

# *Monthly Technical Update September 2021*

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<https://aka.ms/abbas>

- [Microsoft "What's New" Event](#)
- [Windows 11 Launch : Oct. 05, 2021](#)
- [Microsoft Official Blog](#)
- [Microsoft "By-The-Numbers"](#)



Announcements and Tips

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Security and Compliance

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Showcase of the month



New trends with Microsoft Technology

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Product Lifecycles



Acquisitions and Announcements

- [Products Reaching End of Support in 2021 and 2022](#)
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# Microsoft “What’s Next” Event : Sept. 22, 2021



Join us to see what's next

Wednesday, September 22nd at 11am ET

 [SAVE THE DATE](#)



# Windows 11 : Available October 5, 2021

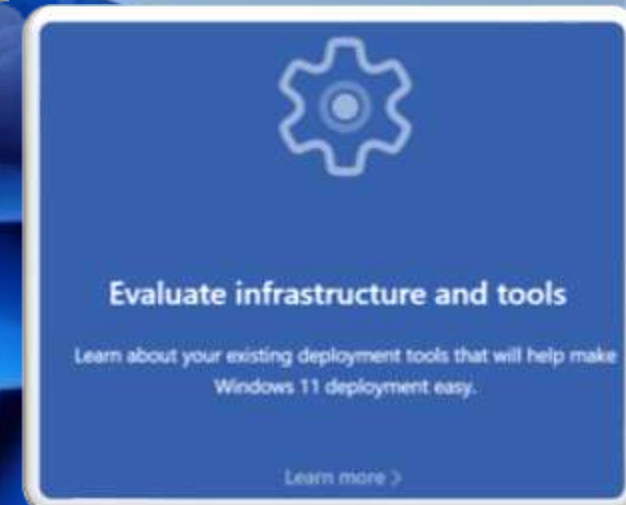
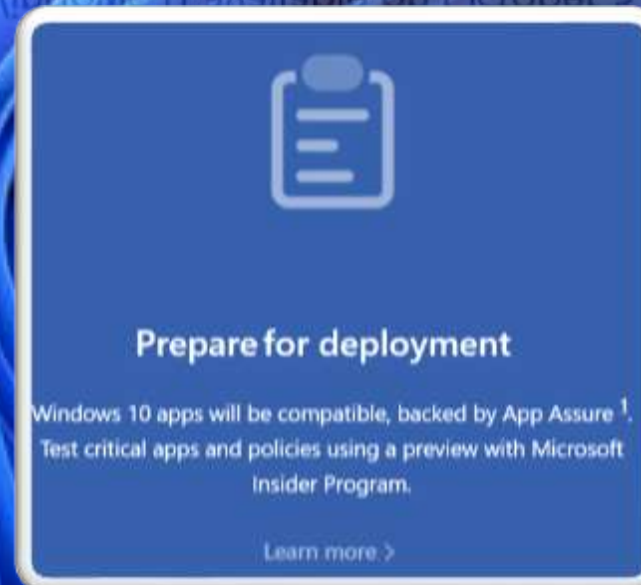
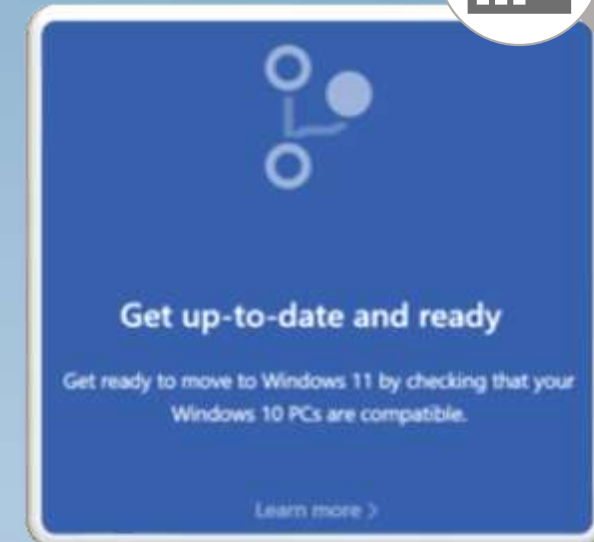


## 11 Reasons for 11:

- **New Design and Sounds** : Modern, Fresh, and clean
- **New Start** : Leverages the power of cloud and Microsoft 365
- **Snap Layouts, Snap Groups, and Multiple Desktops**
- **Chat with Microsoft Teams** : Integrated into taskbar
- **Widgets** : new personalized feeds, powered by AI
- **The best Windows for Gaming** : unlock the full potential of your hardware
- **New Microsoft Store** : all-new design, bring Android Apps to Windows 11 in collaboration with Amazon and Intel
- **Inclusively designed with improvements** for people with disabilities
- **New Developer and Creator Opportunities** : In conjunction with the new Microsoft Store
- **Optimized for speed, efficiency and experiences** with touch, digital pen, and voice
- **Designed for Hybrid Work** : remembers your device and monitor configurations, including virtual desktops



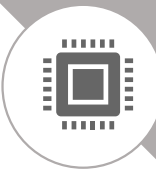
Windows 11 available on October 5





# Updates of Security and Compliance





September 7, 2021

## 3 steps to prevent and recover from ransomware

Learn real-world steps for protecting against the latest ransomware and other malicious cyberattacks.

[Read more >](#)

## Attackers use Morse code, other encryption methods in evasive phishing campaign

During our year-long investigation of a targeted, invoice-themed XLS.HTML phishing campaign, attackers changed obfuscation and encryption mechanisms every 37 days on average, demonstrating high motivation and skill to constantly evade detection and keep the credential theft operation running.

August 26, 2021

## Widespread credential phishing campaign abuses open redirector links

Microsoft has been actively tracking a widespread credential phishing campaign using open redirector links, which allow attackers to use a URL in a trusted domain and embed the eventual final malicious URL as a parameter.

August 19, 2021

## Automating security assessments using Cloud Katana

Today, we are open-sourcing Cloud Katana, a cloud-native tool under development, to automate simulation steps on-demand in multi-cloud and hybrid cloud environments. This tool is an event-driven, serverless compute application built on the top of Azure Functions that expedites the research process and validation of security controls.

## Update on the vulnerability in the Azure Cosmos DB Jupyter Notebook Feature

MSRC / By MSRC Team / August 27, 2021

On August 12, 2021, a security researcher reported a Jupyter Notebook feature that could potentially allow customer's resources by using the account's primary vulnerability immediately. Our investigation indicated because of this ...

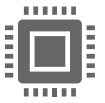
## Coordinated disclosure of vulnerability in Azure Container Instances Service

MSRC / By MSRC Team / September 8, 2021

Microsoft recently mitigated a vulnerability reported by a security researcher in the Azure Container Instances (ACI). Our investigation surfaced no unauthorized access to customer data. Out of an abundance of caution we notified customers with containers running on the same clusters as the researchers via Service Health Notifications in the Azure Portal. If you did not receive a notification, no action is required with respect to this vulnerability.

