What Would Life Without GP Look Like? Acumatica and Microsoft Business Central

Part 3









Business Solutions Provider...

Presented By: John DiLeo

moving you forward.

What Would Life Without GP Look Like? Acumatica and Microsoft Business Central

Part 3



Agenda:

- GP Roadmap and Lifecycles / supported versions
- Acumatica Born in the Cloud
- Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central (BC) Navision to the cloud
- Acumatica and Business Central
 - User Interface & Navigation
 - Searching for, Storing and Sharing Information
 - Core Accounting Tasks
 - Reporting
 - Automation
- Updates and Upgrades
- Who owns your data
- Migration
- Pricing
- Questions



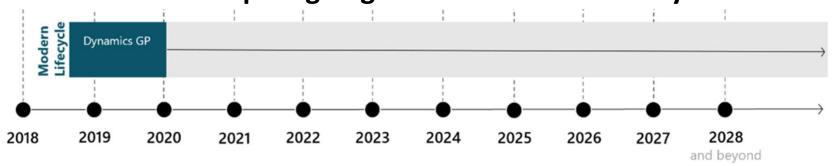




Microsoft Dynamics GP Roadmap



What to expect going forward – 2028 and beyond



⊘ Tip

If you're a Dynamics GP customer and want to migrate to the cloud, reach out to your Dynamics GP partner. You can choose to migrate to Dynamics 365 Business Central or Dynamics 365 Finance to take advantage of the cloud, and your partner can help you migrate data.

If you *don't* want to migrate to the cloud, you can choose to keep up-to-date with the latest version of Dynamics GP or migrate to Dynamics 365 on-premises. The choice is yours, and Microsoft supports both scenarios.

- *Dynamics 365 Business Central was based on Navision
- *Dynamics 365 Finance was based on Axapta



Dynamics GP Lifecycles



Product	Mainstream support	Extended support	Lifecycle definition
Dynamics GP 2013 and GP 2013 R2	Ended April 4, 2018	Ends April 11, 2023	Dynamics GP 2013/Dynamics GP 2013 R2
Dynamics GP 2015 and GP 2015 R2	Ended April 14, 2020	Ends April 8, 2025	Dynamics GP 2015/Dynamics GP 2015 R2
Dynamics GP 2016 and GP 2016 R2	Ended July 13, 2021	Ends July 14, 2026	Dynamics GP 2016/Dynamics GP 2016 R2
Dynamics GP 2018 and GP 2018 R2	Mainstream support ends January 10, 2023	Ends January 11, 2028	Dynamics GP 2018/Dynamics GP 2018 R2

In 2019 Microsoft introduced the Modern Lifecycle Policy (18.2)

- The Modern Lifecycle Policy offers support and servicing, including bug fixes, and latest tax updates. Under this policy, Dynamics
 GP customers stay current by taking at least one of the three all-inclusive Dynamics GP updates, typically released in June,
 October, and December each year. The updates will typically consist of hotfixes, tax updates, and any relevant regulatory updates.
 The updates can also include changes in usability or reliability to address top customer issues, and other areas that are critical in
 making sure that businesses run successfully on Dynamics GP.
- October 2022: Microsoft released Dynamics GP Version 18.5
- October 2023: Microsoft Dynamics GP Version 18.6 (Released 10/2/2023)
- https://www.calszone.com/2023/09/sneak-peak-of-whats-new-in-dynamics-gp-18-6-version-release-october-2023/



Dynamics Business Central



Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central – Navision to the cloud

- In 1987, an on premise ERP software called Navision Financials was released.
- Microsoft acquired the software in 2002 and rebranded it to Dynamics NAV three years later.
- Microsoft then used NAV's codebase as the foundation for a new cloud-based version of the ERP software, while keeping the same familiar functionality.
- In 2018, Business Central launched on the market as a fully cloud-based ERP for small to mid-sized businesses.
- Current Version: 23 Business Central 2023 Wave 2 (Many features released 10/2/2023 others planned through March 2024)

1987	2002	2005	2018
Navision Financials	Microsoft Business Solution Navision	Microsoft Dynamics NAV	Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central
ON-PREMISE/HOSTED			
			CLOUD





Acumatica – Born in the Cloud



- 2008 Acumatica launched its first product, Acumatica ERP, in November 2008
- 2009 On-premises and SaaS software versions were released.
- 2010 Acumatica's distribution software released.

Acumatica focused on addressing the needs of small and midsized businesses – to build capabilities and drive innovations that help organizations scale and grow.

Acumatica was born in the cloud -- disrupting the market with 'modern ERP' to meet today's challenges

Customer Bill of Rights - Upholding these rights is core to who Acumatica is as a company and what we stand for as a community.

