

Re: Security Exception when deploying a VB.NET 2003 Solution

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- *From:* "John Kotuby" <johnk@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 16 Jun 2006 10:40:43 -0400
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Thanks Norman,

I guess I will need to spend some time on .NET security. I still can't figure out why the App runs from the Network Share that it was originally compiled to. It runs fine on any workstation. My only guess is that the Assemblies were compiled with reference to a String Name Key file .SNK in a folder 2 levels up from the BIN folder where the application resides.

I went into the .NET configuration utility on another WinXP workstation that will allow code to run from the DEVELOPMENT share (where the SNK file resides). To my surprise there was already an entry there for file://server/development/* URL. I did not put it there.

When I tried to add another identical entry with a different URL file://server/testing/* the exact same code copied to a folder under the "testing" share would not run — security exception.

Go figure...

"Norman Yuan" <NotReal@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:eiZOA2%23jGHA.4588@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

See comment inline.

"John Kotuby" <johnk@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:ukYj4L9jGHA.1204@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Hello all,

About a year ago I wrote a VB.NET 2003 solution that consists of a number of assemblies (1 EXE and 15 DLLS). As I recall, in order to deploy the solution to a testing server I simply copied the contents of the Bin folder in the development area where the compiled assemblies reside. Be patient with me here, because I haven't used .NET since then ... our primary development environment is still VB6, as we have a large

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application with 6 years devoted to it and are not quite ready to do a complete re-write in .NET.

The .NET project which had been dormant for a year is now back in action. I tried creating an MSI install project from within the solution. It appeared to include the primary EXE all the necessary dependencies (I don't even remember how I created that Installer at the moment).

The bottom line is that now when I try to deploy to either a Test Server share or a local workstation (which is a member of a Domain), I get Microsoft .NET security errors upon trying to start the Executable.

Examples:

Local Workstation:

"An unhandled exception has occurred....

"Access to the path 'C:\Program Files\Testing' is denied.

I bet the workstation is WinXP and your app is trying to write data (settings?) to C:\Program Files\... folder.

On WinXP, by default, ordinary user does not have permission to write to C:\Program files folder (and subfolders). It is also not following Windows app development rule to save app/user specific in this folder. You should look into C:\Documents and Settings\...to save that kind of data (or Registry, not recommended too, in many cases). If you do not want to modify the app, you may want to install the app in other folder and then make sure user has permission to write data in that folder.

Server Share:

"The application attempted to perform an operation not allowed by the security policy. The operation required the SecurityException. To grant this application the required permission please contact your system administrator, or use the Microsoft .NET security policy administrator."

This is .NET default security settings: any code loaded from outside the running computer is considered unsafe. If you want to load your app from a network share, you need to configure the .NET (Control Panel->Microsoft .NET Framework 1.xx/2.0 Configuration) to allow code from specific location (Intranet, or a folder on the Intranet, or a Group of Code...) to run.

If you really do not spend much time to learn all of these stuff, you can simply use XCopy (copy all the files, EXE and DLLs into a folder on a computer) to deploy the app. This the simplest way to solve your immediate problem.

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So, I used the .NET 1.1 and 2.0 Configuration tools to try to create a Runtime Security Code Group to allow the program to run. I don't remember having to do this last year...strangely enough. I was not able to successfully get the program to execute after a few hours of reading documentation and trying different things in the Configuration tools. The documentation and even the tools themselves are somewhat inscrutable to the uninitiated.