

Document version: 18.01

Episerver CMS Visual Studio Extension version: 11.1.0.326

Episerver CMS version: 11.3.1

Episerver Commerce version: 11.6.1



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Overview

Using the instructions in this document, you will ensure that your computer is ready for use during an Episerver training course by setting up some Episerver web sites *before* you attend a course.

The projects have different names so that they can all be created in the same Visual Studio solution. We recommend a location of **C:\Episerver** and a solution name of **Training**, but you can choose alternatives, for example, your organization's name.

Before a course	Project name	Project template
Create these sites <i>before</i> a training course to ensure your laptop is set up correctly to work with Episerver. Detailed instructions are in this document.	AlloyDemo	Episerver Web Site - Alloy (MVC)
	EmptyDemo	Episerver Web Site - Empty

During courses, you will create additional projects as shown in the following table:

Course		Project name	Project template
CMS Developer Boot Camp	CMS Development Fundamentals	AlloyTraining	Episerver Web Site - Empty
	CMS Advanced Development	AlloyAdvanced	Episerver Web Site - Alloy (MVC)
		FindConsole	Console App (.NET Framework)
Commerce Development Fundamentals, Commerce Advanced Development, Commerce Developer Boot Camp		CommerceTraining	Episerver Web Site - Empty
		CommerceManager	ASP.NET Web Application (.NET Framework) – Empty
Developing for DX	C Service	AlloyDxc	Episerver Web Site - Alloy (MVC)
Find for Developers		AlloyFind	Episerver Web Site - Alloy (MVC)
		FindConsole	Console App (.NET Framework)

Authentication with Windows or SOL-stored accounts

When you create an *Episerver Web Site – Empty* project, it is configured to allow authentication using either a Windows user account or a SQL-stored user account. However, there won't be any SQL-stored accounts created yet.

If your organization has a security set up that requires you to be logged into your work network to authenticate to the domain, then you will need to create a *local* Windows account and add it to the *local* **Administrators** group on your laptop for use when you are disconnected from your organisation's network.

Alternatively, there are detailed instructions showing how to automatically create or reset a SQL-stored Admin account that is a member of WebAdmins by writing an initialization module.

Minimum development system requirements

http://world.episerver.com/documentation/Items/System-Requirements-EPiServer/

- Microsoft Windows 8, or later, or Windows Server 2012, or later.
- Microsoft Visual Studio 2015 or 2017 with latest updates.



These instructions will use our most recent recommended development stack: Microsoft Windows 10, Microsoft Visual Studio 2017 including SQL Server LocalDb, and Episerver CMS Visual Studio Extension 11.1.0.326. Older versions may look and behave slightly differently.



Setting up your development environment

Installing Microsoft Visual Studio Community 2017

If you have already installed Microsoft Visual Studio 2017, or you are using a virtual machine provided by Episerver, then you can skip this section.

- 1. Download and install Microsoft Visual Studio Community 2017 from the following link: https://www.visualstudio.com/downloads/
- 2. At a minimum, choose the workloads: ASP.NET and web development, Azure development, and .NET Core cross-platform development.
- 3. Optionally, add the individual components: Azure Storage AzCopy, Class Designer, Git for Windows, GitHub extension for Visual Studio, and PowerShell tools.



Microsoft SQL Server Express LocalDb should be included with Visual Studio, but you can also install it separately from the following link: https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/download/details.aspx?id=42299 Click **Download**, check the box for **LocalDB 64BIT\SqlLocalDB.msi**, and click **Next**.



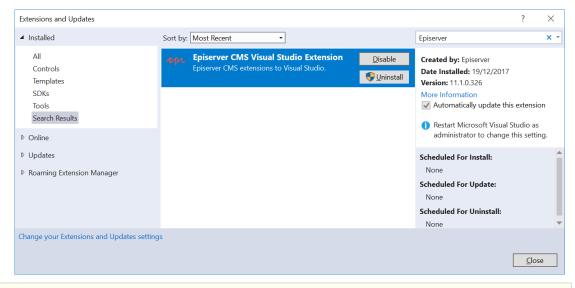
LocalDB 64BIT\SqlLocalDB.msi

Installing the Episerver CMS Visual Studio Extension



If you have already installed the Episerver CMS Visual Studio Extension, or you are using a virtual machine provided by Episerver, then you can skip this section.

