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# Development of the Multiflash CAPE-OPEN Interface

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**CAPE-OPEN Annual Meeting October 2019**

*All about*  
**EXCELLENCE**



# Overview

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- Some history
- Current release: Multiflash 7.0
- Development for future versions

# Multiflash CO Development



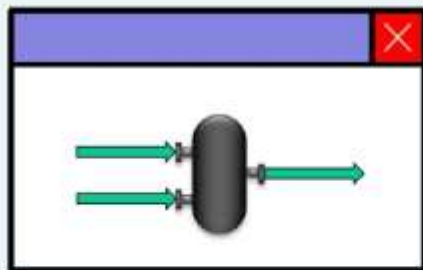
- Started in 2000 as part of **Global CAPE-OPEN** project
  - MF 3.0/3.1 supported Thermo 1.0 specification
  - VB6
- First public release 2002 with MF 3.2
- 2006 MF 3.5: Added Thermo 1.1 support
- 2008 MF 3.8
  - Completely re-written in C++ by Jasper van Baten
  - Single dll supports Thermo 1.1 and 1.0 and all useful interfaces (Persistence, Edit...)
- 2014 MF 4.4: 64 bit implementation added
- 2015 First threadsafe prototype demonstrated with CO
- 2017 MF 6.2: first release version of threadsafe Multiflash dll

# Multiflash 7.1

- Release by end of 2019
- Multiflash dll
  - Almost all calculations and models work in threadsafe mode
  - Updated mercury model, new options for cubic eos and CPA, EOS-CG
  - Better compatibility of models with other simulators
  - Python interface
  - Many other developments mostly concerning GUI
- CAPE-OPEN Interface
  - CO Type Libraries installed with CO-LaN installer
  - Uses threadsafe (MT) API for improved handling of multiple property packages

- Multiflash 7.2
  - COBIA
  - Thermo 1.0 support by COM interface
- CO Thermo – my personal view
  - Focus on efficiency of implementation and ease of implementation
  - Aim to make CO Thermo as fast as a native implementation
  - New features
    - ▲ Properties and derivatives at specified V, T, n
    - ▲ Derivatives of phase equilibrium calculations
    - ▲ Support for parameter regression
    - ▲ Critical points

## Process Modelling Environment (PME)



## Process Modelling Client (PMC)



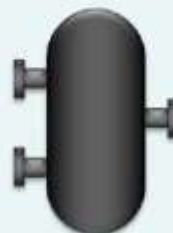
Thermodynamics  
Property Package



= interfaces



= middle-ware



Unit Operation

# Why COBIA



- Multiplatform / No dependence on operating system
- No dependence on commercial products
- Easier on programmers:
  - Data handling
  - Strong data typing
  - Less error prone
- More efficient
- Better error handling
- Support for legacy COM-based CAPE-OPEN

# COBIA Interfaces Implementation Requirements

- COBIA Software Development Kit (SDK):
    - Stand-alone installation package
    - Set of tools to create and test software that utilises COBIA
    - To compile the source code of interfaces developed using COBIA IDL
    - To register COBIA components
    - To test developed software
    - It also includes examples, code generators, portions of the COBIA source code, etc.
  
  - COBIA\_CodeGen.exe (Command line app)
- or
- AmsterCHEM COBIA Class Wizard Add-in for Visual Studio



