



Infoma 

NAV ON DOCKER

Practical insights and examples

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Microsoft MVP

axians

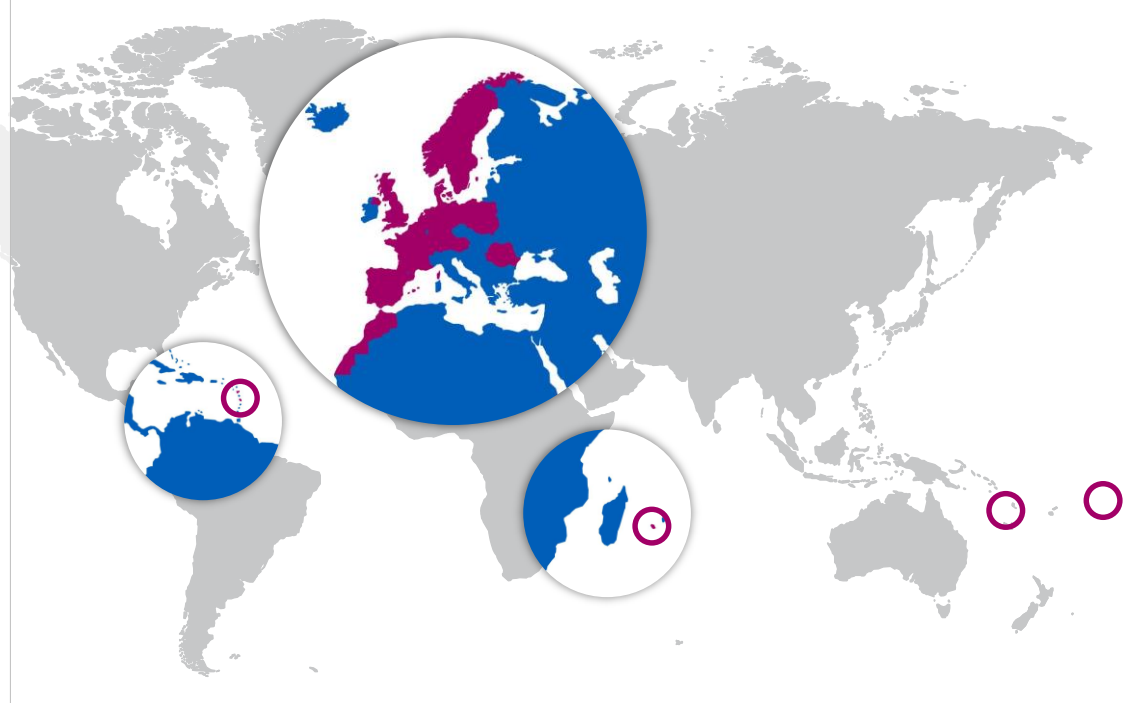
€ 1.7 mld
omzet in 2016

200
business
units

8.000
medewerkers

15
landen

Oostenrijk
België
Denemarken
Duitsland
Frankrijk &
Franse overzeese
gebiedsdelen
Marokko
Nederland
Noorwegen
Polen
Portugal
Roemenië
Spanje
Zweden
Zwitserland
UK



Strong network

13

business
units

900+

employees

7

locations



Strategic themes

- ▶ Applications
- ▶ IoT
- ▶ Cloud
- ▶ Security
- ▶ Big Data
- ▶ Data Management





I-MAKE
DYNAMICS NAV



I-FRESH
DYNAMICS NAV

AXIANS INFOMA: FIGURES, DATA & FACTS



**Municipal
authorities**



**Facility
management**



**Municipal
companies**



Churches

€ 24
million
revenue
(2016)

