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**EXPLORING LOW-CODE AND NO-CODE DEVELOPMENT WITH POEWRAPPS**

**Thesis**

**CENTRIA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

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**ABSTRACT**

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| Traditional software development often demands extensive coding expertise, limiting its accessibility to a select group of individuals. Low-code and no-code development platforms (LCDPs) have emerged as game-changers, empowering anyone to create applications without requiring in-depth coding knowledge. PowerApps, a leading LCDP from Microsoft, stands out for its user-friendly drag-and-drop interface, pre-built connectors and templates, and seamless integration with various data sources. This thesis digs deep into the transformative power of PowerApps, exploring its versatility and applicability across a wide range of business scenarios. In conclusion, we summarize the key takeaways from our exploration of PowerApps, emphasizing its ability to rapidly develop applications that enhance productivity, streamline operations, and drive innovation. LCDPs like PowerApps Empower businesses of all sizes to embrace digital transformation without being constrained by coding limitations. | | |
|  | | |
| Key words  Low-code and No-code development, Microsoft, PowerApps, Business Apps, Interface | | |

**CONCEPT DEFINITIONS**

**LCDPs**

Low-code and No-code Development Platforms

RAD

Rapid Application Development

XP

Extreme Programming

**ABSTRACT**

**CONCEPT DEFINITIONS**

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# INTRODUCTION

Businesses are constantly looking for innovations and innovative solutions to grow their businesses effectively. Classical software development often linked with complicated coding skills and heavily dependent on specialized expertise, which has been proven to be a major obstacle for many businesses. To minimize this issue, low-code and no-code development platforms (LCPDs) have been an effective solution, enabling developers or anyone with little to zero coding knowledge to design complex software in lesser time.

Low-code and no-code applications give people and businesses the ability to develop services and solutions for their business without the need for programming skills. The simplicity of use of these application services is a top priority. To narrow down the services the application can offer, the initial step in the application creation process is developing the service using questionnaires (Name of the app, different devices). The next step in the process is creating using a drag and drop choices for pages, data displays, and text buttons. The final steps in the construction process include employee testing, connecting the application to a data source, and determining if the program can do the desired task. LCPDs are not limited to those without any prior coding knowledge. It all boils down to the purpose and the application of the intended application. Professional software developers might reduce their workload and produce prototypes more quickly with the help of such LCPDs.

One of the best LCPDs is PowerApps because it is a collection of applications, services, and connectors, as well as data platform, that enables quick development of custom designs as according to the company’s needs and requirements. Also, with PowerApps, data can be stored either in the provided data platforms by Microsoft itself or in any other online or local data sources. Users can easily construct different app components, connect to various data sources, and personalize user interface without writing a single line of code. This strategy encourages a larger range of people, including non-experienced individuals, to engage in the application development process, boosting the cooperation and creativity throughout the business. PowerApps provides a huge collection of pre-built templates that responds to several business demands while also making the app building process easy, simple, and effective. These templates provide as a strong basis for developing customized apps, saving the time and workload required to carve a fully functional app. Users may simply adapt these templates to match their personal demands, resulting in a unique solution that meets their specific organisational goals. PowerApps has transformed the way corporations approach application creation by simplifying app development and empowering non-technical individuals. This low-code platform has made accessible app development, removing obstacles and allowing businesses to swiftly innovate and adapt to changing business environments. PowerApps is prepared to shape the future of digital transformation by enabling organizations to achieve increased agility, efficiency, and creativity. The application designed by using PowerApps can be shared by a person or groups whoever needs it, without following traditional approach for the application development process with all the stages. This thesis unboxes the power of PowerApps, showing its flexibility and applicability over a broad range of business scenarios.

# Low-code and no-code development

No-code and low-code development are innovative approaches that enables people with variety of technical skills to build software and web applications without using traditional programming. No-code platforms need little or zero coding knowledge, instead relying on visual interfaces and ready-made modules for program development. Low-code systems, on the other hand, require some coding, but at a more abstract level, allowing for faster creation through graphical user interface and pre-assembled modules (Woo, 2020).

The evolution of development approaches has seen a shift from manual coding to higher degrees of abstraction. While conventional coding required skills in languages like Java, C++, Python and many more, the emergence of low-code and no-code techniques has made accessible software production, allowing for more participation in application development from business users and non-developers.