- 1. Start Microsoft Visual Studio.
- 2. Navigate to Tools | Extensions and Updates..., and in the section on the left, click Online, to show the Visual Studio Marketplace.
- 3. Press Ctrl + E, or click in the **Search** box, and then enter **Episerver**.
- 4. Select the Episerver CMS Visual Studio Extension, click Download, as shown in the following screenshot:





Episerver CMS Visual Studio Extension 11.1.0.326 was released on 18th December 2017. We recommend that you automatically update this extension. To install an older version, download from the following link: https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=EPiServer.EpiserverCMSVisualStudioExtension



- 5. Wait for the extension to download, and then click Close.
- 6. Close Visual Studio, and wait for the VSIX Installer to start.
- 7. When the installer has finished, click Close.

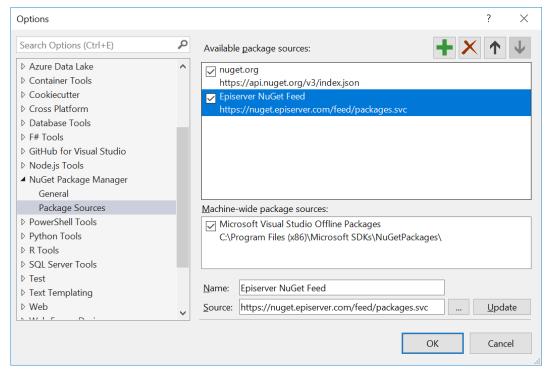
Configuring the Episerver NuGets package source



If you have already configured the **Episerver NuGets** package source, or you are using a virtual machine provided by Episerver, then you can skip this section.

- 1. Start Microsoft Visual Studio.
- 2. Navigate to Tools | NuGet Package Manager | Package Manager Settings.
- 3. In the Options dialog, in the list on the left, click Package Sources.
- 4. If the Episerver NuGet feed doesn't exist as an available package source, as shown in the following screenshot, then click the **green plus** button to add it. The name can be anything, although we recommend using **Episerver NuGets**, and the path must be:

https://nuget.episerver.com/feed/packages.svc/



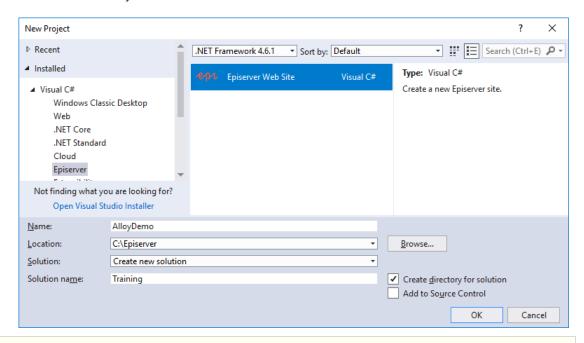


Creating an Alloy (MVC) Episerver web site with sample content

- 1. In Visual Studio, navigate to File | New | Project..., or press Ctrl + Shift + N.
- 2. In the left section, navigate to Installed | Templates | Visual C# | Episerver.
- 3. In the middle section, select **Episerver Web Site** project, and enter the following options, as shown in the following screenshot:
 - Target: .NET Framework 4.6.1 (or a later compatible version).
- Ü

For compatability with Episerver CMS 11 you must choose a minimum target of .NET Framework 4.6.1 because it requires .NET Standard 2.0.

- Name: AlloyDemo
- Location: C:\Episerver (or some other folder).
- Solution name: Training (or something else unique).
- Create directory for solution: Yes



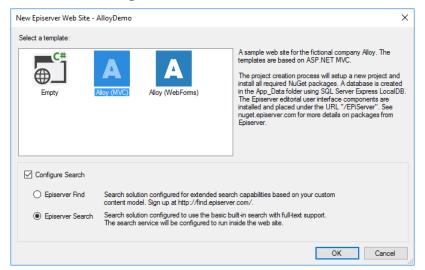


If you already have a solution named **Training**, you can open the existing solution and choose **Add New Project** instead.

4. Click OK.



5. Choose the **Alloy (MVC)** template, and in the **Configure Search** section, select **Episerver Search**, as shown in the following screenshot:



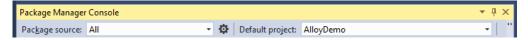
6. Click **OK**, and wait for the project to be created.

Updating the Episerver NuGet packages



Episerver CMS Visual Studio Extension 11.1.0.326 uses NuGet packages from 18th December 2017, i.e. EPiServer.CMS.Core 11.3.0. Recommended practice is to update to the latest NuGet packages for your chosen major version number that are usually released on a weekly schedule.