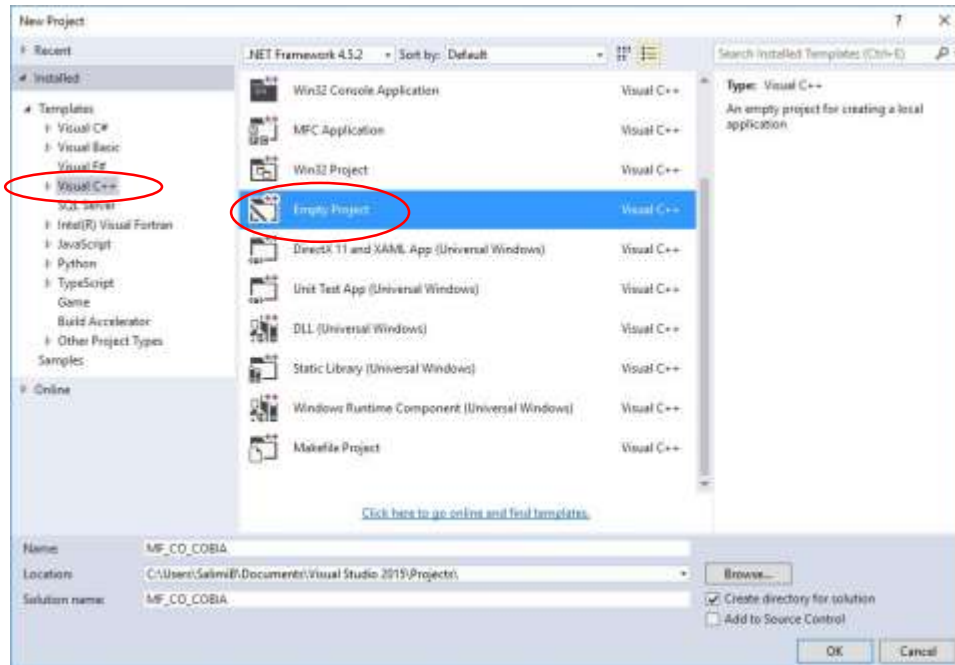
# AmsterCHEM COBIA Class Wizard



- Add-in for Visual Studio to help develop COBIA PMC
- Based on COBIA Code Generation Interface
- Generates classes and the definitions for all the functions in the classes.
- The COBIA Wizard does NOT generate ready to run PMCs!
- It provides a skeleton with Interfaces and Methods.
- The actions in the methods still have to be provided by the developer.
- Help from example document for creation of Unit Operation using the Class Wizard.

# Visual Studio Configuration

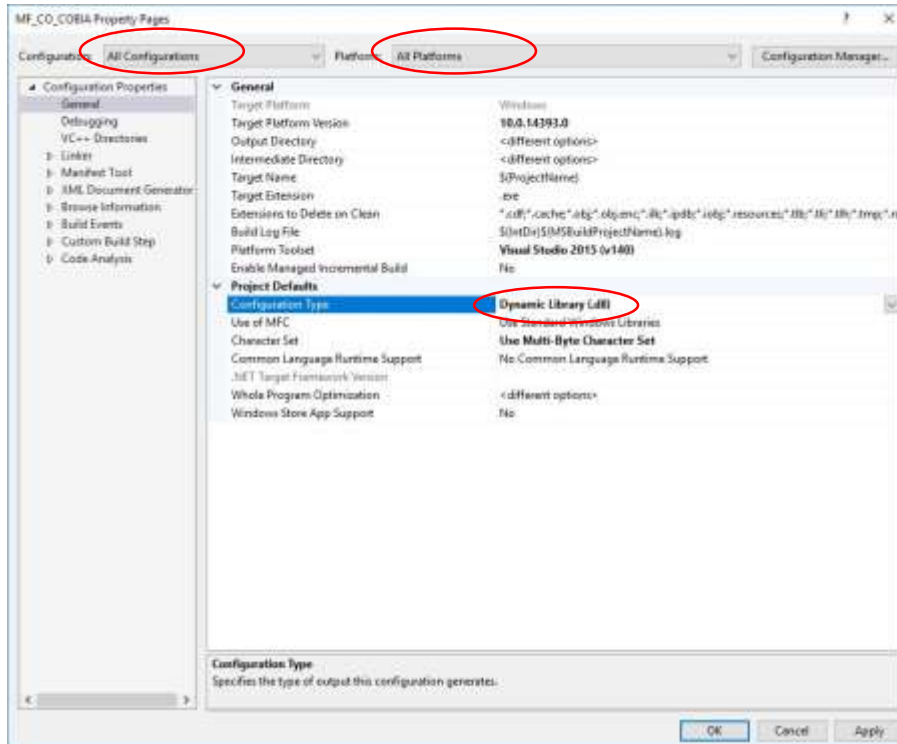
In Visual Studio start an empty C++ project



