



Microsoft Dynamics AX

What's new?

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 Microsoft



What's new in Microsoft Dynamics AX?

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Microsoft Dynamics AX is Microsoft's business solution for enterprises that enables people to make smarter decisions quickly with access to real-time insights and intelligence on nearly any device, anywhere. It enables businesses to transform by enabling them to redesign their business processes faster so they can innovate and get quick time to value to stay ahead of the competition. It also gives businesses the flexibility to grow at their pace through the choice and flexibility of the cloud, allowing them to scale their operations globally to meet business needs.

We're enabling people to make **smarter decisions quicker**, so they are ready for anything and make dreams a reality. We are empowering people by delivering tools built for the modern workplace - business solutions that are intelligent mobile, familiar, easy to use and foster collaboration so people can be more productive, faster. And with real-time views into business operations they can make better data-driven decisions to have a positive impact on their business.

Transforming business by easily redesigning processes is crucial for organizations to stay com-

petitive. It's a way for them to challenge the status quo, but they need to do it quickly in a predictive way and without business disruption. We are enabling businesses to transform by simplifying and speeding up their ability to redesign business processes. With Dynamics AX they will get faster time to value from their technology, that continuously evolves and grows with them to improve business planning and execution with predictable implementations - getting them up and running faster. And when they want to customize processes, support for technologies like Visual Studio gives them a large pool of talent, resources and solutions to meet their specific business needs.

Helping organizations **grow at their pace** is all about giving them the choice and flexibility to do business anytime, anywhere. We are giving businesses the ability to leverage the power of the cloud to scale their operations globally. A solution that easily integrates with their legacy systems and data so they can continue to benefit from their existing investments and removing any barriers to growth. It is also about giving them the peace of mind that their information will be secure and compliant in a trusted cloud from Microsoft.

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What's new?

Industries

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Industry
Manufacturing
and SCM

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Manufacturing



Production floor management workspace

This feature lets the production supervisor check whether materials for scheduled production orders are available on the required date. In the workspace, the production supervisor is informed how many production orders are in the scheduled state and are pending release. Based on the dynamic master plan, the information about material availability is updated if material requirements are met by on-hand inventory for actual orders, or planned orders. Based on the information about material availability, the supervisor can release the orders on the Material availability page. During the process of releasing production orders to the shop floor, the feature helps the production supervisor make correct decisions about the allocation of materials to orders.

Production supervisors can now check material availability on production orders in a separate page that is called from the Production floor management workspace.

Job card device page

Although the new Job card device page is designed with simplicity, it's also designed for touch. The page fits well on mobile devices, such as tablets and phones. The shop floor worker will find less information overload and more intuitive ease of use. The worker can perform the traditional tasks, such as starting, ending, and reporting progress on a job. Besides working on the actual job, or logging and clocking out, the worker can view attachments, break for lunch, and perform other activities. Jobs will be queued to the worker



Manufacturing



in a planned sequence, but they can also be picked by the worker. The page is primarily targeted at discrete manufacturing operations, where materials are prepared for production.

This is particularly useful in scenarios that are related to reporting of co-products and by-products, and materials picking by tracing dimensions, use the Job registration page. Also, by introducing an alternative UI that is designed for touch and can be accessed from all types of devices, such as terminal screens and mobile devices, this feature could help to reduce the implementation costs for a traditional rollout of shop floor registrations.

Master planning



Master Planning Workspace

The Master planning workspace offers at-a-glance information about when the last master planning run was completed, whether it had any errors, what the urgent planned orders are, and which planned orders cause delays. Gain quick insight into the status of a master planning run, the urgent planned orders, and the planned orders that cause delays.

Action graph

The action graph provides a better overview, and has options to show only applied and directly related actions. When actions are applied, they appear dimmed but are still displayed to keep the overview. Additional information is added to the action graph to display the data on one page.

Using this new action graphic you could potentially optimize the order date and quantity based on a visual overview of related actions that are pulled from the master planning run; letting you focus only on the relevant actions.

Demand forecasting



Microsoft Excel Integration

Now you can use Microsoft Excel to update your demand forecast helping you to increase efficiency and productivity by accelerating the process of updating directly from a spreadsheet. You can now take advantage of the integration with Excel when working on your demand forecast. Update, delete directly from Microsoft Excel before submitting it to Microsoft Dynamics AX.

During your demand forecasting process, you originally could export your historical data to excel. With the new updates, you will now be able to update and edit your demand forecast based on your analysis and additional variables based on exceptions or market conditions and upload it back to Dynamics AX.



Demand forecasting



Azure machine learning integration

Estimate future demand by using the power and extensibility of a Microsoft Azure Machine Learning cloud service. The service performs best-match model selection and offers key performance indicators (KPIs) for calculating forecast accuracy. Generate more accurate forecasts by using the machine learning techniques and tools to estimate future demands forecast based on historical transactions.

Based on historical data and defined variables based on your requirements such as weather, traffic conditions you can integrate Azure ML into your demand forecasting process to help you better predict and anticipate potential issues that could impact your product delivery or availability to customers.

Procurement and sourcing



Purchase order preparation workspace

The Purchase order preparation workspace provides an overview of orders from the time when they are created as a draft and traced, through workflow approval states, and onward toward confirmation. Your purchasing department no longer has to seek information from multiple pages but benefit from the overview that the workspace provides.

Use the Purchase order preparation workspace to gain quick insight into the status of purchase orders that are being prepared.

