

Big Fish Solutions



Quick Start

For

Spectare v2009

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1 Installation and Start Up

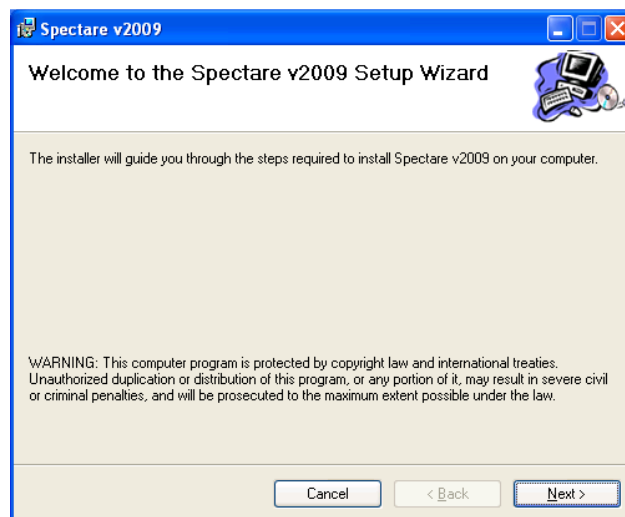
1.1 Installing Spectare

Spectare 2009 comes in a zip file format which contains the following three files.

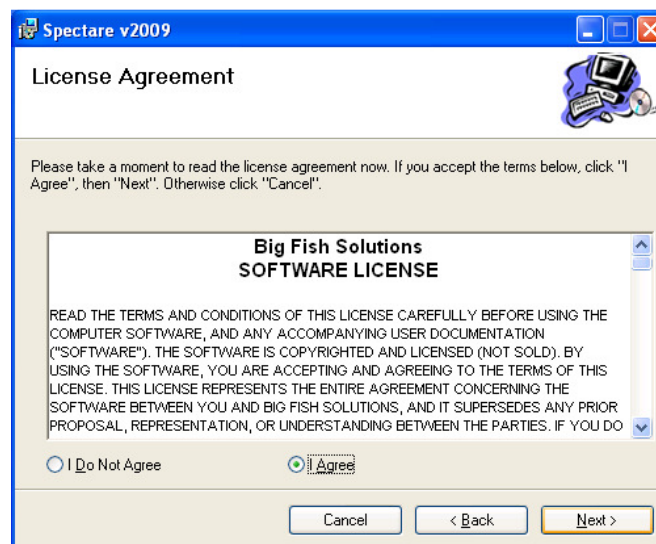
1. Spectare v2009 Quick Start Guide.pdf (this file)
2. Setup.exe
3. SpectareSetup.msi

To install Spectare, simply run (double click) the Setup.exe file. The installation process commences as follows:

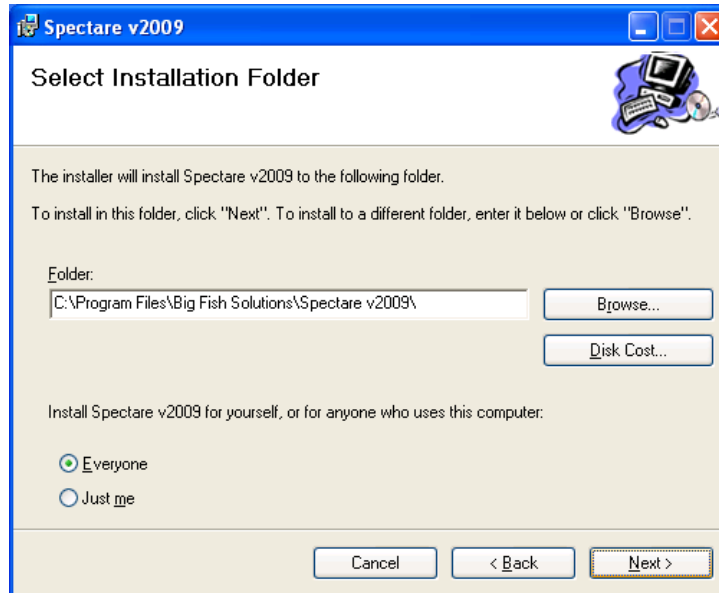
The first screen is simply the standard introduction/welcome screen. If you choose to continue, simply press the Next button.



