

Tips, Techniques, and Free Tools to make the migration to Plex 7.0 efficient and painless!

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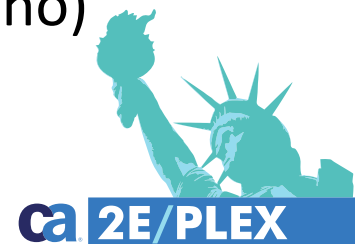
Manager – Life Software Development

Plex 7.0 is simply the greatest release of all time. If you are not already on this exciting release, you need to get there ASAP so you can take advantage of all it has to offer. This session will offer practical tips, techniques, and even a free “Plex Upgrade Wizard” (available on the Plex WIKI) to help you upgrade from prior releases as efficient and painless as possible.



Speaker Bio

- Started model based development with SYNON 2E in 1988
- Began developing applications with Obsydian 2.0 in 1997
- Served as VP-Software Development at Computer Arts, Inc. (12 years experience)
- Manager of Software Development at United Heritage Insurance (17 years experience)
- Evangelist of Plex as premier ARAD tool on planet
- President of NWPD User Group for 10 years (We held 1st International Plex/2E Conference in Boise Idaho)



Agenda

- The new features in Plex 7.0 are truly STAGGERING
 - .Net client application generator
 - Web services import
 - Plex packager tool
- You need to be using Plex 7.0 NOW!
- Historically, Plex upgrades were PAINFUL and time consuming
 - Required Gen/Build of all DLL's for runtime compatibility
 - As your applications grew, this became increasingly difficult
 - Cost (downtime) of upgrade effort caused customers to skip releases

Plex Upgrade Path

- Update all local models to group models
- Copy group models to new folders
- Log into Plex 7.0 group models from Plex 7.0
- Extract from Plex 7.0 group models into new local models
- Install Plex 7.0 runtime (Client and Server) and configure
- IF current version of Plex < 6.0, gen and build ALL DLL's in ALL applications (and of course test all applications)