Purchase order receipt and follow-up workspace

The Purchase order receipt and follow-up workspace provides an overview of confirmed purchase orders that have pending receipts or shipments. This workspace includes lists of post-due receipts and pending receipts to help with proactive review and follow-up by the supplier. Purchase orders for which arrival registration has occurred in the warehouse are also listed to help ensure that the receipt is posted. Purchase order returns that haven't yet been shipped are also available for review. Your purchasing department benefits from the overview that the workspace provides. Relevant information is put together to guide follow-up and help improve productivity.

Use the Purchase order receipt and follow-up workspace to gain quick insight into purchase orders that are pending receipt, to help with follow-up.



A new look and feel

Dynamics AX | All workspaces > Production floor management

Configure my workspace | Create new

Production floor management

11/17/2015

Summary

Number of jobs

Job Status	Number of Jobs
Not started	5
Stopped	0
In progress	3

2 Production orders to release

1 Planned absences

Jobs and people

Jobs to complete

Jobs with deviation

Team

Favorite contacts

Filter

+ Add | Delete | Register absences

- Lukas Keller** (000504) - ABSENT
- Dana Birkby** (000500) - PRESENT
- Dan Jump** (000501) - PRESENT
- Dennis Saylor** (000506) - PRESENT
- Bill Malone** (000509) - PRESENT

Links

- Orders
 - All production orders
 - Subcontracted work
- Resources
 - Resources
 - Resource groups
- Journals
 - Picking list
 - Route card
 - Job card
 - Report as finished
- Time and attendance
 - Calculate
 - Approve



Industry
Retail

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Retail HQ



Azure-hosted Retail HQ offers centralized management and complete visibility of all aspects of commerce operations through a web client.

Workspaces

Workspaces could help to improve the efficiency and productivity of workers to perform merchandising operations by letting them centrally manage their tasks and actions that are related to the merchandising role. Also, the price and discount priorities feature gives customers more control over how prices and discounts are used. The feature also enables new scenarios where higher store prices win over standard prices. Last but not least, it will allow to centrally manage most of their tasks and actions that are related to channel deployment, operations and retail IT operations.

Category and product management workspace

The **Category and product management workspace** enables the following functionality:

- *Assortment management*
- *Assortment lifecycle*
- *Tracking*



Retail HQ



Prices and discounts workspace

The **Prices and discounts workspace** enables the following functionality:

- *Price and discount management for a given channel and category*
 - *Category price rule management*
 - *Price and discount priorities, which let you assign priorities to price groups and discounts to control the order in which they are applied*
-

Catalog management workspace

The **Catalog management workspace** enables the following functionality:

- *Summary of active catalogs*
 - *Catalog lifecycle tracking in a single location*
-

Channel deployment workspace

The **Channel deployment workspace** lets you perform the following tasks:

- *Track channel configuration progress.*
 - *Take the required steps to complete a task, or provide information to complete the task.*
 - *Directly download the Retail Modern POS (MPOS) program installation in stores.*
 - *Access all related pages.*
-

Channel operations workspace

The **Channel operations workspace** lets you perform the following tasks:

- *Create post statements for a given channel.*
 - *Track shift status for a given store.*
 - *Manage worker point of sale (POS) permissions for a given store.*
 - *Quickly access all related pages.*
-

EPOS client is replaced with MPOS

The EPOS client is replaced with MPOS and the eCommerce channel has also been added to Retail Essentials by default enabling greater out-of-box channel support and providing a streamlined configuration option for retail-specific implementations and allowing streamlined configurations and a streamlined UI for retail-specific implementations through Microsoft Dynamics Retail Essentials.

Enhanced support for data entities

Retail data entities have been expanded to support all master and reference data that is related to retail. There is also enhanced support for data entities across the entire Microsoft Dynamics AX solution. This enhancement will let Data entities customers have metadata-driven import and export of data and OData entities also let customers integrate Microsoft Dynamics AX with third-party programs.



Retail HQ



BI reports

More than 30 back-office reports and 10 channel-side reports are available in this new version letting customers to access to BI reports to better predict trends, uncover insights and operation at the best possible performance.

Consumer-level permission POS

Retailers can choose whether POS operations can be available to consumers for self-service scenarios. The new Dynamics AX provides the ability to configure this new scenario. Retail Server uses permissions for application programming interface (API) calls.

Configuration manager and validator

The configuration manager and validator feature provides the ability to bootstrap the configuration, validate the status and completeness of the configuration for the various configuration element, Manage and validate entity configurations. This feature enables Bulk configuration data upload and business entity validation.

Retail hardware station



New hardware profile

An added hardware profile supports more diverse hardware from one station to the next. A new hardware station profile supports a unique terminal ID for each hardware station when electronic funds transfer (EFT) transactions are processed. EFT support has been merged into hardware station to reduce the involvement of MPOS in EFT payment processing enabling POS devices to connect to peripherals such as printers, cash drawers, or payment devices. It provides greater flexibility for implementations and also provides enhanced security and reduced exposure to credit card data.

Retail server and data management



OData V4 support

Connect to a Commerce Runtime (CRT) database that stores business data for the channel by using CRT services. This new support will help the customer stay current with OData standards and also could help to create a robust omni-channel experience by integrating sales across in-store, mobile, and online channels.

E-commerce API

The E-commerce API is now available through Retail Server to support online scenarios and also provides hosted and scalable e-commerce services that can be used with third-party online stores.



