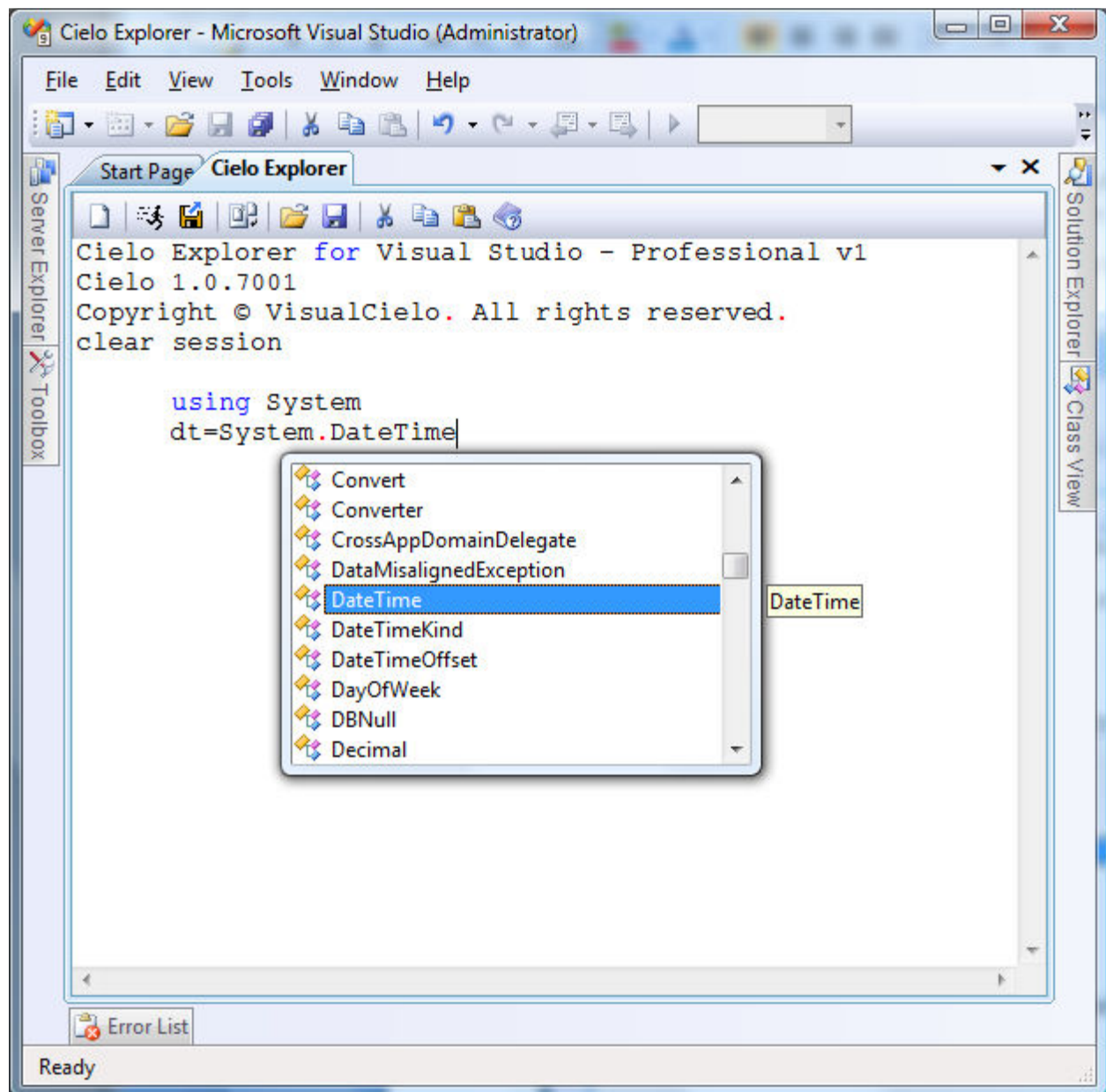


## Accessing A .Net Class Library (.dll) From the VisualAPL Cielo Explorer Session

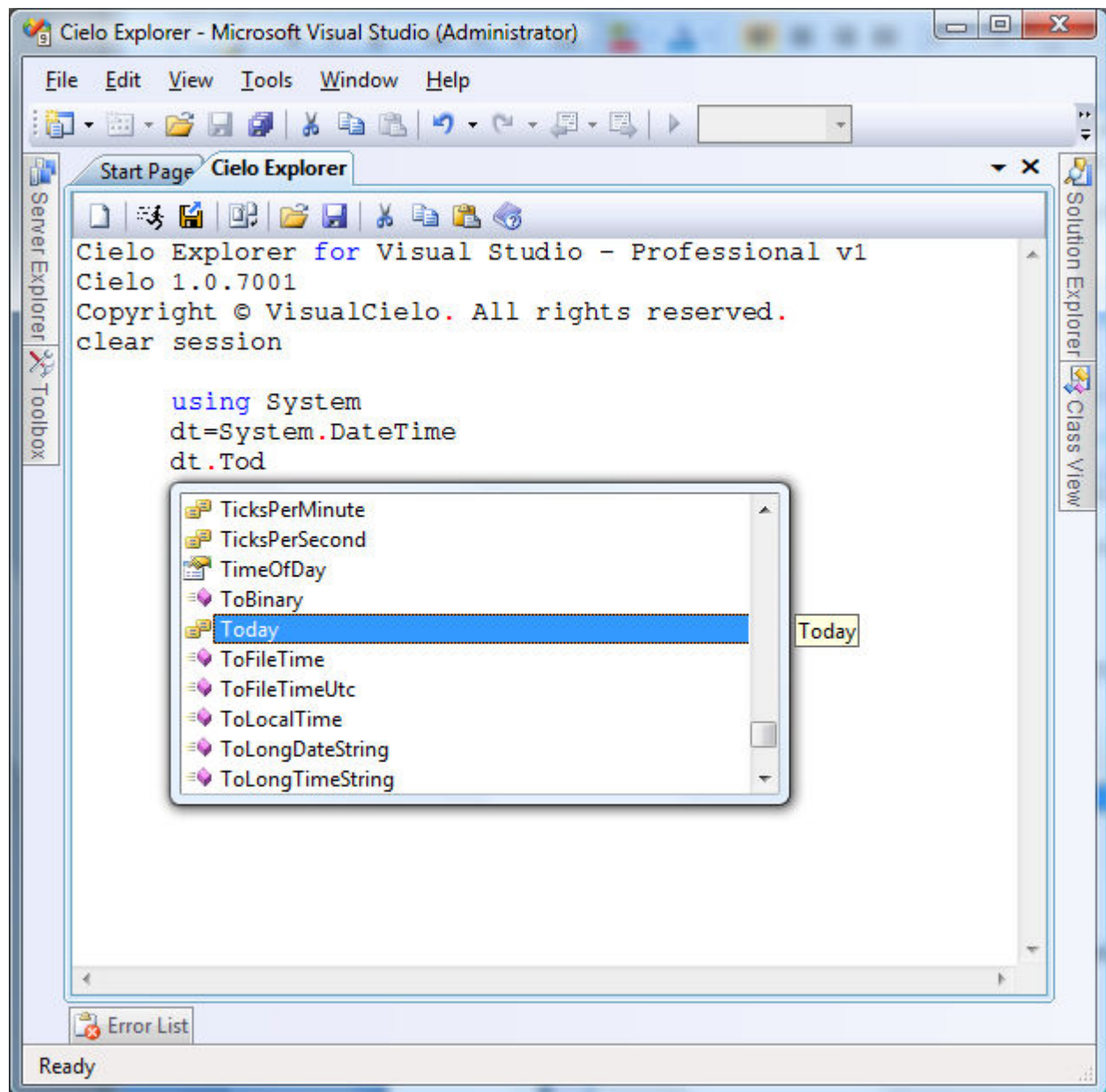
The VisualAPL Cielo Explorer is an immediate-mode, interactive session for learning about .Net, C# and VisualAPL as well as for designing and testing C# and VisualAPL programs for later use in Cielo Explorer scripts or C# or VisualAPL .Net class libraries.

When working in the Cielo Explorer is it sometimes necessary to use other .Net class libraries to access features of .Net or use functions in custom .Net class libraries.

