**COMPUTING SUBJECT:** Certificates for SSl

**TYPE:** Assignment

**IDENTIFICATION:** CertificateX509

**COPYRIGHT:** *Michael Claudius*

**LEVEL:** Medium

**TIME CONSUMPTION:** 1-2 hours

**EXTENT:** 50 lines

**OBJECTIVE:** Windows SDK,makecert, pvk2pfx, mmc

**PRECONDITIONS:** Computer Networking Ch. 8.5

**COMMANDS:**

**IDENTIFICATION:** CertificateX509/MC

Mission

You are to make a secure connection communication by setting up a server and a client using the secure socket layer (SSL) by sharing the certificate provided by the server. This we shall do in three steps/assignments:

1. CertificateX509, Install Windows SDK and investigate the tools *mmc, makecert* & *pvk2pfx*
2. CreateCertificateX509, Create self-signed X509 Root and Server SSL certificates
3. Secure SocketsC#, Use the certificates and SSLStream for secure socket communication

This assignment is the Assignment No.1

Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is to install Windows SDK and learn about the tools *mmc*, *makecer*t and *pvk2pfx*.

When surfing on the net it is easy to find many descriptions more or less useful, and in more or less updated versions. Here are some:

*Useful links for C#:*

How to install Window SDK for Windows 10

<https://dev.windows.com/en-us/downloads/windows-10-sdk>

View certificates using the tool mmc snap in/out   
<https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms788967(v=vs.110).aspx> ;

Description of makecert tool:  
<https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms733813(v=vs.110).aspx>

Description of pvk2pfx tool:  
[*https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/hardware/ff550672(v=vs.85).aspx*](https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/hardware/ff550672(v=vs.85).aspx)

Link describing opening command prompt used by Visual studio

<https://msdn.microsoft.com/da-dk/library/ms229859(v=vs.110).aspx>

Description of thumbprint

<https://www.thesslstore.com/blog/ssl-certificate-still-sha-1-thumbprint/>

*Useful links for Java: Keytool*

Solaris Programmers tool to create keys  
[Keytool - Key and Certificate Management Tool](http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.5.0/docs/tooldocs/solaris/keytool.html)

Windows Programmers tool to create keys in Java

[Keytool – Key and Certificate Management Tool](http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.5.0/docs/tooldocs/windows/keytool.html)

1. Install Windows SDK kit

To be able to create certificates for secure socket communication one must use the tool *makecert* and *pvk2pfx* as defined in Window SDK. Therefore, see if you can find a path like:

*C:\Program Files(x86)\Windows Kits\10.\bin\x64*

With two files: *makecert* and *pvk2pfx*.   
If not install Window SDK for Windows 10, if you have not done it already. Use the link:

<https://dev.windows.com/en-us/downloads/windows-10-sdk>

And download and install the SDK standalone version for Windows 10.

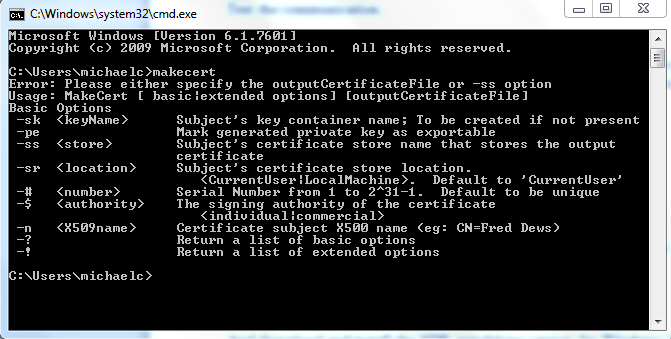
Then check that you can access and run *makecert* from the command prompt.

Start a command-prompt.

Click Start => Programs => Accessories => Command prompt

Or just Start => cmd

Give the command *makecert:*



Also try to check out the *pvk2pfx* command in the same way. If a command is not recognized you must change the environment variables PATH (Path) and maybe CLASSPATH.