Both no-code and low-code conceptual frameworks focus around shortening the app development cycles, reducing dependency on specialist experts, and encouraging collaboration among technical and non-technical stakeholders. This strategic approach attempts to improve efficiency, agility and

Inclusion in the application development process (Rokis, 2023). These frameworks are positioned to play a crucial role in creating the future landscape of software development as technology advances.

## Evolution of Development Approaches

Advances in innovation, changing advertise needs, and the needs to be speed up the development process that have all fueled the development areas of software development approaches. Early approaches, such as Waterfall model, depended on a consistent, straightforward technique, with each stage wrapped up before moving on to the next one (Petersen, 2009). In any case, within the confront of persistently changing necessities and advertise pattern, this strict system got to be constant. More iterative techniques, such as Rapid Application Development (RAD), replaced the waterfall model around the 1970s (Chrismanto, 2019). In order to enable quick prototyping and adaptability to change requirements, RAD placed a strong emphasis on partner and engineer communication. Businesses seeking to shorten their advancement cycles and provide programs more quicky to demonstrate began to employ the strategy.

Agile methodologies, including Scrum and Extreme Programming (XP), gained popularity in the 1990s. Agile methodologies embraced flexibility and adaptability by segmenting the development process in shorter time intervals known as sprints. This method was ideal for the dynamic nature of modern software development since it allowed for ongoing feedback and improvement. The software development lifecycle has been shortened by the emergence of DevOps, a collaborative methodology that matches software development with IT operation. Fast organization and input rings are made possible by DevOps’ emphasis on communication, computerization, and continuous delivery. With the program’s increasing complexity and trade from connectivity, this integration has become more and more important.

Platforms for low-code and no-code creations have surfaced recently, expanding software development by enabling non-technical individuals to create web apps and software with little to no programming experience (Böck, 2021). With the use of these platforms’ drag and drop interfaces, prebuilt parts, and visual programming tools, people and organizations may create applications without needing to have much programming skills. The rising need for quicker, more flexible software development that can accommodate the demands of a larger user base is reflected in the trend toward low-code and no-code development. These platforms allow companies of all sizes to develop and adjust to a constantly changing digital world by reducing entrance barriers.

## Conceptuel Framework

Software engineering practices are evolving due to the availability of low-code and no-code tools. LCDPs reduce the amount of code using images and basic drag and drop capabilities. These days, low-code and no-code development are cutting edge methods of creating software that allows custom build software without requiring highly skilled developers. They also democratize the process. It allows users to quickly develop applications without having to do anything. These platforms, which usually use visual interfaces, drag-and drop tools and pre-built components, streamline the development process by eliminating the need for traditional coding.

This method differs from typical coding approaches in various ways. No code and low code platforms reduce the need for human coding while giving user control over the design an functioning of their apps which concentrate on the underlying coding structure. When compared to traditional coding methods, these platforms accelerate the development process and enable faster application production and deployment.

Rapid Application Development: When compared to traditional coding approaches, these platforms accelerate the development process and enable faster application production and deployment.

Democratizing software development: low-code and no-code platforms enable non-technical users, such as businessmen and subject matter experts, to participate in the software development process.

enhanced efficiency and productivity: streamlines the development process and minimizes dependency on code, contributing to enhanced efficiency and productivity for both developers and non-technical users.

There are numerous major benefits to low-code and no-code programming.

Faster time to market: Shorter development cycles allow companies to bring new applications to market faster, respond to market trends, and gain competitive advantage.

Reduce development costs: By minimizing the need for professional developers, low-code and no-code platforms help companies reduce development costs.

Improved accessibility: The ability to build applications without extensive programming knowledge expands the pool of potential developers and fosters a more inclusive and diverse software development ecosystem.

Despite the many benefits of low-code and no-code development, there are also challenges, including: Limited customization options: Using pre-built components and visual tools can limit the customization options and flexibility of your application.

Organizations should carefully evaluate and test these platforms before deployment to ensure they meet their specific needs and requirements.

In summary, low-code and no-code development offers an innovative approach to software creation, democratizing the process and allowing organizations to quickly develop applications without extensive programming knowledge.

# Powerapps fundamentals

## Introduction to PowerApps

## Key Features

## PowerApps Components

# Building a crud application with powerapps

## Overview of CRUD Operations

## PowerApps Design For CRUD

## Hands-on Demonstration

# Conclusion

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APPENDIX 1

**Instructions for appendices**