

Runtime License Creator Utility

In order to distribute an application that you build with the PDSA .NET Productivity Framework or the Haystack Code Generator for .NET you will need to create a “Runtime License”. This runtime license needs to be distributed as a stand-alone file that goes into the same folder as your .EXE or in the root of your web application. This chapter describes how to create a runtime license using the PDSA Framework Utilities.

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Runtime License Creator Utility

Run the PDSA Framework Utilities.

Expand the Application Development tab.

Click on the Runtime License button as shown in Figure 1.

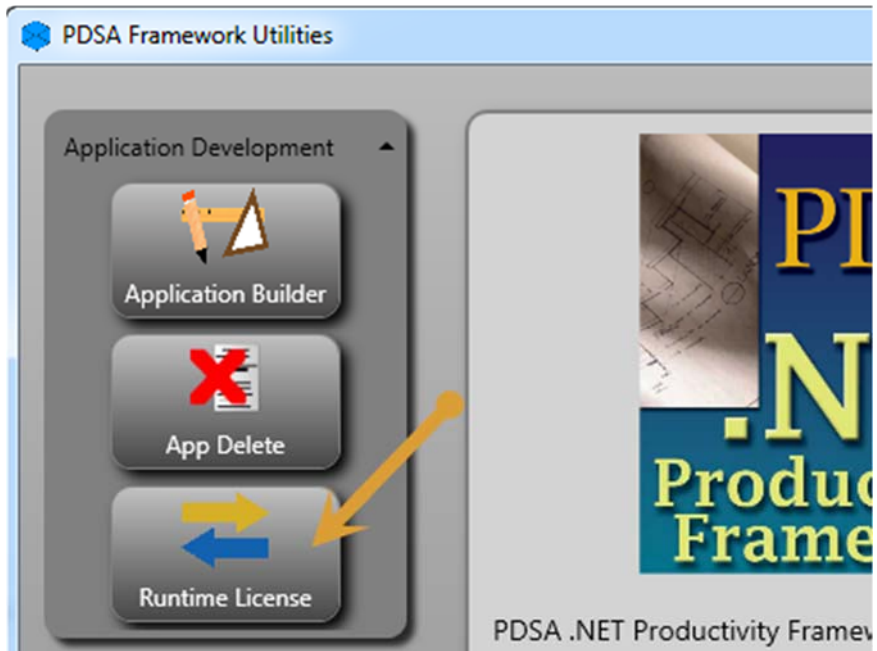


Figure 1: Click the Runtime License button to run the Runtime License Creator utility.

When the utility appears, it will look like Figure 2.