# Monitoring Global Threats: Microsoft

Microsoft Security Response Center



Select a region

## Global threat activity

Countries or regions with the most malware encounters in the last 30 days

### Most affected industries

Reported enterprise malware encounters in the last 30 days

#### Financial services and insurance

Show all industries

Devices with encounters:  
521,850 (5.64%)

Financial services and insurance

#### Top threats:

App:HoneyMiner  
Backdoor:ASP/Seasharpee.A/dha  
Backdoor:MSIL/NIRat.A/MTB  
Backdoor:MSIL/RevengeRat  
Backdoor:PowerShell/Shaninging.C

## Worldwide

97,759,276 devices with encounters

### Top threats:

HackTool:Win32/AutoKMS  
HackTool:Win64/AutoKMS  
Trojan:Win32/Wacatac.B!ml  
HackTool:Win32/Keygen  
HackTool:MSIL/AutoKms

August 19, 2021

## How to proactively defend against Mozi IoT botnet

Mozi is a peer-to-peer (P2P) botnet that uses a BitTorrent-like network to infect IoT devices such as network gateways and digital video records (DVRs). It works by exploiting weak telnet passwords<sup>1</sup> and nearly a dozen unpatched IoT vulnerabilities<sup>2</sup> and it's been used to conduct distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks, data exfiltration, and command or payload execution.

September 2, 2021

## A deep-dive into the SolarWinds Serv-U SSH vulnerability

We're sharing technical information about the vulnerability tracked as CVE-2021-35211, which was used to attack the SolarWinds Serv-U FTP software in limited and targeted attacks.

August 18, 2021

## Trend-spotting email techniques: How modern phishing emails hide in plain sight

By spotting trends in the techniques used by attackers in phishing attacks, we can swiftly respond to attacks and use the knowledge to improve customer security and build comprehensive protections through Microsoft Defender for Office 365 and other solutions.

Published: 9/10/2021

Ransomware and extortion are a high profit, low-cost business which has a debilitating impact on targeted organizations, national security, economic security, and public health and safety. What started as simple single-PC ransomware has grown to include a variety of extortion techniques directed at all types of corporate networks and cloud platforms.

To ensure customers running on Azure are protected against ransomware attacks, Microsoft has invested heavily on the security of our cloud platforms and has provided you the security controls you need to protect your Azure cloud workloads.

By leveraging Azure native ransomware protections and implementing the best practices recommended in this eBook, you are taking measures that ensures your organization is optimally positioned to prevent, protect and detect potential ransomware attacks on your Azure assets.

This eBook lays out key Azure native capabilities and defenses for ransomware attacks and guidance on how to proactively leverage these to protect your assets on Azure cloud.

Download

## Microsoft white paper on Azure Ransomware Attack.

[Download link:  
Azure Defenses for Ransomware Attack  
\(microsoft.com\)](https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/resources/azure-defenses-for-ransomware-attack/)

# Azure Defenses for Ransomware Attack

September 2021





# Certificate change: Azure IoT and Device Provisioning Service (DPS)

Install DigiCert Global G2 certificate to avoid disruption of connectivity



## Change in Certificate chain for Azure IoT and DPS

**When:** **by October 2022**

**Impact:** **disruption of connectivity to Azure IoT and DPS if not on DigiCert Global G2 certificate**

**Why:** Certificate Root Chain will be migrated from Baltimore CyberTrust to DigiCert Global G2

**Reason:** Most Azure services are already updated to use the DigiCert Global G2 root.  
Azure IoT Hub and Device Provisioning Service (DPS) remained on TLS certificates issued by the Baltimore CyberTrust Root but now need to be migrated, too.

**Action:** **Add the DigiCert Global root G2 to your trusted root store.**  
**Do not delete the Baltimore root till after transition (~Nov 2022) to prevent interruption.**



### How do I know I'm impacted?

If

- your devices use a connection stack other than the ones provided in an Azure IoT SDK
- your client applications, devices, or networking infrastructure (e.g. firewalls) perform any sub root validation in code



[More information and Support options](#)

A woman with long red hair in a braid, wearing a white sweater, is sitting in an office chair and writing on a tablet with a pen. She is looking down at the tablet. The background shows a blurred office environment with large windows.

# Microsoft 365 update information



# Microsoft Teams Blog:



What's New in Microsoft Teams | August 2021

## What's New in Microsoft Teams | August 2021

Microsoft\_Teams\_team on Aug 31 2021 03:00 AM

Welcome to What's New in Teams for August. This blog showcases all the updates we have made available available in the m...



## The Skype for Business Online service has retired

Microsoft\_Teams\_team on Aug 02 2021 10:00 AM

Two years ago, we announced Microsoft Teams as the replacement service for Skype for Business Online and increased effort...

## Microsoft Acquires Peer5 to Enhance Live Video Streaming...

Nicole Herskowitz on Aug 10 2021 08:00 AM

Today, we're excited to announce that we have acquired Peer5 to expand our ability for delivering secure, high-quality, ...



## New for This Month

- [Reporter and Side-by-Side options](#) in Presenter Mode
- [Live Captions and Live Transcript](#) in additional spoken languages
- [Start Recordings and Live Transcript simultaneously](#)
- [Dual-Tone Multi-Frequency \(DTMF\)](#) for VDI (Citrix)
- [Lower all Raised Hands](#)

## Devices:

- [Microsoft Teams Room update on Android](#)
- [New Remote room Provisioning and sign-in](#)
- [Teams Panels experience with Line-of-Business Apps](#)
- [Hide meeting names for sensitive spaces or areas](#)
- [AudioCodes RXVCam10](#): Generally available

## Developers and Management

- [Together Mode extensibility](#)

## Salesforce for Microsoft Teams

- [Salesforce for Teams App](#): Generally Available

## Meeting Experience

- [Take Notes and Edit Records](#) in Teams Partner Apps and Collaborative Apps
- [Microsoft Bookings in Teams](#) for Frontline Workers
- [Add open or moderated Q&A's](#) to any Teams meeting
- [Communities App](#) in Teams and Outlook for web



## Chat and Collaboration:

- [Headspace integration with Microsoft Viva Insights](#)
- [Inline Message Translation](#) in channels for Android and iOS
- [Expanded emoji picker](#)
- [Immersive Reader Support](#) for Mobile

## For Security, Compliance, Privacy

- [Safe Links Protection for Microsoft Teams](#)
- [Teams Multi-Geo Support](#)

# What's New in Microsoft 365

[M365 Blogs](#) and [Administrative Blogs](#) covering Office 365, Enterprise Mobility and Security and Windows ::

## Microsoft 365 Updates:

- [PowerPoint Presenter Coach expands to Microsoft Teams](#)
- [Privacy Changes to Microsoft 365 Usage Analytics](#)
- [New : minimum Outlook for Windows version for Microsoft 365](#)
- [Updates : What's coming in OneNote](#)
- [Files Cards in Office App for Android](#)
- [Share to Microsoft Teams from Outlook](#)
- [Windows 11 : For Hybrid Work and Learning](#)
- [AWS Stencils and Shapes in Visio](#)
- [Suggested Replies appear in Outlook](#)
- [Updated Linked Data Types](#) bring facts and data into Excel

What's new in your favorite Office app



SEP 7, 2021

BY ABHINAV SANTOSHI

## Record voice notes in Office Mobile for iOS

Feature deep dive

Easily capture voice notes and recordings and automatically transcribe them in real time, right from Office Mobile on your iOS device.

AUG 19, 2021

BY AIMEE LEONG

## Premium content library now available in iOS

Feature deep dive

Now you can access the premium content library on iOS and add images, icons, stickers, or illustrations to jazz up your Excel, Word, and PowerPoint creations.

AUG 10, 2021

BY SCOTT MCFADDEN

## Comments and notes updates in Excel for the web

Feature deep dive

We've updated the experience around notes and comments in Excel, and brought the familiar yellow sticky note to Excel on the web for the first time.