The next screen is the license agreement. If you agree with the licensing agreement set forth in this screen, then press the Next button.



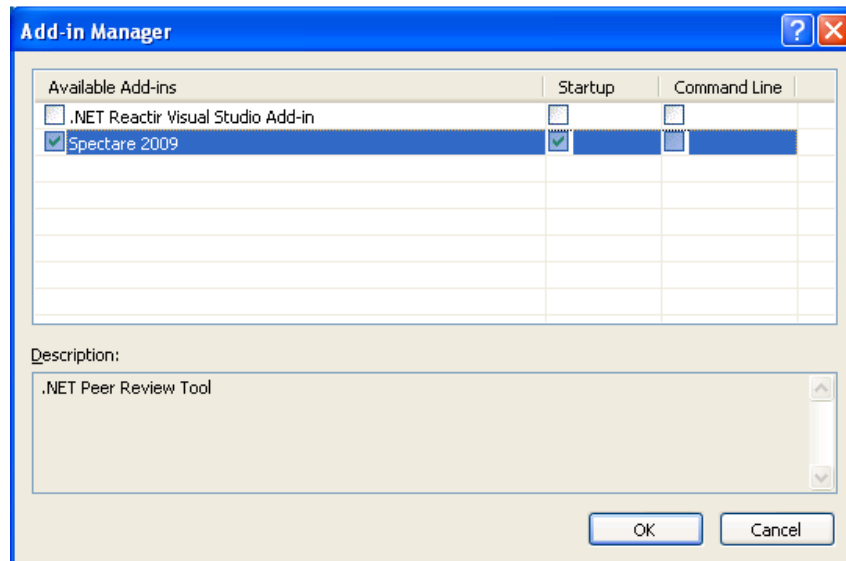
On the next screen, choose where you would like to have Spectare installed, as well as if the installation is for everyone on that given machine or just for you. Most installations choose the default options. Once you have made your selection, press the Next button.



After confirming your installation the package will install normally. If this is an evaluation version of the software, you will get a message box indicating as such. If you have a license file, you can proceed to the Installing the License File section below.

1.2 Installing the Add-In

Once the package is installed, the next step is to install the add-in into Visual Studio 2008. This is simply done by going to the “Tools -> Add-in Manager...” menu option on the main menu. You will be given a screen similar to the following.



To start the Spectare tool for just the given session of Visual Studio, select only the checkbox for Available Add-Ins (on the right). If you want Spectare to start up every time Visual Studio starts, select the check box under the “Startup” heading. Once you are done, select OK. Your installation is complete.

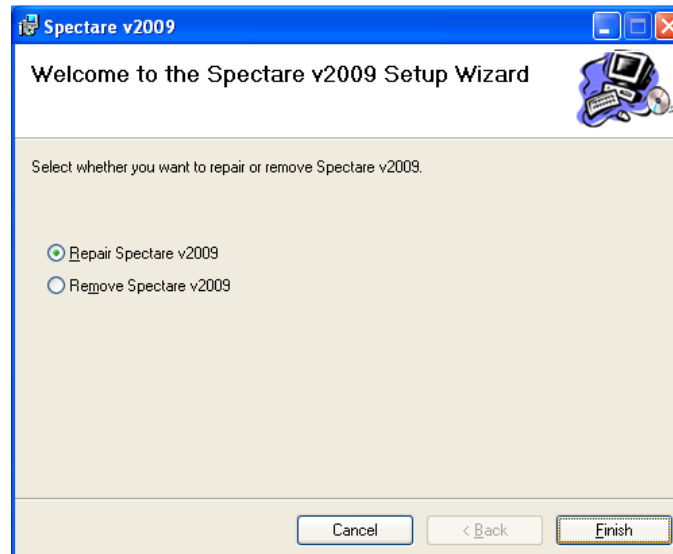
1.3 Installing the License File

If you have been previously using an evaluation version of Spectare, you will need to have a license file before continuing to use the product after the 14 day evaluation period is over. After purchasing the product from one of our online retail stores, simply copy the .license file to the same directory where the Spectare.dll file resides (by default – c:\program files\Big Fish Solutions\Spectare v2009). After the file has been copied, the product will revert automatically to a full registered copy.