If Current Release < 6.0

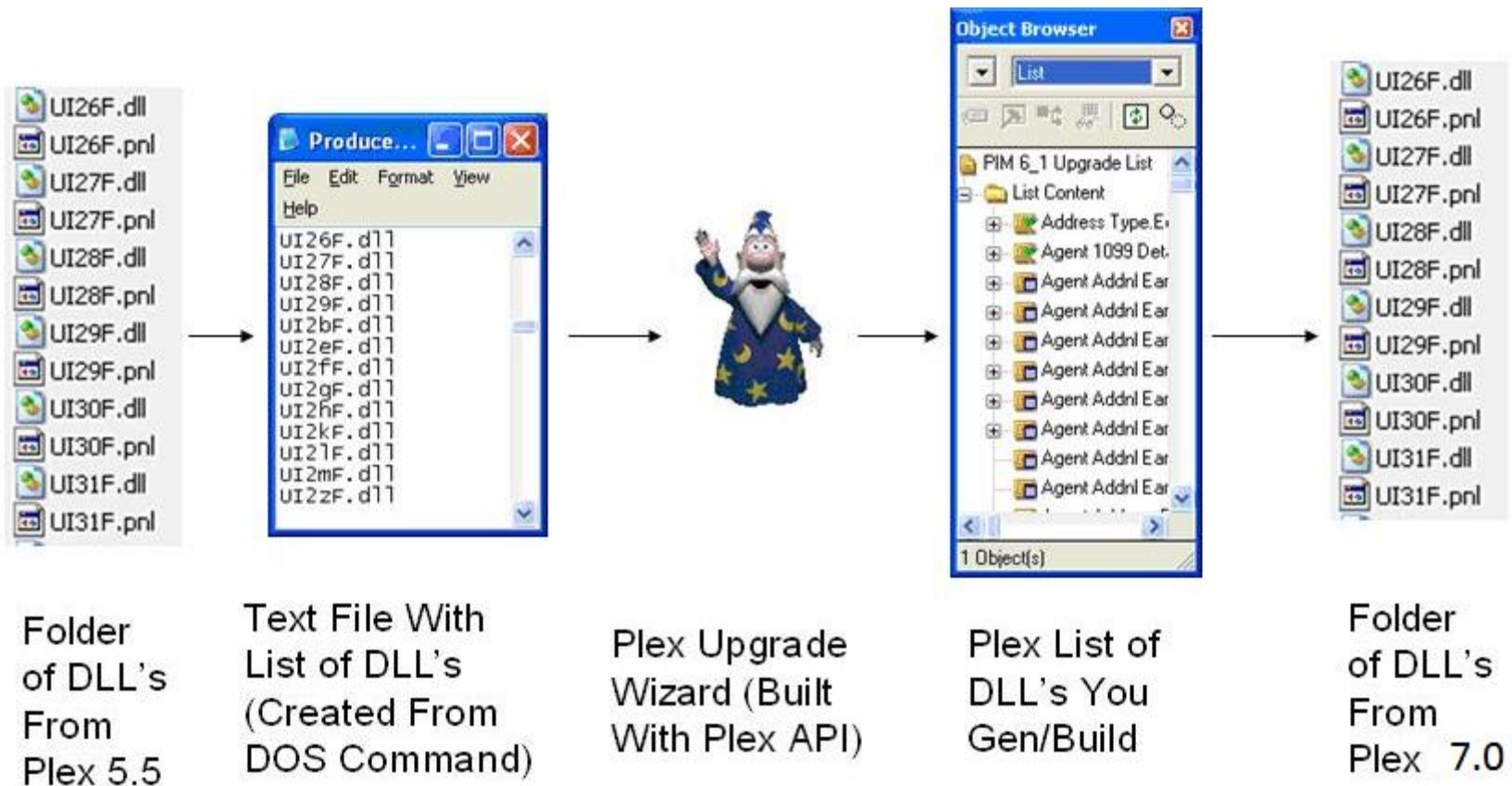
Gen/Build ALL DLL's In ALL Applications

- This CAN be the most painful part of upgrade
 - Need to identify DLL's that need to be generated
 - If you Gen/Build ALL DLL's, you risk including DLL's that don't need to be generated (inherited function, and did not add Implement – No triple)
 - You don't want to miss any, or new version of application will be incomplete and result in Missing DLL errors when user runs application
- Your goal is to regenerate ONLY DLL's that exist in current version of application
 - Don't generate any unwanted DLL's that are not in current version
 - Don't miss any

Plex Upgrade Wizard To The Rescue!

- **Free** tool, built with Plex (uses Model API)
- Creates “List” of functions to Gen/Build based on DLL’s in your current application folder
 - Gen/Build from List allows Plex to keep track of success/fail
 - Once all objects on your List have compiled successfully, your done!
- Since list of objects is based on your compiled application
 - Prevents introducing functions that are not part of current application
 - Ensures you have a 1 for 1 relationship between objects in prior version and objects in new version

How Plex Upgrade Wizard Works



A Look At Plex Upgrade Wizard

Run Plex Upgrade Wizard from Plex model to create list of functions

Plex Upgrade Wizard: 1 of 3 :Plex Upgrade Get List Name

Enter the name of List you would like to use

List Name

Plex Upgrade Wizard: 2 of 3 :Plex Upgrade Get Filename

Enter the name of the file that contains the list of functions to be upgraded

Filename

Plex Upgrade Wizard: 3 of 3 :Plex Upgrade Build List

Load To List

From Filename

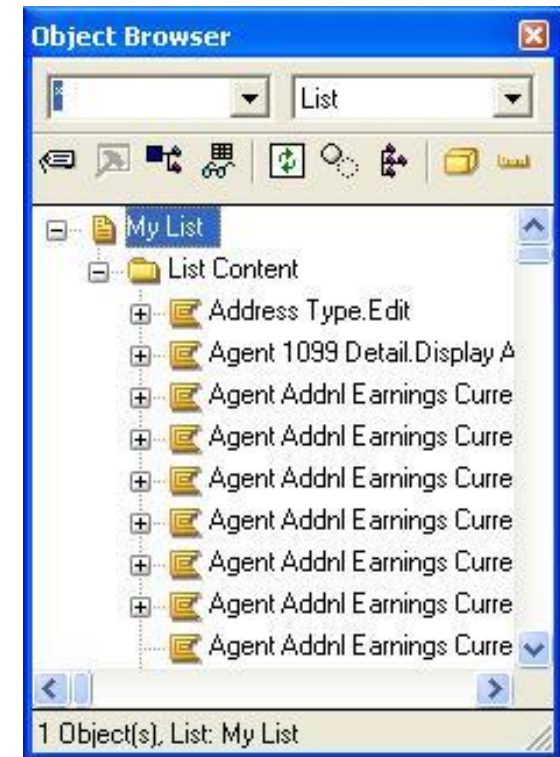
☐ Confirm the functions to be upgraded. Delete as necessary.

Function Name	Function Description
ADDEARN	
ADDMAINT	Agent Addnl Earnings Current Yr.Additional Earnings Edit
AE1F	Agent Addnl Earnings Current Yr.AE All Wrapper
AE2mF	Agent Addnl Earnings Current Yr.AE Agent Wrapper
AE3vF	Agent Addnl Earnings Current Yr.Additional Earnings Grid

Functions Found 422
Functions Not Found 1

<< Back Finish Cancel

Gen/Build list



Where Do I Get Free Plex Upgrade Wizard

Visit Plex WIKI

http://wiki.plexinfo.net/index.php?title=Plex_Upgrade_Wizard



The screenshot shows the Plex Wiki page for the 'Plex Upgrade Wizard'. The page has a header with navigation tabs: 'page', 'discussion', 'view source', and 'history'. The main title is 'Plex Upgrade Wizard' with a subtitle 'From The CA Plex Wiki'. A 'Contents [hide]' section lists 17 items, with '17 Download' highlighted in yellow. The left sidebar contains a 'Plex Wiki' logo, a 'navigation' menu with links like 'Main Page', 'Create a new Page', and 'Edge Forum Archive', a 'search' box with 'Go' and 'Search' buttons, and a 'toolbox' menu with links like 'What links here' and 'Special pages'.