AUG 24, 2021

BY SUKUL BAGAI

## Format Painter comes to Excel for tablets

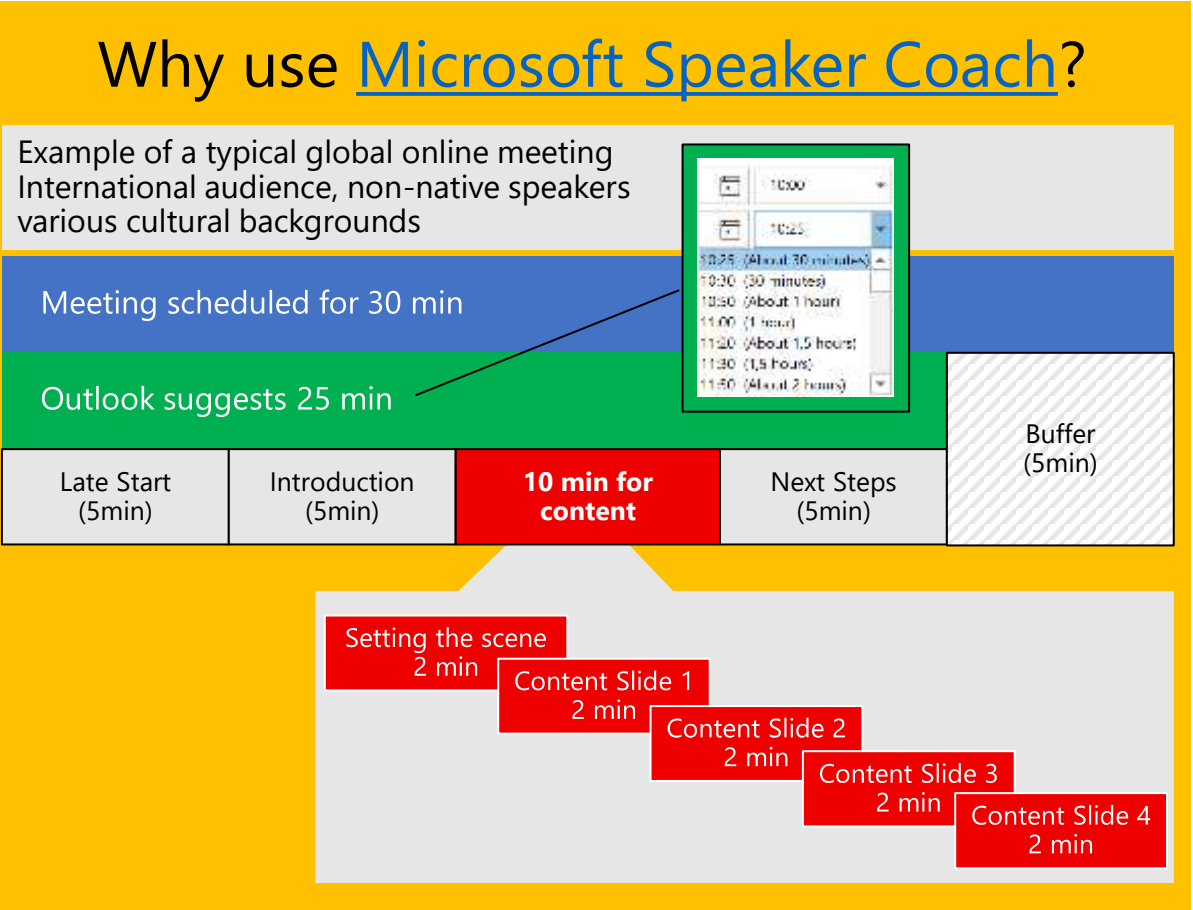
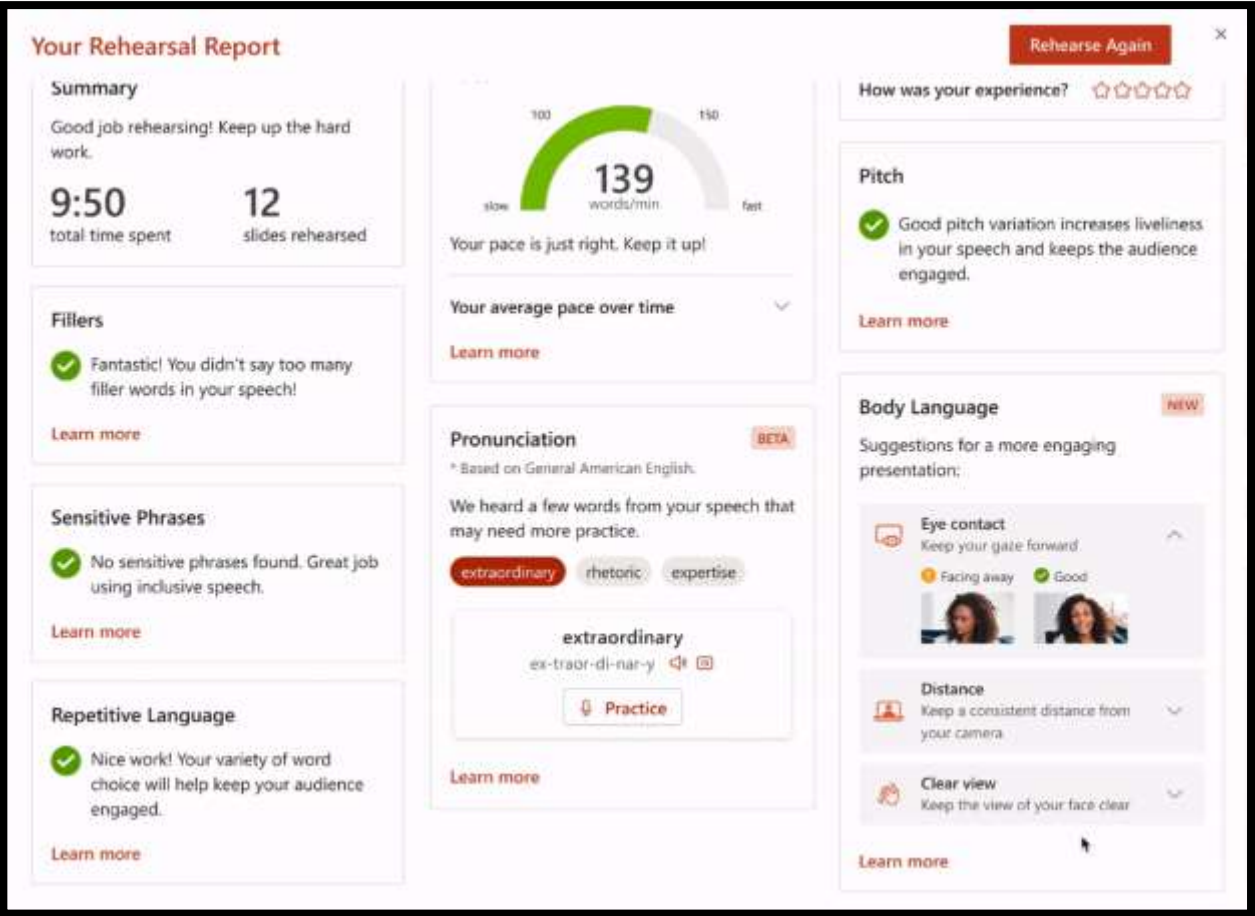
Feature deep dive

Quickly copy all formatting for a cell or range of cells with the Format Painter feature in Excel on your iPad or Android tablet.