A) Set your environment variable Path to include present working directory (.) and your folder with the Windows SDK it (e.g. C:\Program Files(x86)\Windows Kits\10.0\bin\x64)

F*or more details; See the Appendix A on environment variables at the end of this document.*

B) If you can run e.g. *makecert* but not *pvk2pfx,* this is due to permission- restriction on the file-location..   
F*or more details; See the Appendix B setting permission of folder.*

Maybe

C) Set your environment variable CLASSPATH to include the folder (working directory '.' - dot). Not in Windows 10!.

2. Investigate *makecert* and *pvk2pfx* tools

What is the purpose of *makecert* ?

Explain the various options like -sky -n -r etc.

What is the purpose of *pvk2pfx* ?

Explain the various options like -pvk -f etc.

Wonder how many of these are important…..

*Tip: Make use of the following links*

Description of *makecert* tool:   
<https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms788967(v=vs.110).aspx>

<https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms733813(v=vs.110).aspx>

Description of of *pvk2pfx*:  
[*https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/hardware/ff550672(v=vs.85).aspx*](https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/hardware/ff550672(v=vs.85).aspx)

3. Certificate repository

Use the tool *mmc* snap in/out (the Internet browser and/or) to find out which certificates you already have on your computer.

Start a command prompt: Start => cmd

Type: mmc

Choose: File => Snap In/out => Certificates => Add => Computer Account => Next =>

