

# Re: SystemRoot: XP vs VISTA

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```
result := Reg.ReadString("");
```

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Under XP this result in 'C:\WINDOWS\System32\hhctrl.ocx'  
under Vista the same code results in  
'%SystemRoot%\System32\hhctrl.ocx'
```

That registry key is stored with reference to an environment variable. Use the ExpandEnvironmentStrings API function to replace the environment variable with its actual value. Don't dig around in the registry any more than you absolutely have to.

The registry has a data type for storing environment-variable-based values. When you read from those keys, the OS is supposed to fill in the actual value for you. Check (in regedit.exe) the type of the key you're reading. Is it Reg\_Expand\_Sz, or just Reg\_Sz? This is to determine whether it's the OS that is using the wrong type, or Delphi that is ignoring that type. You can't fix the former, but you can address the latter.

Thank you. ExpandEnvironmentStrings works.

Under XP, the data type is REG\_SZ – 'C:\WINDOWS\System32\hhctrl.ocx'

Under Vista, it is REG\_EXPAND\_SZ – '%SystemRoot%\System32\hhctrl.ocx'

So, it should have been expanded. I do that now programmatically.

Tom