- 1. In Visual Studio, navigate to Tools | NuGet Package Manager | Package Manager Console.
- 2. In Package Manager Console, set these two options, as shown in the following screenshot:
 - Package source: All
 - Default project: AlloyDemo





If you cannot see **All** as a **Package source**, then close Visual Studio, use **File Explorer** to open **%appdata%\NuGet**, rename **NuGet.config** to **NuGet.backup**, and restart Visual Studio. That should recreate **NuGet.config**, including the **All** option. You can redefine the **Episerver NuGets** feed following the instructions above, or copy and paste previous configuration from the backup, if necessary.

3. Enter the following command to update all packages referenced by the project **AlloyDemo** using restrictions defined in packages.config:

Update-Package -ProjectName AlloyDemo -ToHighestMinor



Doing updates at the command line allows Episerver packages to be safely installed because it won't upgrade to a higher major version that would have breaking changes, and non-Episerver dependencies will be updated, as well as the EPiServer ones, for example, **Microsoft.Tpl.DataFlow**, but won't accidently install newer but incompatible packages. If you don't have the latest version of NuGet, you can follow instructions here: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/nuget/guides/install-nuget

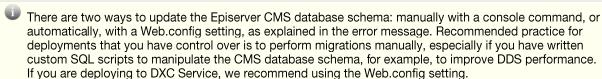
Updating the Episerver database

1. Start the site by navigating to **Debug | Start Without Debugging**, or press *Ctrl* + *F*5.



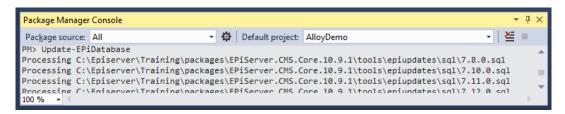
2. If you see an exception message about the **EPiServerDB** database, as shown in the following screenshot, then a change has been made to the database schema:





- 3. Close the browser.
- 4. In Visual Studio, navigate to Tools | NuGet Package Manager | Package Manager Console.
- 5. Make sure the **Default project** is **AlloyDemo**, as shown in the following screenshot, and at the prompt enter:

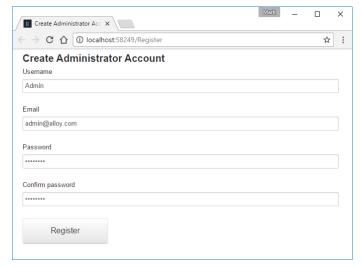
Update-EPiDatabase



If you get a warning about a missing **packages** folder, exit, and restart Visual Studio, and try again.

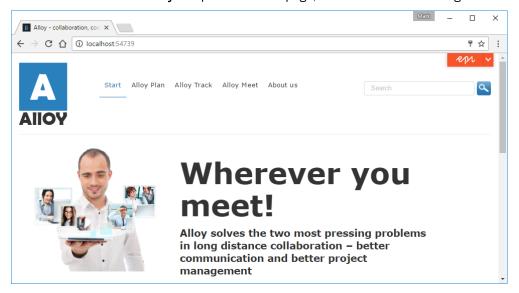
Testing the Episerver website and registering an administrator account

- Start the site by navigating to Debug | Start Without Debugging, or press Ctrl + F5.
- You will be prompted to Create
 Administrator Account, as shown in the following screenshot, so enter the following details:
- Username: **Admin** or something else, but make a note of it!
- Email: admin@alloy.com or some other e-mail address (it does not need to be real).
- Password: Pa\$\$wOrd or something else, but make a note of it!





3. You should now see the Alloy sample site's Start page, as shown in the following screenshot:

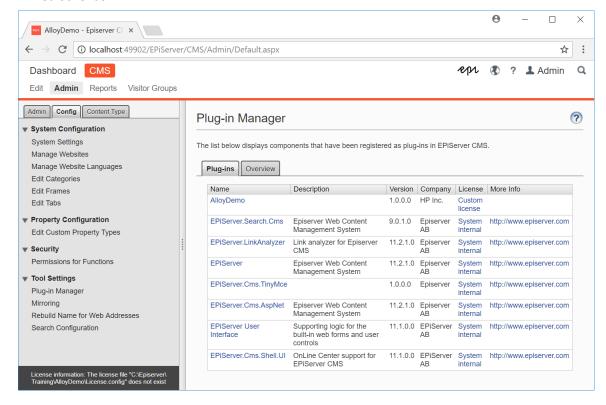


4. Click the **epi** menu in the top-right corner, as shown in the following screenshot:



If you can't see the **epi** quick access menu, scroll down to the bottom of the page, and in the footer, click **Log In**, and log in as Admin.