Visual Studio >= 2015

# Visual Studio Configuration

In the project properties set configuration type to DLL Configuration

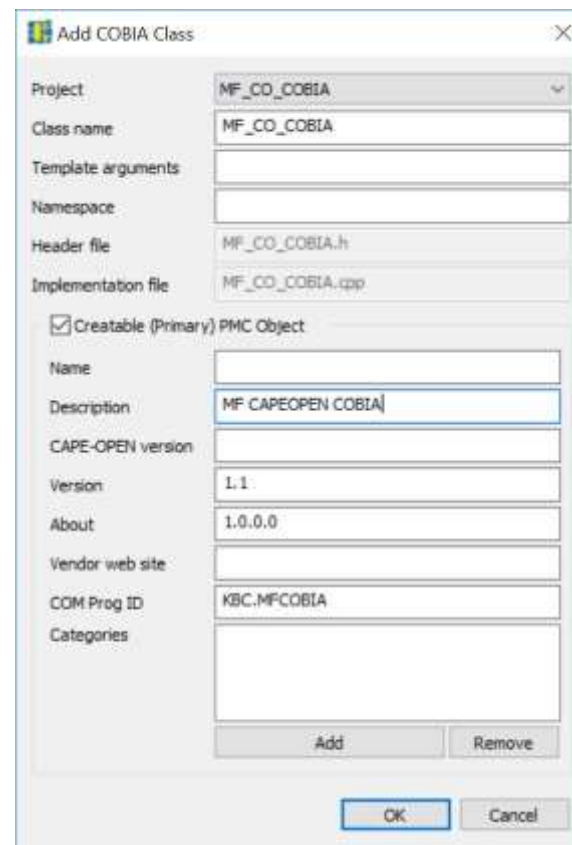
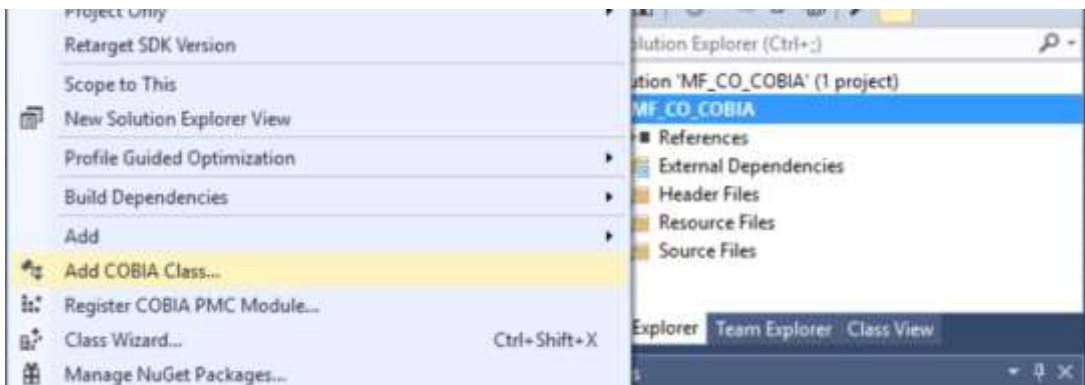


Configuration DLL is required to give the PME access to the library

# Creation of primary PMC object



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Visual Studio >= 2015

# Creation of primary PMC object

This will generate the following files:

- COBIAEntryPoints.cpp

Holds the interface to the entry points and registration setting

- MF\_CO\_COBIA.h

Includes function that returns a description of the current object for error handling

Registration info

- MF\_CO\_COBIA.cpp

Source file for the MF\_CO\_COBIA

# PMC registration

```
#include <COBIA.h>
#define COBIA_PMC_ENTRY_POINTS
#define COBIA_PMC_DEFAULT_DLLMAIN
#include <COBIA_PMC.h>
```

```
//! Define registration scope
```

```
/*!
PMC module must implement this function to indicate whether object
registration must be for all users or for the current user.
```

```
Return true if registration is for all users, false if registration is for current user only
```

```
*/
bool isPMCRegistrationForAllUsers() {
    return false;
}
```

