

## RE: Trying to get reference from the GAC

---

*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VisualStudio/microsoft.public.vsnnet.general/2007-08/msg00073.html>

---

- *From:* [stcheng@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:stcheng@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) (Steven Cheng[MSFT])
  - *Date:* Wed, 22 Aug 2007 07:39:58 GMT
- 

Hi Dave,

From your description, you want to change the .NET framework system assemblies' reference path (in Visual Studio IDE at development time) from "C:\WINDOWS\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v2.0.50727" to their GAC location, correct?

Based on my understanding, the system assemblies seems be particularly processed in the Visual Studio's design-time and will always point to the framework folder. Also, I don't think it is safe to redirect the reference path to the GAC path since GAC path is in a customized folder "%system dir%\assemblies" which is not intended to be used by user directly (other than the .net clr runtime itself).

If you do want to share the same location of those framework assemblies, I think you can consider the following means (though it is not documented and not guranteed to work well):

\*\* For Visual Studio 2005, you can manually add a registry entry to make a custom folder become one of the search paths when you launch "Add Reference" dialog in Visual Studio IDE

#Adding assemblies to the Add References dialog in Visual Studio 2005  
<http://blogs.msdn.com/astebner/archive/2005/11/28/497693.aspx>

\*\* You can move those assemblies you want to share the same physical path to a custom folder and add that custom folder as one of the search path (as above)

\*\* In your project, you can try removing those existing reference to .net framework assemblies and add new reference against the new place to see whether it works.

Hope this helps.

Sincerely,

RE: Trying to get reference from the GAC

Steven Cheng

Microsoft MSDN Online Support Lead

=====  
Get notification to my posts through email? Please refer to  
<http://msdn.microsoft.com/subscriptions/managednewsgroups/default.aspx#notifications>.

Note: The MSDN Managed Newsgroup support offering is for non-urgent issues where an initial response from the community or a Microsoft Support Engineer within 1 business day is acceptable. Please note that each follow up response may take approximately 2 business days as the support professional working with you may need further investigation to reach the most efficient resolution. The offering is not appropriate for situations that require urgent, real-time or phone-based interactions or complex project analysis and dump analysis issues. Issues of this nature are best handled working with a dedicated Microsoft Support Engineer by contacting Microsoft Customer Support Services (CSS) at <http://msdn.microsoft.com/subscriptions/support/default.aspx>.

=====  
This posting is provided "AS IS" with no warranties, and confers no rights.

RE: Trying to get reference from the GAC