5. At the top of the page, pull down the orange **Global** menu, and navigate to **CMS | Admin | Config | Plug-in Manager** to confirm the version of Episerver CMS you are using, as shown in the following screenshot:



f I Congratulations! You have now created an Episerver CMS website and updated it to the latest version.



Windows 7 users



If you are using Windows 7, or your operating system has web sockets disabled, then in Edit view you will see warning messages about no support for real-time communication. To disable these warning messages, add the following element to Web.config:

```
<appSettings>
  <add key="Epi.WebSockets.Enabled" value="false"/>
```

Congratulations!

You are now ready to explore developing for the **Episerver CMS** platform.

You do not need to complete any more of the tasks in this document. The following tasks are optional.



Creating an Empty Episerver web site

- 1. In Visual Studio, navigate to File | Add | New Project...
- 2. In the left section, navigate to **Installed | Templates | Visual C# | Episerver**. In the middle section, select **Episerver Web Site** project, and enter the following options, as shown in the following screenshot:
 - Target: .NET Framework 4.6.1 or later compatible version.
 - Name: EmptyDemo
 - Location: C:\Episerver\Training
- 3. Click OK.
- 4. Choose the **Empty** template, and click **OK**.

Updating the Episerver NuGet packages and updating the Episerver database

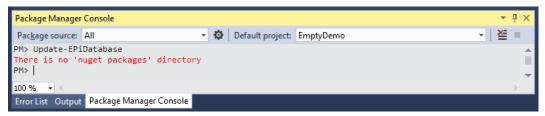
- 1. In Visual Studio, navigate to Tools | NuGet Package Manager | Package Manager Console.
- 2. At the top of the Package Manager Console, set Package source to All.
- 3. Enter the following commands to install Episerver Search indexing service and its integration with CMS, install Episerver Forms, update all packages using restrictions defined in packages.config, and update the CMS database:

```
Install-Package -ProjectName EmptyDemo EPiServer.Search Install-Package -ProjectName EmptyDemo EPiServer.Search.Cms Install-Package -ProjectName EmptyDemo EPiServer.Forms Update-Package -ProjectName EmptyDemo -ToHighestMinor Update-EPiDatabase
```



It is worth installing **Episerver Search** now so that you can use the Global search and search boxes in the **Navigation** and **Assets** panes as an editor and administrator.

4. If you see an error message, as shown in the following screenshot, then close Visual Studio, restart, reopen the solution, and try again:

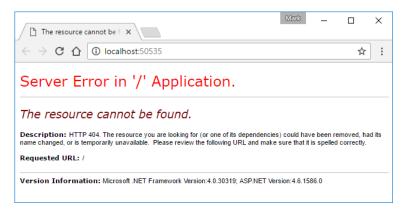


Testing the Episerver web site

- 1. Start the site by navigating to **Debug | Start Without Debugging**, or press *Ctrl* + *F*5.
- 2. You will see a HTTP 404 error message, as shown in the following screenshot:

This is expected, because the site is empty, and does not yet have a start page.





3. Enter /EPiServer/ at the end of the address box, as shown in the following screenshot:





4. Log in using a *local* Windows account that is a member of the *local* Windows group named **Administrators**, or follow the instructions in the next section to automatically create or reset a SQL-stored account.

Congratulations!

You are now ready to explore developing for the **Episerver CMS** platform.



Creating or resetting a SQL-stored admin account automatically



WARNING! The password of a SQL-stored account cannot be reset, so this code will **delete** an existing SQL-stored account named **Admin** (if it already exists) and recreate it with a known password. It will create the **WebAdmins** group (if does not already exist) and assign full access rights for the role to the Root page.

