Visual Studio 2005 Setup project install crashes over Terminal Server

Asked 16 years, 4 months ago   Modified 15 years, 9 months ago

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4

I have a setup project created by Visual Studio 2005, and consists of both a C# .NET 2.0 project and C++ MFC project, and the C++ run time. It works properly when run from the main console, but when run over a Terminal Server session on a Windows XP target, the install fails in the following way - When the Setup.exe is invoked, it immediately crashes before the first welcome screen is displayed. When invoked over a physical console, the setup runs normally.

I figured I could go back to a lab machine to debug, but it runs fine on a lab machine over Terminal Server.

I see other descriptions of setup problems over Terminal Server sessions, but I don't see a definite solution. Both machines have a nearly identical configuration except that the one that is failing also has the GoToMyPC Host installed.

Has anyone else seen these problems, and how can I troubleshoot this?

Thanks,

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2

I had LOTS of issues with developing installers (and software in general) for terminal server. I hate that damn thing.

Anyway, VS Setup Projects are just .msi files, and run using the Windows installer framework.

This will drop a log file when it errors out, they're called MSIc183.LOG (swap the c183 for some random numbers and letters), and they go in your logged-in-user account's temp directory.

The easiest way to find that is to type `%TEMP%` into the windows explorer address bar - once you're there have a look for these log files, they might give you a clue.

- Note - Under terminal server, sometimes the logs don't go directly into `%TEMP%`, but under numbered

subdirectories. If you can't find any MSIXYZ.LOG files in there, look for directories called `1` , `2` , and so on, and look in those.

If you find a log file, but can't get any clues from it, post it here. I've looked at more than I care to thing about, so I may be able to help

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answered Aug 18, 2008 at 22:00

Orion Edwards

123k ● 66 ● 245 ● 339

Before installing, drop to a command prompt and type

```
CHANGE USER /INSTALL
```

Then install your software. Once the install has completed, drop back to the command prompt and type:

```
CHANGE USER /EXECUTE
```

Alternatively, don't start the installation by a double click but instead go to Add/Remove Programs and select "install software" from there.

Good luck!

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answered Nov 14, 2008 at 1:58

saschabeaumont
22.4k ● 4 ● 64 ● 87