Plex Wiki
Wikipedia for Plex Users

page discussion view source history

Plex Upgrade Wizard

From The CA Plex Wiki

Contents [hide]

- 1 Overview
- 2 Advantages of Using This Plex Upgrade Wizard
- 3 Leverages Plex Design Object Management (List) Technology (introduced in Plex 5.0)
- 4 Using the Plex Upgrade Wizard
- 5 Creating the Text File using a DOS command
- 6 Creating the Text File using Batch File
- 7 Text File Containing List Of DLL's In Your Application
- 8 Launching the Plex Upgrade Wizard
- 9 Plex Upgrade Wizard Step 1 of 3 (Get List Name)
- 10 Plex Upgrade Wizard Step 2 of 3 (Get Filename)
- 11 Plex Upgrade Wizard Step 3 of 3 (Build List)
- 12 The Result – List Containing Your Functions
- 13 Adding Plex Upgrade Wizard as Add-In
- 14 Multiple Models
- 15 After Running Plex Upgrade Wizard
- 16 Upgrading Plex 6.0 to Plex 6.1
- 17 Download**

navigation

- Main Page
- Create a new Page
- Current events
- Recent changes
- Random page
- Help
- sitesupport
- 2E Wiki
- Edge Forum Archive

search

toolbox

- What links here
- Related changes
- Special pages

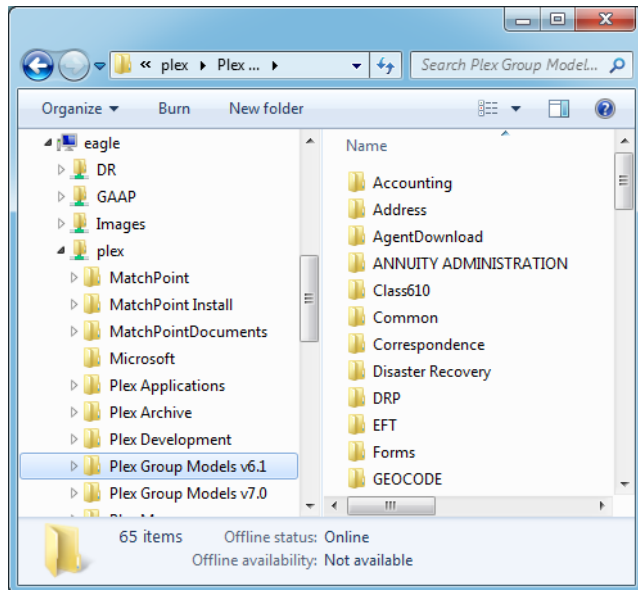
If Current Version Of Plex \geq 6.0

- NO need to Gen/Build DLL's
- Upgrade Plex Dispatcher and Runtime
 - Client
 - Server
- Upgrade all group models
- Extract into new local models
- Entire process ***can*** be done in a few days

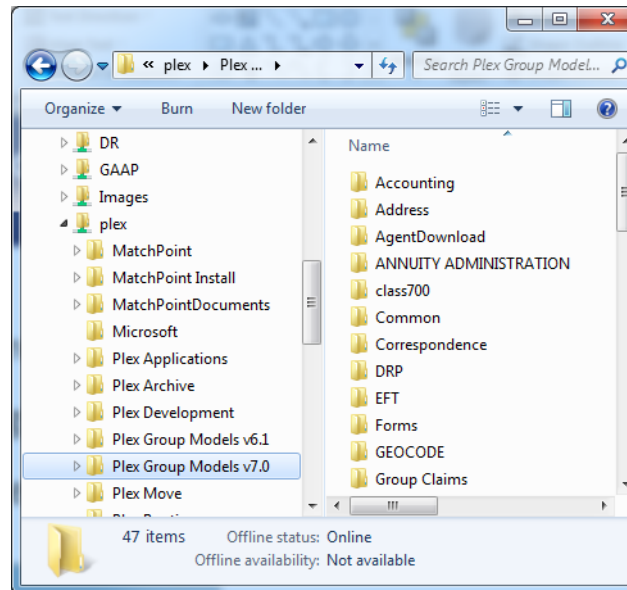
Group Model Upgrade (done by Model Administrator)

- Make sure all local models have been updated to group model
- Copy all group models to new folders
- Log into each group model from Plex 7.0