1,100
Municipal
authorities of
all sizes

1988
Company
foundation

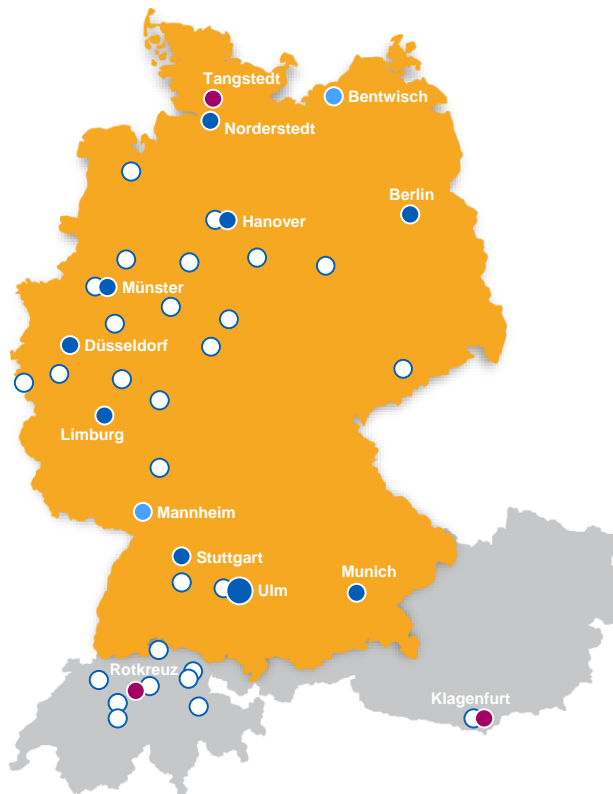
200
Employees

WHERE YOU CAN FIND US

Competence on site

Proximity to the customers plays a substantial role in our understanding of a successful cooperation. Therefore our employees and data center partners are pleased to be available to you throughout Germany.

- Axians Infoma, Germany (branch)
- Axians Infoma, Germany (office)
- Axians Infoma, Austria
- Axians IT&T, Switzerland
- IKVS, Germany
- PCO, Germany
- Infoma partnergroup



- ▶ How to get up and running
- ▶ Database options and handling
- ▶ Customize the Docker image

NAV ON DOCKER - HOW TO GET UP AND RUNNING OS AND PREREQUISITES

► Windows Server 2016

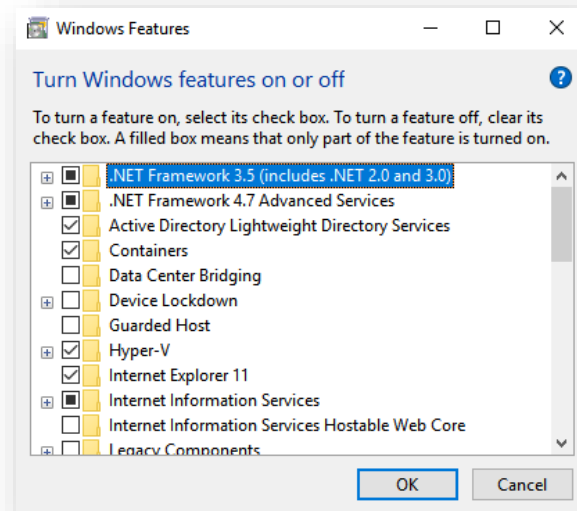
- Activate Feature: Containers

► Windows 10

- Professional / Enterprise edition
- Activate Features: [Hyper-V](#), Containers

► Windows Server 1709

- Activate Features: [Hyper-V](#), Containers
- No benefits over WS2016 right now as the [official NAV images](#) are based on the **WS2016** core image.



NAV ON DOCKER - HOW TO GET UP AND RUNNING

INSTALL DOCKER

► Official Docker pages:

- <https://docs.docker.com/engine/installation/windows/docker-ee/#install-docker-ee>

```
Install-Module DockerProvider -Force
```

```
Install-Package Docker -ProviderName DockerProvider -Force
```

► Jakub's script:

- <https://gist.github.com/Koubek/1831c2aba7f558de4b1461476105ba85>
- Install/Upgrade Docker EE (Windows Server).
- Test and install prerequisites, show available version and eventually start the installation
- Also included in Waldo's [script library](#): [/NAV Docker/01 InstallDockerEE.ps1](#)

► Recommended: [navcontainerhelper](#) as explained on [Freddy's blog](#)

NAV ON DOCKER - HOW TO GET UP AND RUNNING

OS IMPACT ON DOCKER EDITIONS

► Windows Server

- Docker EE (licensed within Windows Server license)
- Process Isolation (by default)
- Hyper-V Isolation (can be used when needed)

► Windows 10

- Docker CE
- Hyper-V Isolation only
- Memory “weirdness”

Windows Server Features installable with Server Manager (or PowerShell)	Windows Server 2016 Standard	Windows Server 2016 Datacenter
Containers	Yes (Windows containers unlimited; Hyper-V containers up to 2)	Yes (all container types unlimited)

Source: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/get-started/2016-edition-comparison>

NAV ON DOCKER - HOW TO GET UP AND RUNNING

START A CONTAINER

- ▶ Standard docker command:

```
docker run -e accept_eula=Y microsoft/dynamics-nav:2018-rtm
```

