

Win2003 64 Bit Install Problems

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This is a follow up to my post titled [64bit on Windows 2k3 Web Edition](#). In that post I did a play by play of an issue trying to install 64 bit ColdFusion 8 Enterprise on a Windows 2003 "Web Edition" platform. I have just finished a troubleshooting session with a nearly similar issue on Windows 2003 "Data Center" edition. If you have this problem you will know it because the install will silently fail after the files are extracted. Check in your temp directory and you will see a cryptic folder beginning with "I" containing two folders "windows" and "installdata". These 2 folders contain the extracted install files. Inside the "windows" folder you will also see an hotspot error log. It looks like "hs_err_pidXXX.log". You may have seen such files in your ColdFusion8/runtime/bin directory. They occur when the hot spot compiler has an unhandled exception.

Under the hood the ColdFusion install is firing off the "adobe_cf.exe" from that same windows folder. This exe file uses the adobe_cf.lax file as a launch settings file. Taking a closer look at the lax file and you will see some Java settings including two important settings. One is *lax.nl.current.vm* and the is *lax.installer.win32.internal.property.0*. Both of these settings point to a *Java.exe* file. By default the *Java.exe* file it points to is contained in that other temp folder called 'installerdata'. My guess is that the reason that the ColdFusion fails because the 64 bit JVM in the /installerdata folder is not compatible with something in the windows installation. In particular I think that there is a missing 64bit class or object.

The Fix

The fix is as follows.

- Download and install the 32 *bit* 1.6 JDK.
- Edit the adobe_cf.lax file to point to the java.exe file inside the jre folder of the newly installed 32 bit JDK.
- Run the Adobe_cf.exe file.

The install should fire up at the point of the first splash screen and follow through to completion. To be clear - you are *still installing the 64 bit version* of ColdFusion. Only the "launch anywhere" process will be running 32 bit.