# Microsoft Speaker Coach

Available now in PowerPoint (Slide Show > Rehearse with coach)  
Available in Microsoft Teams in early 2022



# Power Platform and Dynamics

[Roadmaps and Release plans:](#)



## Power Apps and Dynamics 365 Guides brings data to frontline workers >

August 31, 2021

By [Alexis Goodrich](#), Product Marketing Manager, Mixed Reality

Data is everywhere, data is decision making power. The emergence of data is changing the way organizations do business. From our mobile devices to our machinery, everyday activities and interactions create trillions of data points generated by inanimate objects. Unfortunately, data is often stored across disparate systems depriving organizations of access to valuable information and...[Read more](#)

## Download the training module for Field Service (Dynamics 365) mobile app >

September 7, 2021

By [David Clarke](#), Program Manager

Download Field Service mobile app in a day training to learn how to set up, use, and configure the Dynamics 365 Field Service mobile app. [Read more](#)



Create a task in Planner based on Office 365 Outlook calendar event

By Microsoft Power Automate Community



Notify a channel when the status of a task in Planner updates

By Microsoft



Send form responses for approval

By Microsoft



## Dynamics 365 Intelligent Order Management accelerates adaptability >

September 8, 2021

By [Stephanie Dart](#), Director of Product Marketing, Microsoft Dynamics 365

Businesses are moving away from rigid and monolithic solutions towards agile business applications that can be deployed quickly, integrated seamlessly with other existing systems, and can collect and unify extensive amounts of data from various touchpoints unlocking siloed data. According to Forrester, siloed data inhibits organizations from creating a comprehensive profile of customer needs, a...[Read more](#)

## Power BI Blog

- [Export Power BI report to file API](#) : Preview Update
- [Power BI and Excel](#) : Expanded Features for Power BI Free License
- [Power BI Mobile App now supports Goals](#)
- [Automatic Aggregations managed by Power BI](#) : Public Preview
- [Default Sensitivity Label](#) : Preview Announced
- [On-Premises Data Gateway](#) : Updates
- [Scanner API](#) : Generally Available
- [Power BI component for Angular](#) : Generally Available
- [Power BI REST API support for DAX Queries](#) : Public Preview

## PowerApps Blog: Power Automate Blog: Power Virtual Agents Blog

- [Power Platform CoE Starter Kit components for Environment Management](#)
- [App side-panes](#) : Public Preview
- [Updated Power Apps Developer Resources](#)
- [Power Apps Maintenance Window Management](#) : Public Preview
- [New Data Loss Prevention \(DLP\) policies](#) : Public Preview
- [Custom Connector for ServiceNow using OAuth authentication](#)
- [15 Independent Publisher Connectors Announced](#)
- [HEAT Special](#) : Power Automate Desktop video series and Playbook
- [Write PowerFX formulas with natural language](#)
- [Power Automate Desktop](#) : Feature Updates
- [Power Virtual Agents export and import chatbots using solutions](#)
- [Transcript viewer – now available as part of PVA Custom Analytics](#)
- [AI-assisted authoring: detect topic overlaps and get topic suggestions from bot sessions](#)



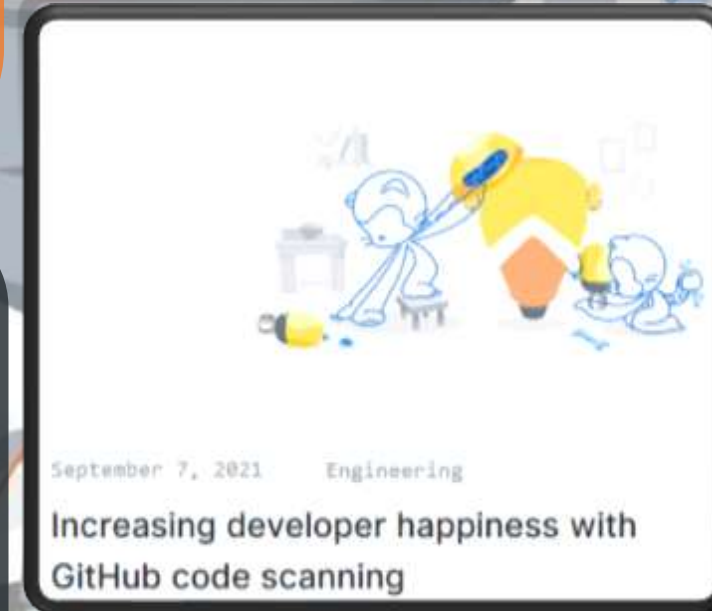
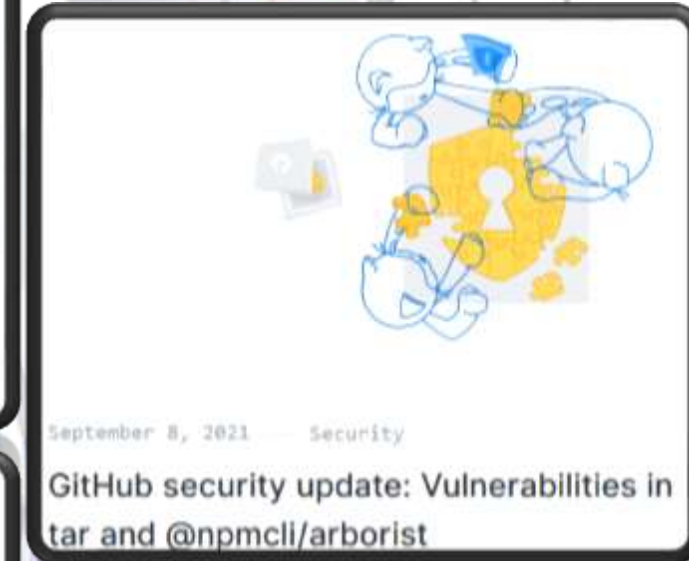
# Developer and GitHub

## GitHub ChangeLog

- [Improving Git Protocol Security](#) on GitHub
- [GitHub Enterprise Server 3.2](#) : Added Security and color modes
- [GitHub CLI 2.0](#) includes Extension
- [The npm registry is deprecating TLS 1.0 and TLS 1.1](#)
- [GitHub's Engineering Team has moved](#) to Codespaces
- [30 free and Open-Source Linux games](#) – part 3
- [Enhanced support for citations](#) on GitHub
- [GitHub Discussions](#) : labels, Discussions GraphQL API, webhooks and mobile functionality
- [Git 2.33](#) : Released

## Microsoft Developer Blogs:

- [Visual Studio 2022](#) : Preview
- [Visual Studio 2022 Extensibility Futures](#) : Preview Release
- [Productivity Power Tools Extensions](#) in Visual Studio 2022
- [.NET MAUI Community Toolkit](#) : Preview Release
- [DevOps-friendly EF Core Migration Bundles](#) : Schema and data CI/CD
- [.NET MAUI compatibility for Xamarin Community Toolkit](#)
- [Windows Terminal 1.11](#) : Preview
- [Updates to Azure DevOps Server 2020.1.1](#) : Generally Available / RTW
- [MSVC C++20 and the /std:c++20 Switch](#)
- [ARM64EC Support](#) in Visual Studio
- [Azure Cosmos DB Kafka Source & Sink Connectors](#)





# Office Developer Blogs and Microsoft 365 Dev Center

## Build apps for Microsoft Teams

Extend and customize Teams to create and connect apps and workflows.

