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How to split web.config?

Ask Question



I want to split web.config and take these settings in a external file.

<customErrors mode="Off" defaultRedirect="~/Home/ErrorPage">

```
<error statusCode="403" redirect="~/Home/ErrorPage"/>
 <error statusCode="404" redirect="~/Home/ErrorPage"/>
</customErrors>
```



<system.net>

</mailSettings> </system.net>

```
<mailSettings>
 <smtp deliveryMethod="Network" from="noreplay@company.no">
    <network host="smtp.company.com" port="25" password="" userName=""/>
 </smtp>
```

I use

```
<appSettings file="my.config"/>
```

to have MY settings outside.

But what about the standard settings?

c# web-config

Home

edited Sep 5 '12 at 12:04

Tom Wijsman

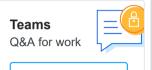
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10.2k 7 47 77

asked Sep 5 '12 at 11:05



podeig

1,195 5 22 40

2 Answers



Many (though not all) of the sections have a configSource property, which you can use very similarly to how you use the file property of the appSettings section.



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More info at MSDN



```
<customErrors configSource="MyErrors.config" />
<system.net>
    <mailSettings>
        <smtp configSource="MySmtp.config" />
        </mailSettings>
    </system.net>
```

edited Sep 5 '12 at 12:04



Tom Wijsman 10.2k 7 47 77

answered Sep 5 '12 at 11:09



Andrew Barber

34k 14 79 109

Good solution. Thank you! Disadvantage is I have to create two config files for each setting. − podeig Sep 5 '12 at 12:01 ✓

Can configSource reference the same file for multiple sections, or is it necessary to create a separate file for each section? — crush May 29 '15 at 15:37



You can separate out some sections of the file, you can't take everything out into separate files.



You should also consider what you gain by doing this.



answered Sep 5 '12 at 11:09



Mark Redman

16.4k 17 81 124

One thing gained is environment configuration without needing to create individual build configurations for each environment just to take advantage of web.config transformation (which is really an abuse of the system anyways). You can leave these specialized external config files on the environment system, and leave global configuration that may change from publish to publish in the main web.config. – crush May 29 '15 at 15:41