Folder Of V6.1 Models

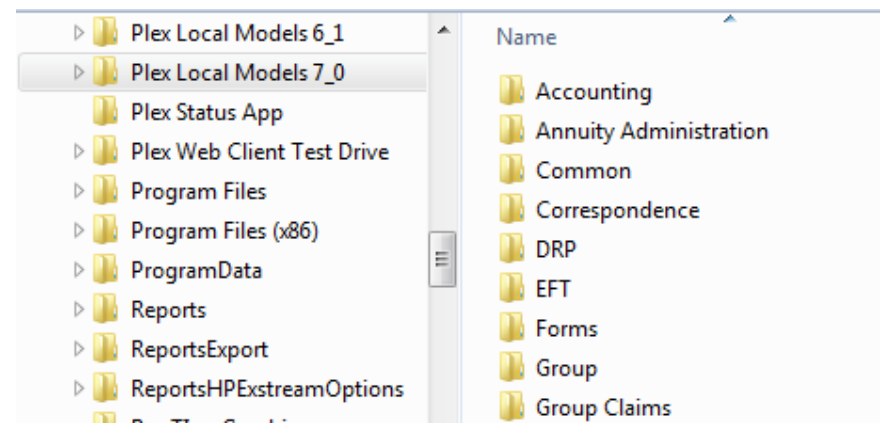
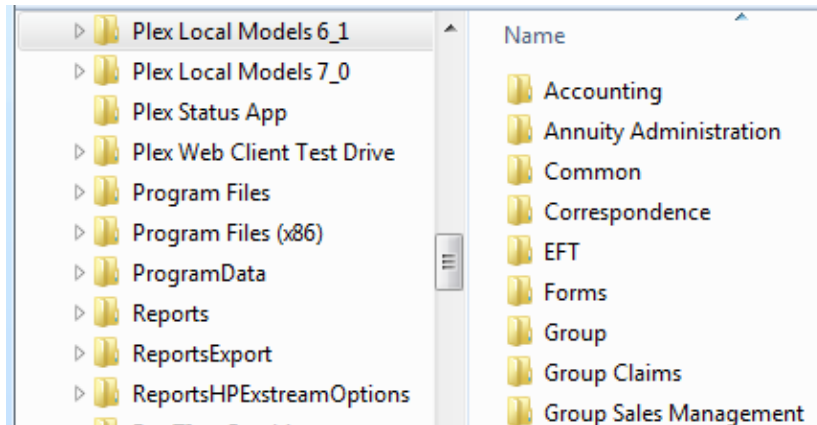


Folder Of V7.0 Models



Create New Local Models (Each Developer)

- Copy folder of existing models to new folder structure
 - Keep names same to minimize impact on configuration
 - For each local model (v7.0):
 - Delete local model (.mdl)
 - Keep build file (.bld)

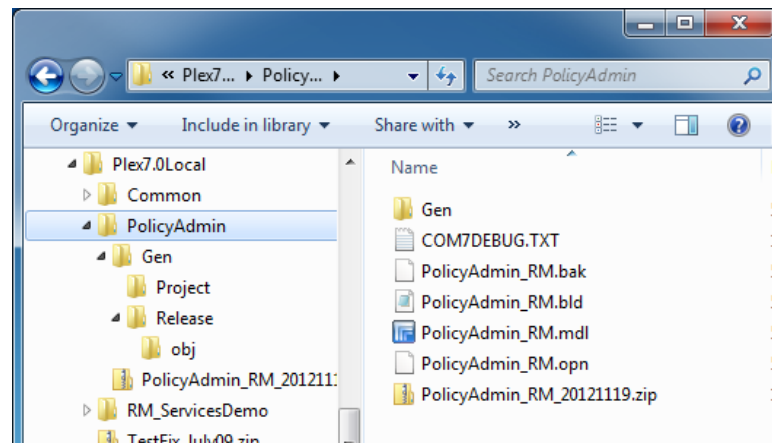


Delete Selected Files From New Local Model Folders

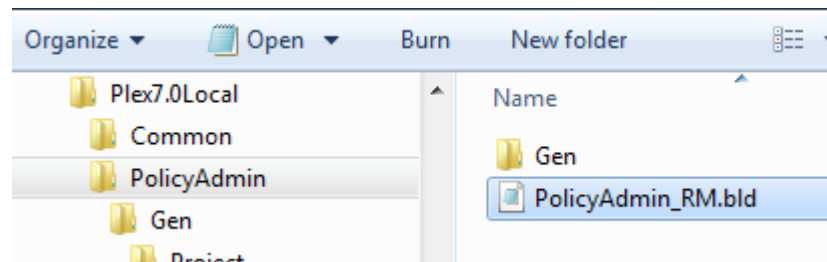
In the new directory, delete all the files **except** the Gen folder and the .bld file. Note the name of the build file as you will need to this name when naming your new Plex 7.0 local model.

Delete all the files in the Gen folder **except** for the two folders, 'Project' and 'Release'. Also delete all the files within the 'Project' folder.

Before



After



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Purge Selected Files From Release Folder

In the Release folder, sort the files by type, then delete all .exp files (Exports Library) , any manifest files, and .lib files (Object File Library) **except** for the .lib file that has the same name as your local model.

