Adding OfficeWriter to your .NET Application

Making OfficeWriter available to your applications

There are several steps to make OfficeWriter available to your .NET applications:

1. Install OfficeWriter
2. Include System.Web
3. Add references to OfficeWriter
4. Include OfficeWriter in your code

Add a reference to System.Web

All of the OfficeWriter API objects (`ExcelTemplate`, `ExcelApplication`, `WordTemplate`, `WordApplication`) have the output options for saving to disk, saving to memory stream, streaming to user in a page response. The last output option, streaming to the user, has a dependency on `System.Web`. If you are developing a web application, the reference to `System.Web` should have been added automatically. For other types of applications, you may need to add this reference.

If you are using Visual Studio .NET:

1. Right-click the project name in the Solution Explorer and choose Add Reference.
2. Click System and locate System.Web

> ⚠ If you are compiling against .NET 4.0, make sure to use the full profile. The default profile does not include `System.Web`.

Add a reference to OfficeWriter

There are two ways to do this:

- Make OfficeWriter available to a single application
- Make OfficeWriter available for all applications on machine

Method #1: Adding OfficeWriter to a specific application

1. At the top level of your application, create a directory call **bin**.
2. Copy SoftArtisans.OfficeWriter.ExcelWriter.dll or SoftArtisans.OfficeWriter.WordWriter.dll from the install directory to your application's bin directory.

If you are using Visual Studio .NET:

1. Right-click the project name in the Solution Explorer and choose Add Reference.
2. Click Browse and navigate to C:\Program Files\SoftArtisans\OfficeWriter\bin.
3. Choose Softartisans.OfficeWriter.ExcelWriter.dll or SoftArtisans.OfficeWriter.WordWriter.dll and click Open.
4. Click OK.

Method #2: Making OfficeWriter available to all applications on a machine

Step 1: Install OfficeWriter in the Global Assembly Cache (GAC)

These instructions can be used for installing SoftArtisans.OfficeWriter.ExcelWriter.dll or SoftArtisans.OfficeWriter.WordWriter.dll in the GAC; remember to change 'ExcelWriter' to 'WordWriter' if you want to install SoftArtisans.OfficeWriter.WordWriter.dll instead of ExcelWriter:

1. Open a command prompt window and move to the directory OfficeWriter\bin\dotnet20\.
2. Enter gacutil /i SoftArtisans.OfficeWriter.ExcelWriter.dll.
3. Open the file **machine.config** (in [Windows directory]\Microsoft.NET\Framework[.NET version directory]\CONFIG).

Step 2: Reference the copy of OfficeWriter in the GAC in machine.config or web.config

Add the following line to the **assemblies** node of machine.config:

```
<add assembly="Softartisans.OfficeWriter.ExcelWriter,
              Version=x.x.x.x, Culture=neutral, PublicKeyToken=f593502af6ee46ae"/>
```

You may need to add the **assemblies** parent node to machine.config under the **configuration** node.

OR

Create a text file containing the following lines, and save it as **web.config**. Save web.config at the top level of your application.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
<configuration>
    <system.web>
        <compilation>
            <compilers>
            </compilers>
            <assemblies>
                <add assembly="Softartisans.OfficeWriter.ExcelWriter,
                    Version=x.x.x.x,
                    Culture=neutral,
                    PublicKeyToken=f593502af6ee46ae"/>
                <add assembly="*" />
            </assemblies>
        </compilation>
    </system.web>
</configuration>
```

The version attribute of the add assembly node must correspond **exactly** to the version of Softartisans.OfficeWriter.<Excel/Word>Writer.dll added to the GAC. If you add a new version of Softartisans.OfficeWriter.<Excel/Word>Writer.dll to the GAC using the gacutil command, update the dll version attributes in machine.config. To get the exact version of Softartisans.OfficeWriter.<Excel/Word>Writer.dll, right-click the file and select the Properties tab.

Include OfficeWriter in your code

On any page that uses OfficeWriter, make sure to add the appropriate `using` statements:

```
using SoftArtisans.OfficeWriter.ExcelWriter; //For ExcelWriter
using SoftArtisans.OfficeWriter.WordWriter; //For WordWriter
```

As mentioned above, you will also need to make sure that `System.Web` is included in your project.