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Fix missing Visual Studio SOLIDWORKS API SDK project templates

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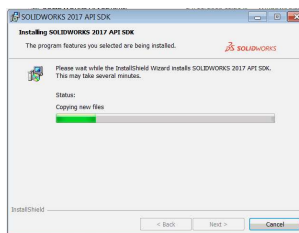
See more issues and resolutions

Notifications

All articles and code at CodeStack are now open-source and hosted on GitHub. If you want to contribute by modifying existing articles and code snippets, submitting new ones, reporting errors and bugs etc. please follow this blog post for more information. We appreciate any contribution.

Symptoms

SOLIDWORKS API SDK installation process

After installation of SOLIDWORKS API SDK no project templates are shown in Visual Studio New Project dialog for C# and VB.NET
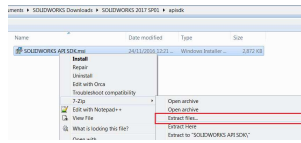
Cause

System error happened while installing the templates and registering the Wizard assembly in the Global Assembly Cache (GAC). This might be caused by permission issues.
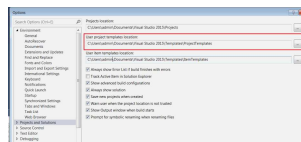
Resolution

- Locate *SOLIDWORKS API SDK.msi* file. Usually found in *apisdk* folder of installation DVD or SOLIDWORKS download package.

- The MSI package is a zip storage. Extract (unzip) the file using any Archive tools which support zip format (such as WinRar, WinZip or 7-Zip)
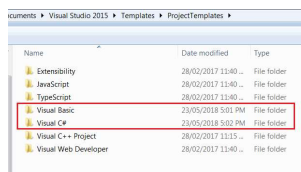

[Unzipping .msi package](#)

- Find *swvbaddin.zip* for VB.NET template and *swcsharpaddin.zip* for C# template in the files of the unzipped folder.

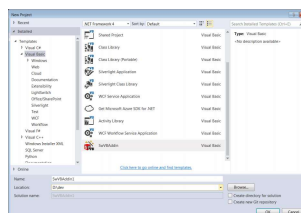- Open Visual Studio and select *Tools->Options...* menu command. Navigate to *Projects and Solutions* group.

[Projects and Solutions options in Visual Studio](#)

- Copy the path of the *User project templates location* field value and open this folder in the explorer

- Copy the *swvbaddin.zip* file into the *Visual Basic* folder and *swcsharpaddin.zip* into the *Visual C#* folder. It is not needed to unzip these files.

[Project templates folder](#)

- Start Visual Studio and create new project. Now C# and VB.NET project templates are available for selection.

[VB.NET project template for SOLIDWORKS add-in](#)

If the following error is displayed when creating the project:

SolidWorksToolsWizard
component load error

- Navigate to the folder unzipped from the *SOLIDWORKS API SDK.msi* file and find the *SolidWorksToolsWizard.dll*

SolidworksToolsWizard.dll

- This dll needs to be registered in the Global Assembly Cache (GAC). Navigate to *%windir%\assembly%* folder in explorer and drag-n-drop the dll file into the folder

SolidWorksToolsWizard
dll registered in GAC

Alternatively follow the How to: Install an Assembly into the Global Assembly Cache article on the guide of registering assembly in GAC.

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