Dave's Development Blog

Software Development using Borland / Codegear / Embarcadero RAD Studio

Debugging Open Tools API Experts on a Windows 7 64-bit Machine

By David | August 5, 2011 0 Comment

Since upgrading to a new machine (Dell Precision M6500 with Windows 7 64-bit) late last year I've been unable to debug Open Tools API experts in a second instance of the IDE. When I've tried to run the second IDE it starts up okay and then the first IDE breaks like its at a breakpoint. I press F9 to continue and it happens a number of other times until the loading of the second IDE throws a complete wobbly and crashes taking out the first IDE along with it. I wasn't impressed and wondered if I'd made a big mistake in getting a 64-bit machine.

Oh, and by the way, we hadn't got any where near loading my expert so that wasn't the problem as the second IDE was a complete new instance started with the command line BDS.exe -pDelphi -rBrowseAndDocItDPR. The first just loads the Delphi personality and the second creates a complete new registry area for this second IDE so it doesn't interfere with the first.

Anyway I decided this evening to try running the IDE in a compatibility mode (Windows XP Service Pack 2). It shouldn't need it as Delphi 2010 (and RAD Studio) were supposed to be built for Windows 7. Well it made a difference. The loading of the second IDE still caused the first to break several times BUT pressing F9 allowed it to load completely (with several other F9s) and I can now debug the experts.

Hope this helps anyone else how comes across this problem.

Dave.

PS Hasn't solved my other debugging problem with my Eidolon DLL in Excel and Excel not finding printer or the debugger attaching to the DLL.

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