

Changes to Dynamics 365 F&O service update schedule

Andreea Bunduc
Venkatesh Vadlamani



Agenda

-
- F&O continuous updates
 - What is the same?
 - What changes?
 - Examples
 - Q&A



Continuous updates

Dynamics 365 updates - an improved experience

One version, with all customers on the latest available version

- Concentrated effort on improving the product
- Enable collaboration
- Better support

Predictable updates with continuous deployment

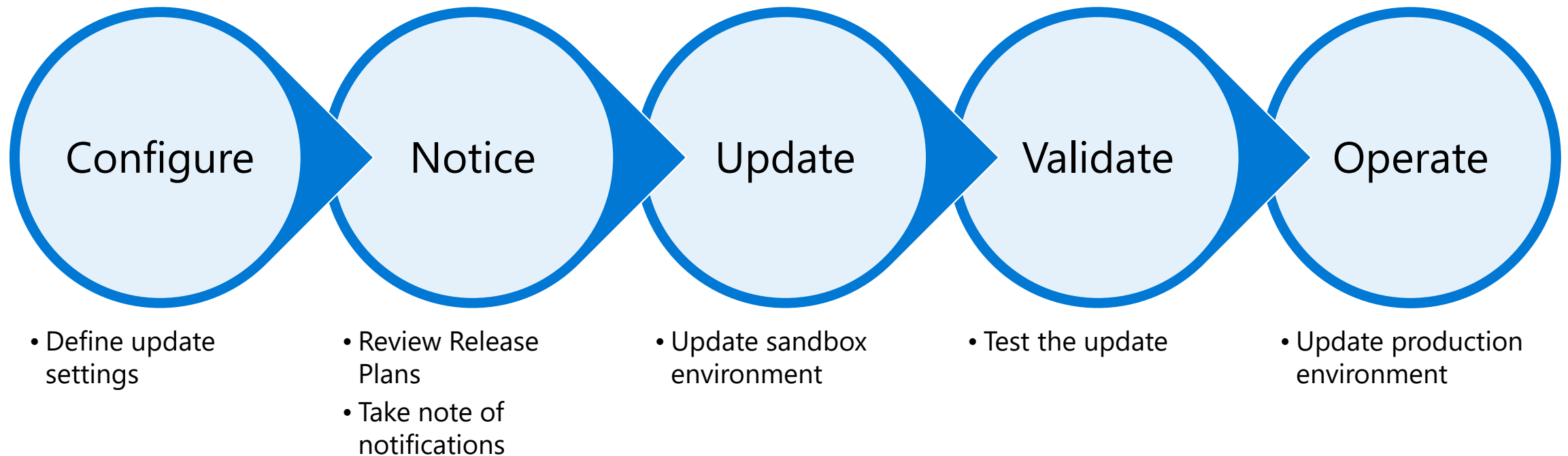
- Major releases
- Minor service updates
- Security updates

Early visibility of upcoming changes

- New capabilities and functionalities
- Backward compatibility

Test new capabilities ahead of time

Service updates steps



Changes in the service update schedule

Targeted release schedule (dates subject to change)

Important

Beginning in 2024, Microsoft is releasing four service updates annually, in February, April, July, and October. There are important changes to preview, update, and servicing durations, and a scheduled update to the preview release build is now standard in every release. For answers to common questions about how these changes affect the release process, see [One Version service updates FAQ](#).

As of February 19, 2024, the maximum number of consecutive updates that can be paused is being reduced from three to one. However, because release durations are being extended, the same minimum of two service updates per year is maintained. For more information, see [One Version service updates FAQ](#).

To enable the new release cadence to be introduced with the first 2024 service update, some release milestones for 10.0.38 were adjusted. For more information, see [One Version service updates FAQ](#).

[Service update availability - Finance & Operations | Dynamics 365 | Microsoft Learn](#)



What is the same?

What is the same?

