;run the installer   
msiexec /i "MySQL\_Setup.msi" /quiet INSTALLDIR="D:\Program Files\MySQL\MySQL Server 5.0"   
  
;here you can dump a my.ini file in the same directory like I did   
  
;install the service with your settings   
D:\Program Files\MySQL\MySQL Server 5.0\bin\mysqld-nt" --install MySQL --defaults-file="D:\Program Files\MySQL\MySQL Server 5.0\my.ini"   
  
;change the password (if you want to). Make this the only line of C:\mysql-init.txt:   
SET PASSWORD FOR 'root'@'localhost' = PASSWORD('mypassword');   
  
;set the password to change at the next start   
D:\Program Files\MySQL\MySQL Server 5.0\bin\mysqld-nt" --init-file="C:\mysql-init.txt"   
  
;start the service   
net start MySQL

This week I’ve been developing an installer using [NSIS](http://nsis.sourceforge.net/Main_Page) to facilitate software deployment. Part of the installer requires me to install another application (MySQL in this case) and then run a configuration script against the newly installed software. Here’s the general procedure:

1. Begin installer (for my software)
2. Unpack MySQL installer (delivered as an MSI and packed into my installer)
3. Silently install MySQL. I do this running the installer from the command line like this:

msiexec /quiet /i mysql.msi

1. Run the configuration script to install the Windows Service and create an ini file
2. Continue on with other installer tasks.

Notice that before I move on to step 4 I have to be sure that the installation completes. If installation isn’t complete then the configuration step will fail. I had initially hoped that the ExecWait feature would provide me what I needed, but it didn’t work out that easy.

It turns out that **msiexec** exits after successfully starting the installer and so step 4 begins before the installation in step 3 completes. A little Google searching brought me to this promising [article about using start /wait](http://blogs.msdn.com/b/heaths/archive/2005/11/15/493236.aspx). However, putting “start /wait” in the command for ExecWait didn’t work.

**Solution**

Eventually I got the idea that I would add another step. Here’s how it works now:

1. Begin Installer
2. Unpack MySQL installer
3. Build a .bat file with the installer command that I want

start /wait msiexec /quiet /i mysql.msi

1. Silently install MySQL by calling the .bat file: ExecWait installmysql.bat
2. Run the configuration script to install the Windows Service and create an ini file
3. Continue on with other installer tasks.

Here’s some sample code you can use if you want to accomplish the same thing

; Create batch file

FileOpen $0 "calcwait.bat" "w"

FileWrite $0 "start /wait $SYSDIR\calc.exe"

FileClose $0

; View file

ExecWait '"calcwait.bat"'