

What are the options for using ActiveX controls?

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Saved From: <http://support.veryant.com/support/phpkb/question.php?ID=39>

Question:

What are my options if my application depends on ActiveX controls and I want to continue to use those controls when running on Windows?

Answer:

isCOBOL supports Javabean controls in the GUI, and there are a number of solutions for accessing COM/OLE/ActiveX from within a Java-based application.

We have tested and verified the functionality of [ezjcom](#) and [comfyj](#). Both generate java classes to wrap ActiveX objects. We have decided to recommend the Comfyj product since it seems more complete and better supported from a technical point of view. In addition, they charge just for development and not for runtime.

j-integra does a lot of other things like wrapping .NET, but is not a simple solution.

There are also free products such as com4j or [jacob](#) that can be used, but we prefer a commercial solution that provides support in case of problems.

Veryant can provide a side-by-side example of a program that uses a Microsoft COM object with ACUCOBOL syntax and the same program written with isCOBOL and Comfyj.

An ActiveX control in the screen section, when converted to a Javabean, looks similar to the following:

```
screen section.
01 mask .
    03 GR-TEST JAVA-BEAN
        LINE 2
        COL 2
        LINES 28
        SIZE 90
        ID GR-ID-TEST
        VISIBLE 1
        ENABLED 1
        CLSID "VSFlexGridContainer"
        EVENT-LIST ("vsflexgrid")
        OBJECT IN FLEXGRID-TEST
        EVENT JAVA-BEAN-EVENT
java-bean-event.
    if event-type = msg-jb-event
        set flex-event-obj to event-obj as activex-event
        evaluate event-data-2
        when 100
            display "FSCommand event: command = "
        end-evaluate
    else
```

```
set flex-event-obj to event-obj as activex-event  
end-if
```