Retail server and data management



Cloud re-engineered Commerce Data Exchange

Even when the functional parity is similar to Microsoft Dynamics AX 2012 CU8, Commerce Data Exchange has been re-engineered for the cloud and still responsible for managing the data transfer between Microsoft Dynamics AX and retail channels such as online stores or brick-and-mortar stores but allowing the Async service to use direct access to the channel database, enabling Commerce Data Exchange to become a real-time service that is hosted as a Microsoft Dynamics AX custom service and letting MPOS manage synchronization between offline databases and Retail Server.

Credit/debit card features enhancements

Dynamics AX supports all existing Microsoft Dynamics AX for Retail 2012 credit/debit card features plus some new enhancements letting customer process credit/debit card transactions for payments, support plug and play, and semi-integrated cross-channel payment processing by using the payment SDK.

Device activation

In this new version of Dynamics AX, the device activation can be made using Microsoft Azure Active Directory increasing security and cloud-based activation, Enhanced security for token management, Improved reliability, troubleshooting and error messaging during the activation process. It also offers a simplified process to IT administrative tasks related to the activation of the device. In terms of security, these enhancements can help to stop unauthorized remote use of mPOS and help to track mPOS devices for PCI compliance purposes, it maps physical devices with a business entity and it reports device information from headquarters.

Rich media content support

Manage rich media content for authoring and serving through Media Gallery. I help to address pain points around externally hosted images managing them from a single place. It provides powerful content management through Media Gallery for uploaded and externally hosted images, and filtering to find images; lets you easily create bulk associations between externally hosted images and entities such as products and catalogs and also supports Retail-hosted storage for images, and Excel integration for easy updates. Some detailed support can be found in the list below:

- *Image upload, view, manage, and delete from Media Gallery for both externally hosted and Retail-hosted images.*
- *Image upload and view from entity pages (Products, Catalogs, and so on) by linking an image from the gallery and uploading an image from the desktop.*
- *Optimize the images for thumbnail, custom size, and original.*
- *Bulk link entities by using a template and background jobs for bulk association.*
- *Excel integration overwrites the attribute group limitation of naming conventions and predefined paths.*
- *Supports for Offline images and secure images for personally identifiable*
- *Information (PII) content, such as Retail-hosted employee and customer images*



Rich clientele experience



Retail offers immersive mobile experiences anywhere, any time, and on any device. In this new version we are providing with a new enhanced shopping and store experiences across all channels.

Modern POS

Even when we are providing functional parity with AX 2012 MPOS, we have made some enhancement to add some new features for sales staff to process sales transactions, customer orders, and perform daily operations and inventory management, by using mobile devices anywhere in the store. With the new Dynamics AX version, we are including the following features:

- *Customer lookup across stores/channels*
 - *The ability to create customer orders without accessing Real-time Service*
 - *Improved device activation workflows, status, and error messages*
 - *Extensibility improvements, such as pre/post triggers and activity support to improve customization.*
-

Cloud POS

Thanks to the unique architecture provided in this version of Dynamics AX, we are introducing a browser based POS with functional parity similar to mPOS and device activation support using AAD. Thanks to the responsive layout design, it can be used in mobile devices and support cross-platform browsers. This new cloud-based POS could help to enable retails to easily activate remote POS stations as needed lowering and reducing deployment costs.

Flexible e-commerce platform

In this release customers now have the flexibility to use the content management system of their choice. A robust e-commerce platform is provided to support third-party storefronts letting customers integrate with content management systems to create an omni-channel E-commerce website thanks to the following features added to this e-Commerce platform:

- *A rich consumer API*
 - *Authentication integration to any third-party open ID providers*
 - *Payment integration*
-

Call Center

Even when the feature parity with the AX 2012 Call Center solution is available (with the exception of price overrides), users can deploy a call center to let workers take orders from customers directly over the phone and create orders, target customers via mail catalogs and streamline operations through fast order entry, assisted sales and fulfillment by using this call center module. All this thanks to a responsive and redesigned UI based on HTML5 that can be accessible via any browser.



Warehouse management



Warehouse Mobile Devices Portal

In this version of Dynamics AX, a stand-alone installer can be downloaded directly through a menu item in Warehouse management instead of the standard Dynamics AX setup process. It's designed for self-driven on-premises deployment and configuration. During the enabling process of the Warehouse management module to use the mobile device functionality, you need to install and configure the Warehouse Mobile Devices Portal locally and get a connection to the Microsoft Dynamics AX program in the cloud.

Sales



Delivery alternatives page

Based on the existing algorithms for delivery date calculation, the Delivery alternatives page offers a new user experience for order promising. As part of the new experience, this page consolidates relevant information from multiple forms onto one space, shows "ready-made" alternative delivery packages, such as a combination site/warehouse/variant/transport mode, based on the fastest delivery (earliest available date) criterion that the user can choose from and let the user select options from the simulation interface and transfer them to the sales order line.

This new experience can help organizations that aspire to provide high customer service while committing to an inventory optimization strategy could now promise orders reliably and competitively. After all, their customers' own business requires that products be available on time. The Delivery alternatives task page makes the order promising task quicker, easier, and more systematic by identifying and recommending the best alternative order delivery dates in one interactive place.



A new look and feel

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Dynamics AX interface for configuring devices. The top navigation bar shows the path: Retail > Set up POS > Devices. The main content area is titled 'Devices' and features a list of devices on the left and a detailed configuration view on the right. The configuration view is divided into three sections: General, Activation, and Register package.