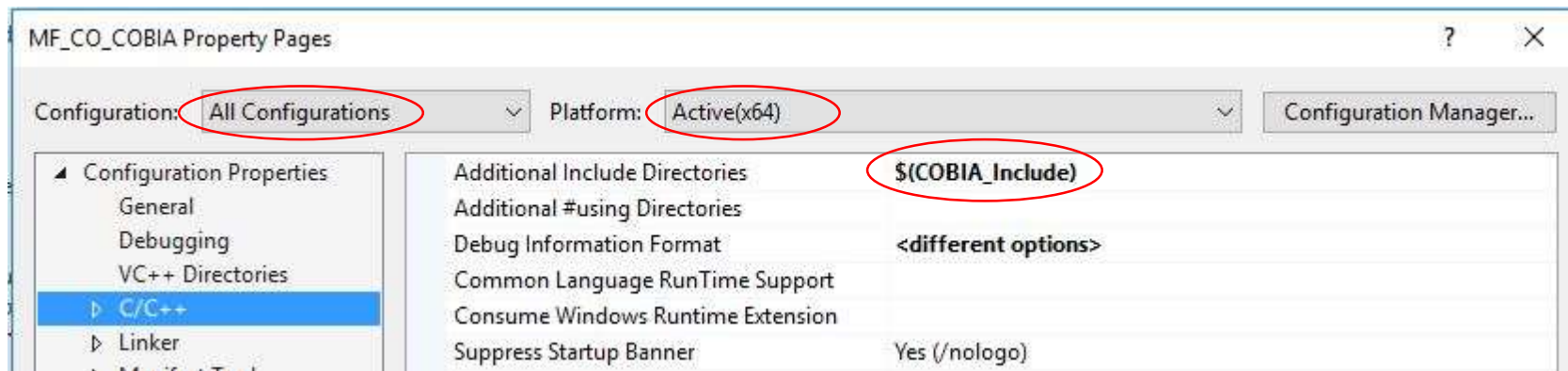
## PMC Registration:

- COBIA has its own registry
- COBIA API for direct access to registry
- COBIA API provides PMC registrar component
  - Just fill out the details
  - Takes care of PMC registration
- COBIA PMC registration also registers a COM object (on Windows)

# Visual Studio Configuration

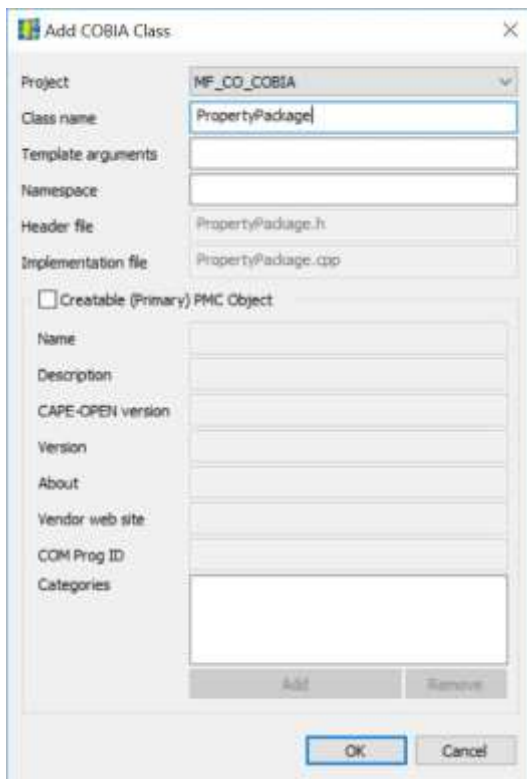
The COBIA SDK installer creates an environment variable COBIA\_Include pointing to the Include folders.

In the project properties set C/C++ Additional Include Directories to:  $\$(COBIA\_Include)$





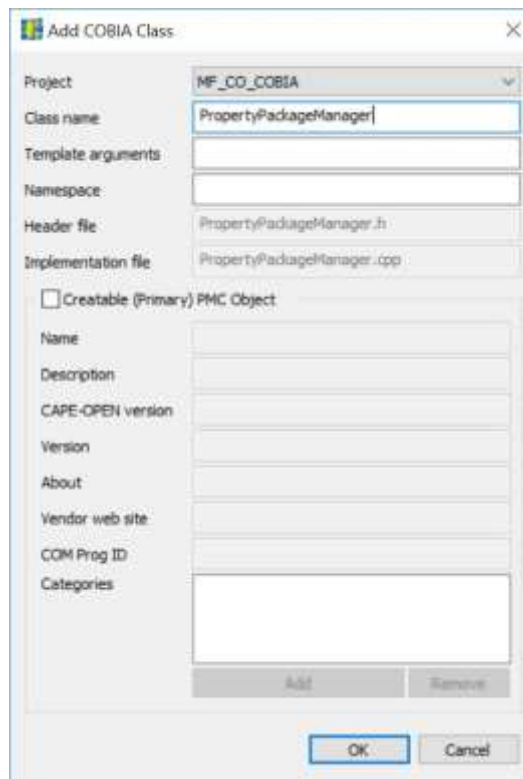
# Creation of CO PropertyPackage(PP) and PPManager objects



