, then change the sand periodically.

Hope this helps,
-Kurt

On Sun, 16 Apr 2006 13:31:38 -0400, "Michael Evenson" <mevenson@xxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Joe,

I installed a trial copy of BoundsChecker and it found absolutely no memory leaks. I removed the heap walker calls and put in a heapstat function that I call instead from within the loop where I feel the memory is getting fragmented. All the heapstat function does is traverse the heap adding up the used and freed blocks into separate accumulators. I then output these values every 100 times through the loop. Both accumulators keep growing in size (about 7K for the used memory for every 100 records processed - the freed size seems to stabilize around 500+KB). I am using the ZipArchive library, ADODB and the VisualBasic Scripting host in the loop. The scripting host is used to massage the output, ADODB is getting a piece of data from a database, and ZipArchive is compressing the output record. I thought that there might be a leak in one of these pieces, but according to BoundsChecker, there is not. They just seem to be fragmenting the crap out of the memory. I'm going to have to re-think the memory allocation that I'm using, but I don't have much control over ZipArchive (but some), and I have

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absolutely no control over ADODB or the VBS host engine. The count of the number of records processed is now over 410,000 per day and growing.

Thanks for all your input. It is greatly appreciated.

Mike