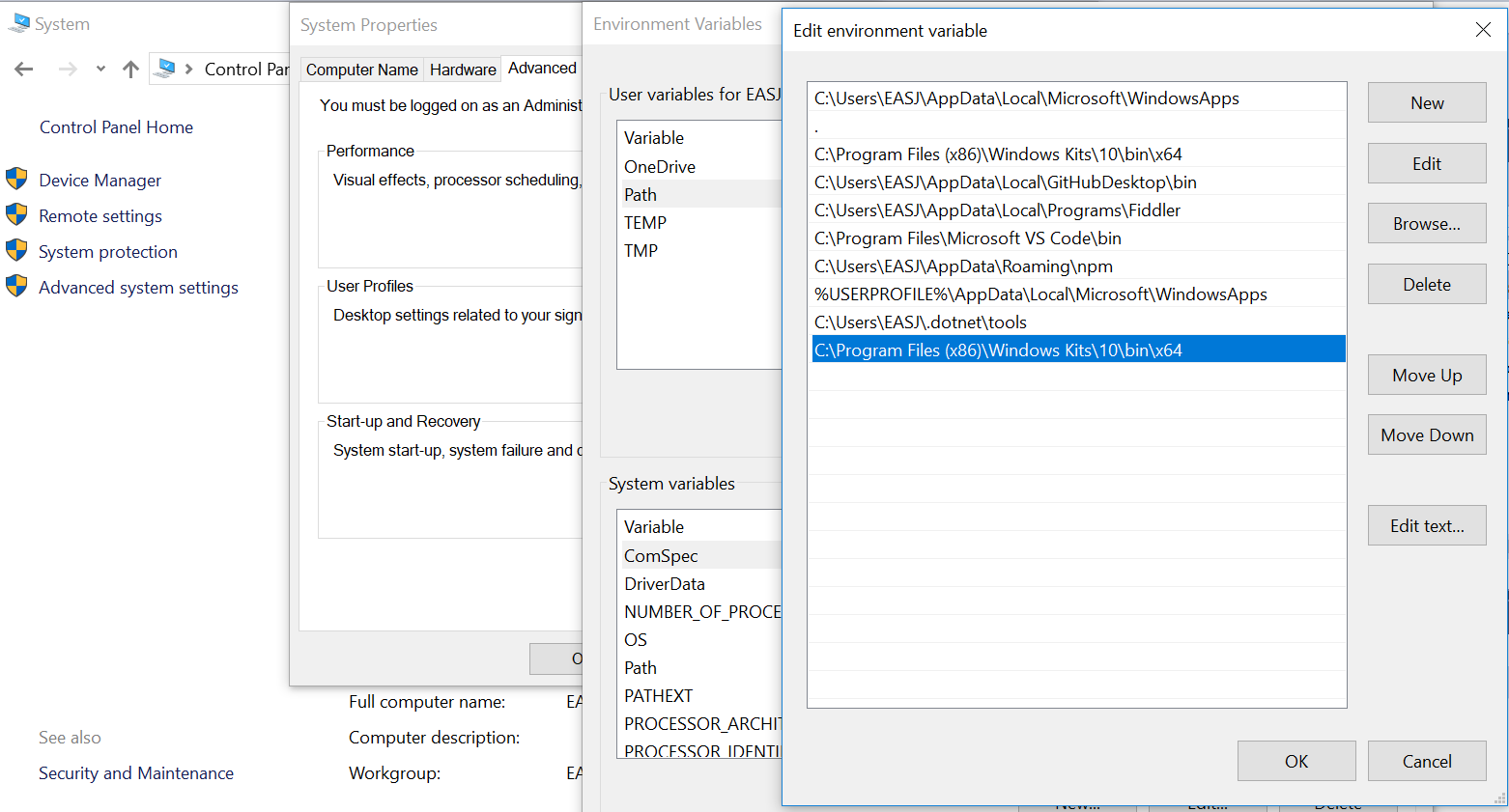
Local Computer => Finish => OK

Now, take a close look at some of the trusted certificates and personal certificates on localhost.

*Guess you will be surprised!*

**Appendix A: Environment variables Path in Windows 10**

1. Select Start => Control Panel
2. Choose System and Security => System
3. Click Advanced system settings > Advanced tab
4. Click on Environment Variables, and under System Variables, find **Path**, and click on it.

