

# Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...

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[Peter Fransen](#) 8 posts since

Jun 14, 2008

I'm trying out Teamcity as a possible replacement for our current CruiseControl installation. Everything was going great until I got the agent up and running:

My NAnt build has an EXEC task for a powershell build. Agent will hang indefinitely( > 30 minutes) on this task without moving. Same task works fine if I execute NAnt from the commandline(even from the Work directory on the Agent).

Any ideas?

Tags: teamcity, nant, hang, powershell



[Eugene Petrenko](#) 2,283 posts since

Oct 4, 2004 1. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 18, 2008 1:47 PM

What version of TeamCity do you use?

What version of NAnt is used?

Could you please send me hanging part of the script to reproduce.

Could you please try to capture logs from .NET part of TeamCity. For doing it please do the following:

- select some build agent
- open /tmp/buildTmp/TeamCity.NET folder.

Please attach all the files from that folder.

Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...

Thanks!



[Peter Fransen](#) 8 posts since

Jun 14, 2008 2. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 18, 2008 6:24 PM

Eugene,

TeamCity Version - 3.1.1(build 6828)

NAnt version .85

Hangs on this target:

```
<target name="create.db.verify">
  <exec program="powershell">
    <arg value="..\script\create_db.ps1"></arg>
    <arg value="bca_verify"></arg>
  </exec>
</target>
```

I've attached the log file that was generated by the steps you detailed.

Thanks,

-Pete

**Attachments:**

- [debug.zip](#) (729 bytes)



[Eugene Petrenko](#) 2,283 posts since

Oct 4, 2004 3. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 18, 2008 6:34 PM

Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...

Thanks. Seems array is broken.

You may email it to eugene[dot]petrenko[at]jetbrains.com

What is done under that powershell call? Does it produces much output?



[Peter Fransen](#) 8 posts since

*Jun 14, 2008* **4. Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 18, 2008 6:39 PM

The powershell call is a DB build script. It generates about 300 lines of messages during the build process. Last week I tested without the status messages being printed by the script and it failed in the exact same fashion.

-Pete



[Eugene Petrenko](#) 2,283 posts since

*Oct 4, 2004* **5. Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 18, 2008 6:42 PM

I got the logs.

Could you please try taking thread dumps feature for that hanging build. What is shown for NAnt process?

Thanks!



[Peter Fransen](#) 8 posts since

*Jun 14, 2008* **6. Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 18, 2008 6:48 PM

Two processes listed in the thread dump, dumps below:

```
PID: 10508 Error
6/18/2008 8:44:26 AM
```

## Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...

Stack trace depth is set to show all frames

Thread id=10512 priority=10 state=Wait reason=UserRequest

```
at System.Threading.WaitHandle.WaitOne(System.Int64 timeout, System.Boolean exitContext)
at System.Threading.WaitHandle.WaitOne(System.Int32 millisecondsTimeout, System.Boolean exitContext)
at System.Diagnostics.Process.WaitForExit(System.Int32 milliseconds)
at NAnt.Core.Tasks.ExternalProgramBase.ExecuteTask()
at NAnt.Core.Tasks.ExecTask.ExecuteTask()
at JetBrains.BuildServer.NAntLoggers.NUnit2LoggingTask.ExecTaskEx.ExecuteTask() in ExecTaskEx.cs:line 19
at NAnt.Core.Task.Execute()
at NAnt.Core.Target.Execute()
at NAnt.Core.Project.Execute(System.String targetName, System.Boolean forceDependencies)
at NAnt.Core.Tasks.CallTask.ExecuteTask()
at NAnt.Core.Task.Execute()
at NAnt.Core.Target.Execute()
at NAnt.Core.Project.Execute(System.String targetName, System.Boolean forceDependencies)
at NAnt.Core.Project.Execute()
at NAnt.Core.Project.Run()
at NAnt.Core.ConsoleDriver.Main(System.String args)
at System.RuntimeMethodHandle.InvokeMethodFast(System.Object target, System.Object arguments, System.Signature sig, System.Reflection.RuntimeMethodInfo invokeAttr, System.Reflection.BindingFlags invokeAttr, System.Reflection.RuntimeMethodInfo invokeAttr, System.Reflection.BindingFlags invokeAttr, System.Reflection.RuntimeMethodInfo invokeAttr)
at System.Reflection.RuntimeMethodInfo.Invoke(System.Object obj, System.Reflection.BindingFlags invokeAttr, System.Reflection.RuntimeMethodInfo invokeAttr, System.Reflection.BindingFlags invokeAttr, System.Reflection.RuntimeMethodInfo invokeAttr)
at NAnt.Console.ConsoleStub+HelperArguments.CallConsoleRunner()
at System.AppDomain.DoCallback(System.CrossAppDomainDelegate callBackDelegate)
at NAnt.Console.ConsoleStub.Main(System.String args)
```

