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Microsoft's compelling transition offers to Dynamics 365 are still applicable and no expiry date set as at Aug 2017.

## MS Dynamics 365

MS Dynamics ERP going online is a significant announcement for Microsoft Dynamics and ERP in general and will have its place in the South African ERP realm of needs and application. It also shows just how far the Microsoft has evolved in thinking about its Dynamics business in context of the entire portfolio for Microsoft.

Underlining the announcement, Microsoft also demonstrated their commitment to the South African and African market by announcing the launch of Azure Cloud datacentres. Read full article here: <https://blogs.microsoft.com/blog/2017/05/18/microsoft-deliver-microsoft-cloud-datacenters-africa/#sm.00001p03x9221nexnu6d3ep1q3ssk>

Dynamics 365 has two options: Business Essentials and Enterprise.

- Business Essentials is a combination of MS Dynamics NAV and MS CRM functionality.
- Enterprise is a combination of MS Dynamics AX and MS CRM functionality

## Difficulties in deciding between a on-premise installation and cloud computing?

### Pros: When Cloud Computing Makes Sense

The following are some of the most compelling reasons why cloud computing may make sense for your business:

- **No Server Maintenance** – You no longer have to manage your own hardware and software. This opens up office space, eliminates maintenance costs, and reduces electricity use.
- **Reduced Costs** - When you have your application running in the cloud, the IT staff doesn't have to worry about servers, networking and operating system software support. Those things are being taken care of by the cloud provider.
- **Improved Cash Flow** - When deploying a large system on-premise that requires multiple servers and software, a large, up-front capital outlay is also required. When using a cloud, normal charges are billed on a monthly basis as an operating expense rather than a capital expense. This improves a company's cash flow.

- **Mobile Computing Made Easier** - Most companies have complicated security protocols but with the cloud access, authorizations are taken care of effortlessly.
- **Superior Integration with Other Systems** – The cloud was purposefully designed for easy interoperability, which adds the option for current or future usage of additional products.
- **Faster Implementation** – Cloud ERP solutions are managed and hosted by the vendor therefore you do not need to set up or install any hardware or software.
- **Data Back-Ups** – As opposed to the horrible risk of crashing your in-house server(s) and losing data, third-party hosted ERP clouds have redundancy. That means that your data is copied to at least two locations, so if one fails you still haven't lost anything.

#### **Cons: When On-Premise Works**

In some instances, an on-premise ERP deployment may be right for your company. Let's explore some reasons why:

- **Total cost of ownership (TCO)** - Paying a low monthly subscription for software certainly helps a company's cash flow. However, over the long term, the software can become more expensive.
- **Outside risks** - When software is hosted on-premise, everything resides within your company walls. When it is hosted in the cloud, the cloud provider has access to and control of the hardware and software. Before selecting a cloud-based service provider, evaluate and set the level of control in the service level agreement.
- **Data control** - Having an on-premise solution may make sense when you need to keep sensitive or regulated data local.
- **Internet Connectivity** – When your company is based in a remote area or is struggling with internet connectivity and can't guarantee an 100% uptime then it is best to invest in a on-premise installation.

Customer Source Link: <https://mbs.microsoft.com/customersource/global/news-events/news-events/news/MicrosoftDynamics365>




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# Microsoft Dynamics 365

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Microsoft is on a mission to help every organisation and every individual achieve more. To that end we're seeking to reinvent personal productivity and business processes. Microsoft Dynamics 365 is the next step on our journey. Announced in July 2016 – Dynamics 365 will become generally available later this year. We're keen to help existing Dynamics customers understand more about our ambition and how Dynamics 365 fits into our plans for the Dynamics products and services you are already using.

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## Satya Nadella's Blog Post

Satya Nadella, Microsoft's CEO, announced Microsoft Dynamics 365 at our Worldwide Partner Conference in Toronto.

Two years ago, we set out with an ambition to reinvent productivity and business processes. In a world of infinite information and computing and finite attention and time, we aim to help everyone get more out of every moment and change the nature of digital work within organizations of all sizes.

We pursue this ambition in service of our customers' digital transformations. Businesses of all sizes in every country will not just use digital technologies, but become digital companies themselves. Each company is attempting to digitally transform to achieve the same four outcomes – to engage customers, empower employees, optimize operations and transform products.

And let's be clear – digital transformation won't happen with another bolted-on cloud app or a giant implementation of monolithic and closed business application packages that take half a decade to customize and deploy, and another for employees to begrudgingly learn how to use.

Digital transformation requires systems of intelligence that are tailored to each industry, each company, each micro-task performed by each person. Systems that can learn, expand and evolve with agility as the world and business changes.

