

Hi Mary:

Thanks for your kind information and my problem is solved. I'd like to share with you and others who may also encounter similar situation in the future.

The cause of the problem is a mixed mode of MDAC 2.7 SP1 and MDAC 2.8 in my system. I suspect it is caused by the installation of MDAC 2.8 and its SDK two weeks ago. But there were no error or alert message during the installation and most other applications have been working fine.

Anyway, I've tried MS KB articles 827808, 302375, 328166, 232060 , 828396, and MDAC installation guide and many others solutions but none of them worked.

Fortunately, I finally managed to find out the following way to solve it.

(1) Tools: There are two tools needed - Component Checker Utility

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=8f0a8df6-4a21-4b43-bf53-14332ef092c9&displaylang=en>

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=6c050fe3-c795-4b7d-b037-185d0506396c&DisplayLang=en>

The Component Checker Utility is very handy for checking which files, components, and registry records are mismatched and to verify correction results. The MDAC 2.8 installation file will be extracted and used for its components.

(2) Check what version of MDAC is installed and anything wrong? Run the component checker utility and see what is the version currently installed which in my case is 2.7 SP1 on Win XP SP1. Then run it again against a specific version of MDAC (that should have been installed) which in my case is 2.8. From the result, I can see many mismatched files and registry records. This is why I am having the problem.

(3) Extract MDAC 2.8 installation file: Use the following "C:\mdac_typ.exe /c /t:c:\MDACSetup" or refer to article 232060

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;232060>.

(4) Re-install "mdacxpak.inf":

(a) Find and extract "mdacxpak.cab" from extracted MDAC 2.8 files and put it in a separate folder. Right click "mdacxpak.inf" at C:\Windows folder\inf\mdacxpak.inf and select "install". When prompted for installation file, select the folder where we just put the extracted "mdacxpak.cab". After installation completes, the problem is solved.

PS: MS articles suggest to reinstall MDAC.inf first and submitted XP CD when asked. I tried several times and it did not work for my case. The mismatched files and registry records never been updated.

Alternatively, one may wish jump to re-install MDAC.inf as stated below. I don't know what will be the result if run that first. I did "mdacxpak.inf" after I found out that there is such cab file with the name exactly the same as the .inf, so I gave it a try after all other means failed. I then moved to MDAC.inf just to make the system more consistent and after I know the problem is being solved.

At this point, the system is still mixed with MDAC 2.7 and 2.8. But most of components and registry records have been updated to MDAC 2.8. This can be verified by the Component Checker Utility.

Now, if one really wants to make all components and registry records correct as I am, it will be more complicated and needs to reinstall MDAC.inf. Here is how --

(1) Preparations: It is suggested to extract all can files from extracted MDAC 2.8 files for some of its components will be needed. Also be prepared to use "search" to find a few components that are in other locations of the system. Finally, "handunsf.reg" is being removed from MDAC 2.8

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;818490>

So if prompted for this, just click "Cancel" and select continue installation without this file. This also applies for the readme file.

(2) Update MDAC.inf: Right click MDAC.inf from C:\Windows folder\inf and select "install". When prompted for files, first point to extracted MDAC 2.8 folder. After that, the installation will ask for other components once a while, then either to click "cancel" and "continue installation without this file" for such case of "handunsf.reg" or to select other folders where we put the additional extracted cab files or use search to find those components already installed in the system but in another locations.

After MDAC.inf installation, there are two more files have not been updated. I simply copied them from MDAC 2.8 setup folder to the location.

So, that is how I solved the problem. I don't know if there are any better or simple solutions for it.

Conclusions:

(1) Why MDAC 2.8 installation cannot update all components and registry files, and more importantly, will not tell us if there are any problems?

(2) Why clip organizer has to use a separate component that is not included in the office application? What I meant is, if the component will be used tightly with the clip organizer (or other office parts), remove and/or re-install Office should at least make the component works fine with the office part (clip organizer in this case). Finally, Office online help should at least give a hint for this type of problem is not associated with Office itself and help user to find solutions from other sources such as Knowledge Base. I have spent much unnecessary time to remove and reinstall Office which has nothing to do with the problem.

Anyway, just share with you and thanks for your sharing also.

This is another solution; similar as above; posted a long time ago on the sqlserver.connect newsgroup.

This is the fix although you can probably exchange the oledb32.dll with an older version.

Many times this error will be solved with a MDAC 2.8 refresh:

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/data/downloads/updates/default.aspx#MDACDownloads>

PART A

-----download and run Component Checker "Comcheck.exe" (download was cc.exe, expanded into c:\comcheck\... with over 470 files). -find it at

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=8f0a8df6-4a21-4b43-bf53-14332ef092c9&DisplayLang=en>

-ran in on MDAC 2.7 SP1 (WinXP) and found oledb32.dll was 2.71.9031.4, not the expected version 2.71.9030.0...

(oledb32.dll 2.71.9030.0 is here) (This is a zip file, extract it in WinZip)

PART B

-Find the correct version of oledb32.dll. Download both MDAC2.7RTM and MDAC2.7SP1 (they're both named mdac_typ.exe).

MDAC downloads

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/nhp/default.asp?contentid=28001860>

-Extract the files from each MDAC to separate directories without kicking off an install (example:

mdac_typ /c /t:C:\MDAC2.7SP1).

-look for mdaccxpak.cab in that directory, open it using explorer, and extract oledb32.dll to the same directory as the cab.

-right-click on the extracted oledb32.dll, again using explorer, then navigate to the "version" tab to see if it's the "expected" version (in my case, 2.71.9030.0 was the correct one, and it came out of the MDAC 2.7 SP1 version)

PART C

-In Explorer, goto Tools -> Folder Options -> View, and allow viewing of "..Protected operating system files...", also turn on "Show hidden files and folders" (note your original settings so you can switch back later).

-Drag c:\Windows\System32\dlcache\oledb32.dll into the recycler (this will stop Win2k/XP system protection from replacing the real oledb32.dll in the next step).

-Drag c:\program files\common files\system\ole DB\oledb32.dll to the recycler as well.

-Click "Cancel" and confirm the cancel the one or two times that the system protection asks about restoring those versions from the WinXP install CD

-Copy the correct oledb32.dll (that you extracted in PART B) into both c:\Windows\System32\dlcache\ and into c:\program files\common files\system\ole DB\

-Reboot (Don't know if this is necessary, do it to make sure that nothing was "restored").