- 1. In an Episerver Web Site Empty project with default configuration, open Web.config.
- 2. Add an entry to <appSettings>, as shown in the following markup:

```
<add key="alloy:RegisterAdmin" value="true" />
```

3. Find the <membership> element and set the defaultProvider to SqlServerMembershipProvider, as shown in the following markup:

```
<membership defaultProvider="SqlServerMembershipProvider"</pre>
```

4. Find the <roleManager> element and set the **defaultProvider** to **SqlServerRoleProvider**, as shown in the following markup:

```
<roleManager enabled="true" defaultProvider="SqlServerRoleProvider"</pre>
```

- 5. Save and close Web.config.
- 6. Right-click Business, and add a folder named Initialization.
- 7. In ~\Business\Initialization, add an Episerver | Initialization Module named RegisterAdminInitializationModule.cs.
- 8. Modify the statements, as shown in the following code:

```
using EPiServer;
using EPiServer.Core;
using EPiServer.Framework;
using EPiServer.Framework.Initialization;
using EPiServer.Security;
using EPiServer.ServiceLocation;
using System.Linq;
using System.Web.Security;
namespace EmptyDemo.Business.Initialization
{
    [InitializableModule]
    [ModuleDependency(typeof(EPiServer.Web.InitializationModule))]
    public class RegisterAdminInitializationModule : IInitializableModule
        private const string roleName = "WebAdmins";
        private const string userName = "Admin";
        private const string password = "Pa$$w0rd";
        private const string email = "admin@alloy.com";
        public void Initialize(InitializationEngine context)
            #region Use ASP.NET Membership classes to create the role and user
            // if the role does not exist, create it
            if (!Roles.RoleExists(roleName))
            {
                Roles.CreateRole(roleName);
            }
            // if the user already exists, delete it
            MembershipUser user = Membership.GetUser(userName);
            if (user != null)
```



```
{
                Membership.DeleteUser(userName);
            }
            // create the user with password and add it to role
            user = Membership.CreateUser(userName, password, email);
            Roles.AddUserToRole(userName, roleName);
            #endregion
            #region Use EPiServer classes to give full access to root of content tree
            // get the root page
            var loader = ServiceLocator.Current.GetInstance<IContentLoader>();
            var root = loader.Get<PageData>(ContentReference.RootPage)
                .CreateWritableClone() as PageData;
            // try to get the access control entry for the role
            var ace = root.ACL.Entries.Where(
                e => e.Name == roleName).FirstOrDefault();
            // if the entry exists, remove it if it isn't full access
            if ((ace != null) && (ace.Access == AccessLevel.FullAccess))
            {
                return;
            }
            if (ace != null)
            {
                root.ACL.RemoveEntry(ace);
            }
            // create, add, and save a new access control entry
            ace = new AccessControlEntry(roleName, AccessLevel.FullAccess);
            root.ACL.Add(ace);
            root.ACL.Save();
            #endregion
        }
        public void Uninitialize(InitializationEngine context) { }
    }
}
   9. Start the site, and log in as Admin with Pa$$w0rd.
   10. Close the browser.
```

- 11. In AlloyTraining, open Web.config.
- 12. Modify the entry in <appSettings > to disable the registration of Admin, as shown in the following

```
<add key="alloy:RegisterAdmin" value="false" />
```

13. Save and close Web.config.

You now have full access to CMS administrator features without needing a Windows account.



Installing Additional Tools

Installing Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio



If you are using a virtual machine provided by Episerver, or you are not attending the *Developing for the DXC Service* course, then you can skip this section.

Go to the following link to download and install Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/ssms/download-sql-server-management-studio-ssms

Installing the Azure SDK for Visual Studio 2015 or earlier



If you are using Visual Studio 2017, and you installed the **Azure development** workload, or you are using a virtual machine provided by Episerver, or you are not going to deploy to Microsoft Azure, or you are not attending the Developing for the DXC Service course, then you can skip this section.

1. Search for Azure SDK on Google to find the downloads page, as shown in the following screenshot:



2. Click the link for your version of Visual Studio, as shown in the following screenshot:



3. In **Web Platform Installer**, click **Install**, as shown in the following screenshot, and wait for the SDK to install:





Creating Episerver Commerce websites

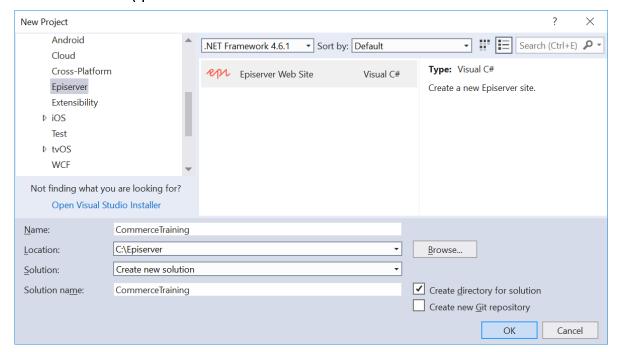
To use Episerver Commerce, you need two websites:

- Front-end website for visitors, editors, merchandisers, and administrators.
- Back-end website for Commerce administrators.