[Visit Dev Center >](#)



## Global Developer Updates and Bootcamps :: M365 Developer Blog

- [Microsoft Teams bots in Multi-Geo environments](#) : Updated
- [SharePoint Framework 1.13](#) : Public Preview
- [Microsoft Graph userPurpose API \(Beta\)](#) : Breaking Changes
- [Outlook REST API v1.0 Deprecation](#) : FINAL NOTICE
- [Teams Toolkit for VS Code](#) : 10-minutes to build and run your app
- [Microsoft Graph JavaScript SDK 3.0.0](#) : Generally Available
- [Microsoft Graph Connectors API \(BETA\)](#) : updates and changes
- [Microsoft Identity Platform](#) : Connector Update
- [SharePoint Framework 1.13 Viva Connections Extensibility](#)
- [Extend Context Menu and Share Dialog for Windows 11](#)
- [Word Style Checking Add-in Built on Angular 2.0](#)
- [Microsoft Graph Change Notifications Sample for ASP.NET Core](#)

### Announcing a new Microsoft Teams authentication provider and file upload feature in the Microsoft Graph Toolkit

Thanks to the support and contributions of the community, we are excited to share another new release of the Microsoft Graph Toolkit, version 2.3 that includes a new Microsoft Teams authentication provider, file upload support in the File List component, and more!

### Changes to the Microsoft 365 usage reports API

We are making a change to Microsoft 365 usage analytics on September 1, 2021 to pseudonymize user-level information by default.



### Script Lab

Use the Office JavaScript API tool to create Office Add-ins for Excel, Word, or PowerPoint.

[Explore >](#)



### Teams UI Kit

Get core components, scenario-based templates, and best practices for designing Teams apps.

[Explore >](#)

## Office Scripts

Easily automate your day-to-day tasks with **Office Scripts in Excel on the web**. Get started automating today!

[Learn more >](#)

[Try sample scripts >](#)



### Adaptive Cards

Create and share rich, interactive UI content in a consistent way.

[Explore >](#)



### Graph Explorer

Try Microsoft Graph API requests and see sample responses.

[Explore >](#)





Azure

# Azure Updates



## Azure Announcements : Azure Blog

- [Zone Redundant Storage \(ZRS\) for Azure Disk Storage](#) : Generally Available
- [Azure Sphere OS version 21.09](#) : Generally Available Sept. 22, 2021
- [On-Demand Capacity Reservations for Azure Virtual Desktops](#) : Generally Available
- [Automatic Scaling Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets flexible orchestration mode](#): Public Preview
- [Windows Server IoT 2022](#) : Generally Available

### Data, AI, Security, & Availability

- [Apache Spark 3.1 for Azure Synapse Analytics](#) : Generally Available
- [Screen Capture Protection for Azure Virtual Desktop](#) : Generally Available
- [Azure App Service support for Availability Zones](#) : Generally Available
- [Azure Files now supports SMB 3.1.1](#) : Generally Available
- [Private Link UDR Support](#) : Public Preview
- [Private Link Network Security Group support](#): Public Preview
- [Azure Route Server](#) : Generally Available
- [Automatic key rotation of customer-managed keys encrypting Azure disks](#): Generally Available
- [Azure Backup Offline backup with Azure Data Box](#) : Generally Available
- [New Azure ExpressRoute Direct locations](#) : Generally Available

### Operations & Benefits

- [Azure API Management updates](#)
- [Custom AKS Policy Support](#) : Public Preview
- [Azure Spring Cloud Enterprise](#) : Private Preview
- [Change Performance Tiers for Azure Premium SSDs with no downtime](#)

**MICROSOFT LEARN FOR AZURE**

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**EVENTS**  
**Virtual Training Days**  
These 1 and 2 day virtual events will give you the opportunity to expand your skillset and connect with Microsoft experts.  
[Browse training events](#)

**Your path to get started**

LEARNING PATH	LEARNING PATH	LEARNING PATH
 <b>Azure Fundamentals part 1: Describe core Azure concepts</b>	 <b>Manage resources in Azure</b>	 <b>Manage identity and access in Azure Active Directory</b>
1h 10 min	1h 10 min	1h 10 min
Beginner, Administrator, Azure	Beginner, Developer, Azure	Beginner, Solution Architect, Azure
<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">View</a>	<a href="#">View</a>



# Azure global infrastructure

60+ regions, more than any other cloud provider

[Start exploring](#)



## Safeguard your data with the trusted cloud

Take advantage of multilayered security across physical datacenters, infrastructure, and operations with Azure. Help protect your business assets and data with industry-leading physical security systems and a comprehensive portfolio of compliance offerings and privacy standards.

[Learn more about the trusted cloud >](#)

## The elements of cloud infrastructure

The building blocks of Azure make up a global infrastructure that supports your data, now or later. This infrastructure, from a single datacenter to a geography, is accessible whenever you are.

[Powering sustainable transformation](#)

[Explore the slides](#)



## Run mission-critical systems with confidence

Azure provides enterprise-grade cloud infrastructure on which customers and partners can rely. This includes physical elements like redundant power, networking, and cooling, as well as software elements like safe deployment processes, impactless maintenance, and failure prediction enabled by machine learning.

No matter what your service level objectives are, Azure empowers you to achieve your organization's reliability goals. Take advantage of built-in features that help you design and operate mission-critical systems with confidence—across high availability, disaster recovery, and backup scenarios.

[Learn more about reliability with Microsoft >](#)



## Achieve your sustainability goals

Using Microsoft Azure is up to 98 percent more carbon efficient than using a traditional enterprise datacenter. Join the growing community of industry leaders that are reducing energy use and transitioning to a more carbon-neutral grid with Azure.

Microsoft has been carbon neutral since 2012 and is committed to being carbon negative by 2030, with the commitment by 2050 to remove all the carbon it's directly emitted since its founding in 1975. Take advantage of the lessons learned from Microsoft's own sustainability journey and help advance a low-carbon future—while you achieve your own sustainability goals.

[Learn more about Azure sustainability >](#)



## Embrace the infrastructure of tomorrow

Learn how Microsoft is improving the performance, efficiency, power consumption, and costs of Azure datacenters for your cloud workloads—with infrastructure innovations such as underwater datacenters, liquid immersion cooling projects, and hydrogen fuel cell technologies.

In order for others to benefit from these innovations, Azure shares server and datacenter infrastructure designs, emphasizing security and standardization, as part of the Open Compute Project—promoting a vibrant industry ecosystem for global datacenter deployment in the cloud.

[Learn more about being future-ready with Azure >](#)



The background is a dark blue and black digital-themed image. It features vertical columns of binary code (0s and 1s) in a light blue color. Scattered throughout are various glowing elements: some are solid circles in green, orange, and white, while others are more complex, resembling a network or molecular structure with red lines connecting nodes. The overall effect is a high-tech, futuristic aesthetic.