Thread id=10524 priority=12 state=Wait reason=UserRequest

Thread id=10552 priority=8 state=Wait reason=EventPairLow

Thread id=10560 priority=8 state=Wait reason=ExecutionDelay

Thread id=10568 priority=8 state=Wait reason=UserRequest

```
at System.Threading.WaitHandle.WaitOne(System.Int64 timeout, System.Boolean exitContext)
at System.Threading.WaitHandle.WaitOne(System.Int32 millisecondsTimeout, System.Boolean exitContext)
at JetBrains.BuildServer.CommonLoggers.Impl.LoggerThread.Run() in LoggerThread.cs:line 73
at System.Threading.ThreadHelper.ThreadStart_Context(System.Object state)
at System.Threading.ExecutionContext.Run(System.Threading.ExecutionContext executionContext, System.Threading.ContextCallback callback, System.Object state)
at System.Threading.ThreadHelper.ThreadStart()
```

Thread id=10648 priority=8 state=Wait reason=Executive

```
at [Internal thisFrame, 'M-->U', Microsoft.Win32.Win32Native::ReadFile]
at System.IO.FileStream.ReadFileNative(Microsoft.Win32.SafeHandles.SafeFileHandle handle, System.Byte bytes, System.Int32 count)
at System.IO.FileStream.ReadCore(System.Byte buffer, System.Int32 offset, System.Int32 count)
at System.IO.FileStream.Read(System.Byte array, System.Int32 offset, System.Int32 count)
at System.IO.StreamReader.ReadBuffer()
at System.IO.StreamReader.ReadLine()
at NAnt.Core.Tasks.ExternalProgramBase.StreamReaderThread_Output()
at System.Threading.ThreadHelper.ThreadStart_Context(System.Object state)
at System.Threading.ExecutionContext.Run(System.Threading.ExecutionContext executionContext, System.Threading.ContextCallback callback, System.Object state)
at System.Threading.ThreadHelper.ThreadStart()
```

Thread id=10652 priority=8 state=Wait reason=Executive

```
at [Internal thisFrame, 'M-->U', Microsoft.Win32.Win32Native::ReadFile]
```

## Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...

```
at System.IO.FileStream.ReadFileNative(Microsoft.Win32.SafeHandles.SafeFileHandle handle, System.Byte bytes, System.Int32
at System.IO.FileStream.ReadCore(System.Byte buffer, System.Int32 offset, System.Int32 count)
at System.IO.FileStream.Read(System.Byte array, System.Int32 offset, System.Int32 count)
at System.IO.StreamReader.ReadBuffer()
at System.IO.StreamReader.ReadLine()
at NAnt.Core.Tasks.ExternalProgramBase.StreamReaderThread_Error()
at System.Threading.ThreadHelper.ThreadStart_Context(System.Object state)
at System.Threading.ExecutionContext.Run(System.Threading.ExecutionContext executionContext, System.Threading.ContextC
at System.Threading.ThreadHelper.ThreadStart()
```

Process command line

Error -11. Timeout.