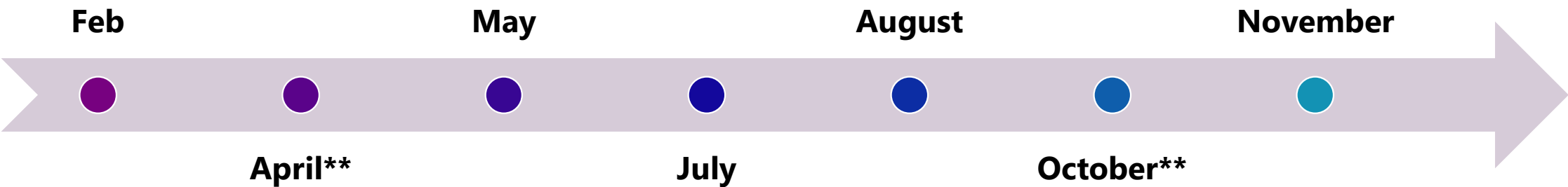
Configure	Notice	Update	Validate	Operate
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Production environment update cadence• Default Sandbox update• Pause and cancelled updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow service update schedule• New features and functionality• Major and minor releases• Backward compatibility• Read the "What's new" content pages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum of two releases per year• Additional sandboxes updated with production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regression testing is a "must"• Implement automation: Regression testing tooling options - Dynamics 365 Microsoft Learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every service update will receive several proactive quality updates• Follow the PQU schedule at Release schedule for proactive quality updates - Finance & Operations Dynamics 365 Microsoft Learn



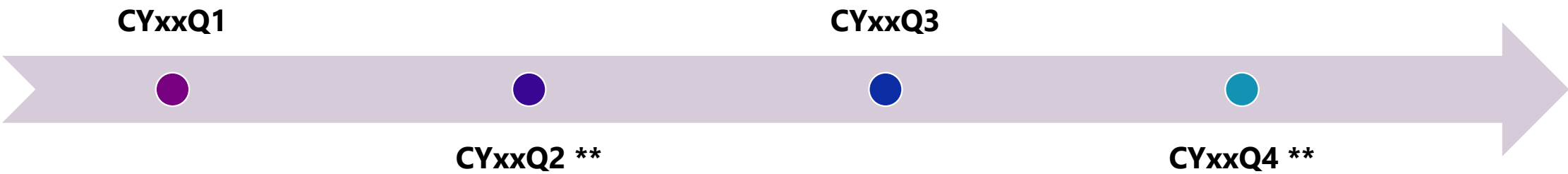
What changes?

Changes to release calendar

Existing Cadence



New Cadence



No of service updates reduced from 7 to **4**
Name of releases aligned to **quarterly** reference

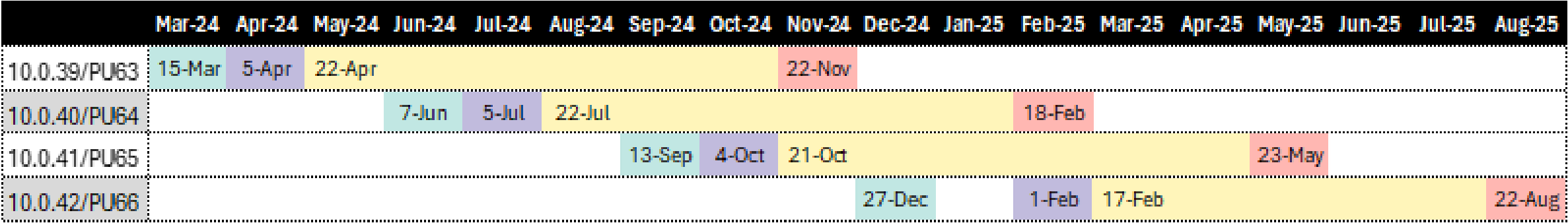
Changes to make note of

- Service updates are only released in February (December self-update), April, July, and October. The May, August, and November releases are no longer available for self-update or auto-update.
- The lifecycle of each release is substantially extended to 404 – 414 days.
- The preview period is extended. Every release now includes one scheduled update to the preview build.
- The [First release program](#)'s auto-update and feedback phase is extended by two weeks.
- The servicing window of every release is substantially extended to 186 - 214 days with improved overlap between releases.
- The number of consecutive pauses allowed is reduced from three to one. With the release durations extended, the same minimum two annual service updates is maintained.