# New trends with Microsoft Technology



# Updates from Microsoft Industry Blogs



## 5 learnings on Asia's responsible AI journey in financial services >

September 9, 2021



By [Dennae Smith](#), Analyst, Government Affairs and Public Policy, Asia



[Marcus Bartley Johns](#), Regional Director, Government Affairs and Public Policy, Asia

In Asia, as in other regions, there's rapidly-growing adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) in the financial services industry, with more than 60 percent of financial services organizations already accelerating their pace of digitalization in response to the pandemic. Spending on AI by the financial services sector in the region is estimated to reach \$4.9 billion...[Read more](#)



## Driving next gen insights and segmentation through the consumer knowledge graph >

September 1, 2021



By [James Parker-Barratt](#), Director Industry Digital Strategy, Microsoft

Customer centricity has been at the heart of Microsoft's enterprise mission and perhaps that focus is no more important than right now within the media and entertainment (M&E) industry. The last 18 months has certainly driven several changes in media consumption habits along with the processes and tools companies are using to continue to produce...[Read more](#)



## Innovation in health and life sciences with Microsoft for Startups >

August 26, 2021



By [Sally Frank](#), Worldwide Lead – Health & Life Sciences | Microsoft for Startups

According to a recent Frost & Sullivan report, "Digital Investments in Healthcare Through COVID-19 and Beyond," most healthcare organizations are in some stage of digital transformation, either on their accord or spurred by the immense changes in healthcare delivery during the pandemic. Additionally, Rock Health notes that at the end of June 2021, funding for health tech startups surpassed all of 2020. Putting these...[Read more](#)



## Helping governments reimagine collaboration and modernize services >

September 8, 2021



By [Andy Pitman](#), Microsoft Director, US Health and Human Services Solutions



[Anna Corley](#), Microsoft Director of Business Development

For decades, child welfare agencies have struggled with finding technology solutions to support consistent connection and communication between case workers, families, vulnerable youth, and an extended team of stakeholders. COVID-19 exacerbated those challenges, bringing to a head the need for states to provide its workers and constituents tools that bring continuity and communication despite disruption...[Read more](#)



## Ode to joy at work —Recharging our resilience with focus on employee experience and wellbeing >

August 23, 2021



By [Anya Minbiole](#), Business Strategy Leader, Retail and Consumer Goods, Microsoft

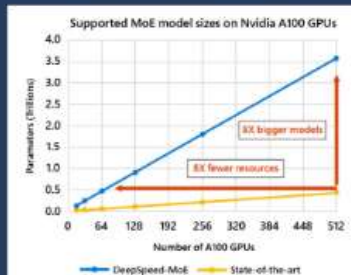
While all of us experienced incredible disruption in the past year, retailers and brands emerged as one of the frontline heroes that kept us fed and alive. From farm to fork, from source to store—goods and products still had to flow. Meanwhile, the expectations increased, and many of these products were now expected to arrive...[Read more](#)





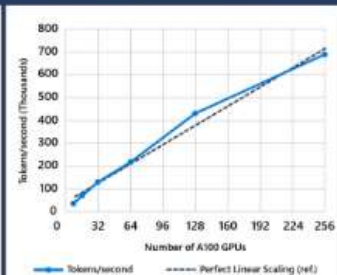
## Massive MoE model scale

3.5T parameter model on 512 GPUs



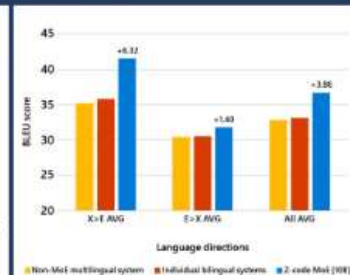
## Excellent efficiency

Near-linear throughput scalability



## Z-code MoE

State-of-the-art machine translation performance



## DeepSpeed powers 8x larger MoE model training with high performance >

August 18, 2021 by [DeepSpeed Team](#) and [Z-code Team](#)

Today, we are proud to announce DeepSpeed MoE, a high-performance system that supports massive scale mixture of experts (MoE) models as part of the DeepSpeed optimization library. MoE models are an emerging class of sparsely activated models that have sublinear compute costs with respect to...



## Safe program merges at scale: A grand challenge for program repair research >

Since the computing world began embracing an open-source approach to programming, building software has become increasingly collaborative. Members of development teams with as few as two developers and as many as thousands are simultaneously editing different components in creating software systems and keeping them functioning...

August 11, 2021 by [Shuvendu Lahiri](#)



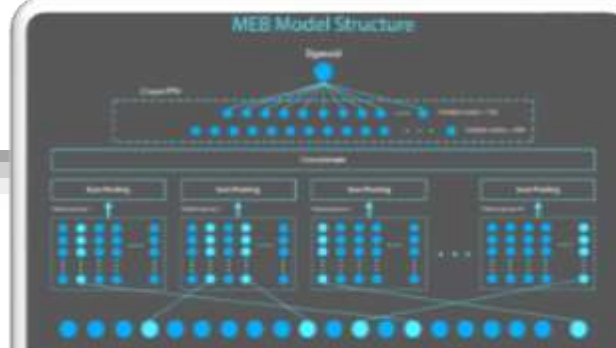
## Project Arno: How Microsoft Research created the technology and industry momentum for Azure to empower telecom operators in the cloud >

Editor's note: In recent years, telecommunications operators have faced a growing challenge to meet surging global demand for immersive online services and collaboration tools. Upgrading their proprietary networks to prepare for 5G and beyond would require major capital expenditures, even as competition was driving down...



## Create human-centered AI with the Human-AI eXperience (HAX) Toolkit webinar >

To assist AI practitioners in building human-centered AI, we are introducing the Human-AI eXperience (HAX) Toolkit. This suite of tools spans the end-to-end product development lifecycle, providing support where AI practitioners have requested it. In this webinar, join Saleema Amershi, Senior Principal Research Manager, and Mihaela Vorvoreanu, Aether Director of UX Research and RAI education, to learn how and when to use each tool in the HAX Toolkit to create human-centered AI.



## Make Every feature Binary: A 135B parameter sparse neural network for massively improved search relevance >

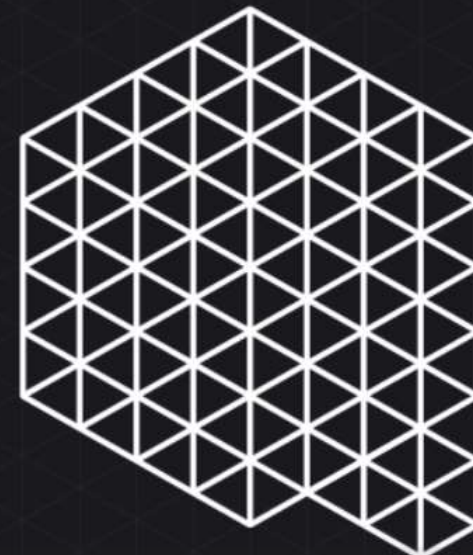
Recently, Transformer-based deep learning models like GPT-3 have been getting a lot of attention in the machine learning world. These models excel at understanding semantic relationships, and they have contributed to large improvements in Microsoft Bing's search experience and surpassing human performance on the SuperGLUE...





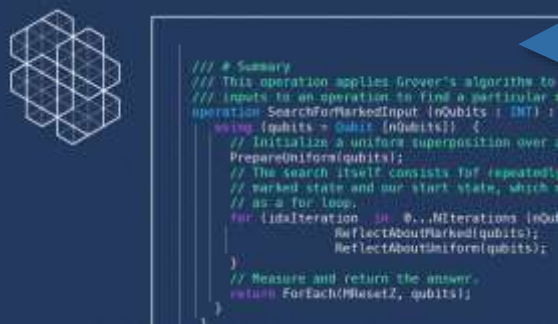
# Microsoft Quantum

Get to know the world's first full-stack, open cloud quantum computing ecosystem



## Azure Quantum PREVIEW

The most innovative quantum computing and optimization solutions converge in a single marketplace quantum service



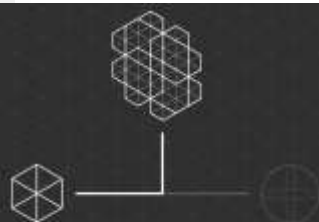
### Q#: Quantum Programming Language Updates

- Q# is a high-level quantum-focused programming language offering an intuitive and modern approach to quantum program development.
- Q# allows you to focus your work at the algorithm and application level to create quantum programs.

