
Winform to Wisej migration white paper

Step by step guide for migrating WinForms applications to Wisej

This white paper describes the steps for migrating an existing WinForms application to Wisej – the first Web Integrated Server Environment for creating Real Time Web Applications. For creating a new Wisej application from scratch, check this tutorial: <http://wisej.com/docs/html/HelloWorldTutorial.htm>. If you're interested in an automatic conversion of your existing applications (WinForms, VB6, or even Visual WebGUI) please contact us at <http://www.fecher.net/contact>

1. Prerequisite: Install Wisej from <http://wisej.com/>

2. Change the project type from a WinForms executable to a Wisej web project.
There are two ways to do this:
 - a. Create a new Wisej project and copy over all the files from the original WinForms application; if you choose this approach then you can skip steps 3 and 4 as the assemblies and the configuration files will be added automatically;
 - b. Change the settings of the existing project. You can do this by editing the .csproj file in a text editor and make the following changes:
 - Add the project type GUIDs under the ProjectGuid node:

```
<ProjectTypeGuids>{349c5851-65df-11da-9384-00065b846f21};{fae04ec0-301f-11d3-bf4b-00c04f79efbc}</ProjectTypeGuids>
```

- Change the OutputType from WinExe to Library

- Add the import nodes for the web applications under the main Project node:

```
<Import Project="$(VSToolsPath)\WebApplications\Microsoft.WebApplication.targets" Condition="!$(VSToolsPath) != "" />
```

```
<Import Project="$(MSBuildExtensionsPath32)\Microsoft\VisualStudio\v14.0\WebApplications\Microsoft.WebApplication.targets" Condition="false" />
```

```

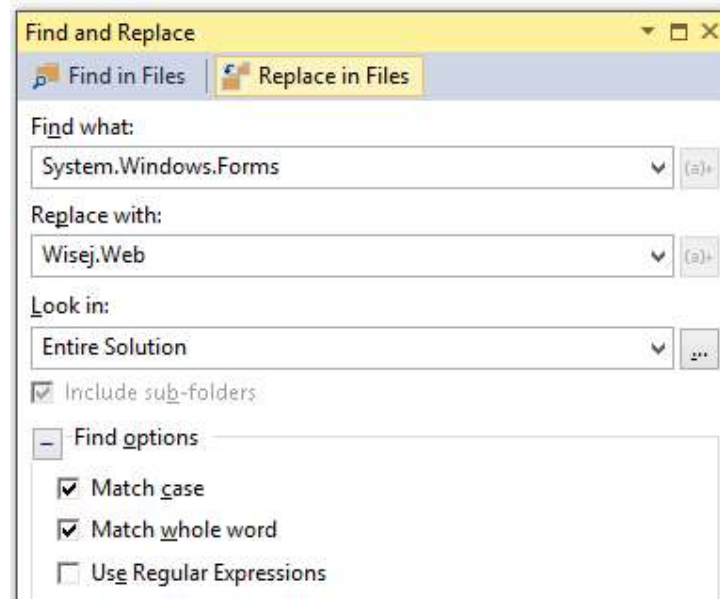
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<Project ToolsVersion="4.0" DefaultTargets="Build" xmlns="http://schemas.microsoft.com/developer/msbuild/2003">
  <PropertyGroup>
    <Configuration Condition=" '$(Configuration)' == '' ">Debug</Configuration>
    <Platform Condition=" '$(Platform)' == '' ">x86</Platform>
    <ProductVersion>8.0.30703</ProductVersion>
    <SchemaVersion>2.0</SchemaVersion>
    <ProjectGuid>{0450FA60-C08F-4163-B953-80426F3576A0}</ProjectGuid>
    <ProjectTypeGuids>{349c5851-65df-11da-9384-00065b846f21};{fae04ec0-301f-11d3-bf4b-00c04f79efbc}</ProjectTypeGuids>
    <OutputType>Library</OutputType>
    <AppDesignerFolder>Properties</AppDesignerFolder>
    <RootNamespace>John.SocialClub.Desktop</RootNamespace>
    <AssemblyName>John.SocialClub.Desktop</AssemblyName>
    <TargetFrameworkVersion>v4.5</TargetFrameworkVersion>
    <TargetFrameworkProfile>
    </TargetFrameworkProfile>
    <FileAlignment>512</FileAlignment>
    <UseIISExpress>true</UseIISExpress>
    <IISExpressSSLPort />
    <IISExpressAnonymousAuthentication />
    <IISExpressWindowsAuthentication />
    <IISExpressUseClassicPipelineMode />
    <UseGlobalApplicationHostFile />
  </PropertyGroup>
  <PropertyGroup Condition=" '$(Configuration)|$(Platform)' == 'Debug|x86' ">
  <PropertyGroup Condition=" '$(Configuration)|$(Platform)' == 'Release|x86' ">
  <ItemGroup>
  <ItemGroup>
  <ItemGroup>
  <Import Project="$(MSBuildToolsPath)\Microsoft.CSharp.targets" />
  <!-- To modify your build process, add your task inside one of the targets below and uncomment it.
  <Import Project="$(VSToolsPath)\WebApplications\Microsoft.WebApplication.targets" Condition=" '$(VSToolsPath)' != '' " />
  <Import Project="$(MSBuildExtensionsPath32)\Microsoft\VisualStudio\v14.0\WebApplications\Microsoft.WebApplication.targets" Condition="false" />
  <ProjectExtensions>
</Project>

```

3. Open the WinForms solution and add the references to the Wisej assemblies: Wisej.Web.dll and Wisej.Core.dll. Note: if these assemblies doesn't appear in the list check the target .NET framework version; it has to be at least .NET 4.5.
4. Add the configuration files to the project. You will need the following files:
 - a. Default.html
 - b. Default.json
 - c. Web.config

All these files are generated by default when creating a new Wisej project, so you can simply copy them over from a new project. You can find a detailed explanation of these here: <http://wisej.com/docs/html/Configuration.htm>

5. Replace all occurrences of System.Windows.Forms with Wisej.Web



6. Build the application and resolve the compiler errors: in most of the cases you will get compiler errors due to some missing properties and/or methods that are obsolete in Wisej. You can simply comment out these.
7. Change the Main method; in a typical WinForms application you probably had something like this in the Main method:

```
13 public static void Main()
14 {
15     Application.EnableVisualStyles();
16     Application.SetCompatibleTextRenderingDefault(false);
17     Application.Run(new Login());
18 }
```

The first two lines can be commented out as they are not needed in a web application. The third one has to be changed to show instead the Login dialog:

```
13 public static void Main()
14 {
15     //Application.EnableVisualStyles();
16     //Application.SetCompatibleTextRenderingDefault(false);
17     //Application.Run(new Login());
18     Login Login = new Login();
19     Login.Show();
20 }
```

8. Change the startup method in the Default.json file to the Main method from Program.cs:

```
{
  "url": "Default.html",
  //"startup": "WebApplication1.Program.Main, WebApplication1"
  "startup": "John.SocialClub.Desktop.Program.Main, John.SocialClub.Desktop"
}
```

9. That's it! You should be able to run now the Wisej application.