

# Project Meld Update Graphical Technology

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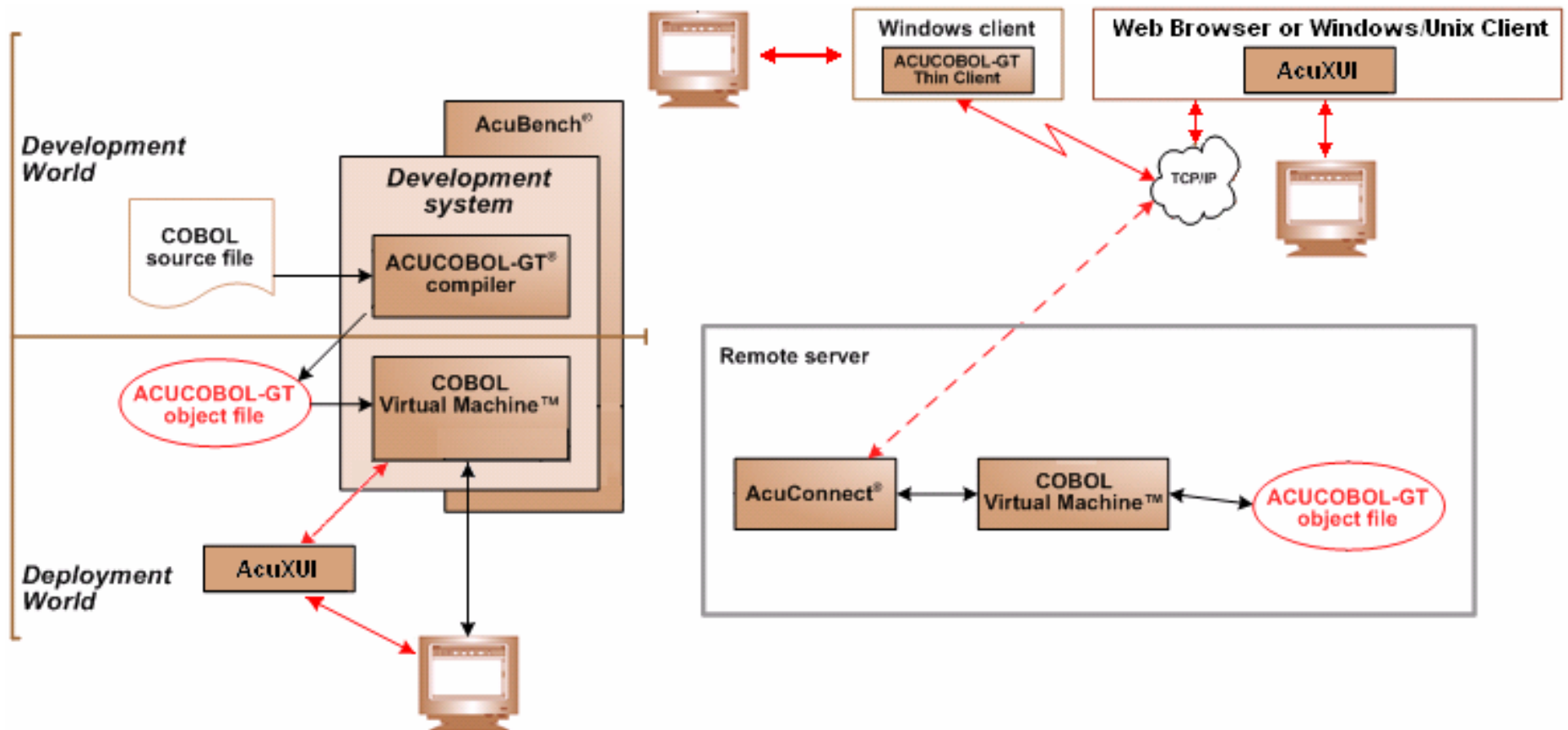
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title "Controls sample - tour.cb1" lines 27, size 66, background-low. * Display the sci
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cline + 1, column 8, size 50, lines 5, max-lines = 20, vscroll-bar,
"03" entry-field, using entry-data
frame, lowered, line + 1.5, column 37, lines 3, csize 28, size 26. "03" radio-button, "Radio &1", using radio-button-data, line + 1, column 30, group-value =
"03" check-box "ACheck box", using check-box-data
"03" frame, rimmed, font "small-font" line 4,
15, bitmap-timer = 10, line 1.5, column 57. "03" frame, rimmed, font "small-font" line 4,
```

# Agenda

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- The main graphical technology modules
- ACUCOBOL-GT<sup>®</sup> graphical technology
- Breaking down the tasks
- Tough issues
- Summary
- Next update. . .portability

# The main graphical technology modules



# ACUCOBOL-GT graphical technology



- Provides graphical extensions to the WORKING-STORAGE and SCREEN SECTION, and to the PROCEDURE DIVISION
- Provides graphical extensions added before the control-based graphical technology, such as the POP-UP WINDOW and BEFORE- and AFTER-PROCEDURES.
- Allows users to design graphical screens with controls and additional embedded procedures (EXCEPTION, TERMINATION, and EVENT PROCEDURES).
- Supports ActiveX controls, .NET controls, and COM objects
- Provides support for graphical printing through calls to WIN\$PRINTER

# ACUCOBOL-GT graphical technology




- Prior to Version 8, uses Microsoft Windows as the underlying display engine. Starting in Version 8, the Java Runtime Environment (JRE) can also be used as a display engine, with AcuXUI™.
- Can be exploited either on stand-alone desktops or in client/server environments by adding the AcuConnect® Thin Client technology.
- Has a WYSIWYG development environment known as AcuBench®.

Project Meld intends to fully support the ACUCOBOL-GT graphical technology.

# Breaking down the tasks


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- Enhancing the Micro Focus compiler to support ACUCOBOL-GT syntax
  - Adding support for ACUCOBOL-GT data types
  - Making use of existing code in the ACUCOBOL-GT Runtime
  - Adding support for the Thin Client and AcuXUI
  - Maximizing ease of use for Acucorp users
  - Adding AcuBench to the Project Meld product configuration
  - There are some tough issues.... we expect some surprises & compromises will almost certainly be necessary
  - Keep in touch !
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# Breaking down the tasks

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## Compiler support for ACUCOBOL-GT syntax

- Support for all of the Acucorp extensions to the COBOL language have been added to the “Checker” component of the Micro Focus compiler, and implementation work has begun.
  - Graphical extensions include new data types, such as handles. This work will largely be coordinated by the data access team.
  - Given the detailed specifications and senior engineers associated with this project, we expect the difficulties to be very isolated, and have a high degree of confidence in this part of the project.
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# Breaking down the tasks

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## Using existing code in the ACUCOBOL-GT Runtime

- To minimize the chance of things “breaking,” we will reuse existing ACUCOBOL-GT Runtime code wherever possible.
  - The task devolves into the creation of an API. Decisions need to be made about what the core functions will be, when they will be called, and what information must be passed through the API to the existing runtime code.