Before

Name	Date modified	Type
obj	5/16/2013 3:34 PM	File folder
DISPLAYPC.EXE	2/1/2013 9:40 AM	Application
PCMAINT.EXE	8/20/2012 2:19 PM	Application
DISPLAYPC.INI	4/8/2013 2:10 PM	Configuration sett...
PCMAINT.INI	5/8/2013 1:57 PM	Configuration sett...
DISPLAYPC.exp	2/1/2013 9:40 AM	Exports Library File
PolicyAdmin_RM.exp	5/8/2013 1:42 PM	Exports Library File
PolicyAdmin_RM.imp	5/8/2013 1:42 PM	IMP File
DISPLAYPC.EXE.manifest	2/1/2013 9:40 AM	MANIFEST File
DISPLAYPC.lib	2/1/2013 9:40 AM	Object File Library
OB_PolicyAdmin_RM_HDR.lib	9/6/2012 2:00 PM	Object File Library
PolicyAdmin_RM.lib	3/5/2013 1:02 PM	Object File Library

After

Name	Date modified	Type
obj	5/16/2013 3:34 PM	File folder
DISPLAYPC.EXE	2/1/2013 9:40 AM	Application
PCMAINT.EXE	8/20/2012 2:19 PM	Application
DISPLAYPC.INI	4/8/2013 2:10 PM	Configuration sett...
PCMAINT.INI	5/8/2013 1:57 PM	Configuration sett...
PolicyAdmin_RM.imp	5/8/2013 1:42 PM	IMP File
PolicyAdmin_RM.lib	3/5/2013 1:02 PM	Object File Library



Edit Path In INI Files And Clear Project And Obj Folders

- Edit each INI file (in release folder) and change the **PNL directory path** and **DLL directory path** (replace location from prior version of Plex folder path with new location)
- Delete ALL files in the Project and Obj folders
- Your local model folders now contain objects that can be reused from prior release of Plex.

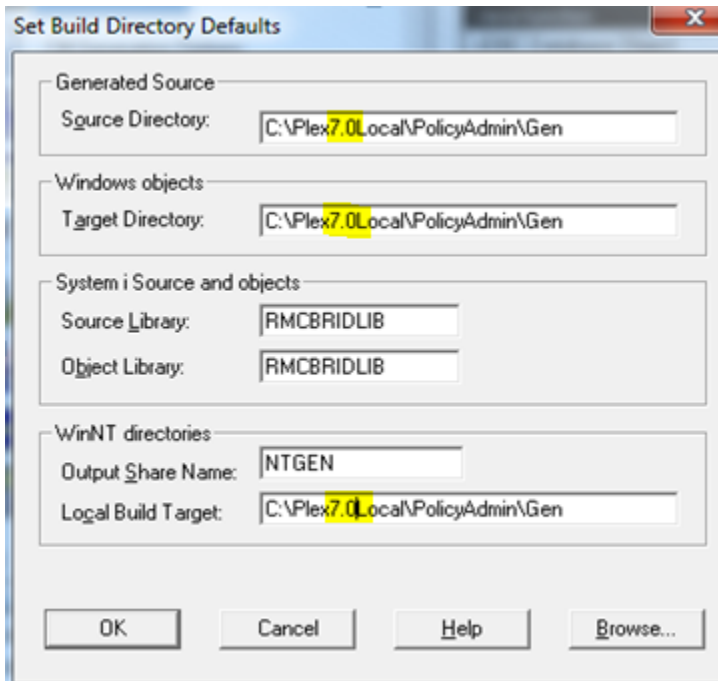
Extract Into New Local Models

- For each model, extract into new local model, and save local model with **same name** as build file.
- This will cause Plex to use existing build file, instead of creating a new build file.
- This will minimize the amount of local model configuration necessary, and save lots of time and effort.
- Edit Gen and Build configuration and change location of folders from prior version to Plex 7.0 location.