1.4 Removing Spectare

Removing Spectare can be done in one of two ways.

1. Running the Setup.exe file that was used to originally install Spectare. If this option is chosen, the following screen will appear.



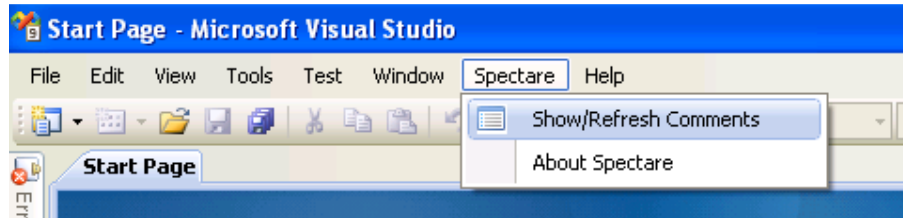
If you would like to remove Spectare, choose the appropriate option and select the Finish button.

2. Go to the Add/Remove programs option in the Control Panel and remove as you would any other application.

2 Operating Spectare

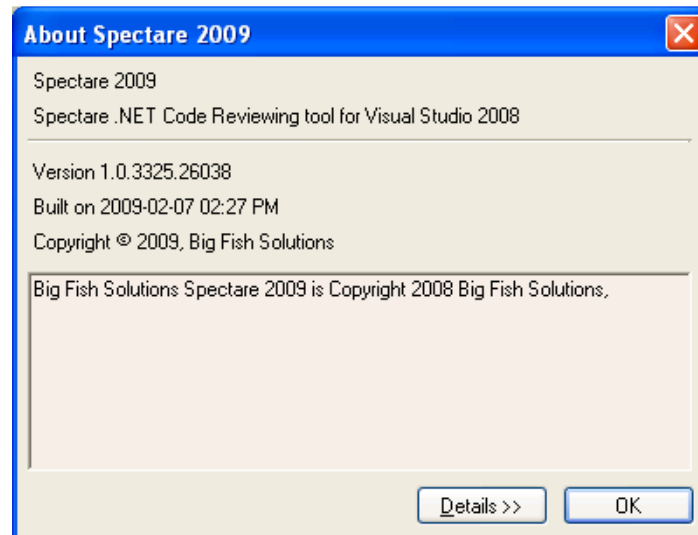
2.1 Starting Spectare

After installing the Spectare Add-in, you will find an additional menu option on the main menu of Visual Studio. It will appear left of the Help menu – called Spectare.