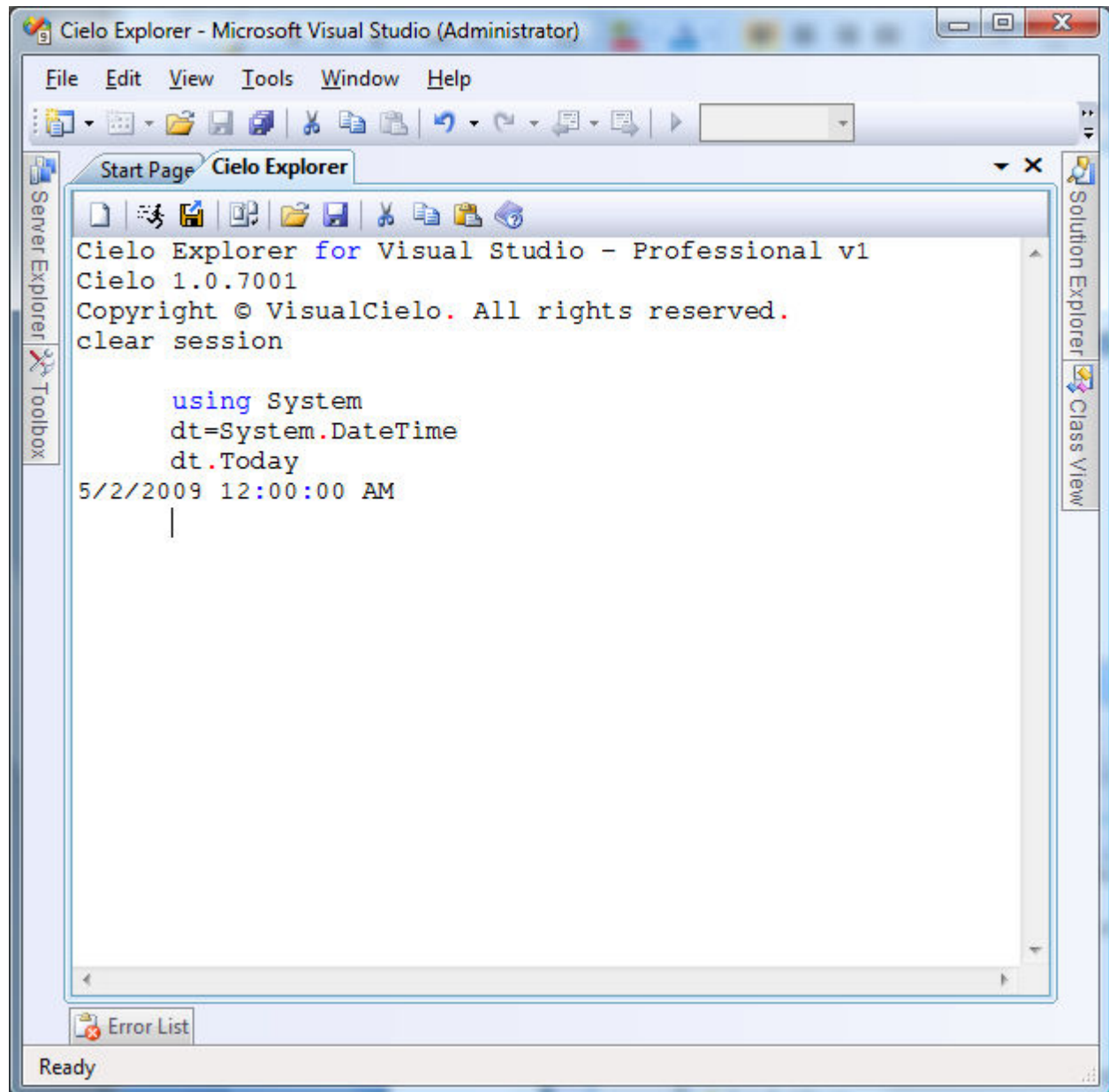
When accessing the base classes of .Net, simply typing “using System” makes these types available with Intellisense:



Exploring the methods, properties and events which may be associated with a .Net class is as easy as using Intellisense to review what is available and experiment with these features:

