



GraphWorX32 – ActiveX Issue with Display Transfer



APPLICATIONS NOTE

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Description: Guide to overcome issues with transferring displays containing ActiveX objects from one machine to another

OS Requirement: Win 2000 Pro/Server, XP Pro, Server 2003

General Requirement: GENESIS32 installed on two PCs with versions prior to GENESIS32 v8 SP1.

Introduction

ICONICS has heard several cases from customers where GraphWorX32 displays are not opening properly on target machines. This application note outlines the issue and how to resolve it, should it happen to you. This should only be a problem for displays originating on machines with GENESIS32 versions prior to v8 SP1.

Symptoms

After transferring GraphWorX32 displays containing ActiveX object(s) from the development machine to another machine, the displays stop working. The displays cannot be opened in design mode, runtime mode, or causes the GraphWorX32 to close in a nonstandard way.

Fundamental Cause of the Issue

The Microsoft VBA portion of a GraphWorX32 display stores information about ActiveX objects contained in the display. The information is cached by VBA on two levels: at a system level on the development station's hard disk and at a local level inside each display. On the system level, information is stored inside a group of files with extensions EXD and TWD. For each ActiveX inside your GraphWorX32 display, a couple of EXD and TWD files are created. The location to these files is stored inside the VBA portion of the GraphWorX32 displays along with the VBA local cache information for the ActiveX. While VBA attempts to keep the system ActiveX cache and the local ActiveX cache aligned, under certain conditions, the information may be corrupted.

When GraphWorX32 displays are moved from one machine to another, the referenced EXD/TWD files may not be compatible with the local VBA cache stored in the display, or the files may not exist altogether. In other words, there may be a conflict between the local VBA cache stored in the display and the system ActiveX cache stored in the EXD/TWD files.

Confirming the Issue

Open the problematic GraphWorX32 display in a text editor with search capabilities (i.e. Notepad) and search for the strings "exd" or "twd". If you find a path to an EXD or TWD file similar to the one in Figure 1, then you might be experiencing this issue.

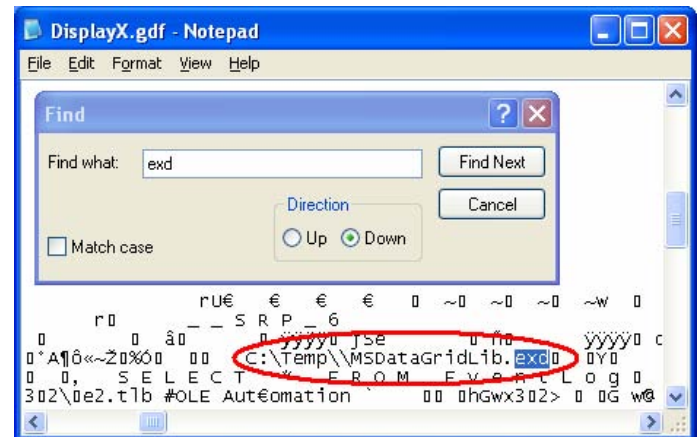


Figure 1 - EXD File Path

Workaround Solution

Before saving the file in GraphWorX32, insert any blank ICONICS ActiveX, then delete it, and immediately save the file. This refreshes the VBA portion of the problematic displays, it is unnecessary to open all of them manually to do GraphWorX32 display and deletes all undesirable EXD references created during run time.

Automating the Workaround

If you have many of the above steps. You can write a script that does the exact same steps. The following VBA code can be modified to suite your needs for this purpose:

```
Dim dis As New Gwx32.GwxDisplay
Dim DisplayName As String
Dim ret As Boolean

DisplayName = "C:\MyDisplay.gdf"
dis.FileNew
dis.FileOpen(DisplayName)
ret = dis.InsertOleObject
_ ("TWXViewer.TWXViewerCtrl.1", "ForDelete")
dis.DeleteObject("ForDelete")
dis.FileSave
```