6/18/2008 8:44:25 AM

Stack trace depth is set to show all frames

Thread id=10644 priority=8 state=Wait reason=Executive

```
at [Internal thisFrame, 'M-->U', Microsoft.Win32.Win32Native::ReadFile]
at System.IO.FileStream.ReadFileNative(Microsoft.Win32.SafeHandles.SafeFileHandle handle, System.Byte bytes, System.Int32
at System.IO.FileStream.ReadCore(System.Byte buffer, System.Int32 offset, System.Int32 count)
at System.IO.FileStream.Read(System.Byte array, System.Int32 offset, System.Int32 count)
at System.IO.StreamReader.ReadBuffer()
at System.IO.StreamReader.ReadLine()
at System.IO.TextReader+SyncTextReader.ReadLine()
at Microsoft.PowerShell.WrappedDeserializer..ctor(Microsoft.PowerShell.SerializationDataFormat dataFormat, System.String stre
at Microsoft.PowerShell.Executor.ExecuteCommandAsyncHelper(System.Management.Automation.Runspace.Pipeline tempPipe
at Microsoft.PowerShell.ConsoleHost.InitializeRunspace(System.String initialCommand, System.Boolean skipProfiles, System.Co
at Microsoft.PowerShell.ConsoleHost.DoRunspaceLoop(System.String initialCommand, System.Boolean skipProfiles, System.Co
at Microsoft.PowerShell.ConsoleHost.Run(System.String bannerText, System.String helpText, System.Boolean isPrestartWarned
at Microsoft.PowerShell.ConsoleHost.Start(System.Management.Automation.RunspaceConfiguration configuration, S
at Microsoft.PowerShell.ConsoleShell.Start(System.Management.Automation.RunspaceConfiguration configuration, S
at Microsoft.PowerShell.UnmanagedPSEntry.Start(System.String consoleFilePath, System.String args)
at System.RuntimeMethodHandle.InvokeMethodFast(System.Object target, System.Object arguments, System.Signature sig, Sys
at System.Reflection.RuntimeMethodInfo.Invoke(System.Object obj, System.Reflection.BindingFlags invokeAttr, System.Reflection
at System.Reflection.RuntimeMethodInfo.Invoke(System.Object obj, System.Reflection.BindingFlags invokeAttr, System.Reflection
```

Thread id=10664 priority=12 state=Wait reason=UserRequest

Thread id=10672 priority=9 state=Wait reason=UserRequest

```
at System.Threading.WaitHandle.WaitAny(System.Threading.WaitHandle waitHandles, System.Int32 millisecondsTimeout, System
at System.Management.Automation.Internal.ObjectStream.WaitRead()
at System.Management.Automation.Internal.ObjectStream.Read(System.Int32 count)
at System.Management.Automation.Internal.ObjectStream.Read()
at System.Management.Automation.Internal.ObjectReader.Read()
at System.Management.Automation.Internal.Pipe.Retrieve()
at System.Management.Automation.CommandProcessorBase.Read()
at System.Management.Automation.ShellFunctionCommandProcessor.ProcessRecord()
at System.Management.Automation.CommandProcessorBase.DoExecute()
at System.Management.Automation.Internal.PipelineProcessor.Inject(System.Object input, System.Boolean enumerate)
at System.Management.Automation.Internal.PipelineProcessor.SynchronousExecuteEnumerate(System.Object input, System.Co
at System.Management.Automation.Internal.PipelineProcessor.Execute(System.Array input)
at System.Management.Automation.Runspace.LocalPipeline.InvokeHelper()
```

Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...

```
at System.Management.Automation.Runspaces.LocalPipeline.InvokeThreadProc()  
at System.Threading.ThreadHelper.ThreadStart_Context(System.Object state)  
at System.Threading.ExecutionContext.runTryCode(System.Object userData)  
at System.Threading.ExecutionContext.RunInternal(System.Threading.ExecutionContext executionContext, System.Threading.ContextCallback callback, System.Object state, Boolean preserveExecutionContext)  
at System.Threading.ExecutionContext.Run(System.Threading.ExecutionContext executionContext, System.Threading.ContextCallback callback, System.Object state, Boolean preserveExecutionContext)  
at System.Threading.ThreadHelper.ThreadStart()
```



[Eugene Petrenko](#) 2,283 posts since

Oct 4, 2004 7. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 19, 2008 9:52 AM

So according to logs, I see that NAnt process is waiting for powershell to finish, while powershell is trying to read some file.