Creating the front-end CommerceTraining website

It is best to initially create the two projects in their own solution. Once they are set up, you can then safely add them to another solution, like the Training solution, if you want.

- 1. In Visual Studio, navigate to File | New | Project... or press Ctrl + Shift + N.
- 2. In the left section, navigate to Installed | Visual C# | Episerver.
- 3. In the middle section, select Episerver Web Site project.
- 4. Enter the following, as shown in the following screenshot:
 - Target: .NET Framework 4.6.1 (or later compatible version).
 - Name: CommerceTraining
 - Location: C:\Episerver



- 5. Click OK.
- 6. Choose the **Empty** template, and click **OK**.
- 7. Navigate to Tools | NuGet Package Manager | Package Manager Console.



- 8. At the top of the Package Manager Console, set:
 - a. Package source to All
 - b. Default project to CommerceTraining
- 9. Enter the following commands, as shown in the following screenshot, to:
 - a. Install a package to add Commerce functionality to the front-end website.
 - b. Install a package to integrate the front-end website with the back-end website.
 - c. Update all packages using restrictions defined in packages.config.
 - d. Update the database schema.

Install-Package -ProjectName CommerceTraining EPiServer.Commerce

Install-Package -ProjectName CommerceTraining
 EPiServer.Commerce.UI.ManagerIntegration

Update-Package -ProjectName CommerceTraining -ToHighestMinor

Update-EPiDatabase



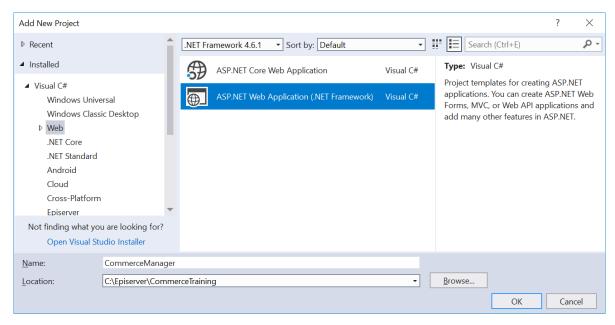
V Yo

You might need to restart Visual Studio a couple of times to update Entity Framework from 6.1 to 6.2.

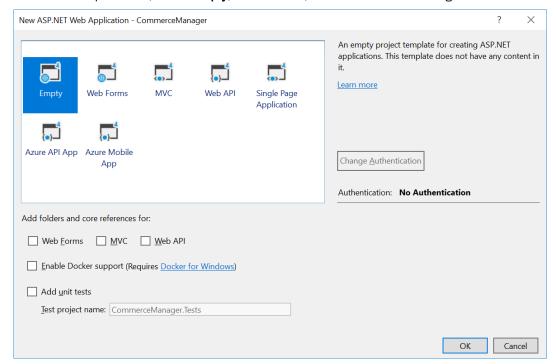
Creating the back-end CommerceManager website

- 1. In Visual Studio, navigate to File | Add | New Project...
- 2. In the left section, navigate to Installed | Visual C# | Web.
- 3. In the middle section, select ASP.NET Web Application (.NET Framework) project.
- 4. Enter the following options, as shown in the following screenshot:
 - Target: .NET Framework 4.6.1 (or later compatible version).
 - Name: CommerceManager
 - Location: C:\Episerver\CommerceTraining





- 5. Click OK.
- 6. In the templates list, select Empty, and click OK, as shown in the following screenshot:



- 7. Navigate to Tools | NuGet Package Manager | Package Manager Console.
- 8. At the top of the **Package Manager Console**, set **Package source** to **All**, and **Default project** to **CommerceManager**.

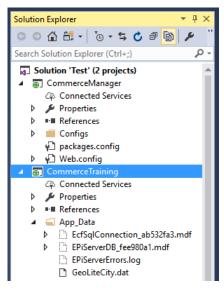


9. Enter the following command to add a package:

Install-Package -ProjectName CommerceManager EPiServer.CommerceManager

Update the packages and database schema for CommerceTraining

1. In the **CommerceTraining** project, expand **App_Data**, and show all files, and note the filenames of the two databases, as shown in the following screenshot:



- EPiServerDB_{guid}.mdf is the CMS database.