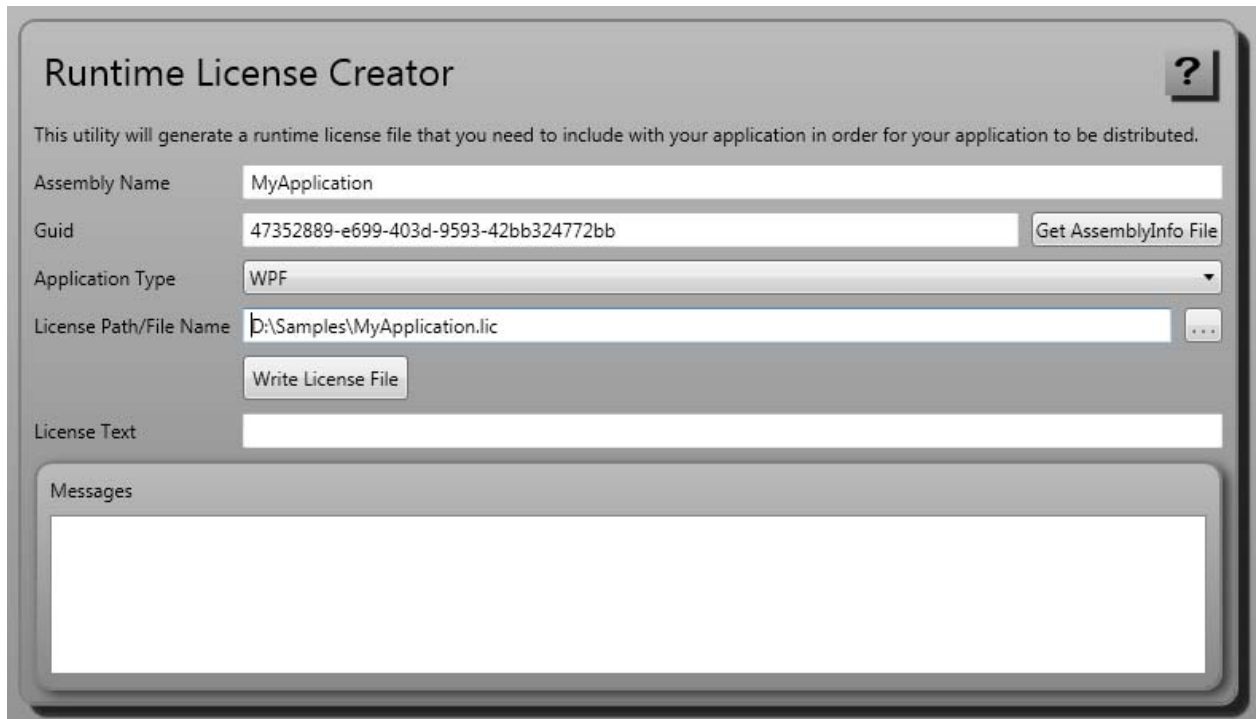


Figure 2: Create a runtime license from the Assembly Name and the GUID of the assembly for your application.

You are going to need the assembly name of your application, the application Guid of your application, and the type of the application. All of these values will be hashed together to create a unique license key that can only be used by your final

assembly. No other assembly will be able to use this unique key. This protects our DLLs from being used by anyone else, and can protect your application as well.

Get the Assembly Name

The Assembly name you need is the EXE of your application or the DLL of your web application.

To retrieve the Assembly name open the Project Properties of your application as shown in Figure 3.

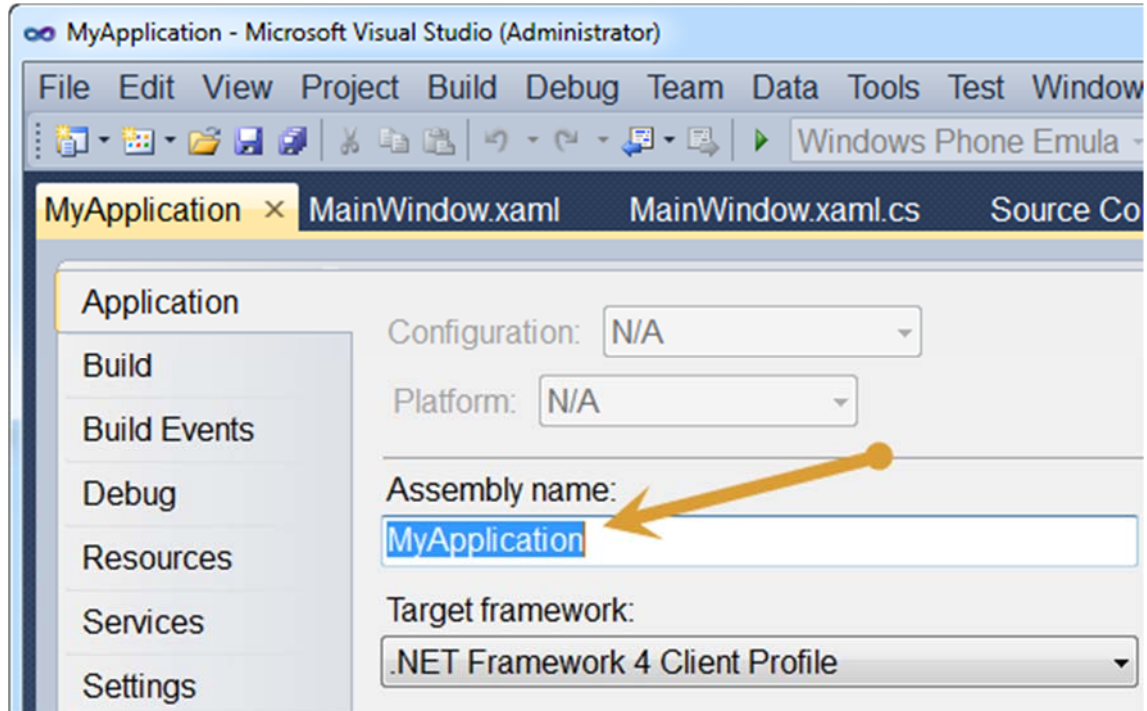


Figure 3: Get the Assembly name from the application properties window.

Copy the Assembly name exactly as it appears into the Runtime License Creator utility.

Get the Assembly Guid

When you create an application in Visual Studio a Guid is normally created for the application. There are some types of applications where a Guid is not created, however, you can add a Guid as you will see in the next section.

Again, from the Project Properties window you can click on the **Assembly Information...** button.

This will display a dialog like the one shown in Figure 4.

Copy the Guid in the GUID field and paste it into the Runtime License Creator utility.