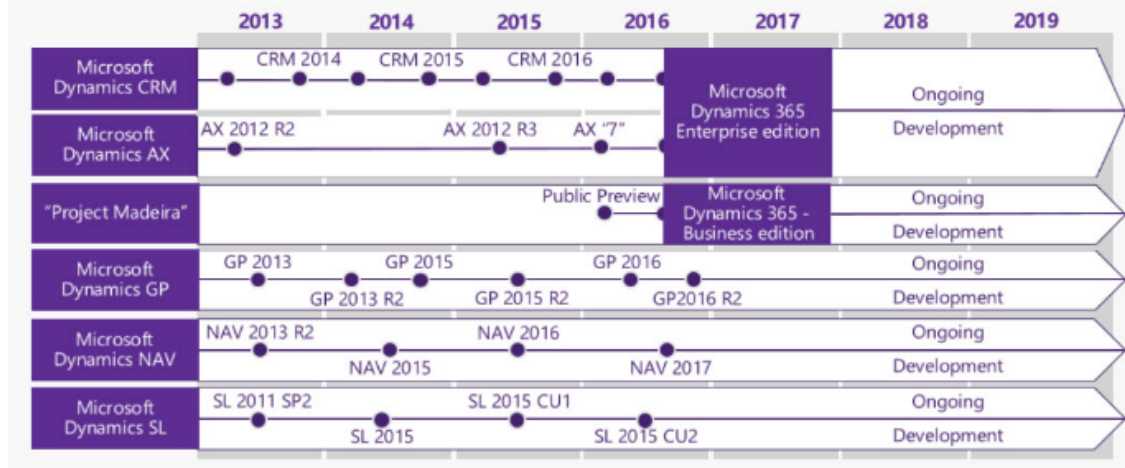
Last year, I made the decision to bring our Dynamics business into the mainstream engineering, marketing and sales teams. Last Thursday, we took a major step forward with the introduction of Microsoft Dynamics 365, to empower business users with built-in insights and intelligence within the business applications they're working in – apps like field service, sales, finance, operations.

This has been a dream of the industry, but also for me personally since 2000 when Microsoft acquired Great Plains. When I led that group, we dreamt of doing things for our customers and partners that are now only possible because of widespread adoption of the cloud, proliferation of data, devices and sensors, and agile development environments.

Realizing this dream requires unlocking data stored in silos and monolithic suites of applications so customers can combine them to derive new insights, extend and modify their business processes quickly, and surface them in the communications and collaboration tools millions of people use at work every day.

View the complete post and more information on the [Dynamics Community](#) site.

## The Microsoft Dynamics portfolio



### The Dynamics portfolio

The Microsoft Dynamics portfolio currently includes CRM, AX, GP, NAV and SL. We have a strong track record of enhancing each of these products. – delivering more value to our existing customers. We remain committed to doing so.

Later this year Dynamics CRM and Dynamics AX will come together to create the Microsoft Dynamics 365 Enterprise edition. The Business edition will be founded on "Project Madeira" which is currently in public preview.

Click to find out more about our plans for your particular product/service:

- [Microsoft Dynamics CRM](#)
- [Microsoft Dynamics AX](#)
- [Project Madeira](#)
- [Microsoft Dynamics GP](#)
- [Microsoft Dynamics NAV](#)
- [Microsoft Dynamics SL](#)

## Microsoft Dynamics 365 editions:

Microsoft Dynamics 365 Dynamics 365 comprises a range of end-to-end, cloud based, intelligent business applications. Dynamics 365 will be available in Business and Enterprise editions.

<b>Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business edition</b>	<b>Microsoft Dynamics 365 Enterprise edition</b>
Financials	Operations
Sales *	Sales
Marketing *	Marketing
	Customer Service
	Field Service
	Project Service Automation
*Available Q2 CY 2017	
Includes embedded intelligence, PowerApps and Flow	Includes embedded intelligence, PowerApps and Flow

## The Microsoft portfolio

Both Business and Enterprise editions leverage capabilities from across Microsoft's wider portfolio of products and services.

Power BI and Cortana Intelligence are natively embedded to help companies achieve their business goals with predictive insights, prescriptive advice and actionable next steps. Azure IoT brings device data to enable preemptive action to business functions like field service.

Deep integration between Dynamics 365 and Office 365 brings together the two worlds of business process and personal productivity. Historically users have been the point of integration between business processes and the email, spreadsheet and word processing tools they use. This meant lot of time flipping between apps and a lot of cutting and pasting. With Dynamics 365, we connect the structured workflow of business apps with the unstructured work of collaboration and productivity for empowered employees and a much more productive experience.

In addition Dynamics 365:

- Uses a common data model, shared with Office 365, to simplify data management and integration across apps and business processes.
- Offers tech savvy business customers/analysts, aka "citizen developers," (using Power Apps, Power BI Embedded and Microsoft Flow) and professional developers (using Azure platform services) a consistent way in which to compose new apps and easily extend and modify existing ones.
- Comes with connectors that let you integrate with applications and services from Microsoft and our partners - including custom API's and on premise systems.

Many of these applications and services will be found on Microsoft AppSource - our new destination for business users to easily find and evaluate line of business SaaS apps, add-ins and content packs from Microsoft and our partners, including those built on top of Dynamics 365, Office 365, Cortana Intelligence and the Azure platform.