A software and services proposal with clear fee structures, and no surprises	Unlimited user access without having to purchase user licenses	Fully adapt and customize the solution to meet your evolving business requirements	Transparent, fair pricing and agreements without long term commitments	Deploy the solution on a public or private cloud
An open platform with robust APIs to rapidly integrate your other systems	A complete security model that covers your application access, data, reports, and devices	Own and access your data, now and always – in full, usable data formats	Take advantage of all knowledge and resources developed across a broad community of employees, partners, and customers	Professional online training that is free and comprehensive



Demo Acumatica and Business Central



Access/Login/Company selection



Companies and Multi-Entity Management (MEM):

- Acumatica Acumatica Cloud ERP allows customers to operate within one tenant or multiple tenants. A single tenant (database) can contain an unlimited number of entities (Companies/Branches). Entities within a single tenant can automatically share master records or not between entities based on your requirements.
- Business Central currently supports up to 300 Companies in one cloud environment
- Business Central has dimensions to allow some MEM functionality but requires Binary Stream Multi-Entity Management to use one database for multiple companies with inter-entity distributions.





Access/Login/Company selection

 Acumatica supports – single tenant – multiple companies and branches quickly change between entities Revision Two Products
Products Wholesale

Q

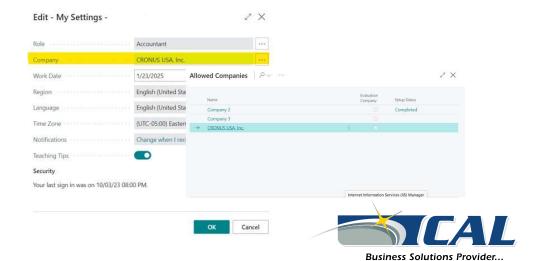
COMPANY1 - Revision Two Capital

COMPANY2 - Revision Two Products
PRODRETAIL - Products Retail
PRODWHOLE - Products Wholesale

COMPANY3 - Revision Two Services
SERVEAST - Services East
SERVEST - Services West

Companies: 3, Branches: 4

 Business Central – Change Companies by using BC My Settings (Alt-T)



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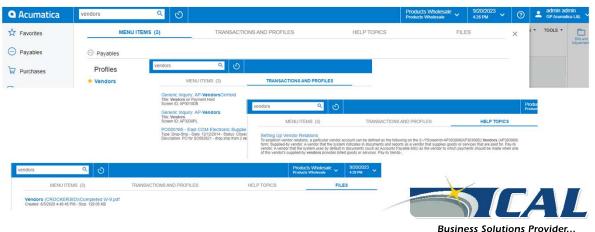


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Acumatica navigation

- · Acumatica navigation through menus or searching
- Acumatica's global search will search Menu Items, Transaction Records and Profiles (master records), Help Topics, and Files stored in Acumatica. Very easy for users to find what they are looking for.
- Acumatica Workspaces on the Left based on modules and custom workspaces can be created easily for any specific role/job function.
- Acumatica workspaces allow the users to mark their favorites that they access often and use Favorites for your most frequently used.





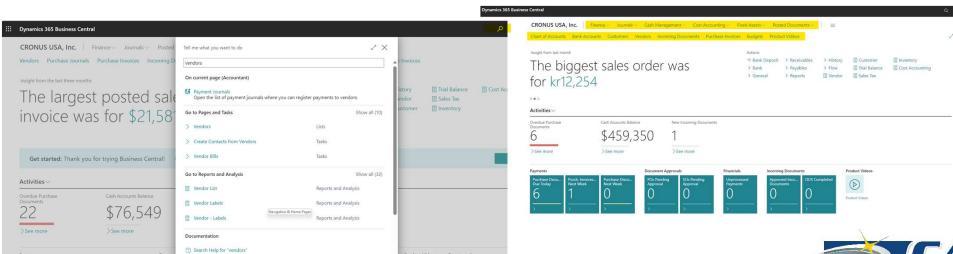


Business Central navigation

• BC Command Bar at the Top and the Tell Me search "Tell me what to do" - Alt-Q

• Search Pages (screens), Tasks, Lists, Reports, MS Documentation – can bookmark favorites in the list. (not master records)

BC allows users to bookmark their favorites which adds them to your home page. BC users commonly search to navigate to the screen/list/reports they are looking for or use their favorites.



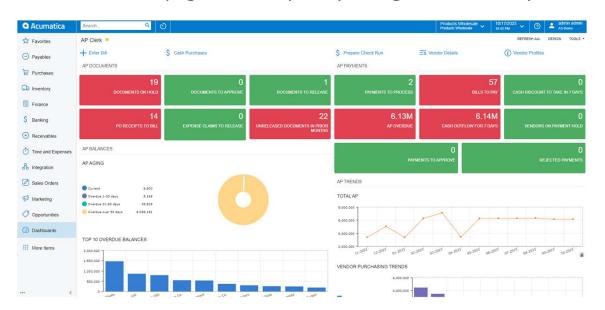
Product Videos Get started

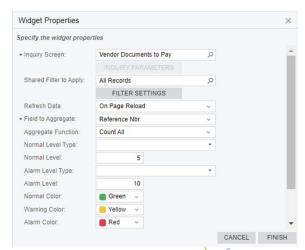




Acumatica home page

- Acumatica home pages can be designed to be a user's home page that provides quick easy access to everything they need to complete their job.
- Acumatica Dashboard widgets are live clickable data access open Drilldown viewer of the source data.
- · Home pages are completely configurable and easy to create new widgets