What user is used for build agent service? Does that user have enough rights to work? Sometimes SYSTEM account does not match.

Could you please try settings some working folder for the script.

Let's replace powershell script with 'hello world' like script. Does that still hang?

Thanks!



[Peter Fransen](#) 8 posts since

Jun 14, 2008 8. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 19, 2008 6:22 PM

I have created the following test script, called "test.ps1":

```
Write-Output "Hello World!"
```

Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...

I created a new task in my NAnt.build file:

```
<target name="hello.world">
  <exec program="powershell">
    <arg value="..\script\test.ps1"></arg>
  </exec>
</target>
```

I modified the build agent to run the new task, same behavior, hangs indefinitely.

I also checked the permissions for the service, service is set to run under SYSTEM, SYSTEM has full privileges on the BuildAgent directory and all subdirectories.

-Pete



[Eugene Petrenko](#) 2,283 posts since

Oct 4, 2004 9. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 19, 2008 6:31 PM

Thanks!

Could you please try running it under some real user on the machine. There were several issue on SYSTEM account used for build agent.



[Peter Fransen](#) 8 posts since

Jun 14, 2008 10. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 19, 2008 6:56 PM

Created a new user with administrator privileges on the machine, set build agent service to run under the new user, restarted the service.

Same behavior, hangs on the hello.world task.

Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...



[Oleg Gerovich](#) 105 posts since

Jun 4, 2008 11. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 19, 2008 11:31 PM

Maybe the builder in TeamCity cannot find "..\script\test.ps1" because it starts in a different directory from the one you start in by hand?



[Oleg Gerovich](#) 105 posts since

Jun 4, 2008 12. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 18, 2008 6:50 PM

Peter,

I had something similar happen to me in Ant when I was trying to use task without the full path to the executable for perl. I ended up having to write something like this:

```
<property name="perl.dir" value="C:\Perl\bin">
...
<target name="mytarget">
  <exec executable="{perl.dir}\perl.exe">
    <arg value="myscript.pl"></arg>
  </exec>
</target>
```

I don't know if it would work in NAnt though.

Hope this helps,

Oleg.



[Peter Fransen](#) 8 posts since

Jun 14, 2008 13. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Jun 18, 2008 7:07 PM

Oleg,

Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...

Thanks for the tip, but unfortunately specifying the entire path didn't seem to have an affect.

-Pete



[godefroi](#) 4 posts since

Oct 28, 2008 14. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Oct 28, 2008 11:09 PM

Peter,

Did you ever find a solution to the problem of powershell hanging waiting for input? I've managed to run into the same issue, and my thread trace looks identical. PowerShell.exe seems to be waiting for input.

I've actually managed to work around the issue by writing a batch file and causing TC to execute that instead of powershell.exe directly, and in the batch file I have something like this:

@echo off

```
echo whatsthedeal | powershell.exe -noninteractive -nopprofile -nologo -command "& 'my_script.ps1'"
```

But that's not ideal for obvious reasons.



[Peter Fransen](#) 8 posts since

Jun 14, 2008 15. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Oct 28, 2008 11:13 PM

Issue was never resolved. I switched to Cruise Control.



[Yegor Yarko](#) 1,458 posts since

Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during...

May 5, 2004 16. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Oct 29, 2008 3:51 PM

We created the [issue](#) to address the problem. Eugene will look into it to investigate if this powershell limitation can be workarounded.



[godefroi](#) 4 posts since

Oct 28, 2008 17. **Re: Trouble with Powershell and NAnt during build** Oct 29, 2008 4:23 PM

Note than I'm executing powershell.exe directly using the command line runner, and I've also tried executing a batch file instead that launched powershell.exe instead. Neither worked. The only way I got it to work was to put in my batch file something like:

```
echo something_nonsensical_here | powershell.exe {command line parameters here}
```

... in which case it worked. I ended up working around the issue by writing a small replacement tool for powershell.exe that would execute my powershell script.