

DIGITAL DECforms

Moving the user interface onto the Web and into the next millenium

Powerful user interfaces have dramatically improved end-user productivity while reducing training costs. DECforms preserves and enhances your user-interface investment in your OpenVMS™ applications as you deploy them on the Web and achieve Year 2000 compliance. The DECforms™ Web Connector option cost-effectively Web-enables your applications' user interfaces, while a sliding-window date feature eases the transition of existing applications into the next century.

Electronic forms have become the standard mechanism for presenting a structured, friendly interface to users across the full spectrum of today's application environments.

Whether your end users are insurance clerks, financial brokers, or shop-floor supervisors, DECforms windows, menus, and buttons make it easier for them to do their job.

Because DECforms organizes data in a visually appealing way that reflects how people work, end users can perform their jobs efficiently – accomplishing more in less time – with fewer errors. Moreover, the user interface is easy to learn and use.

Benefits

- Extends the life of existing applications and preserves existing application system investments.
- Provides a flexible and secure solution for Web-enabling applications without programming or application changes.
- Provides a sliding-window interpretation of two-digit years to facilitate application operation into the next century.
- Provides display support on character-cell terminals, all popular Web browsers, and Motif workstations.
- Provides full internationalization support.



A complete solution

DECforms gives you a complete User Interface Management System (UIMS), providing everything you need to create your user-interface look-and-feel and to test and control it in a runtime environment.

DECforms separates forms-processing code from application code, greatly simplifying overall system development, testing, and maintenance. It enables developers to target multiple types of users with a single application, allowing them to tailor user interfaces to the specific needs of each user group.

A full set of software development tools lets you define all processing activities that occur at the user-interface level, including dialogue management, field validation, and conditional processing.

DECforms can be deployed with any general-purpose programming language (for example, C or COBOL) that supports the DIGITAL calling standard. Many application-development vendors have chosen DECforms as the user interface for their application or their code-generation tools.

To capitalize on today's profitable global marketplace, DECforms supports multiple character sets, international dates and currency signs, translatable message files, and multiple language layouts per form.



Year 2000 support

DECforms now provides a way to define a 100-year sliding date window for the interpretation of two-digit years upon input. This feature helps minimize changes required for Year 2000 compliance and will facilitate the correct operation of DECforms-based applications into the next century.

Web Connector option

DECforms lets you preserve large investments in DECforms-based user interfaces as you deploy applications on the Internet. Using the DECforms Web Connector option, you can Web-enable your applications, without making programming or application changes.

You simply install the DECforms Web Connector on a Windows®NT Web Server. Your users then employ Netscape Navigator or Microsoft Internet Explorer browsers to access the DECforms applications using DECforms V3.0 or a subsequent version.

The DECforms Web Connector saves time and money and eliminates the risks associated with complex, expensive Web-enabling alternatives—such as reprogramming the user interface using another user-interface development tool or

migrating the entire application and associated databases to another platform.

Web Connector preserves the user-interface look-and-feel, and enhancements you make to the user interface are reflected immediately when users access the associated application using Netscape Navigator™ or Microsoft Internet Explorer™.

Optional security via encryption provides trouble-free operation using the Internet or an intranet. Coexistence with existing character cell-based applications and support for ACMS applications is transparent.

The DECforms Web Connector not only extends the useful life of applications by Web-enabling them, it also provides a flexible migration path towards Windows-based graphical user interfaces.

Turbocharge your business-critical applications

DECforms was designed with performance-sensitive transaction processing (TP) environments in mind. It can serve as a powerful front-end for either distributed or centralized TP applications, including systems using DIGITAL ACMS, the premier TP monitor for OpenVMS.

Investment protection - backed by Digital

DECforms is available on all OpenVMS Digital VAX™ and Alpha systems. It supports the full range of VT-series terminals as well as terminal emulators running on PCs and DECwindows-based workstations. It also supports block-mode form interfaces for IBM® 3270™ terminals. The DECforms Web Connector option supports PCs using Navigator or Internet Explorer.

Digital is committed to application-development investment protection. DECforms and the DECforms Web Connector option will be supported, maintained, and enhanced for many years to come.

Service and support

DECforms is backed by the worldwide service organization of DIGITAL Equipment Corporation and DIGITAL's Business Partners.

For more information

For more information on DECforms or the DECforms Web Connector, contact your local DIGITAL sales office or DIGITAL Business Partners.

Visit DIGITAL on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.digital.com>
<http://www.software.digital.com/decforms/>

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