

Eclipse SDK workspace issues and problems creating projects

Posted At : 29 May 2010 17:26 | Posted By : Shaun McCran
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I've recently picked up a new laptop, and in the process of setting it up for development purposes I've had some issues. Some are Windows 7 based, the others are Eclipse workspace related.

I thought I'd put together a short entry on the issues I encountered, and how I overcame them.

Firstly I went and downloaded the newest of version of the Eclipse SDK, you can get it here: <http://www.eclipse.org/downloads/>

Workspace creation issues

After installing it I received the error: "**Workspace in use or cannot be created, choose a different one**", it seems there are two potential issues that can cause this. The first is a problem with the '.lock' file.

Eclipse creates a .lock file in the workspace that makes the workspace 'lock' its state. This is to avoid opening the same workspace in different eclipse process.

But when Eclipse is crashed or you kill the process to free the memory, it does not delete the .lock file in workspace folder and thus you cannot open the workspace again with eclipse.

Look for the '.lock' file in your workspace and delete it.

The second problem is where there is an error in the Eclipse preference file. To fix this at a file level go to 'C:\eclipse\configuration\.settings\org.eclipse.ui.ide.prefs.' open this file in text editor and look for the line with RECENT_WORKSPACES on it. Delete the values there and your problem may be solved.

Read and write issues creating projects

Windows 7 User Acceptance Control will stop Eclipse (and you!) from creating files in the web root. This means that UAC will stop Eclipse from creating .project files.

You can turn off UAC by clicking on the 'Control Panel', and choosing 'User Accounts'. Then click 'Change User Account Control settings', by setting the notifications to 'None' it will turn it off.