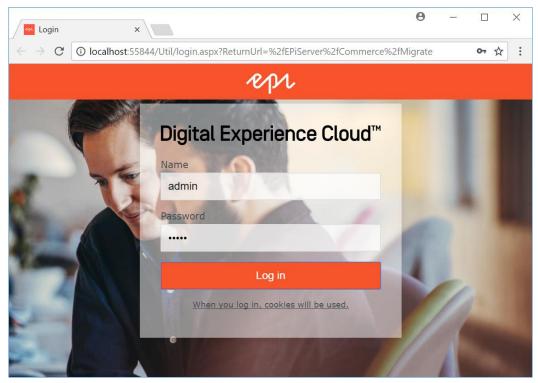
 EcfSqlConnection_{guid}.mdf is the Commerce database.
 - 2. Open Web.config.
 - 3. In the <connectionStrings > element, make sure that the two connection strings are correct for the two databases:
 - a. CMS database: EPiServerDB
 - b. Commerce database: EcfSqlConnection
- If you have added the two Commerce websites to an existing solution with other Episerver websites, then the connection strings might be pointing at the wrong projects!



- 4. Navigate to Tools | NuGet Package Manager | Package Manager Console.
- 5. At the top of the **Package Manager Console**, set **Package source** to **All**, and **Default project** to **CommerceTraining**.
- Enter the following command to update the packages and database schemas:
 Update-Package -ProjectName CommerceTraining -ToHighestMinor Update-EPiDatabase

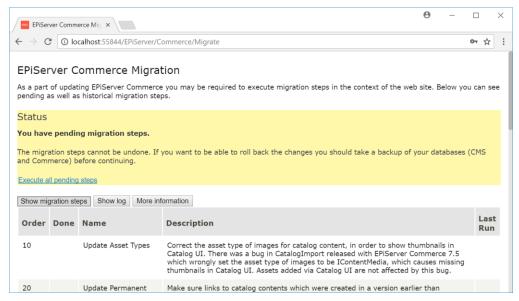
Migrate the CommerceTraining website

- 1. Right-click the CommerceTraining project and select Set as StartUp Project.
- 2. Navigate to **Debug | Start without debugging** or press *Ctrl + F5*.
- 3. Log in with a user name of admin and a password of store, as shown in the following screenshot





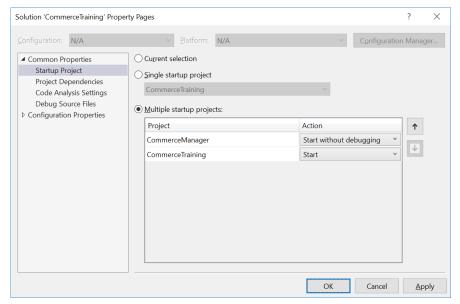
4. On the **EPiServer Commerce Migration** page, click the link **Execute all pending steps**, as shown in the following screenshot:



5. When the migration has completed, close the browser.

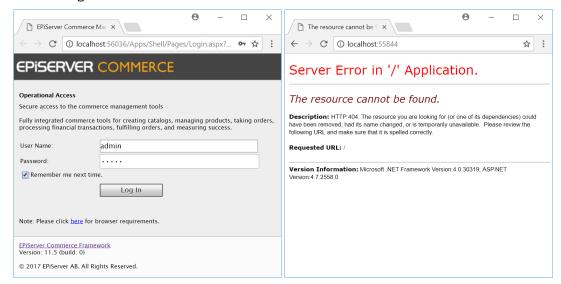
Test the Commerce websites

- 1. Right-click the solution, and select Set StartUp Projects...
- 2. Set multiple startup projects as follows:
 - a. CommerceManager: Start without debugging
 - b. **CommerceTraining**: Start





3. Navigate to **Debug | Start Debugging** or press *F*5, and wait for both websites to start, as shown in the following screenshots:

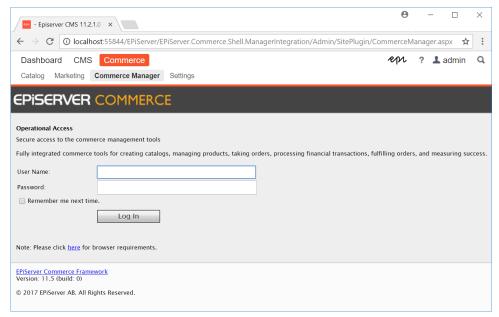


4. In **Commerce Manager**, enter a user name of **admin**, enter a password of **store**, select **Remember me next time**, and click **Log In**, as shown in the preceding screenshot.