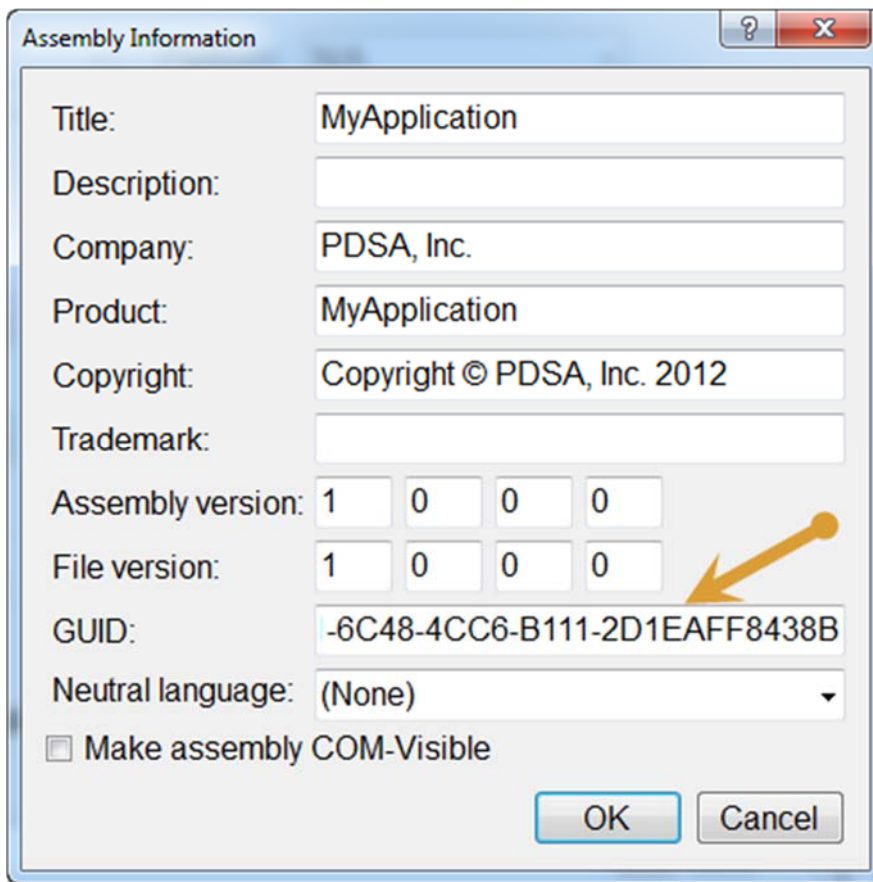


Figure 4: Get the Guid from the application properties window.

Creating a Guid

If the GUID is not present in the Assembly Information dialog, you can create one using Visual Studio.

Close the Assembly Information dialog and from the Tools menu, select Create GUID as shown in Figure 5.

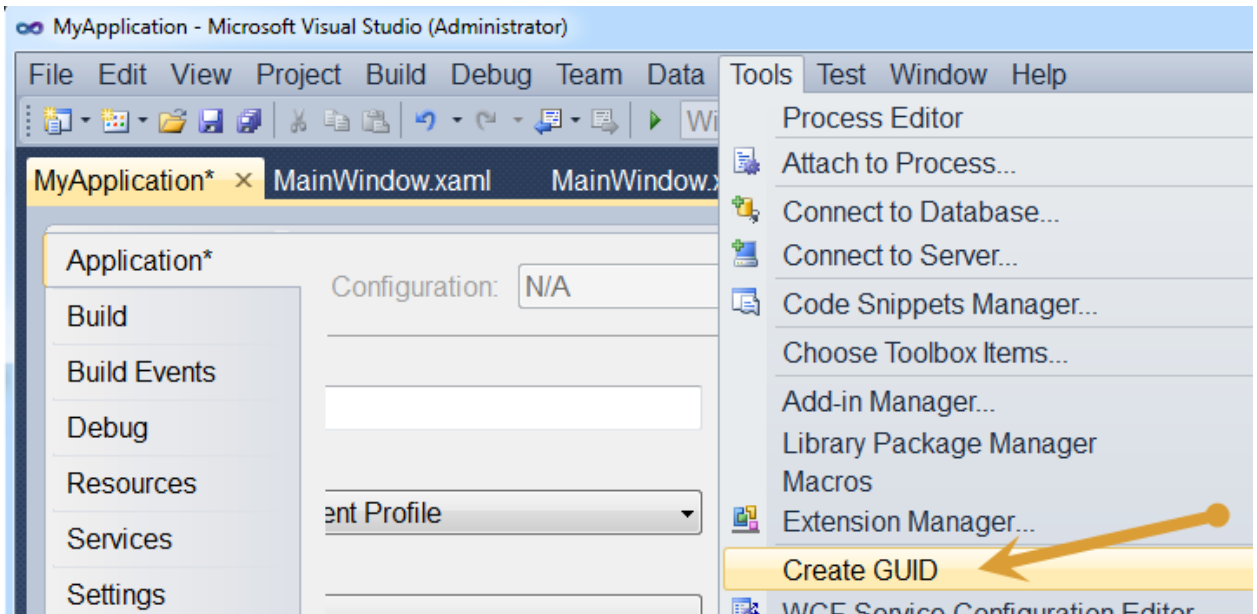


Figure 5: You can create a Guid from the Tools menu.