Device ID	Device type	Register number
BOSTON-1	Modern POS for Windows	BOSTON-1

General		BOSTON - Register 1	
Description	Use in-memory data storage on...	KEY	Sideload Key
BOSTON - Register 1	No	6CK9N-MWJBW-3YPPY-X9M...	

Activation			
Activation status	Activated date and time	Deactivated date and time	Validated on
Pending			
Activated by	Deactivated by	Validation status	Validated for
		Not run	

Register package		Base retail modern POS package. 7.0.1075.38	
Package name	Package description	Version number	Currently installed package version
ModernPOSSetup	Base retail modern POS package.	7.0.1075.38	



What's new?

Domain updates

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Financial management



Account structures enhancements

Many customers have requested the ability to export account structures to Excel for easier filtering. In this new release, we've made enhancements to this feature and now You can now select an account structure and export it to Excel.

Also, FactBoxes have been added to the account structure page for easier access to important information when account structures are defined and edited.

Chart of accounts page enhancements

FactBoxes have been added to the Chart of accounts page for easier access to important information when a chart of accounts is defined and assigned.

Trial balance list page updates

An additional parameter has been added to the Trial balance list page to include closing transactions in addition to closing period adjustments. We've made this addition for a more concise analysis of data and it is also required for regulatory reporting in some countries/regions.

Global journal entry

The ability to enter a general journal for any company the user has access to regardless of the company the user is logged into to improve efficiency of organizations consisting of multiple legal entities.

General journal processing workspace

The workspace can be accessed through the Dynamics AX dashboard. It includes different views of general journal entries such as journals posted this period, journals posted previous period, and any unposted journals. The workspace also provides the ability to enter, post, and approve journal entries in addition to commonly used inquiries such as Trial balance.

Accounting source explorer

New inquiry that provides greater visibility into the source of general journal account entries, making analysis and reconciliation easier for customers. Accounting source explorer is currently enabled for entries originating from expense, timesheet, and vendor invoices. Additional integration points will be added in subsequent releases.

Financial reporting in Dynamics AX

Twenty-two out-of-the-box financial reports are included in Dynamics AX to give customers a jumpstart on report design. These 22 reports can be accessed from multiple menu items within the Dynamics AX. Report options have been added so that different filters can be applied to these out-of-the-box reports as well as to any custom reports. These options allow consumers of financial reports to now apply different filters for dimensions, dates, attributes, and scenarios without requiring updates to report designs.



Financial management



Viewing financial reports All financial reports created in Management Reporter – report designer can be accessed in the Dynamics AX client. The user selects a report to view, and the report is displayed in the client. Due to this new feature, you can now view financial reports without having to access a different client/application.

Content pack for PowerBI In this new release, we are adding a “Monitor financial performance” content pack for PowerBI that could help you analyze financial data. By creating greater integration between Dynamics AX and PowerBI, organizations can deploy a PowerBI financial performance dashboard containing Dynamics AX financial data with just a few clicks. The content can then be personalized to meet organizational needs.

Ledger budgets and forecasts workspace The workspace can be accessed through the Dynamics AX dashboard. It includes links to several new inquiry pages such as actuals vs. budget summary, Budget control statistic summary, Budget register entries, and Budget plans. This new workspace combines all budget maintenance and monitoring task in one place that is easy for budget managers or accounting managers to use.

Budget plans and forecasts enhancements Due to the new enhancements you can now have the flexibility to create and edit budget plans by using both Excel and the Dynamics AX client. Templates for Excel workbooks can be generated by using the Budget plan layout setup. You can combine selected financial dimensions, user-defined columns, and other row attributes (such as comments, projects, and assets) in the layout; Users can switch the layout for the budget plan document on the fly and edit data by using any selected layout. Additionally, budget planning configuration is simplified by eliminating scenario constraints and using layouts to define which data can be viewed and edited in each budget plan document stage.

Vendor Invoice Transactions report enhancement In this release we are consolidating both vendor invoice transaction reports and the detailed due day list report into one single report. Due to this change, we are eliminating the needs of printing out two separate but related reports.

Generate regulatory reports enhancement In this release, we are providing with a unified experience to display reports on both digital and printed copy. We adding the option to generate regulatory reports directly in PDF format.

Payment file validation In this release we have made changes to the payment file generation process by adding a verification step to help verify that kana name fields contain only the right characters permitted by the JBA bank format.



Financial management



Settlement process update

For periods that have many tax transactions, the process can be time consuming and it might be better to run the process in the background. Due to this requirements, in this release we have added the option for the settlement process to run as a batch process. You can set this option directly on the Sales tax settlement period page and specify to run the settlement process in batch mode.

Financial period close workspace

The workspace can be accessed through the Dynamics AX dashboard. The Financial period close workspace facilitates the closing process by enabling users to define, schedule and communicate close activities within or across companies. The end result is a reduction in the number of days to close.

Customer invoicing workspace

The workspace can be accessed through the Dynamics AX dashboard. The primary function of this workspace is to facilitate the customer invoicing process. It includes different views of invoice work to be completed as well as invoice posting history. Links are provided to commonly used inquiries, reports and menu items such as customer invoices, shipped but not invoiced report and the invoice journal.

Vendor invoice entry workspace

a The workspace can be accessed through the Dynamics AX dashboard. The primary function of this workspace is to facilitate the entry of vendor invoices. It includes different views of purchase orders and product receipts that are ready to be invoiced as well as unposted vendor invoices. Links are provided to commonly used inquires and menu items such as open vendor invoices and the invoice journal.