The screenshot shows the 'Add COBIA Class' dialog box with the following fields:

- Project: MF\_CO\_COBIA
- Class name: PropertyPackage
- Template arguments: (empty)
- Namespace: (empty)
- Header file: PropertyPackage.h
- Implementation file: PropertyPackage.cpp
- Creatable (Primary) PMC Object
- Name: (empty)
- Description: (empty)
- CAPE-OPEN version: (empty)
- Version: (empty)
- About: (empty)
- Vendor web site: (empty)
- COM Prog ID: (empty)
- Categories: (empty)

Buttons: Add, Remove, OK, Cancel



The screenshot shows the 'Add COBIA Class' dialog box with the following fields:

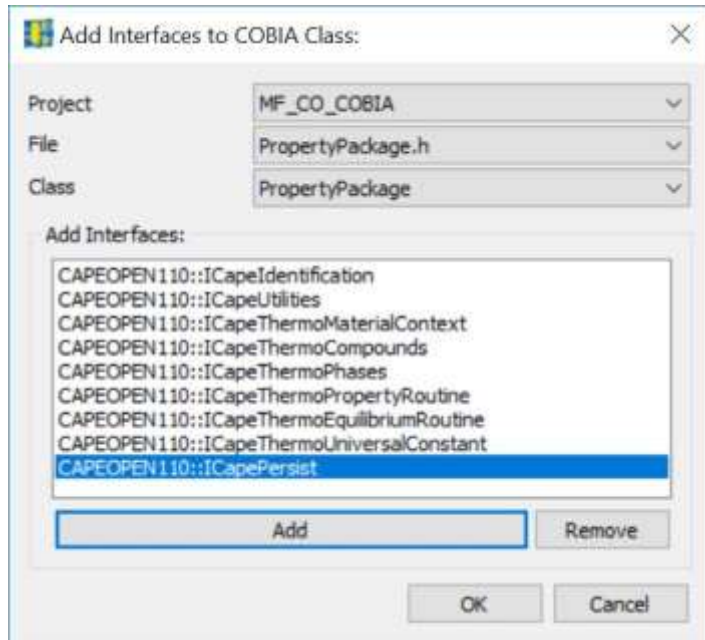
- Project: MF\_CO\_COBIA
- Class name: PropertyPackageManager
- Template arguments: (empty)
- Namespace: (empty)
- Header file: PropertyPackageManager.h
- Implementation file: PropertyPackageManager.cpp
- Creatable (Primary) PMC Object
- Name: (empty)
- Description: (empty)
- CAPE-OPEN version: (empty)
- Version: (empty)
- About: (empty)
- Vendor web site: (empty)
- COM Prog ID: (empty)
- Categories: (empty)

Buttons: Add, Remove, OK, Cancel

Visual Studio >= 2015

# PropertyPackage Interfaces

- Right-click PropertyPackage.h
- Select Implement CAPE-OPEN Interface on COBIA Class



Click add and select the following interfaces:

**CAPEOPEN110::ICapeIdentification**

**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapeUtilities**

**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapeThermoMaterialContext**

**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapeThermoCompounds**

**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapeThermoPhases**

**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapePropertyRoutine**

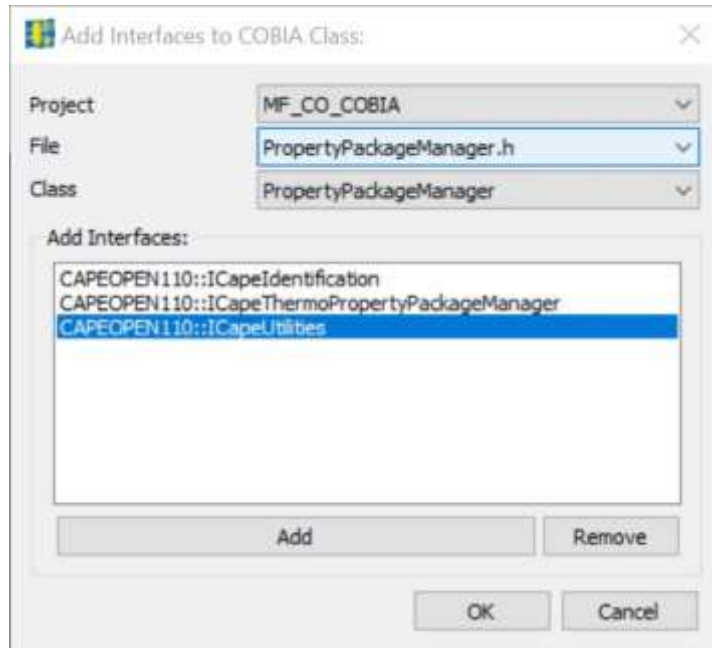
**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapeThermoEquilibriumRoutine**