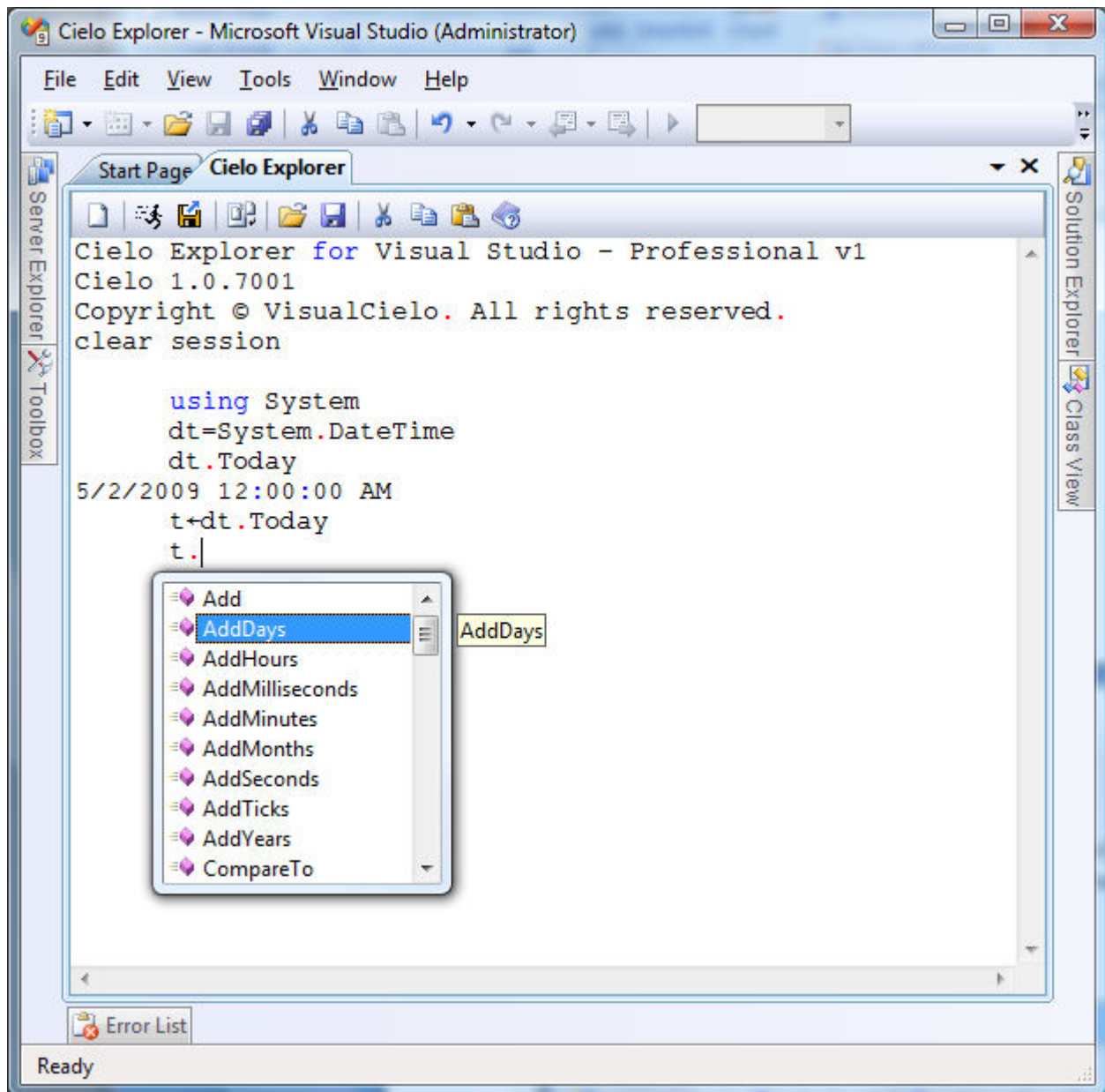


In this simple example an instance of the date time base class has been created called "dt" and its "Today" property has been accessed, by typing "dt.Today". The Cielo Explorer session displays the appropriate value of the "Today" property

