

Check Your Server!

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**Check Your Server!**

**By Dale Sexton**

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Do you use your own virtual server to send out your magazine? I do. Be warned, I have discovered bad things that can happen when you don't check your server before you send to your list.

Last week, I was getting ready to send out to my subscribers. Earlier in the day, the owner of the server warned me that it would be down for upgrades. I worked on the newsletter waiting for the server to come back up. When it did I started testing my newsletter, sending it out to myself (or so I thought).

The software I use lets me add or change the list before I send out my email. As far as I knew, I added only myself to that list. I tested several times working on different aspects of the newsletter, trying to make sure links worked, color was right, images worked, and plain text looked good.

I even amused myself sending the 'test' mails from R.M.(rim) Ryder with the address of .

The newsletter was being sent to my email address, so as far as I was concerned, everything was working perfectly. I put the finishing touches on the newsletter and sent it to myself again when I got an email that made me pale.

"UNSUBSCRIBE!!!!

You have sent me 6 emails in the last 10 minutes! I have Unsubscribed! Stop sending NOW!"

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I couldn't understand what was happening. In the next half hour I received 50 unsubscribers. I checked the list to see what was going on. In my mind the only name on the list I was sending to was mine.

When I pulled up my ftp program, last weeks list was on it. I went to my software to change the list but it wouldn't change. The only thing that would cause it not to change was if the chmod settings had changed. They did. I had sent my 'test' to my list as it was last week.

The upgrade on the server had reset all the settings to everything in my cgi-bin. After it was all said and done, I lost over 200

subscribers. My host is aware of the problem and have done a number of good things for my site, so I see no need to move. The real goal of this article is to make web owners aware of checking their site frequently.

Though the program I use is unusual in that the mailing list can change in the cgi-bin, I had other programs that users brought to my attention were not working. What this means is that as a website owner, you have to check your site all the time. Don't trust that it works.

Dale Sexton owns & operates 'PageCrafters.net', & publishes 'Small Business Tools magazine'. Both focus on tools & tips for small business. <mailto:pagecrafters@pagecrafters.net> Sign up for 'SBT magazine' at: <http://pagecrafters.net/newsletter.html>

## **Understanding Custom Server Controls in ASP.NET**

**By Balaji**

### **Understanding Custom Server Controls in ASP.NET by Balaji**

Understanding Custom Server Controls in ASP.NET

ASP.NET offers many server controls for the developers to create web applications. However, at some point of development time when the developer does not get the control they want, they can create a new server control. This new server control can be called ASP.NET Custom Server Controls or user control. The basic difference between a ASP.NET Custom Server Controls and a user control is that unlike a user control that does not appear in the Toolbox, you can view a ASP.NET Custom Server Controls in the Toolbox. ASP.NET Custom Server Controls have their own events such as Enter, Onclick, and Onmouseover.

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ASP.NET Custom Server Controls are very handy tool to use in your web forms. User controls prove inefficient in advanced scenarios. ASP.NET Custom Server Controls are the compiled code that makes them user friendly. You should write the ASP.NET Custom Server Controls in code, thereby view it in the visual designer with full properties and design-time features. You can create a ASP.NET Custom Server Controls by inheriting one of the base control classes. These classes have all the functionality that is needed for a server control. Therefore, you just have to modify some of the programming aspects to suit your requirements.

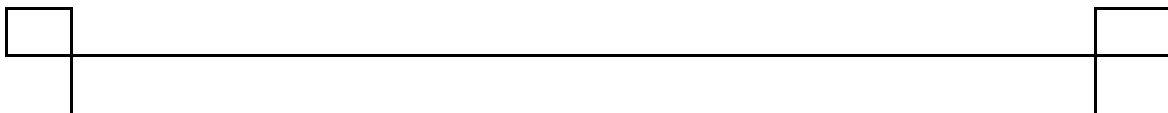
Just as you have created a ASP.NET Custom Server Controls you can customize it too to create a unique identity. You can even consume a single ASP.NET Custom Server Controls for multiple web forms. For ASP.NET Custom Server Controls only one copy of the control is needed in the Global Assembly Cache (GAC). Moreover, ASP.NET Custom Server Controls are very helpful if you want a dynamic layout for your web application.

To access online version of the above article, go to <http://www.dotnet-guide.com/customcontrols.html>

Visit <http://www.dotnet-guide.com> for a complete introduction to .NET framework. Learn about ASP.NET, VB.NET, C# and other related technologies.



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