**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapeThermoUniversalConstant**

**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapePersist**

# PropertyPackageManager Interfaces

- Right-click PropertyPackageManager.h
- Select Implement CAPE-OPEN Interface on COBIA Class



Click add and select the following interfaces:

**CAPEOPEN110::ICapeIdentification**  
**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapeThermoPropertyPackageManager**  
**CAPEOPEN110:: ICapeUtilities**

## Easier on Programmers: Interface adapter

class **PropertyPackage** :

```
public CapeOpenObject<PropertyPackage>,  
public CAPEOPEN110::CapeIdentificationAdapter<PropertyPackage>,  
public CAPEOPEN110::CapeUtilitiesAdapter<PropertyPackage>,  
public CAPEOPEN110::CapeThermoMaterialContextAdapter<PropertyPackage>,  
public CAPEOPEN110::CapeThermoCompoundsAdapter<PropertyPackage>,  
public CAPEOPEN110::CapeThermoPhasesAdapter<PropertyPackage>,  
public CAPEOPEN110::CapeThermoPropertyRoutineAdapter<PropertyPackage>,  
public CAPEOPEN110::CapeThermoEquilibriumRoutineAdapter<PropertyPackage>,  
public CAPEOPEN110::CapeThermoUniversalConstantAdapter<PropertyPackage>,  
public CAPEOPEN110::CapePersistAdapter<PropertyPackage> {
```

# Remarks on CO PP and PPM creation using Class Wizard

## Easier on Programmers: Generating Stub Code

```
//CAPEOPEN110::ICapeIdentification
```

```
void GetComponentName(/*out*/ CapeString name) {
```

```
}
```

```
void putComponentName(/*in*/ CapeString name) {
```

```
}
```

```
void GetComponentDescription(/*out*/ CapeString desc) {
```

```
}
```

```
void putComponentDescription(/*in*/ CapeString desc) {
```

```
}
```

# Remarks on CO PP and PPM creation using Class Wizard

## Easier on Programmers: Error handling

```
//CAPEOPEN110::ICapeIdentification
```

```
void GetComponentName(/*out*/ CapeString name) {
```

```
name = this->name;
```

```
}
```

```
void putComponentName(/*in*/ CapeString name) {
```

```
If (name.empty()){
```

```
throw cape_open_error(COBIAERR_InvalidArgument)
```

```
packageName = name;
```

```
}
```

```
void GetComponentDescription(/*out*/ CapeString desc) {
```

```
}
```

```
void putComponentDescription(/*in*/ CapeString desc) {
```

```
}
```

# Remarks on BasePropertyPackage (MF PP)

- Started with existing COM-based code (BasePropertyPackage)
- Getting rid of COM specific code and reuse the rest of it

```
//allocate constant BSTR values  
STR_MOLECULARWEIGHT=SysAllocString(L"molecularWeight");
```

- Conversion of data types and use COBIA Unified data types:

COM: LONG, BOOL, BSTR, OLECHAR, ...

COBIA: CapeInteger, CapeBoolean, CapeCapeStringImpl, ..

- Thread safe coding

Interface class to Lock/Unlock

## ● The Positive

- AmsterCHEM COBIA Class Wizard makes it easy to generate the skeleton and framework for the classes selected
- The available adapter classes are easy to use
- Easier error handling
- Less error prone and more efficient
- Reusing the existing COM based code for many methods

## ● The challenges

- Which interfaces should be selected
- Conversion of COM based code to COBIA (type conversion, data allocation, ...)
- Documentation and examples on COBIA such as the one to develop a Unit Operation
- Multithreading
- Test and checking interoperability (future)





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