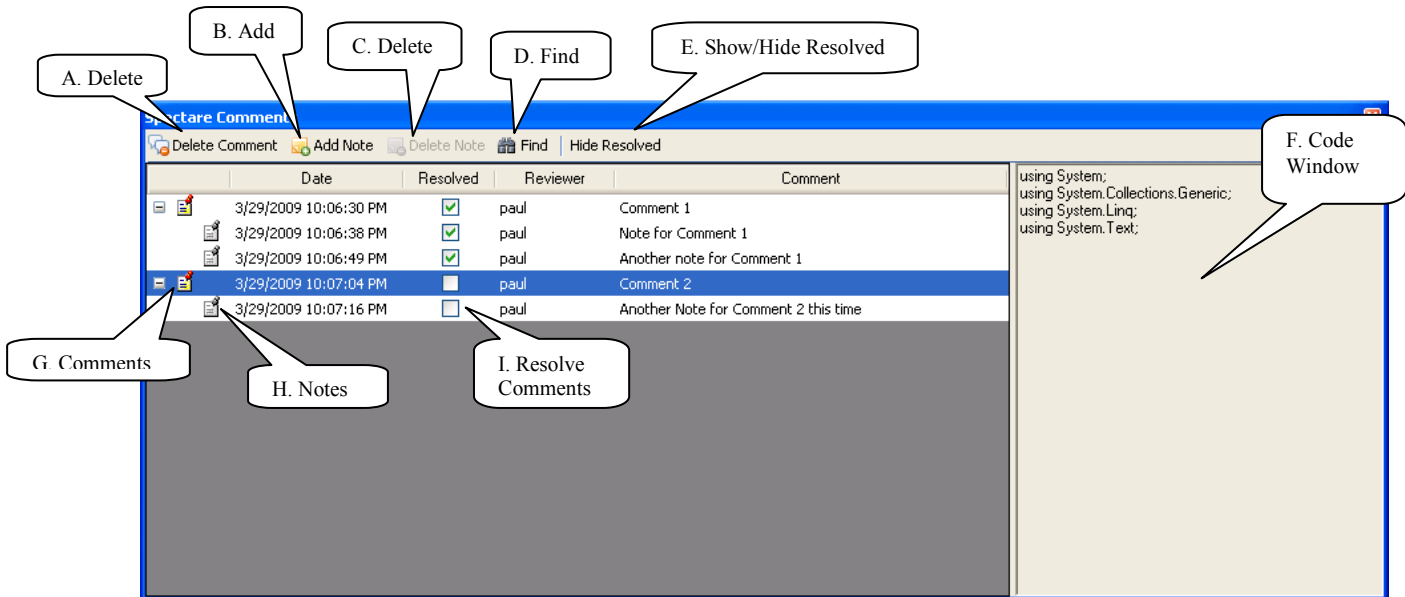
Likewise, upon starting Spectare, the main Spectare dockable window will appear. If it does not, you can select the “Show/Refresh Comments” menu option selection. Note that at any time, if you want to refresh or open the main Spectare window, you can do so by selecting the “Show/Refresh Comments” menu option from the main menu or from the code window context window.

If you select the “About Spectare” menu option, you will get the Spectare about box which can give you information about Spectare as well as other diagnostic information that may be helpful if problems occur.



2.1.1 Main Spectare Window

The main dockable Spectare screen is shown below.



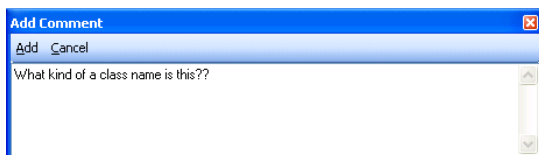
The primary features of the main screen (annotated above) are as follows:

- A.) Delete Comment - To delete a comment that has been added, select the 'Delete Comment' button.
- B.) Add Note – To add a note to the selected comment, select the 'Add Note' button.
- C.) Delete Note – To delete the selected note from the grid, select the 'Delete Note' button.
- D.) Find – To highlight the code associated with the selected comment or note, select the 'Find' button.
- E.) To hide or show resolved comments, toggle the 'Hide Resolved' button. The button will change background colors when activated. Likewise, all comments (and associated notes) will be hidden from the window.
- F.) The code window will show the source code that is the topic of the given comment or note that is selected.
- G.) Line items in the grid with the red pin icon are comments. Comment lines on the grid will show the date, resolution status, the reviewer, and the comment for the selected code.
- H.) Line items in the grid with the grey icon are notes. Notes are attached to a selected comment and contain similar data to their parent comment.
- I.) Comments can be marked as resolved by selecting the check box on the grid. They will show checked until the 'Hide Resolved' button is selected. If the 'Hide Resolved' button is selected again, the resolved comments and notes will reappear. Notes cannot be resolved apart from their parent comment. However, when the comment is resolved, all associated notes are resolved as well.