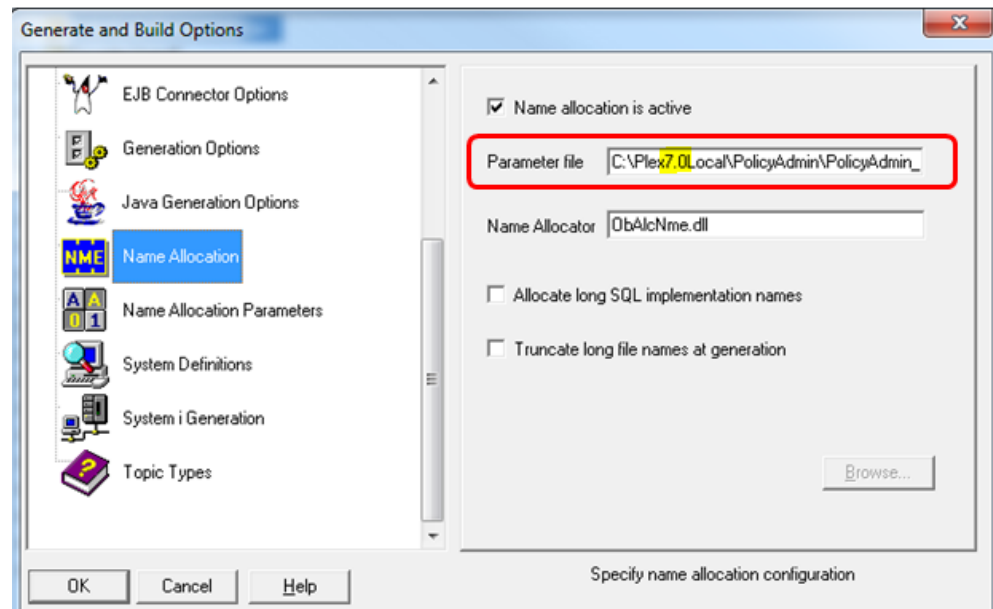


Edit Gen And Build Options

Change Directory Defaults and Apply Defaults

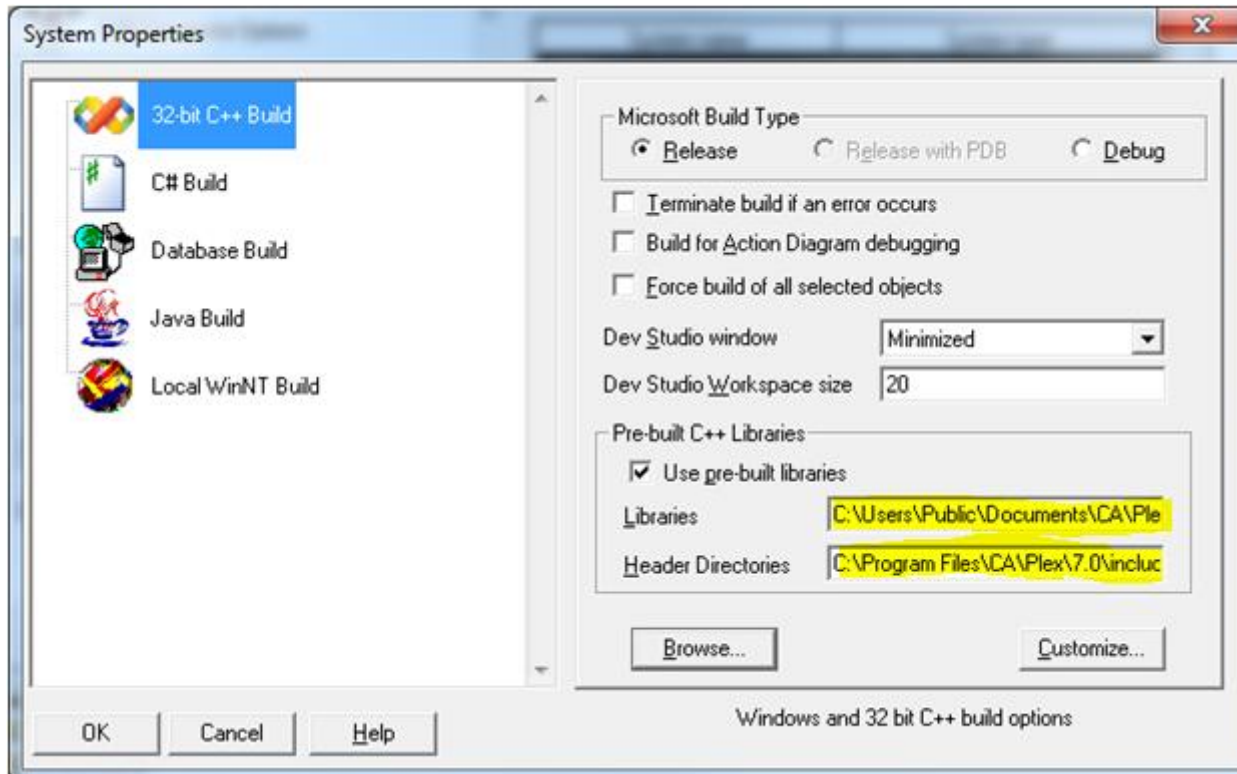


Change Name Location



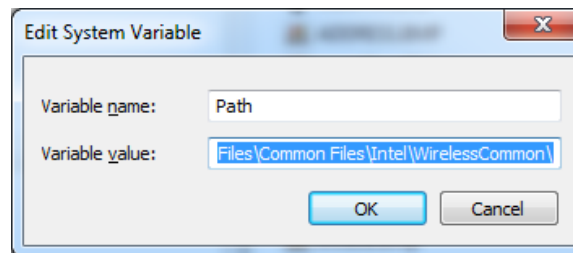
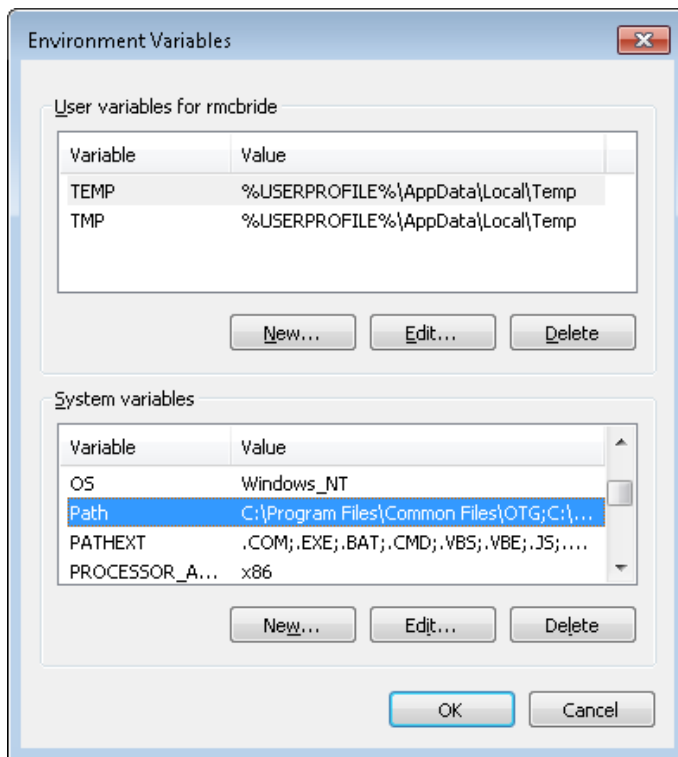
Gen And Build Options Continued

Change location of Libraries and Header Directories



