**What's new in Dynamics 365 Business Central telemetry - May 2023**

It is May and it has been a month since the last newsletter.

WRITE NEW TEXT: We have been wrapping up the 2023 release wave 1 of Business Central and this also means improvements to telemetry.

As always, the bleeding edge news on Dynamics 365 Business Central telemetry happens on Twitter, so if you want to keep up with the latest and greatest (and the beta versions of the Power BI telemetry apps) then follow me there (@kennienp). The intention of these monthly newsletters is to try to gather everything that I know and learn about this area and present it here. Let’s go…

In the May 2023 edition, read about these things:

* Upcoming conference sessions
* Power BI Usage apps – May updates
* New signal/updates
* Documentation improvements
* Tips and Tricks

# Upcoming conference sessions in May 2023

**Business Central Launch event (March 29 – end of June 2023)**

The Business Central Launch Event will take place from March 29-31, 2023. During the three days, you’ll be able to participate in a live opening session, watch sessions on what's new in 2023 release wave 1 and participate in Q&As. After March 31, all sessions will be available on-demand until end of June 2023.

Event is online, agenda is published online, registration needed, attendance is free).

I have recorded two sessions for the event:

Get data-driven with telemetry. This is a non-technical session on how implementation project managers can use telemetry to get low-friction go-lives. The session also has a section for ISV product owners/managers on how they can use telemetry to improve the quality of their apps.

<insert screenshot>

What’s new in telemetry. A technical session on new data in telemetry and tips and tricks for the KQL data nerds.

<insert screenshot>

Read more and register at

https://aka.ms/bcle

**Days Of Knowledge Central (May 25 - 26, 2023) in Dusseldorf, Germany**

TODO: FIND SESSIONS

Read more

https://directions4partners.com/days-of-knowledge/central-2023/

**Days Of Knowledge Nordic 2023 (June 1 - 2, 2023) in Odense, Denmark**

TODO: FIND SESSIONS

Read more

https://directions4partners.com/days-of-knowledge/nordic-2023/

**Conferences in June 2023**

There will also be telemetry sessions at the conferences mentioned below. In upcoming newsletters, I will go more into details about the sessions there.

BC/NAV Techdays 2023 (June 22-23, 2023) in Antwerp, Belgium

https://www.bctechdays.com/

# Power BI Usage apps – May updates

TODO: Change text here The May updates for both apps have a lot of new improvements and features in all reporting areas: Usage, Errors, Performance, and Administration. This is definitely a release that you want to upgrade to if you want to be more productive with telemetry.

In this release, we added an AL stacktrace visual and visuals to show the top/bottom of the stack trace on a lot of pages. This will make it easier for you to troubleshoot both the AL code where the event is thrown and the AL code where the event surfaces.

**Environment Usage app**

Usage report

Performance report

Error report

Administration report

Dataset

See the full change log here:

https://github.com/microsoft/BCTech/blob/master/samples/AppInsights/PowerBI/Reports/AppSource/environment-app-pbix/changelog.txt

**App Usage app**

Usage report

Performance report

Error report

Dataset

See the full change log here:

https://github.com/microsoft/BCTech/blob/master/samples/AppInsights/PowerBI/Reports/AppSource/isv-app-pbix/changelog-isv-app.txt

# New signal/updates

**New dimension coming in 21.6/22.1: exclusiveTime in long running AL methods signal (event RT0018).**

Partners gave us feedback that event RT0018 does not provide value since it included time spent in modal events. Therefore, we added the time where the measurement was suspended so that partner telemetry users can filter the modal ones away.

KQL sample has been updated, see <https://github.com/microsoft/BCTech/blob/master/samples/AppInsights/KQL/Queries/ExampleQueriesForEachArea/LongRunningAL.kql>

**Smaller improvements in 22.x**

When finalizing the 2023 release wave 1, we did some smaller improvements that will come in version 22.0 or in a minor update to version 22:

* Error codes in failed OData calls (event RT0008) to help troubleshoot 400 return code signal.
* Long running AL method telemetry (eventId RT0018) will include details on SQL operations in the custom dimensions sqlRowsRead and sqlStatements.
* Outgoing web service telemetry (eventId RT0019) will include details on client type and AL stack trace in the custom dimensions clientType and alStackTrace.

KQL samples might already have been updated, see [BCTech/samples/AppInsights/KQL/Queries/ExampleQueriesForEachArea at master · microsoft/BCTech (github.com)](https://github.com/microsoft/BCTech/tree/master/samples/AppInsights/KQL/Queries/ExampleQueriesForEachArea)

The Power BI apps will be updated to use this information in the May/June 2023 updates.

**Coming soon/in the works (no ETA given)**

* Information on files blocked from upload due to malware scanning (only in the online version)..
* Error codes in failed OData calls to help troubleshoot 400 return code signal.
* PTE validation signal (PTEs that block updates to next major)
* New dimension suspendedTime in Long Running AL (RT0018)

# Documentation improvements

**No-code alerting with Power BI Metrics**

If you use the Power BI app on telemetry data, it's very easy to track the metrics that are important to you. With metrics in Power BI, you can curate your own metrics and track them against key business objectives, in a single pane. This feature enhances data culture by promoting accountability, alignment, and visibility for teams and initiatives within organizations.

For my Directions 2023 keynote this year, I made this project manager scorecard in less than 30 minutes:

<insert screenshot>

Read more here: <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/dynamics365/business-central/dev-itpro/administration/telemetry-alert#no-code-alerting-with-power-bi-metrics>

**New docs page: Telemetry FAQ**

We added a new docs page: Telemetry FAQ. Any questions we should add here?

<insert screenshot>

Read more here:

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/dynamics365/business-central/dev-itpro/administration/telemetry-faq>

**KQL samples added to docs**

We added KQL samples to the docs pages on Job Queue telemetry

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/dynamics365/business-central/dev-itpro/administration/telemetry-job-queue-lifecycle-trace>

and on Database Lock Timeout telemetry

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/dynamics365/business-central/dev-itpro/administration/telemetry-database-locks-trace>

This is the beginning of moving more content from BCTech into docs. Stay tuned for more of this coming to docs.

# Tips and Tricks

**Calculating report rendering time**

The time spent to run a report consists of two parts: generating the dataset and rendering the report. In report telemetry, you get two durations: serverExecutionTime and totalTime. The former is roughly the time it takes for the NST to generate the dataset. In case you want to troubleshoot report performance, you can calculate the rendering time like this in KQL:

renderingTimeinMS = totalTimeInMS - serverExecutionTimeInMS

The KQL sample

<https://github.com/microsoft/BCTech/blob/master/samples/AppInsights/KQL/Queries/ExampleQueriesForEachArea/Reports.kql>

has been updated with this info.

# Blog posts and videos

TODO

Did you know that the BCTech repo has pages with links to blog posts and videos on telemetry?

Blogs: https://github.com/microsoft/BCTech/blob/master/samples/AppInsights/BLOGS.md

Videos: https://github.com/microsoft/BCTech/blob/master/samples/AppInsights/VIDEOS.md

If you create blog posts/videos on telemetry (or know of things that are not linked from these two pages), feel free to do a pull request to the repository (or send me an email/message)

**That’s all folks!**

That's it for the April newsletter. If you made it all the way down here, then you are truly a Telemetry Hero. See you in a month.

PS. Would love to hear your experiences on using alerts to be more proactive. Reach out (or blog about your experiences.)

PPS. It is not too late to rate the Power BI apps on Appsource 😊 Your feedback matters (a lot).

Do it here:

TODO

or

TODO