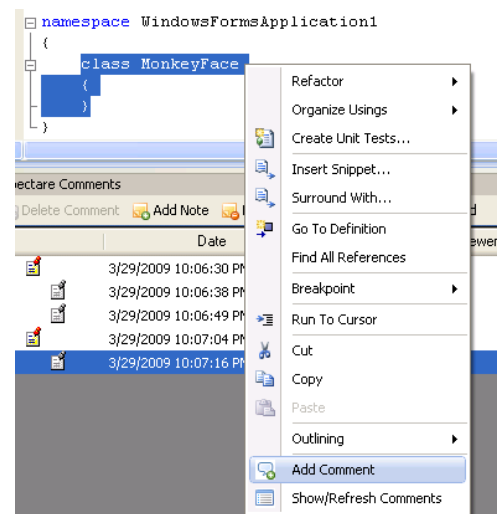
2.2 Adding Comments

Comments are easily added by using the following instructions:

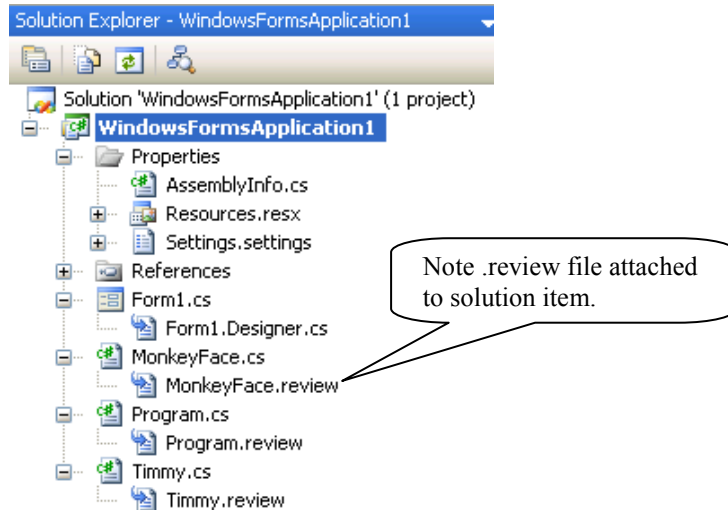
- A.) Highlight the code in the Visual Studio code window.
- B.) After right clicking, you will see the context menu as shown to the right.
- C.) Select the 'Add Comment' Menu item.
- D.) The following screen will appear.



- E.) Type in your comment and select the 'Add' option on the menu. If you want to cancel your comment, select the 'Cancel' item.
- F.) The comment will then show up on the Spectare Comments screen.



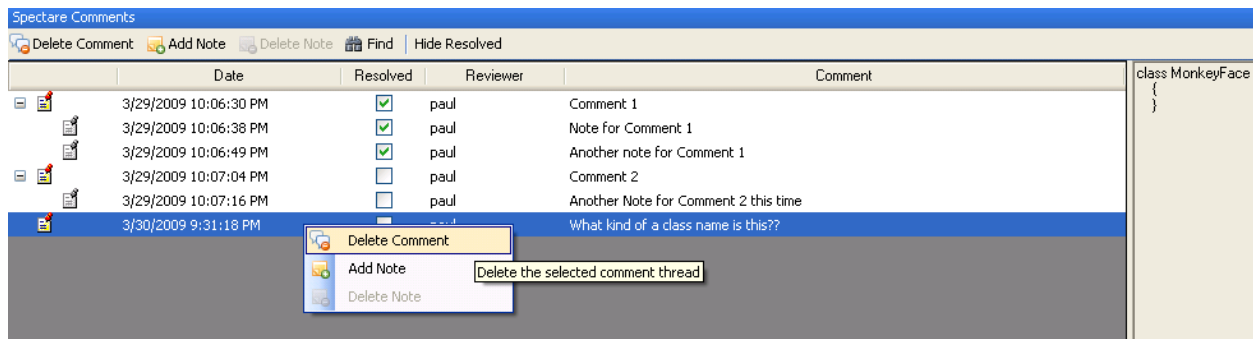
G.) When creating your first comment in a project, many project types in Visual Studio support the ability to attach the .review file in the Visual Studio Solution. If the project type you are working with supports this ability, your solutions explorer will show a new file in your solutions with the .review extension. See the following screen shot.