### Grow your quantum skills

Join the growing global community of experts, enthusiasts, and quantum computing companies by learning the fundamentals of quantum computing concepts, operations, and Q# programming. Get started with a wide variety of learning resources for developers, researchers, and students, including free, self-paced Microsoft Learn courses and open-source GitHub katas.

Start learning



### Optimization

Optimization solvers that run on classical hardware.

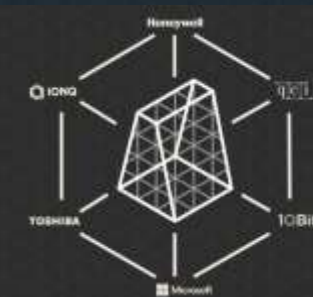
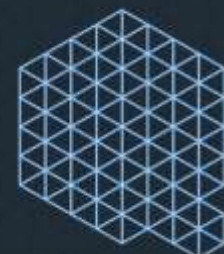
Learn Code Samples MS Learn	Cloud Visual Studio VS Code Jupyter Notebooks Python IDE	API Python SDK Optimization API
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### Optimization

Solve optimization problems on classical hardware faster and better using algorithms inspired by physical processes.

## Building a scalable quantum system

Learn how Microsoft is leading the way to scalable, accessible quantum computing with worldwide research teams and partnerships.



### Unified development interface

With Azure Quantum and its [quantum development kit](#), what could be a heterogeneous hardware and software set of solutions is unified. Your development investments are protected in a rapidly evolving technological landscape.

Microsoft and its Partners ensure hardware and software innovations are brought to you with minimal to no change to your code base.

## Microsoft Quantum Network

The Microsoft Quantum Network is a community of pioneering individuals and organizations working together to develop practical solutions, grow talent through education, and build a worldwide quantum partner ecosystem.







Showcase of the Month

# Microsoft Showcase Series



## Inside Track

Discover the inside story of how Microsoft Digital is powering, protecting and transforming Microsoft, helping you learn from our experiences and accelerate your own transformation.

Sep 2, 2021 | [Douglas Gantenbein](#)

### **New trade screening tool boosts Microsoft**

Microsoft runs on trust. This includes ensuring that the company is compliant with regulatory requirements by utilizing evolving technology to transform compliance practices, including trade screening. At Microsoft, we pride ourselves on working fairly and honestly with the people we do business with. The increasing use of online commerce, however, has made trade screening more...

Aug 24, 2021 | [Danielle Yedinak](#)

### **Transforming Microsoft's employee experience by listening to employee signals**

Organizations spend over \$300 billion a year on employee experience. And with that level of investment, organizations need to have the right signals to understand what employees need and what they want. And with that level of investment, organizations need to have the right signals to understand what employees need and what they want.

Aug 19, 2021 | [Serah Delaini](#)

### **How Microsoft used change management best practices to launch a new business intelligence platform**

It was time for a fresh approach to data analysis at Microsoft, one that would make it easier to track sales and operations activities across regions and roles. In addition to tool development, a dedicated change management effort was needed to inspire global adoption of a new, common methodology. In 2020, the Microsoft Business Operations...



# Microsoft Events and Training: August Updates



## Microsoft Virtual Training Days

### Events Catalog



#### RPA in a Day - Fidelity Factory

23 Sep, 2021 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Online

Possibilities are limitless, but time is not. Discover a better way to get things done across your

[REGISTER NOW >](#)

#### Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: Deliver Integrated Analytics with

28 Sep, 2021 9:00 AM - 29 Sep, 2021 11:30 AM

Online

[REGISTER NOW >](#)

#### Power Platform - Power Apps Challenge Fest: Challenge #4 and Challenge

29 Sep, 2021 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Online

The Power Apps Challenge Fest is a customer engagement team focused virtual training that

[REGISTER NOW >](#)

#### Live briefing: Build a transformative device strategy for the hybrid

30 Sep, 2021 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Online

**Unlock a more productive, connected workforce**  
For many companies, the pivot to

[REGISTER NOW >](#)

# Learning and Training: August Updates



## Virtual workshops and training

Our interactive virtual workshops and training sessions are taught live by Microsoft Store associates for an in-person experience—wherever you are.

### Introduction to Power Platform L100



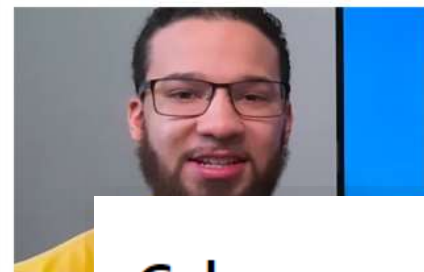
[See 2 sessions >](#)



### Return to work post pandemic Apps



[Learn more >](#)



### Cybersecurity for your Business



[See all 5 sessions >](#)



Microsoft Virtual Training Days



# Microsoft Enterprise Skills Initiative (ESI)

self-paced learning, virtual training, instructor-led training, certifications



## Enterprise Skills Initiative (ESI) continues\*

- We have increased capacity and number of offerings.
- ESI covers training and certification for Azure technology.
- New: now also covers Security technology for eligible customers.
- ESI has options for different learning styles and stages:
  - Training is available as self-paced, instructor-led, Event.
  - Other training formats (e.g. Open Hack, GitHub, Cloud Skills Challenge) planned. ETA to be announced later.
  - Free exam vouchers available for eligible customers.
  - Free practice tests available for eligible customers.

\*Eligibility required; trainings and free offers are limited in numbers/availability.

Try it: <https://esi.microsoft.com>

1. Microsoft enables your organization for the Customer Experience Portal (CxP)
2. Login with your work account
  - *Authentication is federated, meaning you may see Multi-Factor Authentication from your organization if this has been configured by your administrator.*
3. Create your learning profile
4. Start your skilling