  - This task is similar in many ways to the task that was undertaken when the Thin Client technology was first developed, and the same engineers will take the lead.
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# Breaking down the tasks

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## Adding support for the Thin Client and AcuXUI

- As we are developing access to the core graphical technology, we will take care to preserve the Thin Client and AcuXUI functionalities.
  - AcuConnect will continue to be supported “as is.”
  - AcuThin.exe will continue to be supported “as is.”
  - AcuXUI.jar will continue to be supported “as is.”
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# Breaking down the tasks

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## Providing ease of use for Acucorp customers

- Devices are being designed to allow ACUCOBOL-GT users to continue to use their same command lines in the Meld Runtime environment.
  - Runcbl, wrun32, and runtime command line arguments should be recognized by the Micro Focus Meld runtime.
  - Meld will fully support the ACUCOBOL-GT configuration file variables.
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# Breaking down the tasks

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## Adding AcuBench to the meld product configuration

- AcuBench will be modified to make use of the Meld Compiler and Runtime instead of the ACUCOBOL-GT Compiler and Runtime.
  - Efforts are currently underway to determine where differences in behavior may be unavoidable and where full support for existing compiler and runtime API functions can be provided.
  - Preserving the same code generation capabilities to provide full backward compatibility is the highest priority.
  - Preserving important productivity functions is a very high priority.
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# Tough issues

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- Micro Focus has “true threading” support, while Acucorp developed a highly proprietary threading technology. Can we support both? Can we re-implement our modeless windows using the Micro Focus threading technology?  
The decision hasn’t been made, but...
- Architects of both the Micro Focus and ACUCOBOL-GT threading technology are working together to create the best possible solution for both Micro Focus and Acucorp users.

**We are confident that users will be well-served.  
We are confident of success.**



# Summary

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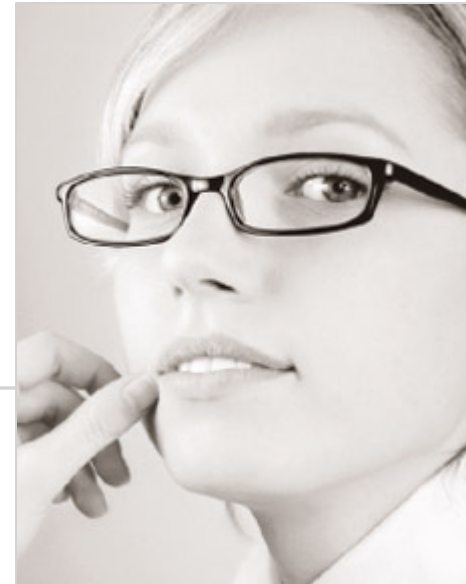
- Project Meld aims to provide full support for ACUCOBOL-GT's graphical technology.
  - We hope to maximize support of ACUCOBOL-GT graphical technology and maximize ease of use by supporting runtime command lines and configuration file entries.
  - ACUCOBOL-GT users can continue to use AcuBench assembled team includes the the most experienced members of the Acucorp and Micro Focus development teams
  - We will certainly encounter some surprises, and some compromise decisions are likely. Your input will always be welcome, and valued
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# Next update... portability

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- Look for an update on comparisons between the portability of ACUCOBOL-GT object code and the Micro Focus object code
- Please address any suggestions, comments, or questions to Bob Cavanagh at [Robert.Cavanagh@microfocus.com](mailto:Robert.Cavanagh@microfocus.com)

# Thank you!



```
03 label "ACUCORP" -line 1 8, column 21, size 25 font large-font center, 03 bitmap graphical bitmap-1
* Load the bitmap (this just falls on a character system) call "wbbitmap" using wbitmap-load, "gtadima.bmp", giving gt-bitmap * Setup a gray screen backgro
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03 radio-button, "Radio &2", using radio-button-data, line + 1, column 30, group-value =
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