H.) If your solution type does not support the ability to show the new files attached to the solution item, the .review file is still created and resides in the same folder/directory as the file for which the comments are attached.

2.3 Deleting Comments

Deleting comments can be done in one of two ways. Both can be illustrated in the following screen shot.

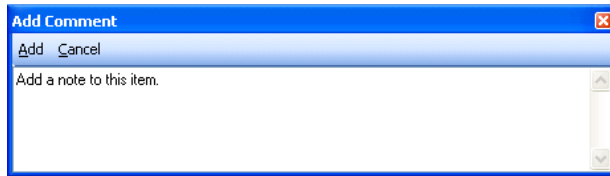


The selected comment can be deleted by either a) the 'Delete Comment' button on the top of the Spectare Comments screen, or b) by right clicking on the comment and selecting the 'Delete Comment' menu selection on the context menu.

If you would like to delete ALL of the comments and notes for a given solution file, the .review file (mentioned above) can be removed from the solution and/or folder where it was created. Spectare will then show a clean slate for the given code file and commenting can start again.

2.4 Adding Notes

Notes can be easily added to any comment. Note the screen shot above. Notes can be added by either a) selecting the 'Add Note' button the top of the Spectare window or b) selecting the 'Add Note' item in the context menu. After selecting either of these options the following screen will appear:



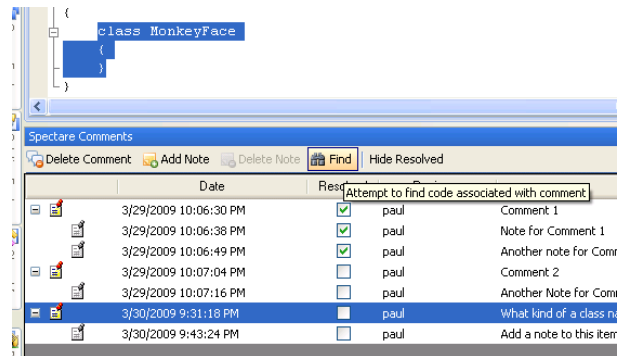
In a similar fashion to adding comments, you may add your note into the text area and select the 'Add' menu item to complete your note. If you want to cancel the adding of the note, select the 'Cancel' menu item.

2.5 Deleting Notes

Similar to deleting comments, notes can also be deleted by either a) selecting the 'Delete Note' button while a note is selected in the Spectare window or b) selecting the 'Delete Note' item in the context menu when right clicking on a note on the grid.

2.6 Finding Annotated Comments

By selecting the 'Find' button on the top of the Spectare window, Spectare will attempt to find the code for which the selected comment pertains. See the screen shot to the right.

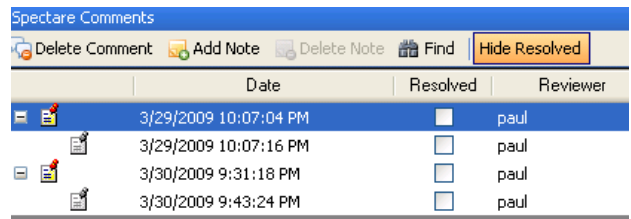


If the code still exists in the Visual Studio Code file without modifications, it will be highlighted. If the code has undergone changes since the comment was added, the section of the code window where the code used to reside will be highlighted.

2.7 Resolving Comments

After a code comment has been resolved, it can be cleared from the list by clicking on the check box in the 'Resolved' column. Upon checking the box, the line item, along with all associated notes, will be marked as resolved. They will continue to show up on the Spectare comment list until the 'Hide Resolved' button is selected on the Spectare top command bar.

If the 'Hide Resolved' button is selected, the items marked as Resolved will disappear and the button will be highlighted differently as shown here.



However, when toggled back, the screen will, once again, show the resolved items on the screen.