- ▶ navcontainerhelper command:

```
New-NavContainer -containerName test -accept_eula
```

- ▶ Windows 10 / [Hyper-V isolation](#) specific:

```
docker run -m 3G -e accept_eula=Y microsoft/dynamics-nav
```

(this actually [reserves 3G of memory](#) even if NAV only needs 1G)

DEMO: START YOUR FIRST NAV CONTAINER



► Layering in Docker containers:

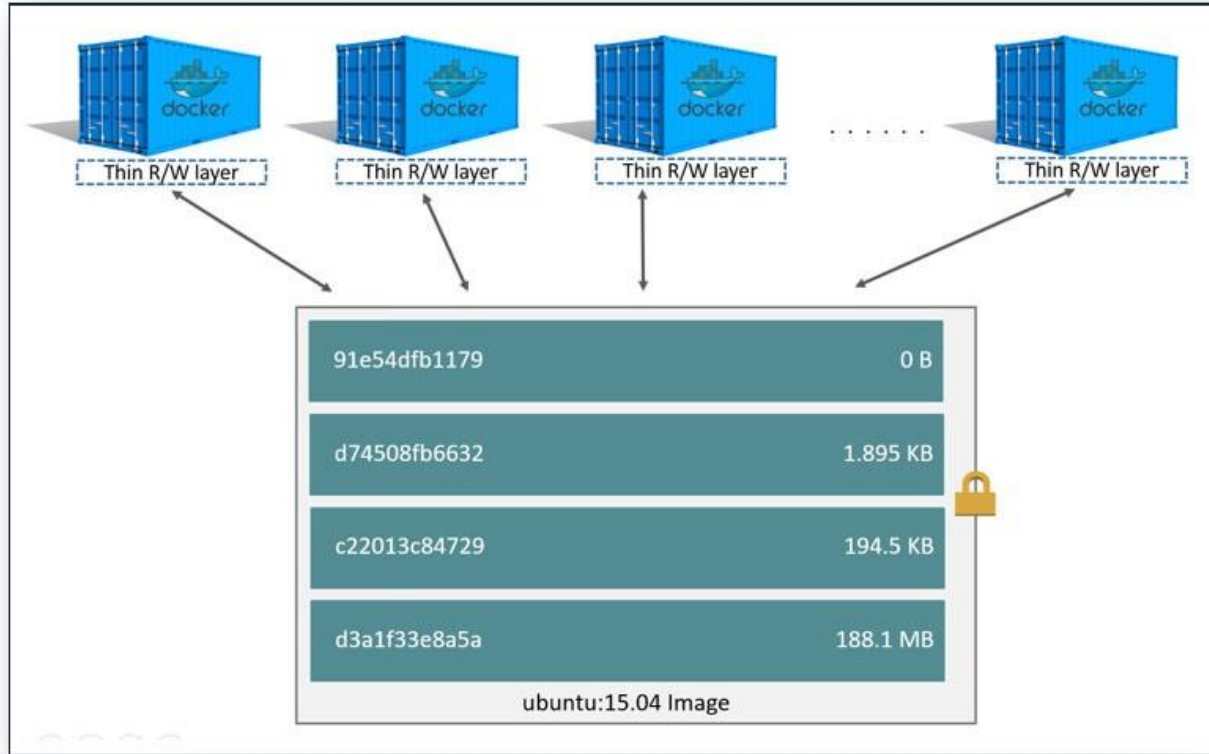
- Image layers (readonly) + one container layer (read/write)
- All write operations are being made within the top layer (the container layer).
- When you modify an existing file, Docker checks if it exists in the container layer
 - Yes → modify this file.
 - No → drill down through all layers from the top one until the first version of the file is reached. Copy this file into the container layer and use it.

► Volumes

- Map a host folder to a folder inside the container which leads to the same performance as directly on the host and results in persistency even if the container is removed (and the container layer with it)

NAV ON DOCKER – DATABASE HANDLING

DOCKER CONTAINERS AND DATA



Source: <https://docs.docker.com/engine/userguide/storagedriver/imagesandcontainers>

NAV ON DOCKER – DATABASE HANDLING

BASIC CONSIDERATIONS AND SCENARIOS

- ▶ Is the **database tightly coupled** with exclusively the one NAV server instance inside the container and can **easily be recreated**, e.g. in a demo / sales environment and doesn't rely too much on performance → **Scenario 1)** db **in** container **without** a volume
- ▶ Same as before, but you need **better performance** and the database needs to **survive a re-creation** of the container, e.g. for a CU update → **Scenario 2)** db **in** container **with** a volume
- ▶ Will you have **multiple NAV server instances connected** to the database or you need to fully tweak performance → **Scenario 3)** db in a **central SQL** server