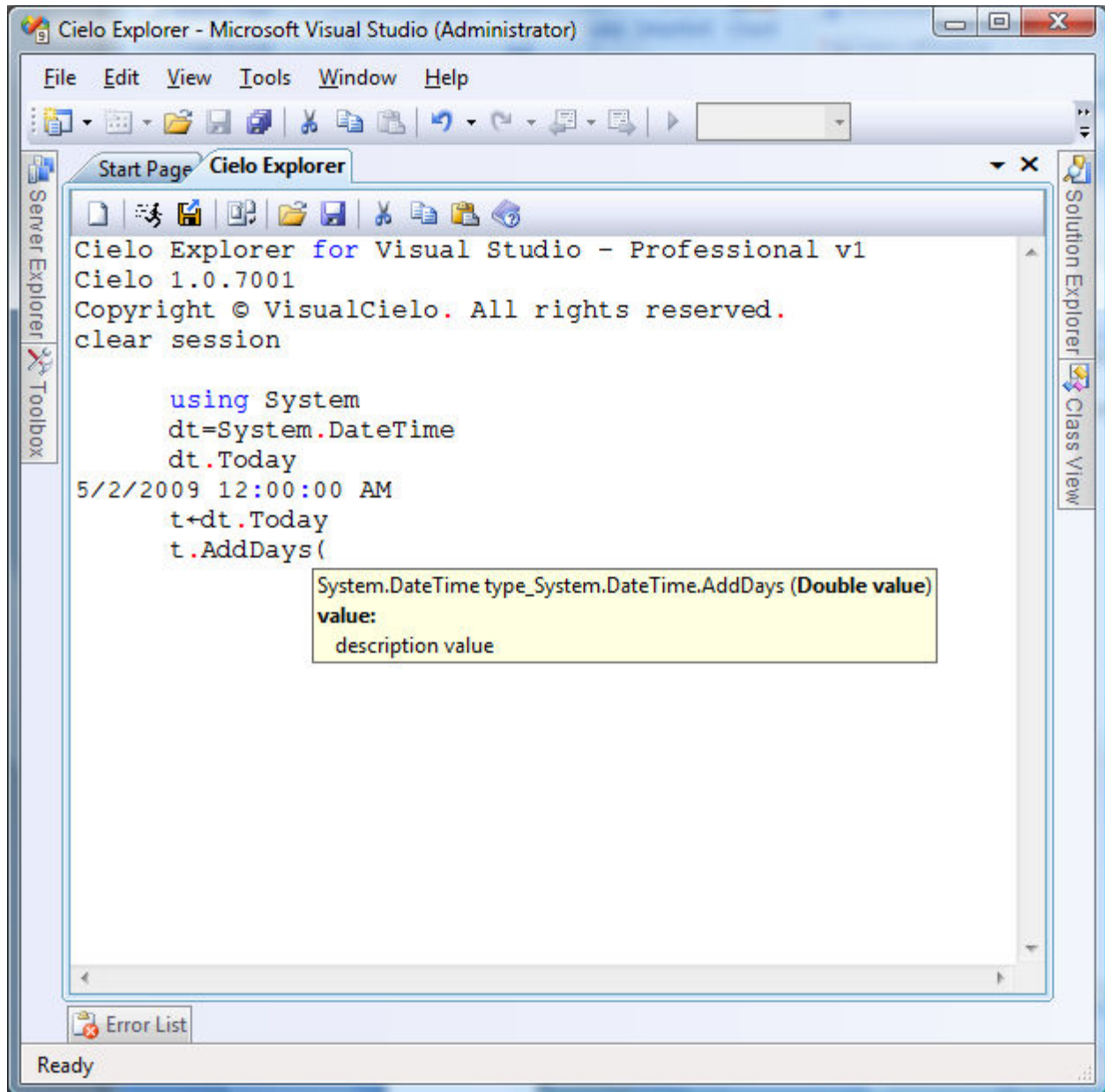


The dt object's "Today" property value, which is also a DateTime type, can be assigned using the VisualAPL (Alt+[) assignment operator to "t". As a result the object "t" now has the methods, properties and events of a DateTime type.

Intellisense for the "AddDays" method includes a "purple diamond" icon in the list, indicating that it is a method, possibly with arguments and requiring the .Net function signature of "(...)".



Again using Intellisense, the required arguments of the “AddDays” method are revealed.





Finally with a 1 day argument entered inside of the "(1)", the result is immediately displayed in the Cielo Explorer session. Using Cielo Explorer to learn about .Net, C# and VisualAPL is easy. Using the Internet, especially MSDN (Microsoft Developer Network) also helps to find free source code examples.