In a real site, you should use Commerce Manager to navigate to **Customer Management | Contacts**, click the **admin** user name, in the **Account** box click **Change Password**, and set a stronger password.

- 5. In the **CommerceTraining** site, in the browser address box, enter **/EPiServer/** at the end of the URL, and press *Enter*.
- 6. Enter a user name of admin and a password of store, and click Log In.
- 7. Navigate to **Commerce | Commerce Manager**, and nore that you can access Commerce Manager from the front-end website, as well as access the new CMS-style user interface for **Catalog** and **Marketing**, as shown in the following screenshot:



Congratulations!

You are now ready to explore developing for the **Episerver Commerce** platform.

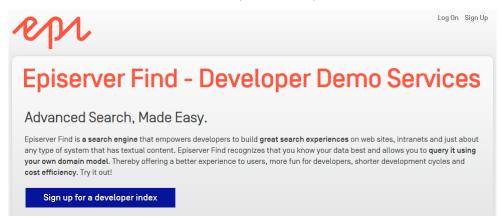


Creating an Episerver Find demo index

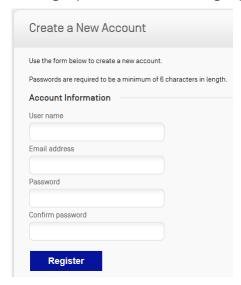
To use Episerver Find, you need a Find index.

Registering a Find account

1. Open a web browser and navigate to http://find.episerver.com/



2. Click Sign up for a demo index, or Sign Up in the top right corner.



- 3. Fill in the required information, and click Register.
- 4. When the verification email arrives, copy and paste the link into your browser's address box and press ENTER to confirm your address and activate the index.

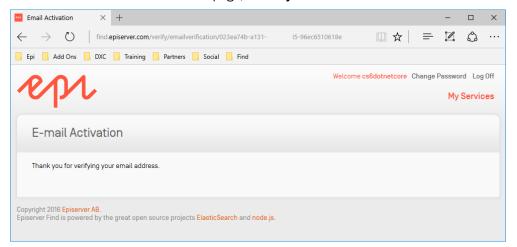


If you don't receive your verification email, check your junk mail folder!

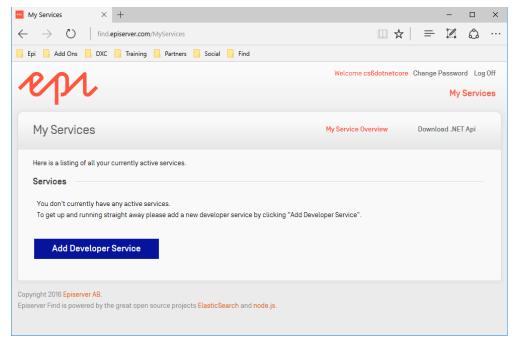


Creating a developer index

1. On the E-mail Activation verification page, click My Services.



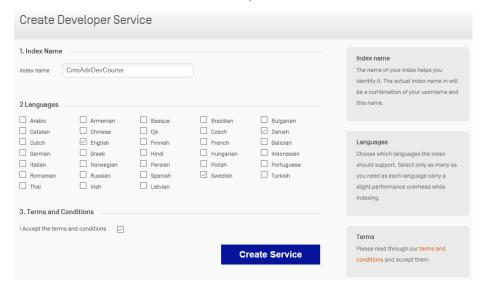
2. In My Services, click Add Developer Service:



- 3. Fill in a name for your index. The name is technically irrelevant but should preferably represent what you're using the index for, such as, *CustomerNameTestIndex*.
- 4. Select at least **English** from the list of languages. You may also select another language, preferably one that you know.



5. Check the terms and conditions checkbox, and click Create Service.



6. You should now see a list of details about your index. Note the **Status**: it will probably be **NotCreated**, as shown in the following screenshot. If you wait a minute and refresh the page it should say **CreatedWithStats**.



7. Note the **Configuration**, as shown in the following screenshot. In the next section, you will copy and paste this into the site's Web.config.

Congratulations!

You are now ready to explore developing for the **Episerver Find** platform.