



Qios.DevSuite.Components KB
"Unable to cast object of type X to object of type X" error

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“Unable to cast object of type...” error

When you open a Form that contains Qios.DevSuite controls, you might get a *Unable to cast object of type 'A' to type 'A'* error.

For example:

- *Unable to cast object of type Qios.DevSuite.Components.QPadding to Qios.DevSuite.Components.QPadding*
- *Unable to cast object of type Qios.DevSuite.Components.QColor to Qios.DevSuite.Components.QColor*

Cause

Although you probably have only 1 Qios.DevSuite.Components version installed on your system, Visual Studio can cache and load this assembly multiple times during design. Especially when Visual Studio has access to the Qios.DevSuite.Components.dll on **different locations**. During Qios.DevSuite setup, the default location will become:

- `c:\program files\qios\qios.devsuite.components (V2)\bin\.`

Visual Studio knows about this because it is written in the registry under:

- `HKLM\Software\Microsoft\NETFramework\AssemblyFolders`

If you copy / paste Qios.DevSuite.Components.dll to another location, and reference that location in your project, Visual Studio has access to 2 versions of Qios.DevSuite.Components.dll. Although it is exactly the same library, Visual Studio considers it different, and throws a casting error when a type from location X is casted to the same type on location Y.

IMPORTANT: This is one cause Visual Studio can cache and load the same library multiple times, it is not the only cause. Visual Studio will copy libraries itself in other locations during build and therefore will still cache the same library multiple times. Therefore the exception can still popup, only probably less frequent.

Resolution

To resolve this issue, **make sure Visual Studio has access to as little different locations of the same library as possible**. If you have copied / pasted Qios.DevSuite.Components.dll to another location, remove or adjust Qios.DevSuite.Components from the AssemblyFolders registry key as mentioned above. Removing this key will only result in that Visual Studio will not show Qios.DevSuite.Components under Add Reference by default, you have to browse for it.

Other things you can do when this exception does pop up:

- Close your designers and then visual studio
- Remove the bin and obj folder from your project
- Reopen Visual Studio and rebuild all.

Applies to

Microsoft Visual Studio 2003
Microsoft Visual Studio 2005