[One Version service updates FAQ - Finance & Operations | Dynamics 365 | Microsoft Learn](#)

Servicing window of every release is substantially extended

A release in post-update servicing reaches its end of service date about one month after auto-updates complete for the latest version. This gives customers who opted to pause time to complete their required update before the servicing window for their version is closed. You can see this illustrated in the following figure, which visualizes the staggered release rollout and servicing model.



- Date indicates Generally available (self-update) date.
- Automatic update month. Date indicates production start date.
- Post automatic update servicing. Date indicates start date, which is the day after automatic updates complete.
- End of servicing. Date indicates End of service date.

Examples



Allowed pauses by month

Auto-update month							
September 2023	October 2023	November 2023	December 2023	January 2024	February 2024	March 2024	April 2024
10.0.36 GA self-update 9/15 10.0.36 auto-update start Sept 29	10.0.37 GA self-update Oct 20	10.0.37 auto-update start Nov 3	10.0.38 GA self-update Dec 22		10.0.38 auto-update start Feb 2, end Feb 18. Max 1 pause begins Feb 19	10.0.39 GA self-update Mar 15	10.0.39 auto-update start Apr 5
On 10.0.35 10.0.36 auto-update pause allowed.		On 10.0.36 10.0.37 auto-update pause allowed	Blackout month – no auto-updates.	Blackout month – no auto-updates.	On 10.0.37 10.0.38 pause allowed.	Blackout month – no auto-updates.	On 10.0.38 10.0.39 pause allowed.
On 10.0.34 10.0.35 auto-update was paused. 10.0.36 auto-update pause allowed.		On 10.0.35 10.0.36 auto-update was paused. 10.0.37 auto-update pause allowed			On 10.0.36 10.0.37 auto-update was paused. 10.0.38 auto-update pause allowed.		On 10.0.37 10.0.38 auto-update was paused. 10.0.39 auto-update pause allowed.
On 10.0.33 10.0.34, 10.0.35 auto-updates were paused. 10.0.36 auto-update pause allowed.		On 10.0.34 10.0.35, 10.0.36 auto-updates were paused. 10.0.37 auto-update pause allowed.			On 10.0.35 10.0.36, 10.0.37 auto-updates were paused. 10.0.38 auto-update pause allowed.		On 10.0.36 10.0.37, 10.0.38 auto-updates were paused. 10.0.39 auto-update pause allowed.
On 10.0.32 (and older) 10.0.33, 10.0.34, 10.0.35 auto-updates were paused. Must take 10.0.36 auto-update.		On 10.0.33 (and older) 10.0.34, 10.0.35, 10.0.36 auto-updates were paused. Must take 10.0.37 auto-update.			On 10.0.34 (and older) 10.0.35, 10.0.36, 10.0.37 auto-updates were paused. Must take 10.0.38 auto-update.		On 10.0.35 (and older) 10.0.36, 10.0.37, 10.0.38 auto-updates were paused. Must take 10.0.39 auto-update.

[One Version service updates FAQ - Finance & Operations | Dynamics 365 | Microsoft Learn](#)

Examples

February 2024

Version of production	Can pause 10.0.38
10.0.34	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.0.35	✓ Yes
10.0.36	✓ Yes
10.0.37	✓ Yes

April 2024

Version of production	Can pause 10.0.39
10.0.35	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.0.36	✓ Yes
10.0.37	✓ Yes
10.0.38	✓ Yes

July 2024*

Version of production	Can pause 10.0.40
10.0.36	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.0.37	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.0.38	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.0.39	✓ Yes

October 2024

Version of production	Can pause 10.0.41
10.0.39	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.0.40	✓ Yes

**Subject to change*



Q&A

Thank you



The new release schedule

From 7 releases -> 4 releases

Name of releases

Calendar

Support window (has gone up)

Nr of pauses

PQUs become mandatory for every version

A scheduled update for the preview release build

Dates to watch out for

The enforcement of one maximum pause goes into effect on February 19, 2024.

After this date you can only pause one update