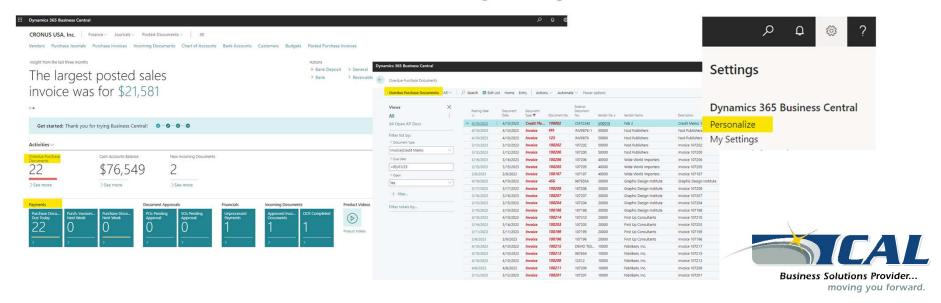






Business Central Home Page / Role Page

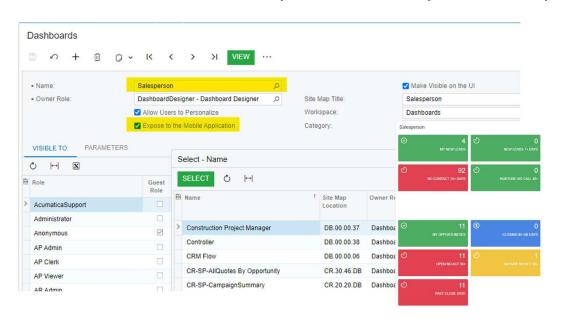
- Users can change their role Settings > Personalize
- Business Central allows Profiles (Roles) to be personalized and if the Role allows users to personalize then user can change it for themselves.
- Business Central Queues / Tiles are live clickable data access to open lists to view the source data.
- BC Actions Queues can be shown or hidden through Settings > Personalize.





Acumatica Home Pages / Dashboards

- Acumatica user home pages can be set to any screen, report or Dashboard.
- Dashboards can be designed with charts, KPI's, lists/data tables, Power BI tiles, and shortcuts to Acumatica forms, reports and more.
- Dashboards can be exposed to the Mobile Application with one click
- Users can access any Dashboards they have security to and can mark as favorites



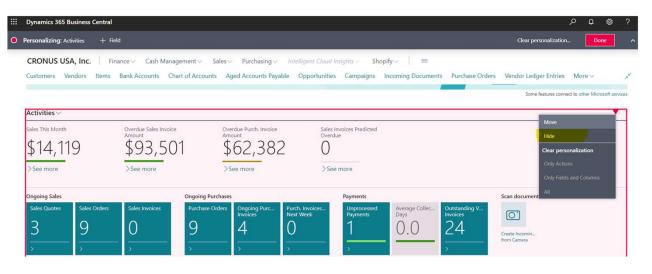








- Business Central Home Pages / Dashboards
 - BC user home pages/role pages show/hide sections user doesn't need
 - New BC Queues/Tiles can be created with customizations or purchased through Microsoft's AppSource
 - Power BI Reports can be created in Power BI and embedded into Business Central





