



Micro Focus Visual COBOL Data Tools Release Notes



Micro Focus
The Lawn
22-30 Old Bath Road
Newbury, Berkshire RG14 1QN
UK
<http://www.microfocus.com>

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Micro Focus Visual COBOL Data Tools Release Notes

These release notes contain information that might not appear in the Help. Read them in their entirety before you install the product.



Note: This document contains a number of links to external Web sites. Micro Focus cannot be responsible for the contents of the Web site or for the contents of any site to which it might link. Web sites by their nature can change very rapidly and although we try to keep our links up-to-date, we cannot guarantee that they will always work as expected.

System Requirements

Hardware Requirements

Visual COBOL Data Tools has the same requirements as the Visual COBOL product that you have installed:

- Visual COBOL 2010 for Visual Studio, or
- Visual COBOL 2010 for Eclipse for Windows



Note: Find information about the system requirements for Visual COBOL in the Visual COBOL documentation or in the respective installation readme.

In addition, you need:

- 10.5 Mb for Visual COBOL Data Tools - this disk size includes the space needed to cache information locally so that you can modify the installation without the original source media.

Software Requirements

Visual COBOL Data Tools is an AddPack to Visual COBOL R3 or R4 and requires either one of the following products:

- Micro Focus Visual COBOL 2010 for Visual Studio, or
- Micro Focus Visual COBOL 2010 for Eclipse for Windows

To be able to view context help on Microsoft Vista and Windows 7, you need to install the following patch from Microsoft:

- Windows Help program (WinHlp32.exe) for Windows 7. [Click here](#) for more.

Operating Systems Supported

Visual COBOL Data Tools runs on the same operating systems as the Windows version of the Visual COBOL product that you have installed.

Installation Notes

Installing

To install Visual COBOL Data Tools:

1. Ensure you are logged in with a user-ID that has write access to the registry structure under HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE, HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT, and HKEY_CURRENT_USER so the installation software can set the environment appropriately. You also need to be logged on with Administrator privileges.
2. Download the setup file from Micro Focus Web site to your machine.
3. Run the `VisualCOBOLR3DTx86.msi` file and follow the wizard instructions to complete the installation.

Installing Silently

You can install Micro Focus products silently by using command line parameters to specify the installation directory, user information, and which features to install.

To install silently use the following command:

```
start /wait install-file /q [parameters]
```

where *install-file* for this product is: `VisualCOBOLR3DTx86.msi`

Directory Considerations

- You must have read and write access for every directory accessed during the install.
- You can override the default installation folder using the `INSTALLDIR` parameter:
- If a path in a definition contains spaces, then the path must be preceded by a backslash and double quotation mark (`\`). For example:

```
INSTALLDIR=path  
INSTALLDIR="c:\MyProduct\  
INSTALLDIR="c:\Program Files\Micro Focus\My Product\  
"
```

- Installing creates a log file in `%temp%\LogFilename` by default. To change the location or name, use the `/l` parameter on your Setup command line and specify the path and file name, for example:

```
/l*v drive:\path\LogFilename
```

- The log filename and folder name cannot contain spaces
- The log file folder must exist before beginning the silent install

Installing with the Micro Focus Web Installer

The Micro Focus Web Installer utility makes installing your product easy. It checks your machine for what software is already installed and then guides you through installing any missing prerequisites and the product components.

Note: The Web Installer downloads the product from the internet so an active internet connection is required.

To install this product using the Web Installer:

1. Ensure your machine is connected to the Internet.

2. In your product delivery notice, click on the download link that includes **Web Installer**.
3. Click **Run** to start the installer.

The Installer dialog box lists the prerequisites and the product components, specifying whether each one is installed or missing.

4. Click **Start** and follow the instructions.

Microsoft Terminal Server

You can use this program with Microsoft Terminal Server but note that a separate end-user license is required for each user who accesses it, even if the product is running on a single machine. See your *End User License Agreement*.

Microsoft Terminal Server is an environment for running multiple instances of a single user product. It is not a platform where a single-user product can be made to perform as a multi-user product.

- To install onto a terminal server, log on to the physical terminal server with a user ID that has administrator privileges. Then use **Control Panel > Add/Remove Programs** and follow the instructions on the screen.
- When you install the product on Microsoft Terminal Server or similar terminal software, do not execute more than one installation at the same time.
- When you install Microsoft Terminal server, you must assign a unique port address to each user. Then the very first time that each user logs into Visual COBOL and starts the terminal server, he or she should:
 1. Select **Options > Project > Port address for Web Server**.
 2. Type in the assigned port address.

This is necessary because the default port address for the Web server is 80. Once this has been allocated to the first user, when the next user attempts to start the Web server, the software recognizes that this port is in use and rejects the attempt. Consequently each user requires an individual port address.

Installing from a Server

There are two methods for installing this product on users' machines using a server. You can:

- Install onto the server. Then users run Setup to install from the server onto their own machines.
- Copy the product onto the server and then use Setup under control of a third-party software distribution package, such as Microsoft's Systems Management Server (SMS), to install the product onto multiple users' machines.

This method of installation and the associated file are not supported by Micro Focus. They are provided on an "as is" basis and have not been tested in any form. You can use them at your own discretion.

