

Visual COBOL

Visual COBOL is the market leading modernization solution for COBOL applications.

Product Highlights

Advanced COBOL application development tools available within Visual Studio, Visual Studio Code and Eclipse provide developers with a modern development experience, consistent with that of Java and C# developers, facilitating fast, agile development and easy onboarding for new staff.

Patented compiler technology offers flexible deployment options across native platforms including Windows, UNIX and Linux systems as well as managed code environments such as .NET and the Java Virtual Machine (JVM). Existing COBOL applications seamlessly integrate with C# or Java systems enabling faster development and service delivery.

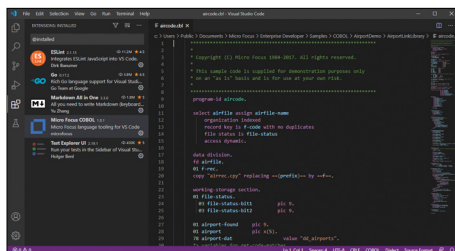


Figure 1. COBOL development using Visual Studio Code

Business Benefit

Visual COBOL provides IT organizations with the ability to create new customer value from existing application investments. By re-using core application logic, Visual COBOL removes the risk associated with re-write or replacement strategies which expose the business to uncertain cost and extended delivery time frames.

* Separately licensable features from Undo.io.

With Visual COBOL, organizations can quickly and safely respond to new business requirements with predictable and highly cost-effective results.

Feature Overview

- High-performance and optimized COBOL runtime environment
- Highly compatible upgrade path for existing Micro Focus Net Express and Server Express users
- The leading COBOL application development toolset available within Eclipse or Visual Studio
- Integrated application analysis and refactoring tools to accelerate modernization tasks and ease maintenance
- Application development and deployment across Windows, UNIX and Linux platforms
- Extensive 3rd party support including application servers, databases and middleware components
- Direct generation to Java bytecode and Microsoft Intermediate Language (MSIL) for deployment to the Java Virtual Machine (JVM) or .NET platforms
- A modern COBOL language syntax supporting new language constructs for object-oriented development and traditional procedural styles
- A toolkit for web services and API development using SOA, REST and JSON technologies based on existing COBOL applications
- Improve application availability and scalability using the optional Database File Handler component which automatically routes COBOL file IO into a relational database

- Resolve software defects faster and slash MTTR using optional patented debugging tools from *Undo**. Integration points within Eclipse enable developers to record software failures “in the act” and replay in the debugger

Detailed Feature Overview

Patented Compiler Technology

The Visual COBOL compiler includes patented technology that offers unique and highly versatile options for COBOL application development. COBOL programs can be compiled to a variety of executable formats including:

- **Intermediate code (.int)** a Micro Focus platform portable executable format

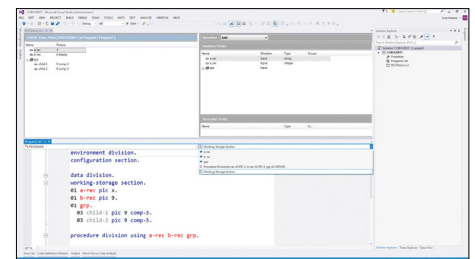


Figure 2. Creating a RESTful web service using the Micro Focus Interface Mapping Toolkit (IMTK)

- **Generated code (.gnt)** a Micro Focus executable format optimized for the target platform
- **Shared Object (.so)** native shared object executable format for UNIX/Linux platforms
- **Windows Executable (.exe/dll)** native Windows executable formats

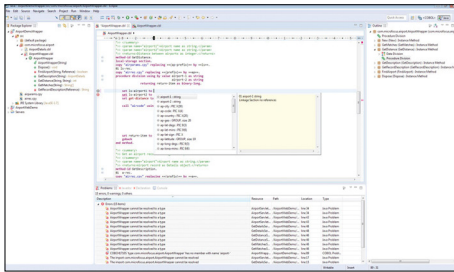


Figure 3. COBOL development using Eclipse

- **Java bytecode (.class)** COBOL compiled to Java bytecode and executable with the JVM
- **.NET Assembly (.exe/.dll)** COBOL compiled to MSIL and executable within the Microsoft Common Language Runtime (CLR).

The Visual COBOL compiler offers support for a wide variety of modern and older COBOL dialect variants and includes ANSI and ISO standards, Enterprise COBOL and many others.

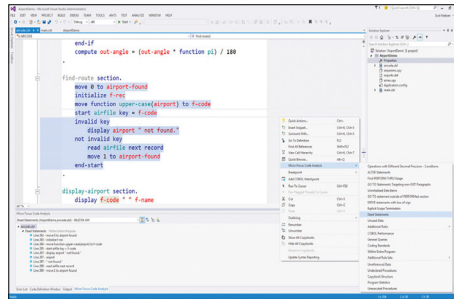


Figure 4. Rules-based analysis available within Visual Studio and Eclipse can be used to identify dead code and adherence to coding standards

High-Performance COBOL Runtime Environment

Micro Focus COBOL Server provides a high-performance, platform-portable runtime environment for the execution of COBOL applications.

Consistent application behavior is provided across supported platforms and through use of

a portable API layer, enabling developers to follow a write-once, deploy-anywhere approach.

Cross-Platform Deployment

The Micro Focus COBOL compiler and COBOL runtime system provides ubiquitous platform coverage enabling COBOL applications to be deployed across a range of distributed systems, ensuring compatibility and consistent behavior across different platforms. Standard library routines callable from COBOL applications enable application developers scope to write-once, deploy-anywhere yet still access operating system level functionality.

ISVs can target multiple platforms with the same COBOL codebase, increasing market coverage and reducing application testing overheads. Application owners can swiftly change operating platforms to take advantage of commodity hardware and more agile, flexible deployment options.

System Requirements

Micro Focus supports and routinely tests a wide range of operating platforms and 3rd party software. For versions specific details, please consult the Supported Operating Systems and Third-party Software section in online product documentation available at this location:

www.microfocus.com/documentation/visual-cobol/

Visual COBOL supports the following platforms and 3rd party technology:

Products

Application Development

- Visual COBOL for Visual Studio
- Visual COBOL for Eclipse
- Visual COBOL Development Hub

Application Deployment

- COBOL Server

Development Environments

- Visual Studio
- Eclipse
- Visual Studio Code

Platforms

- Windows and Windows Server
- IBM AIX
- HP-UX
- Solaris SPARC and Intel
- SUSE on Intel and zSystems
- Red Hat on Intel and zSystems
- Oracle Red Hat Compatible and Unbreakable Kernel
- Centos
- Ubuntu

Java

- Oracle Java
- Adopt OpenJDK

Application Servers

- Tomcat
- JBOSS
- Websphere and Websphere Liberty
- WebLogic

Relational Databases

- Oracle
- SQL Server
- DB2
- PostgreSQL
- MySQL

Middleware

- TXSeries
- Tuxedo

.NET

- .NET Framework
- .NET Core

Docker

- Community and Enterprise Editions
- Windows Server and supported Linux distros

Podman/OCI

- RHEL

Available for use on premises or on all major cloud providers including AWS, Azure and GCP.

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The latest release of Visual COBOL includes support for the Docker container platform, further increasing flexibility for application development and deployment. New product packaging options enable Docker deployment to both Windows Server and Linux platforms.

Database File Handler

For COBOL applications using traditional file handler data storage, Visual COBOL offers a new mechanism to automatically route file records into a relational database providing improved reporting facilities using off the shelf database tools and improvements to application scalability and availability.