Vendor payments workspace

The workspace can be accessed through the Dynamics AX dashboard. The primary function of this workspace is to create vendor payments. It includes different views of invoices and payments such as invoices past due and payments not settled. Links are provided to commonly used inquires and reports such as vendors on hold and the vendor aging report.

Accrued purchases report

A new report has been added to provide insight into the documents that have been received but not invoiced enabling invoicing clerks to better predict their workload. Additionally, this report can be used to aid in the reconciliation the Accounts Payable sub-ledger and the General Ledger.

Payment advice report

The payment advice report is now using Print management, allowing the report to be emailed separately to each vendor or customer. In addition, you now have the ability to reprint this report after the payment has been generated but before it's posted. The ability to reprint the report after the payments are posted has also been added for additional payment types.



Human capital management



Settlement process update

For periods that have many tax transactions, the process can be time consuming and it might be better to run the process in the background. Due to this requirements, in this release we have added the option for the settlement process to run as a batch process. You can set this option directly on the Sales tax settlement period page and specify to run the settlement process in batch mode.

Participant records automatic update

Upon completion of a course, a new option will be available to update a participant's records with the new skills and certificates. Due to this new update an automatic update of employee records take place.

Quickly verify employment update

Your HR department doesn't need to have access to multiple pages any more to verify start date, manager, months in position, and compensation data. The HR corresponding person can quickly verify employment by using a workspace or the employee page.

Employee personal data update

Let's employees take control of their information whether that involves updating address or contact information, applying for a job, taking a questionnaire, or updating their image. When a workflow is enabled, information can be reviewed by an approver or automatically approved, based on your business processes. This feature is enabled, and will let employees and contractors view a wide range of personal data. Optionally, a workflow can be used when information is created, updated, or deleted.

Employee data update

This new feature will allow managers to access important employee data, for them to make better decisions about resourcing, performance, and employee development. Depending on configuration settings and security, managers are empowered to view or edit employee information.

Encrypted ID numbers

Encrypted employee ID numbers are critical to secure data management. In this release we are adding encryption to all employee (SSN) numbers.

Compensation processing results update

This feature provides an excellent audit of the process and the outcome of the process. It also provides a comprehensive view of the data before employee records are updated. Compensation processing results can now be accessed at any point after the process has run.

Benefits processing results update

This feature provides a comprehensive view of the data that is updated by benefit enrollment and cost changes. Benefits processing results can now be accessed at any point after the process has run.



Human capital management



"Date Effective" timeline changes

This feature saves time when you view changes that have occurred over time to employees, positions, and job records. It lets you quickly compare two versions of a record, or all records, over time. This comparison tool is available for employees, positions, and jobs and it provides a comprehensive view of changes from one version of a record to another.

View employees by company update

This feature provides a filtered view of employees that are employed in the logged-on company. For an unfiltered view of all employees and contractors, the worker list is still available. In Dynamics AX, the system doesn't change company based on the employee that is selected in the list. Employee and contractor lists are automatically filtered by the company that you're logged on to.

Course participants list update

This feature provides an easy way to update course participants that might have registered by mistake. Course participants can be removed from the participants list.

Manage compensation events updates

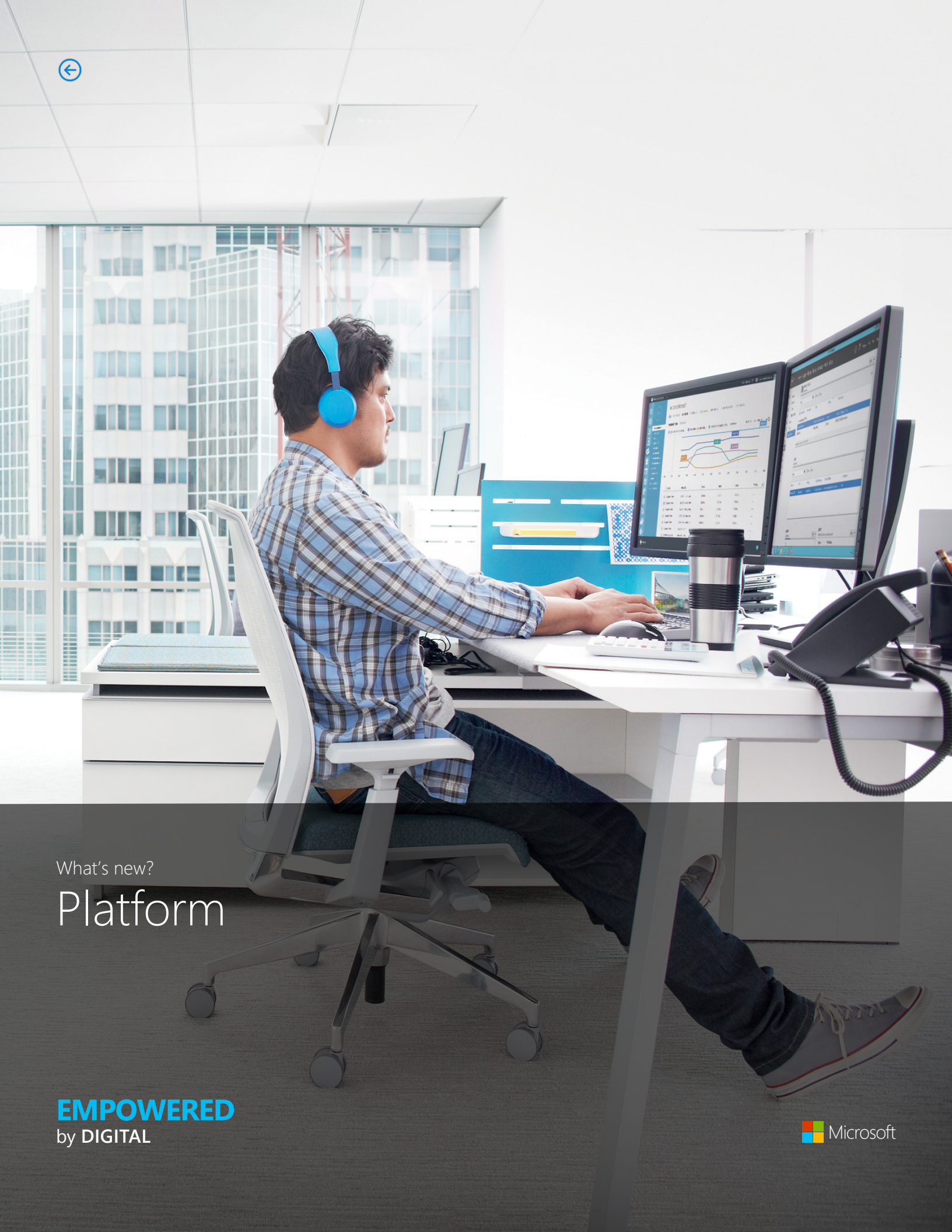
This feature provides a simple, streamlined process for updating employee records through the compensation workspace and related pages.