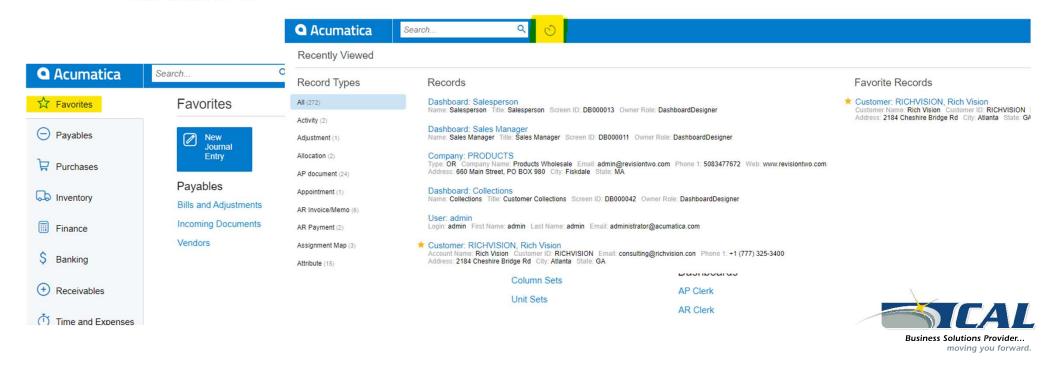






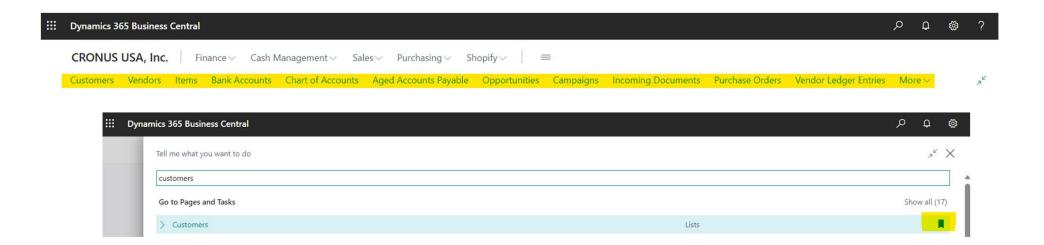


- Acumatica User Favorites and Recently Viewed
 - Users can mark any screen, report, list, dashboards and Master Records as a User Favorites click the Star
 - Acumatica Recently viewed list the top 500 most recently viewed records/transactions the user has interacted with.





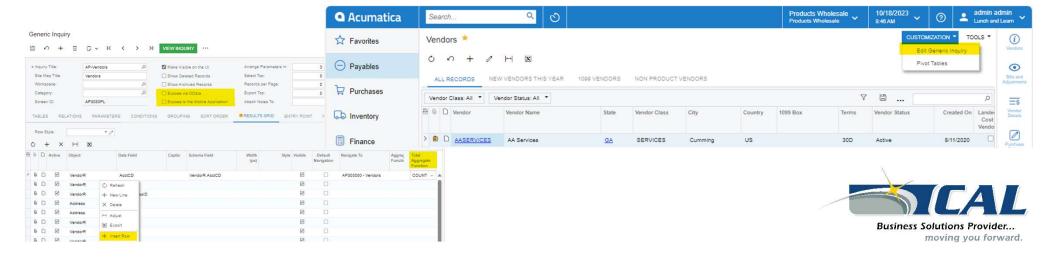
- Business Central User Bookmarks / Favorites
 - Bookmark any page in BC and add it to the user's home page







- Acumatica Lists and user personalization and Acumatica Attributes
 - Acumatica Lists (Generic Inquiries) power using configuration not customizations.
 - Users can add/remove/move columns through the searching in primary Lists and Screens with grids for searching and all have Export to Excel, Expose to OData and Mobile App.
 - Quick Search fields allow you to control which fields are search from the Quick Search.
 - Generic Inquiries are easy to customize for admin users
 - Ability to add aggregate totals to columns
 - Create side panels show related information GI's, Screens, Reports





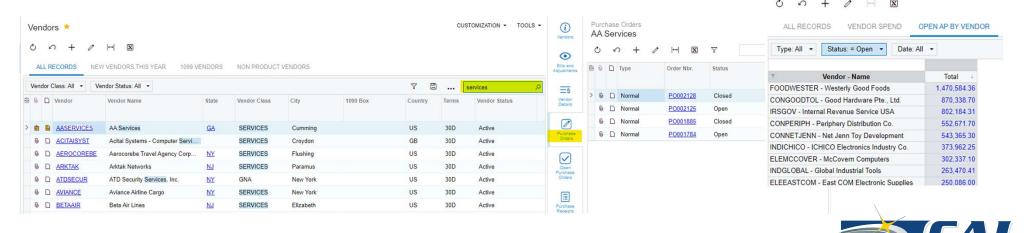
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Bills and Adjustments *

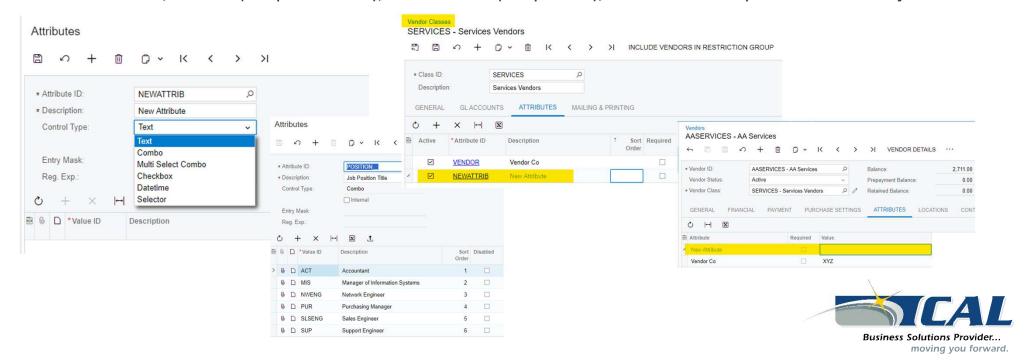
- Acumatica Lists (Generic Inquiries) Filtering, file attachments, OData
 - Filtering on any columns and Quick Search searches the columns you mark to include.
 - File Attachments
 - Acumatica Sharing Info emailing built in, Lists (GI's) can be exposed to OData, with unlimited users – can provide access to info for all users.

