

DATA SHEET

MICRO FOCUS SERVER™ FOR .NET

Business Challenge

COBOL applications run at the heart of corporate IT organizations. These systems are typically running critical applications such as order processing, payroll, billing, CRM and much more. Such systems require high availability, high performance and robustness. The Micro Focus COBOL Server platform has proven itself the best choice for such applications for many thousands of customers over more than 30 years.

The Microsoft .NET framework has rapidly become one of the standard development and deployment platforms being used across the enterprise. By adding COBOL support for .NET and Visual Studio, existing COBOL applications can exploit .NET services and be deployed alongside other .NET languages.

Product Overview

Micro Focus Server™ for .NET is the deployment component for managed and verifiable COBOL applications and services created using the Micro Focus Net Express® with .NET development product for deployment into the Microsoft® .NET Framework. Through this integration, COBOL applications gain access to the powerful features of the .NET Framework and the ability to seamlessly integrate with other Microsoft .NET languages. Micro Focus Server for .NET also includes Micro Focus Server for COBOL which provides a high-performance, robust, proven and portable platform for the deployment of unmanaged COBOL applications outside the .NET Framework on Windows, UNIX and Linux.

Other products in the Micro Focus Server family include:

- Micro Focus Server for COBOL enables COBOL applications to be deployed on multiple platforms.
- Micro Focus Server for SOA which also provides support for the deployment of COBOL applications that have been extended in usage through a Service Oriented Architecture such as Web services and COBOL/J2EE integration.
- Micro Focus Server Enterprise Edition adds the ability to deploy applications migrated from the IBM Mainframe including CICS, IMS and JCL code.

Key Benefits

- Deploy managed and verifiable COBOL applications into the .NET Framework to quickly launch new business initiatives using the latest technologies
- Fast, scalable COBOL deployment maintains performance while enabling more developers, partners, customers, and users
- Deploy contemporary user interfaces in COBOL under .NET to improve usability and productivity
- Includes unmanaged cross-platform deployment across Windows, UNIX and Linux for flexible deployment options to leverage existing hardware assets and skills
- Utilize greater extensibility and integration capabilities within the .NET framework
- Quicker time to market with scalable and faster COBOL deployment
- Increase business efficiency through modernized user interface in COBOL under .NET

Detailed Feature Overview

MICROSOFT INTERMEDIATE LANGUAGE (MSIL) TARGETING THE .NET FRAMEWORK

When creating managed or verifiable code applications for deployment under the .NET Framework, Net Express with .NET compiles COBOL programs to MSIL. Micro Focus Server for .NET executes these applications in conjunction with the Microsoft Common Language Runtime (CLR), delivering the benefits of the .NET architecture to COBOL applications and facilitating effective development and deployment of composite COBOL/C#/Visual Basic® applications. Micro Focus Server for .NET provides the capability to target multiple versions of the .NET Framework - 2.0, 3.0 and 3.5.

REUSING AND EXTENDING COBOL CODE IN THE .NET FRAMEWORK

Existing procedural (non-object oriented) code can be reused in the .NET Framework without the need to re-architect it as object oriented code. New multiple run unit support enables procedural COBOL code to be accessed multiple times simultaneously, for

example, when called from a WebForm interface or a series of Web services. As well as supporting the reuse of existing COBOL code under .NET, enhanced Object COBOL syntax and data types provide natural and concise exploitation of the .NET Framework from COBOL applications.

DEPLOY COBOL GRAPHICAL AND WEB USER INTERFACES

Contemporary .NET graphical or Web user interfaces can now be built in COBOL providing the option to build a complete .NET application including user interface, business logic and data access in COBOL. Net Express with .NET rapidly creates Windows Presentation Framework (WPF), Windows Form (Winform) and Webform applications in COBOL which can be deployed with Micro Focus Server for .NET. WPF Forms combine a truly contemporary look and feel for COBOL applications including 2D/3D graphics and multimedia capability with a strategic separation of presentation and business logic and the ability to define interfaces using the declarative XML based screen definition (.XAML) without complex procedural programming. COBOL Windows Forms can be hosted within WPF applications.

WINDOWS COMMUNICATION FOUNDATION (WCF) AND WEB SERVICES SUPPORT

COBOL business logic can be extended to SOA by building Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) applications in COBOL. WCF facilitates the creation of connected systems by providing capabilities to support the creation of secure, reliable and distributed applications that integrate across platforms and interoperate with existing applications. Using Web services in WCF, COBOL business processes can be quickly and portably shared across languages and platforms.

REUSING AND RAPIDLY EXTENDING COBOL SQL CODE WITH ADO.NET

- Net Express combined with Micro Focus Server for .NET provides groundbreaking capabilities for creating, reusing and extending COBOL SQL applications:
- Reuse and retain existing OpenESQL application portability through ODBC
- Provide managed ADO.NET data access without source code change

- Rapidly and easily build ADO.NET applications in COBOL, using OpenESQL's EXEC ADO syntax. EXEC ADO statements mimic the standard embedded SQL statement format, enable the construction of a robust, flexible ADO.NET program simple and effective
- Share ADO.NET datasets across languages using the new EXEC ADO syntax. These capabilities substantially enhance data exchange across composite applications

OTHER KEY FEATURES

Comprehensive Data Access Options

- **Deploy 64-bit COBOL Applications with the .NET Framework** Micro Focus Server for .NET supports the deployment under the .NET Framework of COBOL applications, either as 32- or 64-bit applications.
- **COBOL/XML support** seamlessly integrates the power of XML with COBOL applications. With this extended syntax and run-time capability, applications can consume, create or update XML documents from COBOL thereby facilitating Business to Business (B2B) and Business to Commerce (B2C) transactions while providing the ability to share data with other applications and systems that have no existing direct interface with the COBOL system.
- **Data Management** with Rebuild enables quick repair of corrupt index files and easily changing of file formats.

Product Specifications & System Requirements

Windows® XP, Windows Vista, Windows Server 2008, Windows Server™ 2003, or Windows 2000

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