

Host Compatibility Option (HCO) Addpack for Net Express 5.0

This article relates to KB Item [23726](#).

The Host Compatibility Option (HCO) Addpack is available for download from the SupportLine website. The file is called **HCP32500100099.exe**. However, no readme or instructions exist on how to implement this option within Net Express. This article is intended to give some useful information in this area.

HCO is installed into the base\bin directory as part of Net Express 5.0 . There are no configuration requirements, unlike when using Mainframe Express. All of the tools provided are command line only; IDE integration, present in Mainframe Express, is not provided at this time.

Installing the addpack will effectively set the environment variable MFHCO=YES, so that the next time a NetExpress command prompt or the IDE is loaded, that variable is set automatically. The driver program for the command line tooling is named MFHCO.EXE. Running this executable will issue usage information. In addition, the installation will enable the compilation of DB2 applications with the CHARSET(EBCDIC) compiler directive.

The Documentation team are currently reviewing possible documentation for the Windows HCO Addpack.

The attached [example](#) provides a demo of how to use HCO.