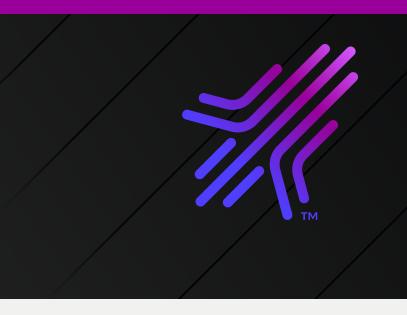**Rocket** software

Rocket® WOW Extensions

(formerly a Micro Focus® product)

Make the move into component technology. Rocket® WOW Extensions' default toolbox contains all the standard Windows controls, plus a special control for bitmaps. You can also expand the toolbox by adding ActiveX controls.

These ActiveX controls can then be added to your windows and used by your programs in the same way as the standard Windows controls. This capability provides an outstanding opportunity to add special features to youruser interface.

Business Challenge

COBOL applications lead the industry with their application features and functionality, but have lacked a full-featured Windows interface. Not because the COBOL language is inadequate for Windows development, but because the right tool did not exist to allow COBOL programs to fully exploit the power of the Windows operating system.

Now that Rocket WOW Extensions is here and the world's most popular programming language is integrated with world's most popular operating system! Rocket WOW Extensions provide seamless integration between Rocket® RM/COBOL* and Windows, and full access to Windows capabilities. Now there is no need to look beyond Rocket RM/COBOL to build outstanding Windows applications. This capability provides an outstanding opportunity to add special features to your user interface.

COBOL Coding Has Never Been Easier

This visual approach makes building interactive applications a breeze by easily integrating your program logic with Windows events. Want to execute some COBOL logic when a push button is pressed? Simply select the control, select the event, and enter the COBOL code in the code window.

Product Overview

Make the move into component technology Rocket WOW Extensions' default toolbox contains all the standard Windows controls, plus a special control for bitmaps. You can also expand the toolbox by adding ActiveX controls. These ActiveX controls can then be added to your windows and used by your programs in the same way as the standard Windows controls. This capability provides an outstanding opportunity to add special features to your user interface. This visual approach makes building interactive applications a breeze by easily integrating your program logic with Windows events. Want to execute some COBOL logic when a push button is pressed? Simply select the control, select the event, and enter the COBOL code in the code window. Harness the power of the windows API.

System Requirements

Clients

Windows 10, Windows 11

Servers

UNIX, Linux, Winodws Server 2019, Windows Server 2022

Key Benefits

Deliver contemporary graphical or web user interface which increases overall usability of an application.

Designed specifically for Windows for maximum performance and ease-of-use.

Fully compatible with client/server products such as Rocket® RM/ InfoExpress* and COBOL-RPC.

Implements a true Windows event-driven programming model.

Applications retain their COBOL business logic and data access.

Key Features

The Windows API provides an incredible amount of flexibility to control your user interface, and WOW Extensions makes it easy to use. Simply select a function or message in the code window and a fully commented template is automatically inserted into your code. All you have to do is substitute your field names.

Rocket WOW Extensions Components
The WOW Extensions development environment consists of three major components: a design facility, a runtime system, and the Thin Client program.

WOW designer

The WOW Designer, cblwow, is a standard Windows, multiple document interface (MDI) application that provides COBOL developers with the capability to define the visual interface elements of the application. The multiple document interface feature allows an application to manage multiple files within the single, parent (or application) window. In WOW Extensions, this means you can open and edit multiple forms at one time in the WOW Designer window. You can also copy information back and forth between forms, move and resize the forms, and so forth.

WOW runtime system

The WOW runtime system, wowrt, is a Windows dynamic-link library (DLL) that manages Windows messages, provides runtime support for the forms and controls, and provides a COBOL interface to the Windows Application Programming Interface (API). When the WOW runtime system is invoked by the WOW Thin Client program (wowclient), it causes all Windows-based WOW functions to be executed on the client workstation.

WOW Thin Client

The WOW Thin Client executable program, wowclient, which is installed on the Windows client workstation, begins the WOW Thin Client session by connecting to the server.

Support for activex controls

ActiveX controls, which exist as separate files with an .ocx filename extension. These include controls that are available with 32-bit versions of the Windows operating system, such as the animation, toolbar, or progress bar controls, as well those available from third-party vendors.

Support for intrinsic controls

Intrinsic controls, also known as standard controls, such as the command button or a check box. The intrinsic controls are the easiest controls to implement, because they are part of the Windows operating system. You do not need to install or distribute any special files to support them. They will work under any version of Windows.

Program debugging

The Interactive Debugger works better with WOW programs than it does with DOS, UNIX, or non-WOW Windows programs. Because the debugger has exclusive access to the RM/COBOL main window, it does not have to share it with the program that is executing. This prevents the debugger from being limited to operating in a single line or from shifting the contents of the display out of view.

WOW Thin Client

WOW Thin Client provides benefit in a variety of ways, including:

Simplified management

Simplified computing means lower ownership costs and increased resource efficiency of each end-user.

Access to legacy systems

Extends the life of a COBOL application. Customers can retain the access to existing legacy systems, databases, and applications, while benefiting from popular, Windows-based applications.

Lower cost of ownership

Thin clients do not require many of the features of a PC because network servers do most of the work running programs and storing data.

A flexible, source code editing capability

The code editor supports markers, line numbers, vertical alignment lines, syntax coloring, brace matching, and regular expression capabilities for find and replace operations.

Additional Product Information

Complete documentation:

The Rocket WOW Extensions User's Guide is an extensive documentation written just for COBOL developers and makes sense of Windows architecture and features.

Other Key Features

Rocket RM/COBOL's runtime system is the core component of a suite of products. Other solutions include:

WOW Extensions

Windows Object Workshop: Rocket WOW Extensions gives you an easy-to-use, integrated development environment that supports screen design, coding, compiling, and testing in a modern visual environment.

Relativity

ODBC Access to Rocket RM/COBOL Data: Rocket Relativity allows core data from sophisticated Rocket or RM/COBOL applications to be re-tooled as a full-featured relational database. The data can then be joined with other disparate data and accessed by Windows-based tools seamlessly and transparently.

InstantSQL

Database Access with Rocket RM/COBOL: InstantSQL provides a simplified way of using popular relational databases directly from within your RM/COBOL application.

Rocket® XCENTRISTY*

Web Server Environment for your Rocket RM/COBOL Applications: BIS offers application developers an opportunity to build Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) applications incorporating legacy business data and logic freely mixed with the latest web languages and tools.

*Formerly Micro Focus® products.

Rocket software

Modernization. Without Disruption.™

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