Hot Off The Press

(Revised 07/07/2010 to reflect new features of BPP Profile 1.10)

Hummingbird Host Explorer BPP Profile

In November of 2009, the BPP Operations Center (BPPOC) began distributing a customized profile for Hummingbird Host Explorer users. The BPP Profile tries to provide a traditional PC interface to the 3270 environment through mouse navigation, custom menus and utilization of the web browser.

The BPP Profile allows the BPPOC to easily add features not readily available in the 3270 environment. These features are intended to enhance the BPP System interface and offer additional functionality without changing the existing BPP Screen processing. Because the BPP Profile does not change any of the BPP System Screen processing, the profile is not required to use the BPP System. However, BPPOC encourages all users of the BPP System to install the BPP Profile in anticipation of future enhancements. Once the Profile is installed, the user may continue to use the BPP System in the current manner and only use some of the new features. Users with custom Host Explorer settings may continue to use those settings with the BPP Profile. The BPP Profile can be un-installed at any time without affecting any of the user’s existing settings.

Installation

The installation of the BPP Profile requires at least Hummingbird Host Explorer 2008 version 13. To determine the version, click “About” on the Host Explorer Help menu. A pop-up window will display the version number of the installation. If the version is 13.00 or higher, the BPP Profile should work with this installation.

If a Host Explorer upgrade is needed, the installation instructions can be found at http://hdc.tamu.edu/reference/documentation/?section_id=852. The upgrade installation may require the assistance of the location’s Information Technology (IT) department. Free Host Explorer software is available by sending a blank CD and a written request for the latest version of Hummingbird Host Explorer to the Texas A&M University Software Evaluation and Licensing Library (SELL) Mail Stop 3363 College Station, TX 77843.

BPP Profile Installation Notes:
A link to the Profile download can be requested by emailing bpphelp@tamu.edu
The BPP Profile is a self-installing file that is available for download from the BPP Operations Center. The Profile will work with any version of Windows but the self-installing feature may require Administrative rights to your computer for Windows Vista and higher. **(version 1.10)** Help from your IT department may be needed.

- The installation **will overwrite** any existing profile settings named BPP Profile.
- The BPP Profile internet interface works best with Internet Explorer 6.0 and higher.
- The BPP Profile email interface works best with Microsoft Outlook 2003 and higher.
- The BPP Profile has features that are designed to work with a scroll-wheel style mouse.

Hotspots

A hotspot is a designated part of a BPP screen where clicking the left mouse button triggers a pre-defined action, similar to a button or hyperlink on a web page. The presence of a hotspot is denoted by a hovering tool tip that explains the hotspot’s action. Also, the mouse pointer will change from the default cursor arrow to a hand with a pointing finger.

- The PF key menu bar at the bottom of each BPP screen has been hotspot enabled where each of the PF key labels acts as a hotspot for the specified PF key number. For example, the Help label of the PF1 key is a hotspot. When activated with the left mouse button, it will trigger the same action that pressing the F1 key accomplishes. In this example, a pop-up help window opens next to the field designated by the blinking cursor position. **When a hotspot duplicates the action of a PF key, error messages will be generated as occurs when a PF key has been used incorrectly.**
- Another hotspot is found at each of the corners of a pop-up help window where the ‘+’ character is located. The activation of this hotspot duplicates pressing the F3 key to close or escape out of a pop-up help window.
- Clicking the words ‘Screen:’ and ‘UIN:’ on any screen will open the pop-up windows for each of those input fields. **(version 1.10)**
- Both Screens 111 and 140 have hotspots on the word ‘Email’. Clicking this hotspot will open a blank email message with the email address from the screen populated in the ‘To’ part of the email message.
- Internet Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) which begin with the characters http:// are hotspots and will open the web browser to the specified URL.

**As a result of the BPP Profile using these hotspots, sometimes a screen may have an ‘unintended’ hotspot because the words or characters match those of a hotspot on a different screen. The BPP Profile hotspots should be evident from the context of the screen being used.**
Custom Menus

The BPP Profile uses custom menus on the Host Explorer menu bar across the top of the screen and as a pop-up display next to the mouse pointer.

Web Applications Menu

- Single Sign On (SSO) – This opens the web browser to the menu screen of SSO.
- Canopy – This opens the web browser to the log-in screen of Canopy.

Help Menu

- E-mail BPP – This opens a blank e-mail message addressed to bpphelp@tamu.edu.
- E-mail this Screen – This opens an e-mail message with a copy of the current BPP screen as the body of the message.
- BPP Profile Navigation Tips – This opens a web page with a brief description of the BPP Profile navigation.
- About Session Profile – This opens a pop-up window displaying the active profile’s name and the current version of Host Explorer being used.

Mouse Menu

- List Help – Opens to the available help list for the field the cursor is in.
- Copy – Copies the highlighted part of the screen to the computer’s internal clipboard. Grayed out if nothing is highlighted.
- Paste – Pastes the computer’s clipboard contents into the input field under the cursor. Grayed out if clipboard is empty.

Custom Toolbar (version 1.10)

The BPP Profile uses a custom version of the Host Explorer toolbar located under the menu bar across the top of the screen.

- BPP News - Opens a web browser pop-up style of window to display an RSS feed of the latest BPP News headlines

Mouse Navigation
The BPP Profile mouse button assignments are intended to follow the standard mouse button actions of the PC environment.

**Left Mouse button**

Click the left mouse button to move the cursor to the position of the mouse pointer. It is possible to move directly to a field on a BPP screen with the ‘point and click’ of the mouse instead of using the TAB or arrow keys.

Clicking the left mouse button twice, ‘double-clicking’, acts as a select feature. Double-clicking inside of a word will highlight the entire word. Double-clicking the selection field next to an item inside of a list will select that item and close the list. This action is similar to the current method of entering any character in front of the desired choice and pressing the ENTER key twice. Double-clicking while holding the CTRL key will select the entire screen and copy it to the computer’s clipboard.

**Right Mouse button**

Click the right mouse button to open the mouse menu under the mouse pointer’s location.

**Mouse Scroll Wheel**

The mouse scroll wheel has been configured to advance a list up and down. When the mouse wheel is rotated toward the user the active list will advance down, mimicking the F8 key. When the mouse is rotated away from the user the active list will advance up, mimicking the F7 key.

Please contact bpphelp@tamu.edu with problems or questions.