

Introduction to COBOL-IT



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COBOL-IT provides a high-performance COBOL compiler that is highly adaptable to the fast pace of technological change. COBOL-IT's Technicians and Certified Partners, referred to hereafter as your COBOL-IT Technical Team, are highly experienced in Enterprise Application Modernization and have records of success in moving Customers to COBOL-IT.

Large corporate end-users and government agencies currently running their COBOL on a Mainframe or on Open Systems, need to replace their current COBOL compiler when they undertake an Enterprise Application Modernization initiative.

COBOL-IT's Technical Team has experience in Enterprise Application Modernization and building agile Enterprise Solution Stacks driven by Legacy COBOL Applications. COBOL-IT's responsive technical support ensures that the COBOL code migration will proceed quickly and not stress tight schedules. The COBOL-IT technology ensures that interoperability requirements are met. The COBOL compiler provides very high performance and ensures that cost savings are maximized.

COBOL-IT provides ports to Linux, z/Linux, all of the major UNIX platforms and Windows for the COBOL-IT Compiler Suite EE as well as for the COBOL-IT Runtime System. COBOL-IT provides solutions for all of the major database vendors including Oracle, DB2, SQL Server, MySQL and PostgreSQL.

COBOL-IT's Eclipse-based development environment, COBOL-IT Developer Studio, provides the ability to create projects, develop and debug on local Windows-based or remote Linux / UNIX-based machines.



COST SAVINGS

Proprietary COBOL compiler vendors have a number of pricing models with the most common being a runtime license fee supplanted by a fee for support.

The runtime license fee, or "new license fee", is charged when a customer upgrades their COBOL software and also when new software is required for upgrades to hardware, middleware or databases. The number of upgrade events that can trigger the need for costly new proprietary COBOL licenses strains budgets.

COBOL-IT's subscription-based pricing eliminates the charge for a "new license fee" and does not require any new charges for upgrades to hardware, middleware or databases. Costs do not vary from year to year.



The total cost of ownership (TCO) of COBOL-IT over a 5-year period is on average 50-80% less than the TCO of a COBOL Compiler.

To estimate your cost savings with COBOL-IT over a 5-year period, add up the new license fees you expect to pay your current COBOL vendor over that time period. Since COBOL-IT does not charge new license fees, this is a good estimation of your total savings.

An additional advantage of moving to COBOL-IT is that you can request that the version of COBOL-IT software with which you deploy be preserved and that this software only receive modifications that you request. COBOL-IT recognizes that you have made a considerable investment in the testing of your software prior to deployment and allows you to lower your costs and risks in regression testing with this feature.



PERFORMANCE

COBOL-IT's Enterprise-class customers all have very demanding performance requirements, and their success is a testimony to COBOL-IT's high performance.

The COBOL-IT compiler generates intermediate "C" code which must then be compiled with a "C" compiler for the target platform to produce a working executable file. Applying this technique to COBOL delivers significant performance advantages over alternative strategies.

In most cases, executable objects produced from intermediate "C" code are faster than objects produced by a byte-code compiler and run with a virtual machine interpreter. Generating intermediate "C" code can often produce better performance than native-code generation as it can capitalize on the huge efforts in optimization that are invested in "C" compilers on Windows, Linux and UNIX platforms.

There is always value in performance analysis. COBOL-IT provides a powerful profiling tool which records where an application is spending time. This information can provide insight into ways an application can be tuned for even better performance.



PROCESS

COBOL-IT's core technology is the COBOL-IT Compiler Suite which supports standard COBOL syntax. Many applications contain non-standard syntax. When non-standard syntax or a CALL to a proprietary library routine is detected, your COBOL-IT Technical Team will work with you on developing a solution.

In many cases, the best solution is the modification of the COBOL-IT compiler. For these cases, compiler modification can be requested as a service with costs determined on a case-by-case basis. Sometimes, conforming to the COBOL-IT standard is the best solution. Your COBOL-IT Technical Team can make recommendations on how this can be most easily accomplished.

- New compiler or runtime environment variables to match a desired behavior
- Source code modifications to conform to the COBOL standard

Adaptations of COBOL-IT software are performed with detailed specifications at a price agreed upon with the Customer. The price is a reflection of the degree of difficulty of the requested adaptation.

This process is designed to determine where the challenges lie and how to best address them. Project Management and the establishment of points of contact within the two organizations ensure that issues that arise are resolved quickly.

The stages of a Move to COBOL-IT are the Analysis stage, the Proof of Concept stage the Pilot Project and the Migration stage.

The Analysis stage is a data-gathering stage in which application architecture is reviewed and the specifics of the COBOL application, such as compiler flags, directives and environment variables are reviewed and matched to COBOL-IT equivalents. The Customer is familiarized with the core COBOL-IT documentation which can serve as a useful knowledge base moving forward. This process allows for the setting of the environment prior to the commencement of the Proof of Concept stage which involves compiling and running a small set of COBOL programs representative of different parts of the COBOL application.

THEY USE COBOL-IT

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