Create built-in Pivot Tables



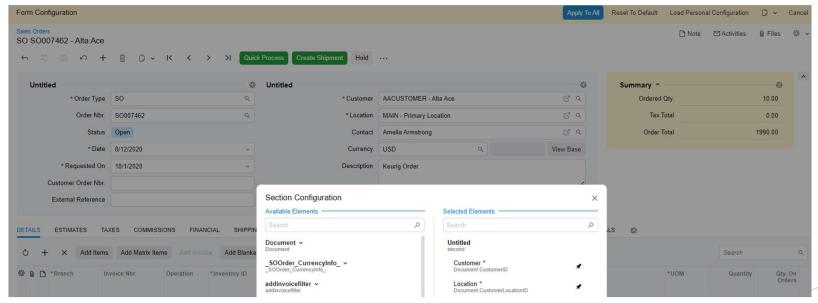


- Acumatica Attributes/User Defines easy to create and add to screens and include in lists (Generic Inquiries)
 - Text, Combo (Dropdown lists), Multi-Select (Dropdown), Selector lookup to other data objects.





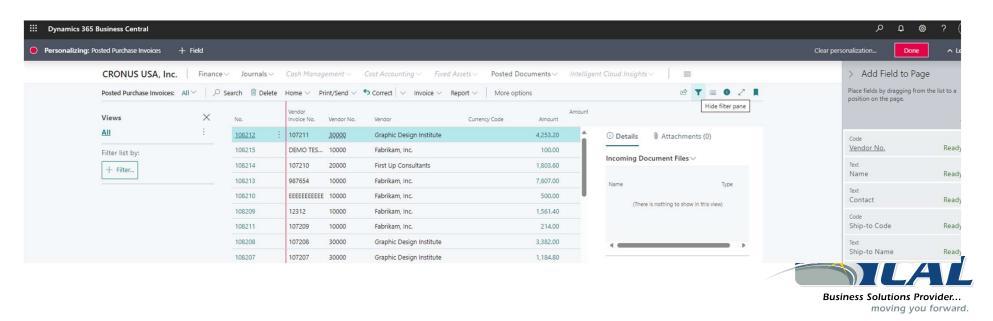
- Acumatica Screen Configurations
 - Acumatica screen configuration moving fields/hide/show currently via simple customizations new functionality coming part of the low code/no code initiative.





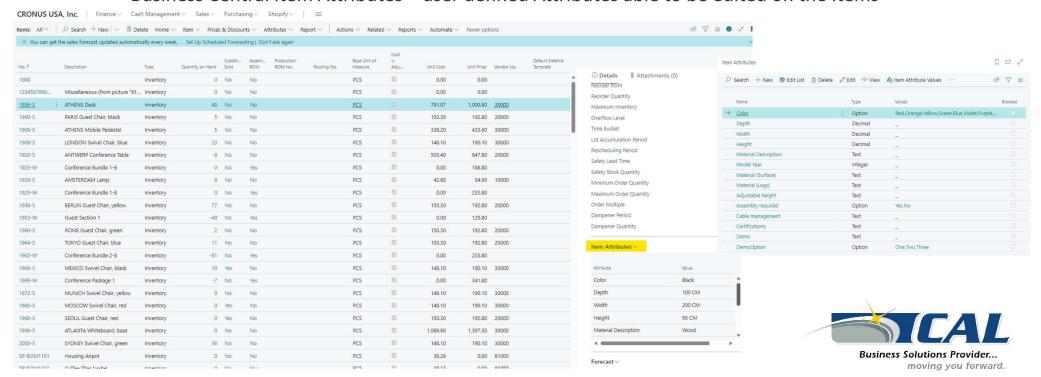


- Business Central Lists built in Personalize allow users to control which fields are in the list.
- Filter on any column in the list and create saved filters can help users find data more quickly
- Fact Boxes on lists show up to date information and can be shown/hidden on any list/screen
- BC sharing Info emailing built in, List shared, export to Excel some lists can be edited in Excel.
- Web Service lists exposed to OData for access to data in Excel to leverage the power of Excel.



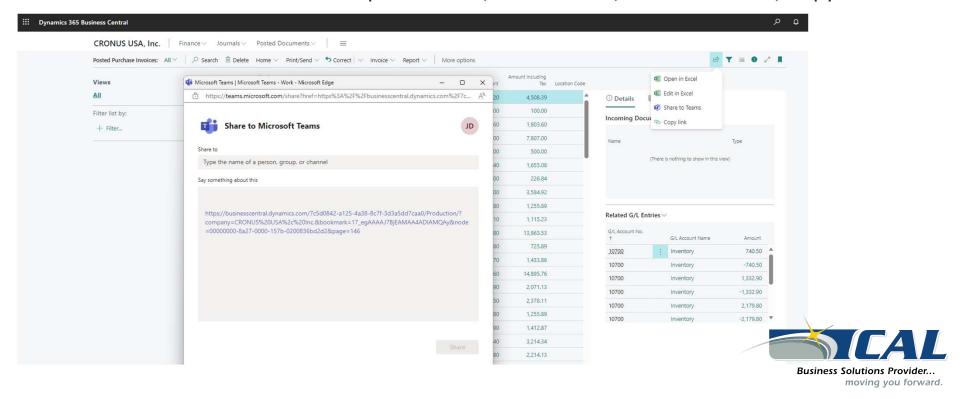


- Business Central Lists built in Factboxes show up to date information to the right
 - Can Show/Hide Facts Boxes throughout BC
 - Business Central Item Attributes user defined Attributes able to be edited on the Items