A new look and feel

The screenshot displays the 'Financial period close' workspace in Microsoft Dynamics AX. The top navigation bar includes the Dynamics AX logo, a menu icon, the path 'All workspaces > Financial period close', a search bar, and the user name 'USMF'. The main content area is divided into three sections:

- Summary:** A dropdown menu is set to 'Oct2015'. Below it are three blue boxes: '107 Tasks past due', '0 Tasks remaining for today', and '107 Tasks remaining for the period'.
- Tasks and status:** A section with filters for 'All tasks' and 'All companies'. It includes a 'Show details' link and a list of tasks with progress bars:
 - gbsi** (50.00% COMPLETE): Contoso Consulting GB, 20 of 40 tasks remaining.
 - rumf** (50.00% COMPLETE): Contoso Entertainment System Ru..., 20 of 40 tasks remaining.
 - rurt** (37.50% COMPLETE): Contoso Retail RUS, 20 of 40 tasks remaining.
 - usmf** (45.00% COMPLETE): Contoso Entertainment System USA, 25 of 40 tasks remaining.
 - usrt**: Contoso Retail USA, 22 of 40 tasks remaining.
- Links:** A list of links including 'All financial period close tasks', 'Financial period close configuration', 'Ledger', 'Fiscal calendars', and 'Create data'.



What's new?

Platform

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Developer



-
- Visual Studio Integration** Use Microsoft Visual Studio to develop your solutions. In preparation to the release of the new version of Dynamics AX, we've made the change to enable standard interoperability with other .NET languages and projects.
-
- Compile Common Intermediate Language (CIL) for all features** The brand new X++ compiler generates CIL for all features. CIL is the same intermediate language that is used by .NET-based languages. CIL is faster, can efficiently reference classes in managed DLLs, and can run on a large tool base of .NET utilities.
-
- Flexible Microsoft Dynamics AX client** The flexibility of the new Dynamics AX client will give the ability to developers to embed business intelligence (BI) reports and visualizations directly in the Microsoft Dynamics AX client in order to create highly-intuitive and fluid visualizations.
-
- Microsoft Office Integration** In this release, we are bringing new capabilities to increase the integration with Microsoft office and now we are including the Excel Data Connector app, Workbook Designer page, Export API, and Document management that will let you create productivity solutions for your end users to maximize their time.
-
- Topology automation** Deploy the Developer topology with Developer and Build VM. Auto-configure Build VM to discover, build modules from Visual Studio Online VSO, and run tests. C# and X++ module compilation and references are supported. This new functionality will let developers to increase productivity by reducing costs and efforts for testing and validations. All thanks to the flexibility of the Microsoft cloud.
-
- New customization model** Dynamics AX has a new customization model to let you customize source code and metadata of model elements that are shipped by Microsoft or third-party Microsoft partners.
-
- New tools for performance evaluation and tuning** The software development kit (SDK) lets you test and validate all critical business processes for performance in a single and, if applicable, multi-user test run. The Data Expansion Toolkit lets you properly expand all performance tests that need master and transactional data expanded properly. The Trace Parser lets you validate a single-user performance test or a multi-user run. The PerfTimer lets you see whether any query or any specific method call is causing a performance issue instead of taking a trace and analyzing everything in detail.
-



Developer



OData service endpoint In this release we introduce a public OData service endpoint that enables access to Dynamics AX data in a consistent way across a broad range of clients. Your solutions can interact with RESTful services, share data in a discoverable way, and enable broad integration by using the HTTP stack protocol.

Foundation



Anytime, anywhere access With the introduction of this new release and the new redesigned UI, The two AX 2012 clients have been replaced by a single, standards-based web client that provides the full set of functionality of the desktop client together with the reach of the Enterprise Portal client. By doing this change, we are also preventing development efforts from being split between two UI platforms and eliminates the need for Terminal Server by using standard web interfaces.