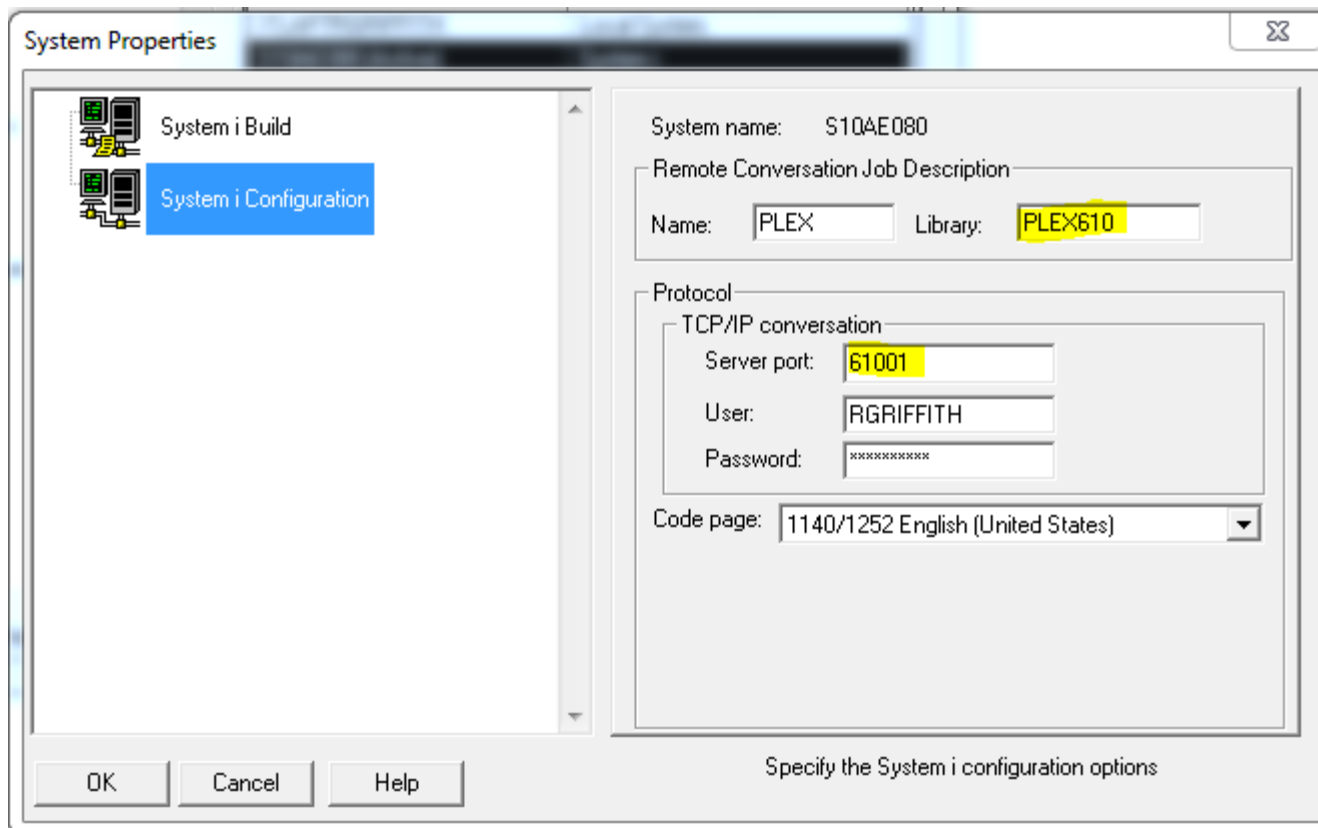
Environment Path

Edit environment path, and move location of Plex 7 before prior version of Plex (copy to clipboard, edit from Notepad, paste)



Plex 7 Dispatcher

IF you install Plex dispatcher to a new library, or use a different Server Port, change these values. We use same library name and same port so we do not change these values.