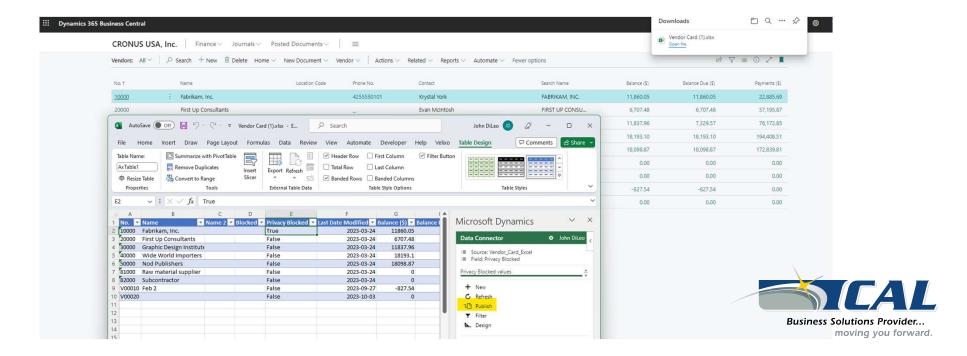


• Business Central Share button – Open in Excel, Edit in Excel, Share to Teams, Copy link



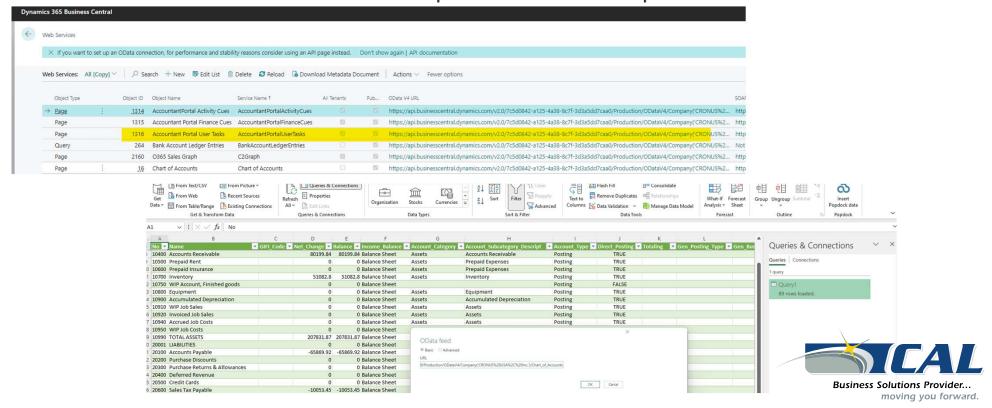


 Business Central Edit in Excel – very powerful for editing and adding records, validates data during Publish data back to Business Central



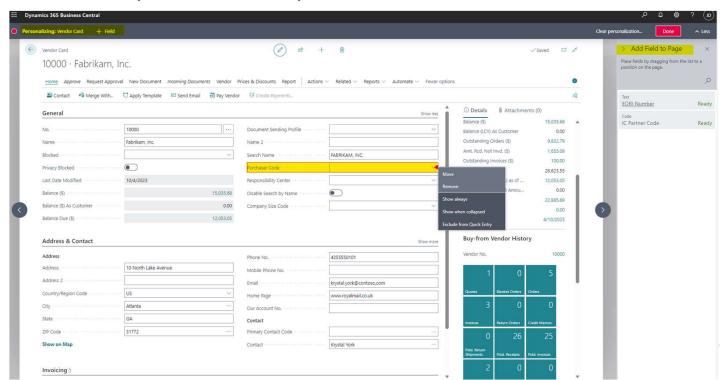


• Business Central Web Services exposed to OData - open in Excel





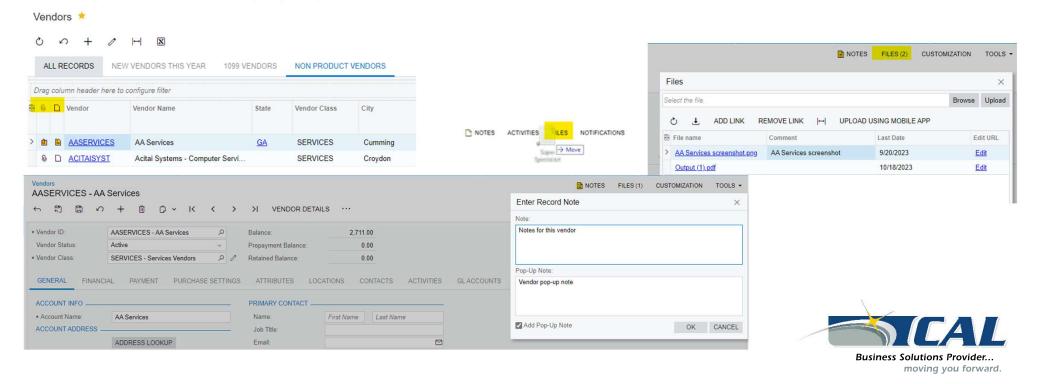
- Business Central Screen Personalization's Add/Remove/Hide/Show
 - Show only the information your users need