Select either option 5 or 6 and click on the Copy button.

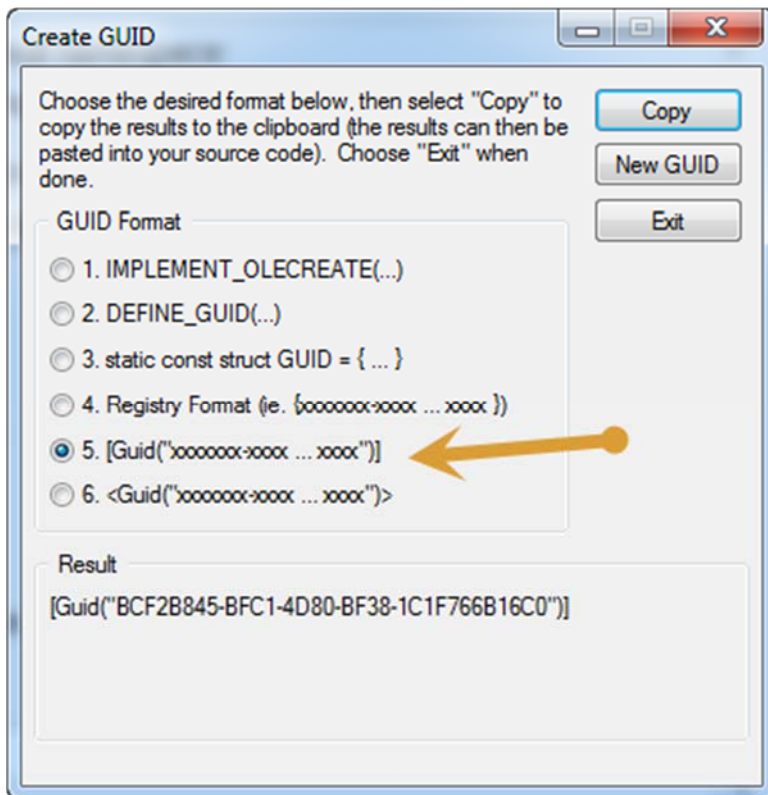


Figure 6: The Create GUID dialog will generate a few different formats of a Guid.

After copying to the clipboard, you will get a GUID that looks like the following:

```
[Guid( "B07000DF-5EF3-4D41-9C5D-849A38268588" ) ]
```

Copy just the GUID portion out from within the double quotes to the clipboard and paste that into the Runtime License Creator utility.

Create License File

The last field you fill in is the name of the license file.

This name must match the same name as your Assembly name for your application.

Next click the **Write License File** button to create your .LIC file.

Add License File to Your Project

Now that you have created your new license file, add it to the root of your project.

Click on this license file and bring up the Properties Window.

Set the “Copy to Output Directory” property to “Copy Always” (Figure 7).

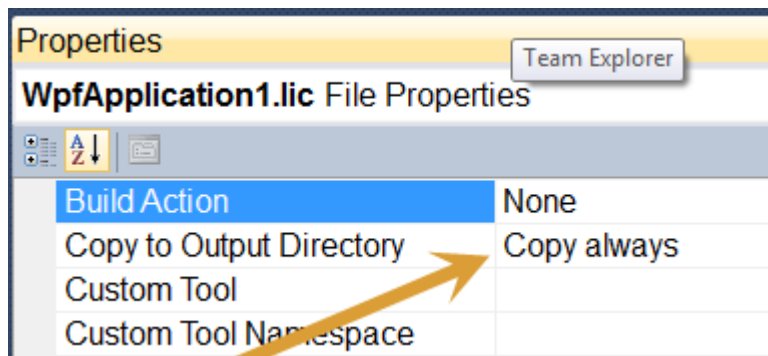


Figure 7: Change the license file to copy always to the output directory.

This file will need to be distributed with your final assembly.

If you are building an .EXE file, you will need to make sure this file is in the same folder as the .EXE file

If you are building a Web site, you need to put it into the root of your web site.

Summary

In this chapter you learned how to use the PDSA .NET Productivity Framework Runtime License Creator utility to generate a runtime license for your application.

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