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Plex 7 Dispatcher Considerations

- **IF** you decide to install Plex dispatcher to a **NEW Library** (for example PLEX700), or use a **DIFFERENT Server Port**, this will require that you distribute new INI files for all applications (since this information is obtained at runtime from INI file)
- An alternative approach is to install dispatcher to **SAME Library**, and use the **SAME Server Port**.
 - No need to modify and distribute new INI files since information is same
 - Drastically reduces impact of upgrade
- Ideally this library name would be generic (PLEX) so it is not version specific, but it is OK if the name contains version info from a prior version of Plex. Use Text to specify version.

Opt	Library	Type	ASP Device	Text
—	PLEX610	*PROD		CA Plex r7.0



Installing Plex Dispatcher To Same Library And Use Same Port

- During testing, you will want to install Plex dispatcher to separate library (for example Plex700), and use a different Server Port.
- When you are ready to go live with upgrade, you can delete previous dispatcher Library (for example PLEX610), and rename NEW dispatcher Library (PLEX700) to name of previous library (in our case PLEX610).

Edit Plex Dispatcher Job Description Library List

Edit Library List of dispatcher Job Description and change name of Plex Library in Library List (for example change from PLEX700 to PLEX610). This needs to match the name of the Plex Library of Dispatcher.

```

      █      █
Job description:  PLEX              Library:  PLEX610

      Initial library list:

Sequence  Library
number
  10      QTEMP
  20      PLEX610
  30      QGPL

```



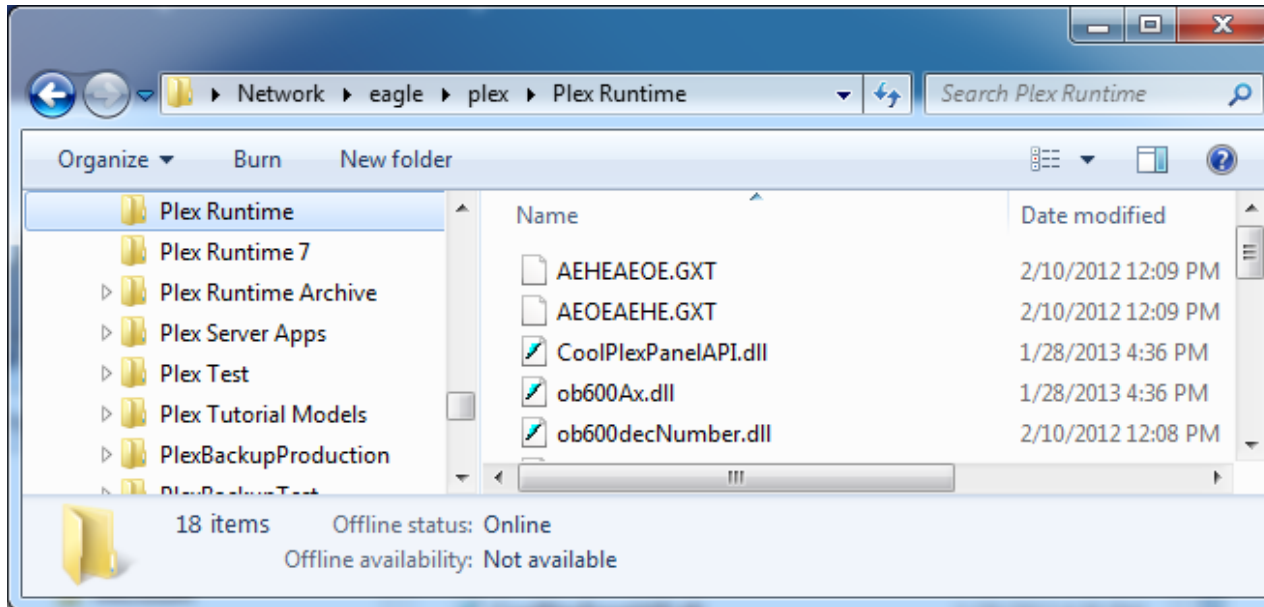
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Plex Runtime (Client Side)

- If your Plex Runtime (Client Side) objects are installed to a shared folder on a server, install Plex 7 runtime to a new folder during testing.
- When ready to go live, copy files from Plex Runtime 7 folder to Plex Runtime folder (or rename folders as needed)



Summary

- Plex 7.0 is greatest release of product since Obsydian 1.0
- Historically, upgrades were painful, time consuming, and costly
- Free Plex Upgrade Wizard will help you Gen/Build DLL's (generated from versions prior to 6.0) for Plex 7.0
- Simple solution to replacing runtime (Client and Server) allowing you to upgrade to Plex 7.0 quickly and safely, in a matter of hours
- Once Models and Applications are upgraded to Plex 7.0, you are ready to take advantage of greatest ARAD tool of all time!

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Q&A