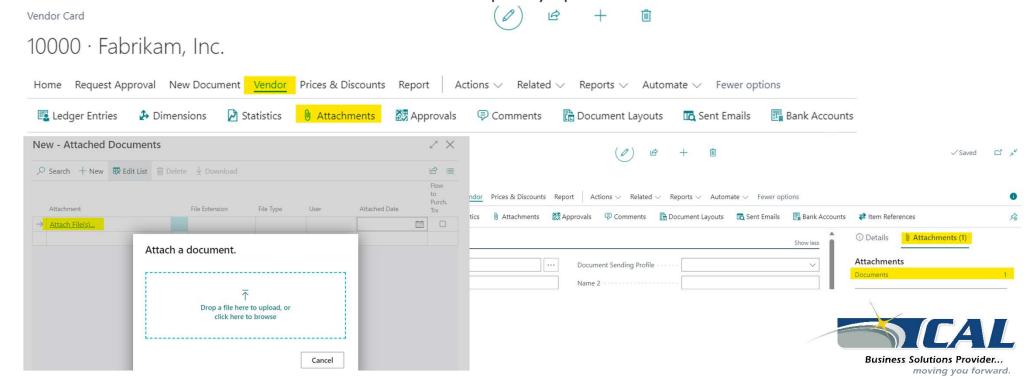


• Acumatica Document Attachments – easy drag and drop, visible through out the system and has pop-up notes for some records.





- Business Central Document Attachments drag and drop, visible in the factbox
 - Click on the Number of Attachments to quickly open the attachment window



Reporting



Acumatica

- Acumatica built modern report designer easy to create new reports and add to the site map for custom reporting.
- Acumatica Generic Inquires provide flexible customizable reporting through out the application
 - Support OData and making visible to the Mobile App
- Acumatica ARM (Analytical Report Manager) using Row and Columns sets built inside of Acumatica. Very flexible reporting.
- Acumatica Pivot Tables built into the platform.
- Acumatica Charts built into the platform
- Acumatica Audit History and Field Level audits built in.



Reporting



Business Central

- Business Central Reports use Word Templates and Microsoft Report Builder
 - · Easy to make multiple custom versions
- Business Central Lists and OData
 - New custom Lists can be created via Customizations or AppSource add-ons
- Business Central Uses Row and Columns built inside of BC
- Business Central built reporting with Excel and Power BI
 - Microsoft Business Central designed to leverage Microsoft Dynamics 365 capabilities
- Business Central Change Logs and Field Level audits built in.
- Microsoft AppSource provides ability to add additional reporting functionality.



Core Accounting Tasks





Acumatica and Business Central are full ERP applications

- Full Financials, Distribution, basic CRM functionality, Field Service, Manufacturing, Project
- Built-in Financial Statements
- Both have integrations to Shopify.
- Acumatica also has Big Commerce and Amazon
- Business Central AppSource has providers for other eCommerce platforms
- Acumatica has Construction Edition designed for the industry
- Acumatica has Payroll Module
- Business Central has a number of AppSource Payroll solutions.
- Both have AP automations built-in and add-ons with additional functionality.
- Both have Electronic Bank Feeds
- Both have Copy and Paste functionality
- Both have Web Services and API's available



Automations



Acumatica

- Acumatica has Automation Schedules, Business Events, Workflows and Approvals plus built in Import and Export Scenarios.
- Acumatica Generic Inquires combined with Business Events can automate also any business require using built in functionality.
- Acumatica AP Document Recognition to review and create AP and 3-Way matching Bills also works with the Outlook Add-in for Acumatica.
- Built in Notification Templates for easy emailing notifications.
- Acumatica Retail Commerce edition has built in integration to Shopify, Big Commerce and Amazon
- Acumatica's Open API capabilities allow for ease in connecting apps



Automations



Business Central

- Business Central has approvals built in and is designed to integrate with Power Automate to design additional automations around business processes.
- Business has AP Document OCR functionality leverage integration
- BC 2023 Wave 2 continues to add functionality to the application
- BC Outlook Plugin very powerful
- BC Notifications built in
- BC integrations and hundreds of App Source ISV solutions
- BC integration with Power Automate



Cloud ERP Updates / Upgrades



Acumatica R1 and R2 each year

- Has Always Current program for all new clients - which automatically apply updates to your cloud ERP – major + minor updates. Notified 120 days prior
- Always current has an option to only 1 upgrade for a small fee.
- You can elect out of the Always Current to the Flex program for an additional fee for Advanced Edition, No fee for Enterprise Edition. (Not available for Small Business Edition)

