



Fortran:

Breathing new life into old applications

PTP personnel embody many years of experience in platforms, technologies and languages now considered obsolete: MS-DOS, VAX/VMS and RSX-11; ALGOL, FORTRAN and CORAL; PDP-11 and HP Instrument Controllers.



Recently, we were asked to migrate an old FORTRAN/MS-DOS application, developed prior to the general use of Windows, to run on a modern 64-bit Windows 7 PC.



Because the old application incorporated a large quantity of code (and intellectual property), a complete rewrite was considered uneconomic. We therefore researched and identified a FORTRAN development platform suitable for creating 64-bit Windows applications and made the changes necessary to the application source code to comply with the new platform. The changes were implemented and the new application proved by comparing output with the old MS-DOS application.

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