AcuToWeb: Modernize and Mobilize Your ACUCOBOL Applications

It’s time to modernize your ACUCOBOL applications using the latest version of extend and a new offering from Micro Focus—AcuToWeb®. This new UI transformation solution delivers the perfect answer to the web and mobile deployment needs for ACUCOBOL applications.

**AcuToWeb at a Glance:**

- Instantly improve the user experience for ACUCOBOL applications
- Deploy extend applications across leading web and mobile platforms
- Manage a single application codebase across UNIX, Linux, Windows, web, mobile and cloud platforms
- Modernize ACUCOBOL-GT or character-based applications without code change, utilizing standard controls
- Transform the application experience using custom templates
- Deliver secure web application access without reliance on client-side software or browser plug-ins
- Provide a virtual keyboard for mobile devices

AcuToWeb provides fast and simple application deployment to any desktop, web, mobile or smartphone device. Use AcuToWeb to reach new customers, develop new markets and outpace the completion by instantly transforming your existing ACUCOBOL applications into modern HTML5 web pages ready for digital business.

**Business Challenge**

The age of the digital consumer has arrived and with it brings new expectations for immediate application and data access using a wide range of web and mobile devices. But for many organizations where trusted COBOL systems reside, it’s not easy or straightforward to simply move to modern platforms. New competitive pressures and the urgency to develop new markets and reach new customers is also fuelling new approaches to improve the application experience. So how does an organization achieve these goals without added cost, business risk or code change? Success for any ISV or established enterprise requires that they embrace this new web and mobile frontier and utilize fast, innovative techniques to modernize business systems and ensure their digital strategy becomes a reality.

**The Solution**

AcuToWeb enables you to deliver on your digital strategy by instantly transforming your existing ACUCOBOL-GT® or character-based applications to HTML5 web pages. This modernization solution delivers an immediate improvement to the “look and feel” of your applications and enables access to desktop, web, tablet and smartphone devices. AcuToWeb provides an instant update to the user experience without code change to existing ACUCOBOL applications.

“IT delivery is changing and we had to adapt to keep our solution cutting edge. Micro Focus® AcuToWeb helped us deliver a cloud-ready web and mobile solution. We have transformed the user experience and our service delivery model while reusing our application source code, which is exactly what we wanted to do.”

Dev O’Reilly
President
Textile Management Systems
applications and delivers a cost-effective and low-risk path to UI modernization.

With the latest version of extend and AcuToWeb, ACUCOBOL users enjoy choice and flexibility to deploy their applications across a wide range of web and mobile platforms. Unlike other UI modernization solutions where developers must separate the application logic from the user interface, and as a result introduce massive code change requirements, the benefits of instant UI transformation using AcuToWeb can be achieved immediately and without risk.

The AcuToWeb solution also improves security through its unique web deployment architecture. Any end user with an HTML5 compliant web browser can securely access their ACUCOBOL application using a desktop, web or mobile device and an encrypted SSL connection. For the majority of ACUCOBOL-GT applications, where the standard set of UI controls are used, web and mobile access is achieved without reliance on client-side browser plugins or ActiveX controls.

The following are key benefits of the AcuToWeb solution:

- A better user experience. Instantly transform your ACUCOBOL-GT and character-based applications for web or mobile access. Take your ACU apps into the future with browser-based access and deliver an instant UI update—without code change.

- Mobilize your ACUCOBOL applications. Reach new customers with support across leading browser and mobile platforms. Deliver a consistent application experience across desktop, web, tablet and smartphone devices.

- Go global. Develop new markets and reach new customers faster with Unicode internationalization support.

- Easy administration. Leverage what already works—your ACUCOBOL applications—alongside familiar tools to transform your existing ACU character or graphical screens to HTML-5. No browser plugins or ActiveX controls required. Support secure application deployment across leading browser platforms, including Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome and Safari.

- Deployment choice. Enjoy the choice and flexibility to deploy your existing ACUCOBOL applications to any operating platform, including Windows, Linux, UNIX, Mac, web, mobile or Cloud environment.

Key Features

AcuToWeb Gateway
The AcuToWeb Gateway is the server technology responsible for routing all traffic between AcuConnect® and the connected web browser. This gateway also provides instant screen transformation to HTML5. The AcuToWeb gateway includes a basic web server environment to manage all resources required to render the ACUCOBOL-GT application and make it available to the client. This capability runs as a service on Windows servers and as a daemon on UNIX systems, taking the output of the runtime and transforming it into HTML5. AcuToWeb utilizes web socket technology to route requests using AcuConnect, which then invokes the COBOL application.

Customizable Web Pages
AcuToWeb uses Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) that can be modified to provide a customized experience for individual clients. AcuToWeb establishes a connection using AcuConnect to a runtime executing the COBOL program and drives the information to the AcuToWeb gateway engine; then the display is transformed by CSS and presented via the web browser.

You can customize the CSS so that it changes certain control attributes, such as the push-button control on your screen. Using CSS, you can describe the style of an HTML document and how the HTML elements should be displayed to the user.

Using the latest version of AcuToWeb, you can customize individual graphical controls on a screen.

Secure Access
AcuToWeb provides an encrypted link between the web server environment and the client web browser using SSL (Secure Sockets Layer). It allows you to keep sensitive information sent across the Internet encrypted between client and server.

“We took our software, developed over the last 30 years, and from the exact same code base created this contemporary AcuToWeb solution in less than three months. It has helped us streamline our development processes, deliver a modernized user interface that our customers love, and has given us the flexibility to respond faster to business and design requirements.”

ANNETTE VILJOEN
Director Product Engineering
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