The COBOL-IT® Developer Studio
What is Eclipse, and what benefits does this architecture provide for the user?

Eclipse is an Open Source Development environment, which embodies well the Open Source philosophy, and is a testimony to the potential for its success. The original goal of the Eclipse project was to create an Open Source development environment, publish the API, and invite the development community to add to it with “plug-ins” that all adhered to the published API. As users joined the Eclipse community, they would have access to the growing body of resources.

What are the advantages to building an IDE based on Eclipse?

- The base Eclipse software is Open Source, free, and freely distributable.
- The Eclipse community is growing, and since the APIs to plug-ins are agreed-upon and used by all, interoperability is greatly facilitated.
- Duplication of effort is minimized. If desired functionality already exists, it is not necessary to re-create it.
- Certain concepts within the Eclipse development environment, such as the Workspace, Project, and Program have a standard implementation. Variations on the standard are handled by creating a “Perspective”.

What does the COBOL-IT Perspective provide?

The COBOL-IT Perspective runs inside the Eclipse framework, which includes a Workspace that can contain one or more Projects, each of which can contain one or more Programs.

The COBOL-IT Perspective provides the definition of what is particular about the COBOL-IT Project, and COBOL Program

The COBOL-IT Perspective adds:

- New COBOL Project Wizard for use with new and existing source
- New COBOL Program Wizard
- COBOL Import Wizard
- Compiler flag dialog screens
- Runtime configuration dialog screens
- Debug configuration dialog screens
- COBOL awareness in the Code Editor
- More…
In Summary

The COBOL-IT® Developer Studio is an Integrated Development Environment based on the Eclipse Open Source integrated development environment. The COBOL-IT Perspective brings COBOL awareness to the standard Eclipse functions so that you can create new COBOL projects, create new COBOL programs, and import COBOL source into your project. You may choose to create your Eclipse projects in new folders, or existing folders, and have the tools to add folders as needed.

The COBOL-IT® Developer Studio provides interfaces for setting compiler flags, creating runtime configurations, and building your projects to run in a standard configuration, or using Deet, the Open Source debugger.

The COBOL-IT Developer Studio also brings a high level of COBOL-awareness to the Code Editor. Over 100 functions are pre-configured with “hot-keys”, and all of these functions are configurable by the user. Interfaces are provided for the colorization of COBOL elements such as keywords, strings, comment lines, and sequence numbers. Code templates are included for the COBOL program, as well as all of the most commonly used COBOL verbs. Hover, and right-click options permit the user to move easily between source, and declarations of variables. An Outline window refreshes in real time as you develop providing a very valuable tool for navigating within your program by clicking on paragraph, section, or variable names. Compiling, running, and debugging of your programs is all handled with ease.

For more information, please contact sales@cobol-it.com.