Both methods give you control of what options the user can install and mean you do not have to send the installation media to every user, as they install from the server instead.

Repairing

On Windows, if any product files, registry settings or shortcuts are accidentally removed at any point, you can perform a Repair on the installation to replace them.

To repair your installation on Windows XP:

1. Click **Start Menu > Control Panel > Add/Remove Programs**.
2. Click your Micro Focus product in the list of installed programs.

3. Click **Click here for support information**.
4. Click **Repair**.

To repair your installation on Windows Vista or Windows 7:

1. Click **Start Menu > Control Panel**.
2. Click **Uninstall a program** under **Programs**.
3. Right-click your Micro Focus product and select **Repair**.

Uninstalling

Uninstalling a Micro Focus product that uses Sentinel RMS does not revoke any licenses that you have activated for that product. We recommend that before you uninstall the product, you revoke the licenses that you have activated for it.

To uninstall the product:

1. Log in with the same user-ID as you used when you installed the product.
2. Click **Control Panel > Add/Remove Programs**, on most Windows systems.
3. Ensure that **Show Updates** (at the top of the Add or Remove Programs dialog) is checked, so that any hot fixes or WrapPacks are listed.
4. Select the product.
5. Click **Remove**.

When you uninstall, the only files deleted are those that the installation software installed. If the product directory has not been removed, delete any unwanted files and subdirectories within it using Windows Explorer.

Known Issues and Restrictions

The notes below describe some known issues and restrictions in Visual COBOL Data Tools:

- Context Help** You might not be able to access context help in the IDE on some versions of Windows such as Vista or Windows 7. This is because these versions of Windows do not ship with the Windows Help Program (WinHlp32.exe) which is used to open context help files, .HLP. You need to install the Windows Help Program separately - [click here](#) for more information.
- Data File Editor** The Data File Editor function Associate Record Layouts is not available in this release.
- IMS Support** The IMS Database Editor and the creation of segment layouts using the Layout Editor require IMS support that is not available in this release of Visual COBOL.
- National Data Items** National data items are not supported in record or segment layouts.

Updates and Product Support

When you have installed, you need to apply the latest updates if there are any. These are located on the Micro Focus Web site.

Before you can access the Product Updates page, you need to register (first-time users only) and log in with Product Support. To register:

1. Click **Register** on the Product Support page.
2. Enter your details. You will need your product serial numbers, which you can find in the subject line and body of your Electronic Product Delivery Notice email that you received from Micro Focus.

To log in:

1. Enter your User Name and Password on the Product Support page.

We recommend you check **Auto Login** so you don't have to do this every time.

2. Click **Login**.

The Product Updates page is now displayed, where you can find the latest update for your product and version number.

Product Support is a web-based support and information service from Micro Focus. It provides all the latest information and software updates for this COBOL development system:

- Technical support information
- Latest product information
- Documentation updates
- New and updated demonstrations and templates
- Hints and tips
- Lots more - try it and see!

Further Information and Product Support

Additional technical information or advice is available from several sources.

The product support pages contain a considerable amount of additional information, such as:

- The WebSync service, where you can download fixes and documentation updates.
- The Knowledge Base, a large collection of product tips and workarounds.
- Examples and Utilities, including demos and additional product documentation.

To connect, enter <http://www.microfocus.com> in your browser to go to the Micro Focus home page.



Note: Some information may be available only to customers who have maintenance agreements.

If you obtained this product directly from Micro Focus, contact us as described on the Micro Focus Web site, www.microfocus.com. If you obtained the product from another source, such as an authorized distributor, contact them for help first. If they are unable to help, contact us.

Information We Need

However you contact us, please try to include the information below, if you have it. The more information you can give, the better SupportLine can help you. But if you don't know all the answers, or you think some are irrelevant to your problem, please give whatever information you have.

- The name and version number of all products that you think might be causing a problem.
- Your computer make and model.
- Your operating system version number and details of any networking software you are using.
- The amount of memory in your computer.
- The relevant page reference or section in the documentation.
- Your Software Support Identification Number (SHIN) if you have one (not used in all countries).
- Your serial number. To find out these numbers, look in the subject line and body of your Electronic Product Delivery Notice email that you received from Micro Focus.

On Windows, if you are reporting a protection violation you might be asked to provide a dump (.dmp) file. To produce a dump file you use the **Unexpected Error** dialog box that is displayed when a protection violation occurs. Unless requested by SupportLine, leave the dump setting as `Normal` (recommended), click **Dump**, then specify a location and name for the dump file. Once the dump file has been written you can email it to SupportLine.

Alternatively, you might be asked to provide a log file created by the Consolidated Tracing Facility (CTF) - a tracing infrastructure that enables you to quickly and easily produce diagnostic information detailing the operation of a number of Micro Focus software components.

Licensing Information

Visual COBOL Data Tools is freely available for download without registration. It requires that either Visual COBOL 2010 for Visual Studio or Visual COBOL 2010 for Eclipse is installed and licensed.

For instructions on how to license Visual COBOL, please read *Development Licensing* within the Visual COBOL documentation or the Visual COBOL Release Notes or Readme.

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