NAV ON DOCKER – DATABASE HANDLING

SCENARIO 1) DB IN CONTAINER WITHOUT A VOLUME

- ▶ Data is stored within the container layer.
- ▶ Data is being removed when the container is being removed, but not on restart
- ▶ Performance is lower, this especially hurts where disk I/O performance is crucial.
- ▶ PRO:
 - Easiest way how to spin a container (no volume dependency).
 - Ideal for demos, simple testing or workshops/trainings.
- ▶ CON:
 - The worst performance compared with the following use-cases.
 - NAV images are using SQL Express (DB size = max. 10 GB!).
 - 1 SQL instance per container.

NAV ON DOCKER – DATABASE HANDLING

SCENARIO 2) DB IN CONTAINER WITH A VOLUME

- ▶ Data is mapped between the container and the host system and will never be removed
- ▶ Performance should be practically the same as running the database on the host HDD.
- ▶ PRO:
 - Still a very easy way to spin a container (slightly more complicated than the previous one).
 - Performs better compared to the previous one.
 - Ideal for demos, simple testing or workshops/trainings if you want / need more performance and persistent data even if you remove or update the container
- ▶ CONS:
 - NAV images are using SQL Express (DB size = max. 10 GB!).
 - 1 SQL instance per container.

DEMO: USE A VOLUME FOR THE DATABASE



NAV ON DOCKER – DATABASE HANDLING

SCENARIO 3) DB **OUTSIDE** THE CONTAINER

- ▶ Very likely the best performance, definitely the **most flexibility**:
 - SQL as a **traditional service** on the Docker host / on a remote system
 - SQL running as a **container** on the Docker host / on a remote system
 - We can **choose edition** (Express / Developer / Standard / Enterprise)
- ▶ PRO:
 - Flexibility: Do whatever you want, **no limitation** by NAV on Docker (even SQL on Linux ;))
 - The way to go for performance optimization
 - Minimal overhead → 1 SQL instance for **all containers**.
- ▶ CONS:
 - **Harder** to configure (although it got a lot easier).

- ▶ Using SQL Server **inside** the NAV container → **nothing to do** for NAV, use **sa** for C/SIDE
- ▶ Using SQL Server **outside** the NAV container
 - Use **SQL authentication** by adding **parameters** to docker run / navcontainerhelper
 - Use **Windows authentication** by using **group Managed Service Accounts**
 - C/SIDE works the same

NAV ON DOCKER – AUTHORIZATION

NAV SERVER (WINDOWS / WEB CLIENT / VS CODE)

- ▶ Just start it and the scripts inside the container will create a **user admin with a generated password** for NavUserPassword auth (if it doesn't exist)
- ▶ Give it **a specific username and password** without configuring Windows auth works the same
- ▶ Give it **your Windows user and password** and configure **Windows auth** and it will set everything up so that your user works with **Windows SSO**
- ▶ Use **gMSA** to make Windows auth work for **every Windows login in the database**

- ▶ **Change settings** with a simple parameter like
 - e customNavSettings="EnableDebugging=true, ReportPDFFontEmbedding=false"
- ▶ **Change behavior** by adding scripts to the „my“ folder through a volume
 - v c:\myscripts:c:\run\my
- ▶ **Download a .zip and put it anywhere** in the container e.g. to add dlls or override the scripts by adding e.g.
 - e folders='c:\run\my=https://myserver/myscripts.zip\scripts; c:\program files\microsoft dynamics nav\110\service\add-ins=https://myserver/myscripts.zip\add-ins'

DEMO: CONFIG CHANGES AND COPIED FILES



- ▶ To make sure those changes are **persisted, reused and easily distributed**
 - Use **docker commit** to persist changes of a stopped container into a new image
→ just use the container, configure and then commit it
 - Use **docker build** to persist those changes into your own image by building it on top of another
→ cleaner and very easily repeated for new releases, but needs understanding of how Docker build process works
 - Use **docker push** to bring into your private repository
→ bring your images to different hosts



Looking for NAV developers
and consultants!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Watch <https://github.com/Koubek/nav-docker-examples>
and <https://navblog.axians-infoma.de> for updates

For questions, please contact

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