Help



Task guides This is the first time that we have been able to exercise the Help system for Dynamics AX. You can try some of our task guides and create your own. To access the wiki for CTP7, you must sign in by using a shared account. The Dynamics AX Help system displays task guides that are stored in Microsoft Dynamics Lifecycle Services (LCS) Business Process Modeler, and topics from the Microsoft wiki. For more information, see Dynamics AX Help – Getting Started.



A new look and feel

The screenshot displays the Dynamics AX user interface. At the top, the 'Dynamics AX' logo and navigation icons are visible. Below the header, a ribbon contains options like '+ New', 'Delete', 'Product variants', 'Product dimensions', 'Release products', 'PRODUCT', and 'OPTIONS'. The main area shows a 'Products' list with columns for Product name, Product number, Search name, Product type, Product subtype, and Product dimension. A task pane on the right, titled 'Creating and releasing a product', provides instructions and prerequisites for creating a product.

Product name	Product number	Search name	Product type	Product subtype	Product dimension
✓ Youth Accessory Combo Set	0001	YouthAccessoryComboS	Item	Product	
Adult Helmet Accessory Combo S	0002	AdultHelmetAccessory	Item	Product	
Signature Mountain Bike Tire	0003	SignatureMountainBik	Item	Product	
Premium Mountain Bike Tire	0004	PremiumMountainBikeT	Item	Product	
Basic Inner Tube	0005	BasicInnerTube	Item	Product	
Inner Tube Patches	0006	InnerTubePatches	Item	Product	
Full Finger BMX Gloves	0007	FullFingerBMXGloves	Item	Product	
Mesh BMX Gloves	0008	MeshBMXGloves	Item	Product	
Premium Full Finger Gloves	0009	PremiumFullFingerGlo	Item	Product	
Signature BMX Gloves	0010	SignatureBMXGloves	Item	Product	
Curved Grind Rail	0011	CurvedGrindRail	Item	Product	
Straight Grind Rail	0012	StraightGrindRail	Item	Product	
Adult Baseball Infield Glove	0013	AdultBaseballInfield	Item	Product	
Adult Baseball Outfield Glove	0014	AdultBaseballOutfiel	Item	Product	
Youth Utility Baseball Glove	0015	YouthUtilityBaseball	Item	Product	
Adult Catchers Mitt	0016	AdultCatchersMitt	Item	Product	
Youth Catchers Mitt	0017	YouthCatchersMitt	Item	Product	
Adult First Base Mitt	0018	AdultFirstBaseMitt	Item	Product	

Creating and releasing a product

- Description**
 This is how you create and release a product
- Prerequisites and related content**
[Setup storage dimension groups](#)
[Setup tracking dimension groups](#)
[Setup item model groups](#)
[Setup item groups](#)
- Steps (87)**
Task: Verify the storage dimension groups are setup.
 - Go to Storage dimension groups.
Storage dimension groups is located under "Product information management > Setup > Dimension Groups > Storage Dimension groups".
 - Begin verifying the Site, Warehouse (SiteWH) storage dimension group.
In the list, find and select the desired record.
 - Verify the storage dimensions are setup as described in the note.
Close the form.
The following fields should be checked in the Storage dimensions list: 1. Site - Active - Physical inventory - Financial inventory - Coverage plan by dimension - For purchase prices - For sales prices 2. Warehouse - Active - Physical inventory - Coverage plan by dimension - For purchase prices - For sales prices

Start task guide Close



What's new?
Cloud

EMPOWERED
by DIGITAL





Lifecycle management



LCS provides a set of services that customers and partners can use to manage the lifecycle of the system from signup to daily operations.

Manage Cloud deployment services

The cloud deployment services provide the several new benefits such as reduced deployment efforts and complexity for Retail HQ components, Native deployment to the Microsoft Azure public cloud and Improved self-service installation of in-store components to make configuration easier and more intuitive. Also we provide with several topologies that can be deployed to the Microsoft Cloud:

- *Retail 1-box trial topology*
- *Retail multi-box high availability topology*
- *Developer topology with the Retail SDK*

Additionally, there is an improved “low-touch” client component installation via self-service installation for Retail Modern POS, Retail Hardware Station and Support for the upload and distribution of customized packages through self-service installation.

Monitoring and diagnostics

Monitoring and diagnostics for Retail components is now available through the Operational Insights dashboard in LCS. The Operational Insights dashboard is a cloud-based monitoring portal that replaces the need to install the System Center Operations Manager (SCOM) infrastructure.

