

fccFrameWork – the COBOL Modernization Framework

Datasheet

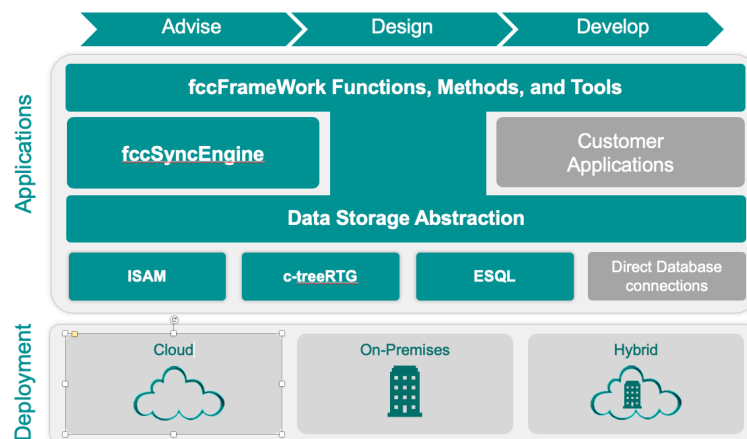
COBOL is not about to Die

KEY BENEFITS

- Protect investments by modernizing COBOL applications rather than re-inventing the wheel
- Focus on business relevant application parts

As stated in many studies, most commercial transactions are still based on COBOL – and there is no indication that this will dramatically change. This COBOL application portfolio reflects a company’s process landscape and substantial investments in human and financial resources during the application lifecycle.

fccFrameWork is designed to protect these investments by supporting COBOL application modernizing rather than running complex, risky, and long-lasting redevelopment projects. Modernization in this context is related to a bunch of ready-to-use application modules supporting different storage models (Cobol file system, c-treeRTG, SQL Databases), Online Help, multi-language, state-of-the-art authentication models, audit trail, job control, and many more.



And as fccFrameWork is created and maintained with COBOL development environments generating Java bytecode, all functions & features are natively callable from customer COBOL applications but are also provided as methods for usage outside COBOL environments.

Modernization Approaches

KEY BENEFITS

- Plan your modernization project in manageable steps rather than a big-bang approach
- Use all or selected functions & features

In a nutshell, application modernization using fccFrameWork means: keep the business logic of the existing applications unchanged and enhance it with a graphical user interface and some or all of the functions & feature provided by fccFrameWork. Many modernization projects are at risk due to the complexity when changing too many things in a single step. With fccFrameWork COBOL applications can be modernized in a step-by-step approach. A typical modernization project would look like:

- Migrate the existing code to fccFrameWork
- Add the required fccFrameWork functions.

fccFrameWork Architecture

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- Multi-Tenancy Data Separation

The fccFrameWork basic organizational structure element and deployment model is a site. A site consists of Companies (tenants), the place where customer COBOL applications are implemented. fccFrameWork is designed to support multi-tenancy on a site level.

The following rules apply for multi-tenancy:

- Company data is always separated; all entities (files, database tables) of a Company are physically separated from other Companies' entities
- Entities can be defined as inherited between Companies within a site, i.e. one Company (slave) runs a managed copy of an Entity of another company (master). Managed copy means, that master and slave can be synchronized (unidirectional synchronization).

Customers are free on how to configure fccFrameWork sites. To separate development, staging, and production, customers can either run a single-site by using different companies or multi-site environments:

- single tenant (one company per site), e.g. production site
- multi-tenancy (multiple companies per site), e.g. development, test, integration, and production in one site
- a mixture of the above, e.g. one single tenant site for production, a second multi-tenant site for development, test, and integration.

Configurable Functions & Features

KEY FEATURES

- Audit Trail
- Authentication
- Communication
- Customer branding
- Data Storage Model
- Job Control
- Menu System
- Multi-Language
- Multi-Tenancy
- Online Help
- Usage Metering

Functions & Features	
Audit Trail	chronological records providing documentary evidence of the sequence of activities that have affected at any time a specific operation, procedure, or event
Authentication	Configurable password rules, random passwords, two-factor authentication, password encryption
Communication	Built-in IMAP E-Mail and SMS functions
Customer Branding	Application branding (company logo, application icons, etc.)
Data Storage model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COBOL file system (seq, rel, idx) • c-treeRTG COBOL Edition • all DBs supporting ESQL (Oracle, DB2, SQL-Server, PostGreSQL, MySQL, MariaDB, and many more) • a mixture of the above on the same instance
Job Control	Built-in job control system (recurring jobs, one-time jobs triggered manually or via E-Mail)
Menu System	Flexible menu structure configurable on a per user / role level
Multi-Language	Built-in language support for all client facing application parts (e.g. GUI, reports) Manual translation or translation engine (per default fccFrameWork is deployed in English and German)
Multi-Tenancy	Run one (dedicated) or multiple (shared) tenants per instance
Online Help	Creating manuals from the Online-Help content, conversion of existing manuals into Online-Help
Usage Metering	Metering of cost relevant elements like license usage (e.g. named / concurrent users, SMS, and others more for cost planning and control.

Technical Specifications

Environment	
Development platforms	Veryant isCOBOL (2018R2 and above) Java for REST APIs
Deployment model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand-alone in-house or hosted • Shared or dedicated • Single or multi-site • A mixture of the above (hybrid)
OS support	all OS supporting Java Virtual Machine (JRE)
Data Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data separation on a per company level • Configurable managed data inheritance on a per entity level (e.g. file, table) between companies • Two-factor authentication.

KEY SAVINGS

- Faster and less complex modernization projects
- Focus on business relevant application parts
- Flexible pricing models

Pricing / Licensing Model

fccFrameWork is available in different environments and bundles:

- on-premise or as a Cloud service
- as an entire package or on a per module basis (e.g. online help or translation engine only)
- productive and test licenses

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- www.fccframework.ch
- white paper: COBOL Application Modernization using fccFrameWork (planned March 2019)
- contact: info@fccframework.com

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