

## RE: VS 2008, IIS and Vista debugging

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VisualStudio/microsoft.public.vsnnet.debugging/2008-01/msg00033.html>

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  - *Date:* Fri, 25 Jan 2008 03:52:25 GMT
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Hi Eric,

Sorry for letting you wait.

I have discussed this issue with VS debugger team and several other security experts. Actually, there are a lot of scenarios that may need Admin right:

1. You need to be an admin to debug another users process.(The ACL setting on the kernel process object will only grant to its creator account)
2. You normally need to be an admin to update IIS config, or to write to intepub
3. You need to be an admin for certain cross-session operations.(This is due to the Session 0 isolation feature in Vista)

So, our recommendation: If you want to do non-admin, stick to File-system webs.

It is possible to edit IIS configuration as a Non-admin but you have to do some ACL management first:

<http://blogs.msdn.com/jaredpar/archive/2005/02/04/367137.aspx>

From security perspective, there are ways to do asp.net same-box debugging

as a non-admin pre-Vista(e.g., running the app pool under your own account, using the user-mode web server, etc.) but we are not recommended that. The problem with doing work that way is kind of the same situation that leads to LUA bugs: you're doing dev/test in an environment that is significantly different from that of production. In this case, you're running a web app using an interactive user account with its profile loaded, etc.

The way we prefer to work is to have IIS 6.0 on a separate machine (typically a virtual machine), run Visual Studio as my usual non-admin account, but connect to the web server using an account that is admin on the web server. Either add your account to the admins group on that server, or use "runas /netonly /u:IISBOX\adminaccount devenv.exe" so that you remain you locally but authenticate as the remote admin when you connect to the web server.

Hope this makes sense to you.

Best regards,  
Jeffrey Tan  
Microsoft Online Community Support

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