POWER OF CHOICE						
	ACUMATICA FLEX	ALWAYS CURRENT				
UPDATES	PARTNER MANAGED OPTIONAL	ACUMATICA MANAGED AUTOMATIC (MONTHLY)				
UPGRADES	PARTNER MANAGED TIMING: 0-18 MONTHS FREE 90 DAY SANDBOX	ACUMATICA MANAGED TIMING: 0-4 MONTHS FREE 90 DAY SANDBOX				
CUSTOMIZATIONS	ANY	LOW CODE / NO CODE				
ISV SOLUTIONS	ANY	ALWAYS CURRENT CERTIFIED				
MAINTENANCE COST	VARIES	INCLUDED				



Cloud ERP Updates / Upgrades



Business Central

Major updates – feature based twice per year (2 waves)

- · Release Notes available 90 days before
- 30 days before release you can create sandbox to test/review.
- Upgrade window can push out to 60 days before automatically upgraded by Microsoft.

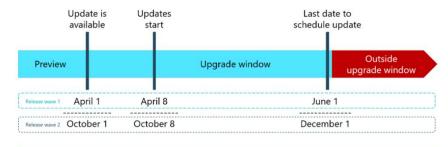
Minor updates - 2nd week of every month

- · Minor enhancements and hotfixes
- Only have a max of 30 days



Timelines for major updates

The following figure illustrates the key milestones and dates for rolling out a major update. The dates are loosely based on 2021 release wave 1 and 2021 release wave 2. The same timeline applies to all other major updates, though dates will differ.





Migrations





Acumatica and Business Central have migration tools

 CAL leverages custom queries we have designed to extract the data out of GP for conversions.

Acumatica:

- Import Scenarios allow imports to be created for each screen in Acumatica and provides flexibility to use formulas and substitution lists to assist with the migrations.
- Acumatica Migration Mode allows historical transactions to be brought into Acumatica in addition to open transactions. Historical transactions will not update the GL but are part of the core application. (Example: Historical Sales Transactions)

Business Central:

- Microsoft created a GP conversion tool that certain scenarios can be used but limited capabilities and not for all modules/GP functionality.
- Business Central Configuration Packages allow imports for BC data tables to be done through Excel and imported into BC.
- Open Transactions can be brought into Business Central.
- History transactions can be pushed to Microsoft's Data Lake



Who owns your data





Acumatica:

- Acumatica provides the ability to create Snapshots of your Acumatica cloud instance at anytime which is a complete snapshot of all your data which can then be exported out
- Acumatica provides the ability to have a local free 2 user license where snapshots can be restored and you have a full working version of Acumatica with all your data.
- Acumatica Export scenarios can also be used to export any data out of Acumatica in various formats.

Business Central:

- Business Central Configuration Packages allow you to Export any BC data tables to Excel and each table will be in it's own tab.
- Microsoft's Power Platform can push BC data to another Dynamics 365 solution.
- Business Central webservices and API's allow for extracting data from BC

Other Cloud Solutions:

Be sure to ask how you get your data back and in what format.



Acumatica Pricing



Transaction volume-based licensing

- Acumatica offers unlimited users with commercial transactions volume-based licensing:
- Like electricity you pay for what you use not for how many people are in the house.
- Designed to not require a lot of add-on solutions
- Acumatica offers a Small Business Edition for 5 or 10 named users

Module Based Pricing:

- Costs are associated to only the modules your company needs.
- Allows companies to only pay for the modules that they need now and can add modules as the business grows/changes over time.
- Most Cloud ERPs can have transaction limits over their base licensing and can have additional subscription costs as your transaction volumes grow.





Business Central Pricing



Business Central

- · User based pricing (named user vs concurrent user licensing)
- Example of concurrent: (GP is concurrent) with concurrent we can have 50 users and 30 licensed users. The first 30 users to login can access the system. Ideal if you run multiple shifts or have users that are very infrequent users, you can have less licensed ERP users than your total user count.
- · Business Central is User Based licensing but offers different level of users (Full users vs Teams Users).
- Named Users every user must have their own license.
 Essentials vs Premium: Premium includes Service Management and Manufacturing
- · Team member users are read only
- Business Central requires additional Microsoft solutions along with App Source solutions to get the most out of the application.

Dynamics 365 Business Central Essentials

From \$70
per user/month

Dynamics 365 Business Central Premium

From \$100
per user/month

Dynamics 365 Business Central Team Members

From \$8

per user/month



Questions & Answers



Info:

- As your GP partner we understand this is a big decision and the future of your business could be riding on making the right choice for your company.
- We are offering a free one on one consultation with you, where we will take a deep dive into your specific GP deployment and related systems and your business needs today as well as expectations for the future. This will allow us to help you determine what the correct plan is for you and company with GP and or moving to a new solution









sales@calszone.com

860-485-0910

www.calszone.com