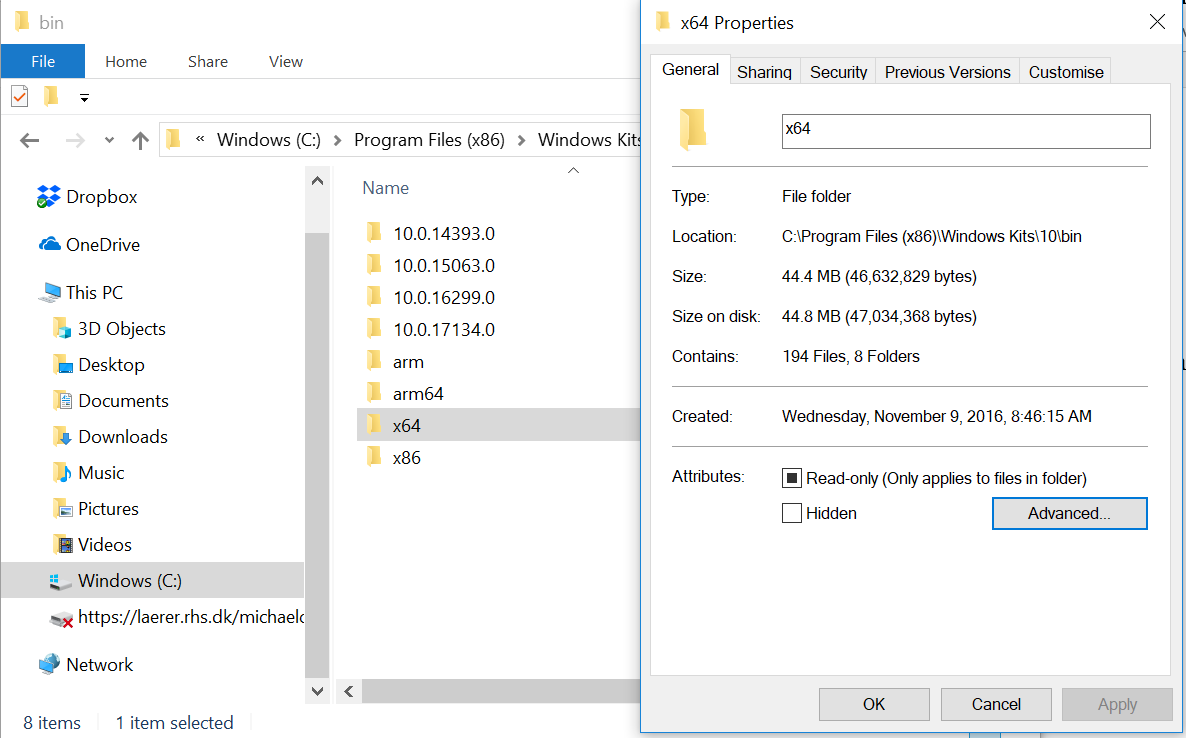


1. Click on Edit and in the Edit windows, choose **Path** then cloick on New and add the directory of the respective file to the value for **Path**.   
   (If you do not have the item **Path**, you may select to add a new variable and add **Path** as the name and the location of the class as the value. Remember the semicolons as splitter characters!!)
2. Click OK everywhere
3. Reopen Command prompt window, and run the command again.

Maybe you will have to restart your computer….

**Appendix B: Setting permission of folder.**

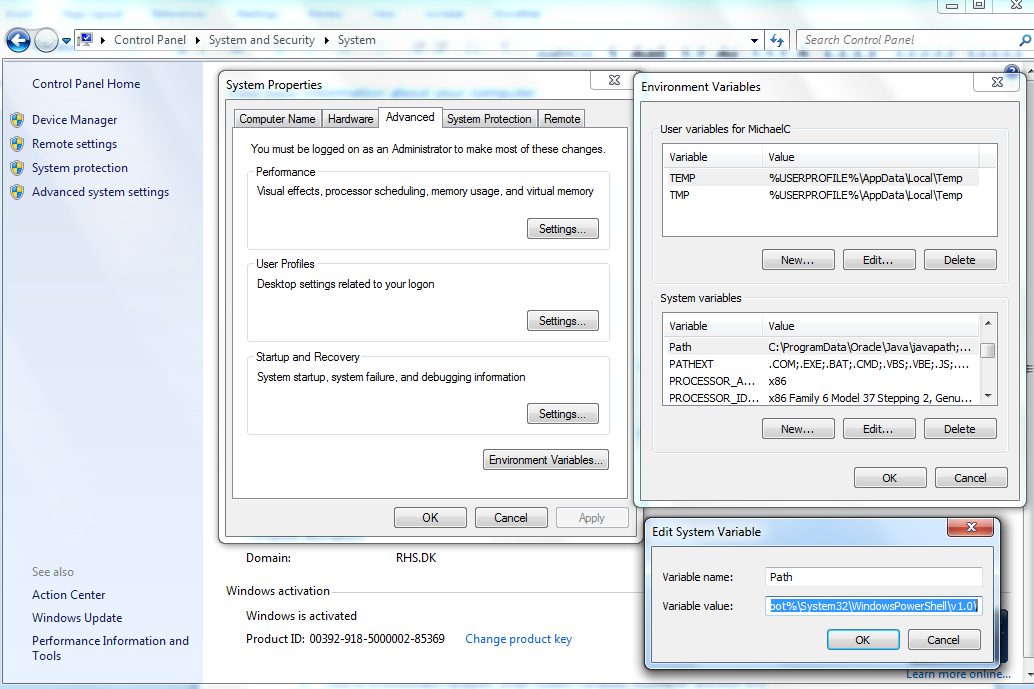
1. Open the Windows explorer (pat- finder == stifinder) Start
2. Find the folder holding the files (e.g. C:\Program Files(x86)\Windows Kits\10.0\bin\x64)
3. Right click on Properties
4. Untick the Attributes box



Finally click OK everywhere.

**Appendix C: Environment variables Path in Windows 7**

1. Select Start => Control Panel
2. Choose System and Security => System
3. Click Advanced system settings > Advanced tab
4. Click on Environment Variables, and under System Variables, find **Path**, and click on it.



1. Click on Edit and in the Edit windos, modify **Path** by adding the directory of the respective file to the value for **Path**. If you do not have the item **Path**, you may select to add a new variable and add **Path** as the name and the location of the class as the value. Remember the semicolons as splitter characters!!
2. Click OK everywhere
3. Reopen Command prompt window, and run the command again.

Maybe you will have to restart…!