
Subject: Cross compiling with mingw

Posted by [tomas](#) on Mon, 04 Apr 2016 19:14:10 GMT

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Hi.

I have been experimenting a bit with cross compiling the examples using mingw under linux. It works quite well but I have run in to some issues. I saw a recent post from Novo who also had similar experiences.

1) Header files

The mingw Windows header files are all named in lower case.

This is ok on Windows since Windows in most cases is case insensitive but most linux file systems are case sensitive which means that:

```
#include <ShellApi.h>
```

won't work since the mingw file is named shellapi.h

The simplest solution would be to use lower case names when including Windows headers, this should work on both linux and Windows with both mingw and Visual Studio.

I have been poking around in the Qt sources and lower case windows includes seems how they are doing it also:

```
http:// code.qt.io/cgit/qt/qtbase.git/tree/src/corelib/global/qt_wi n dows.h
```

```
http:// code.qt.io/cgit/qt/qtbase.git/tree/src/network/kernel/qnetwo rkinterface_win.cpp
```

2) flagWIN32

This flag does not get set when using mingw on linux resulting in problems when including png.h for instance.

Adding the flag to the "Common options" in the build configuration solves the problem for now.

3) Linking

The build system gets a bit confused and tries to use the linux libraries instead of the Windows ones when cross compiling with mingw.

Best regards

Tomas