Retail installation packages

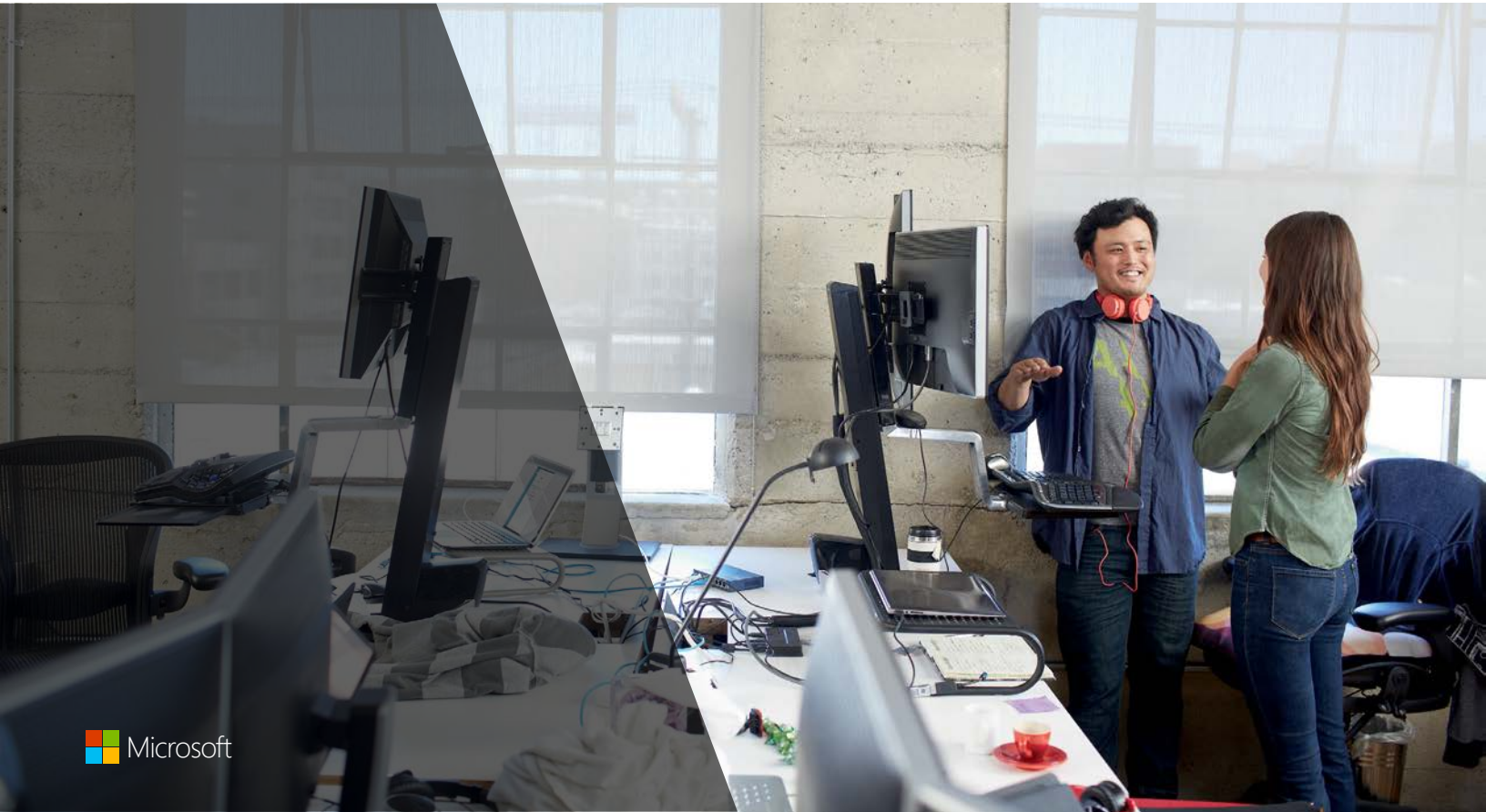
Because there are only two installation packages, one for MPOS client and the other for the Retail Hardware Station component, self-service has reduced the amount of work that is required at every level to install these client components. For more information, see Retail Modern POS and device activation scenarios and Retail hardware station configuration and installation. Additionally, organizations will be able to create, configure, download, and install Retail Hardware Station and devices by using self-service. With this new feature, Self-service aims to minimize requirements and make it easier for a user to perform an installation.



A new look and feel

The screenshot displays the Dynamics AX7 preview interface. At the top, the navigation bar shows 'Lifecycle Services' and 'AX7 preview'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- AX7 preview Dynamics 'AX7' Preview:** A progress bar with six steps: 1. Get Started, 2. Learn the Basics, 3. Build New Exp..., 4. Customize, 5. Integrate, and 6. (unlabeled). Below this is a 'Validate Performance' task list with checkboxes for 'Learn How to Use Performance Tools', 'Create Performance Tests', and 'Analyzing Performance Issues'. A 'Complete phase' button is at the bottom.
- Learn How to Use Performance Tools:** A list of tasks: 'a. Trace parser', 'b. DET', and 'c. Perf timer'. Below is a 'RESOURCES FOR THIS TASK' section with links to 'PERF Expanding Data with the Da...', 'PERF Analyzing Performance Issu...', and 'PERF The Performance Timer and...'. It also includes document templates 'PERF101 - Take a Trace with Trac...' and 'PERF102 - Take a Trace and Use i...'. An 'UPLOADED DOCUMENTS' section is at the bottom.
- Environments:** A section with a '+ Microsoft Azure settings' link and a message: 'We can't find any hosted or on-premises environments. Click + to get started.'
- More tools:** A grid of blue tiles for various tools: Business process modeller, Issue search, Work items, Project settings, Cloud-hosted environments, System diagnostic, SharePoint Online library, My subscriptions, Cloud-powered support, Updates, Asset library, Feedback bugs, Code upgrade, Solution management, Office 365, and Configuration & data manager (Preview). A 'Project settings' tile is also visible.



Microsoft Dynamics AX

Microsoft Dynamics AX is the Microsoft's business solution for enterprises that enables people to make smarter decisions faster with access to real-time insights and intelligence on nearly any device, anywhere. It enables business to redesign their business processes faster so they can innovate and get quick time to value to stay ahead of the competition. It gives businesses the flexibility to grow at their pace through the choice and flexibility of the cloud, allowing them to scale their operations globally to meet business needs.



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