### Discover & Explore

Uncover the latest technologies and imagine new ways to create solutions



### Learn skills

Choose the way you want to learn and grow your expertise



### Prove skills

Demonstrate your knowledge and abilities

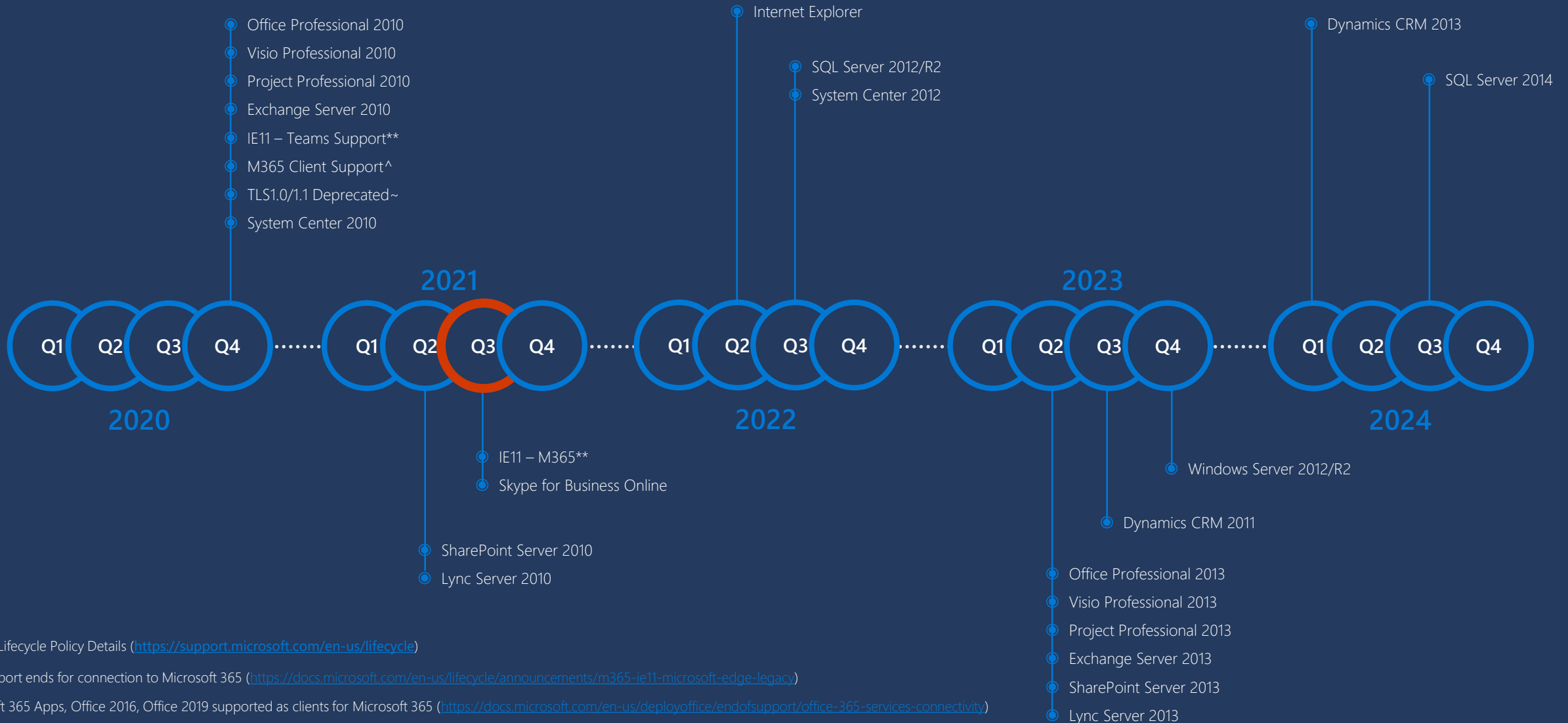


Login not working? Your organization may need to be onboarded to ESI. Please talk to your Microsoft Account Team.

# Product Lifecycles



# End of Service Roadmap to 2024



Microsoft Lifecycle Policy Details (<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/lifecycle>)

\*\* IE11 support ends for connection to Microsoft 365 (<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/lifecycle/announcements/m365-ie11-microsoft-edge-legacy>)

^ Microsoft 365 Apps, Office 2016, Office 2019 supported as clients for Microsoft 365 (<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/deployoffice/endofsupport/office-365-services-connectivity>)

~ TLS 1.0/1.1 Deprecated ((<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/compliance/tls-1.0-and-1.1-deprecation-for-office-365?view=o365-worldwide>))

# Microsoft Product Lifecycle: Modern Policy Products that will Retire



## Products under Modern Policy that will Retire 2021

Products that will retire in 2021: ( <a href="#">Modern Policy</a> )	End of Support Date
Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager, version 1906	January 26, 2021
Azure Information Protection Client	March 31, 2021
Dynamics 365 Business Central on-premises, 2019 release wave 2, version 15.x	April 13, 2021
Windows 10, version 1803 (Enterprise, Education, IoT Enterprise) Windows 10, version 1809 (Enterprise, Education, IoT Enterprise) Windows 10, version 1909 (Home, Pro, Pro Education, Pro for Workstations) Windows Server, version 1909 (Datacenter, Standard)	May 11, 2021
Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager, version 1910	May 29, 2021
Skype for Business Online	July 31, 2021
Microsoft .NET Core, version 2.1 (LTS)	August 21, 2021
Visio Services in SharePoint Online (in Microsoft 365)	September 30, 2021
Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager, version 2002	October 1, 2021
Dynamics 365 Business Central on-premises, 2020 release wave 1, version 16.x	October 12, 2021
Windows 10, version 2004 (Enterprise, Education, IoT Enterprise, Home, Pro, Pro Education, Pro for Workstations) Windows Server, version 2004 (Datacenter, Standard)	December 14, 2021
Dynamics 365 Layout	December 31, 2021

## Products under Modern Policy that will Retire in 2022

Products that will Retire in 2022 ( <a href="#">Modern Policy</a> )	End of Support Date
Dynamics 365 Talent – Attract and Onboard apps	February 2, 2022
Dynamics 365 Business Central on-premises, 2020 release wave 2, version 17.x	April 12, 2022
Windows 10, version 1909 (Enterprise, Education, IoT Enterprise) Windows 10, version 20H2 (Home, Pro, Pro Education, Pro for Workstations) Windows Server, 20H2 (Datacenter, Standard)	May 10, 2022
.NET Core 3.1 (LTS) PowerShell 7.x	December 3, 2022

### Announcements

- Microsoft Store for Business and Education retiring in early 2023
- New options for SQL Server 2012 and Windows Server 2012 End of Support
- Microsoft Machine Learning Server (R Server) retirement on July 1, 2022
- Internet Explorer 11 desktop application ending support for certain operating systems
- UPDATE: Transport Layer Security 1.0 and 1.1 disablement
- UPDATE: Adobe Flash Player end of support on December 31, 2020
- UPDATE: SHA-1 signed content to be retired
- UPDATE: Exchange Online deprecating Basic Auth
- Upcoming Windows 10 and Office Long Term Servicing Channel releases
- Windows 10, version 1909 end of servicing (Home and Pro)
- Windows Server, version 1909 end of servicing

[See more](#)



# Microsoft Product Lifecycle: Fixed Policy Reaching End of Support



## Products Reaching End of Support for 2021

Products Moving to End of Support ( <a href="#">Fixed Policy</a> )	End of Support Date
BizTalk Server 2010 (all editions) Host Integration Server 2010 Microsoft Sync Framework 2.1 <b>Windows 7</b> , ESU Year 1 (all editions) Visual Studio 2019, version 16.0 (all editions)	January 12, 2021
Lync 2010 (all editions) Lync Server 2010 (all editions) Microsoft Enterprise Desktop Virtualization 2.0 <b>Windows Embedded Compact 7</b> PerformancePoint Services in SharePoint Server 2010 Project Server 2010 SharePoint Server 2010 SharePoint 2010 (for Internet Sites) SharePoint Foundation 2010	April 13, 2021
Dynamics Retail Management System 2.0 (all editions) Dynamics CRM 2011 Dynamics SL 2011 Microsoft SQL Server Compact 4.0 Windows MultiPoint Server 2011 (all editions)	July 13, 2021
BitLocker Administration and Monitoring 1.0	September 14, 2021
Microsoft Diagnostics and Recovery Toolset 7.0 Silverlight 5 <b>Windows Embedded POSReady 7</b> <b>Windows Thin PC</b> <b>Windows Embedded Standard 7</b> , ESU Year 1 (all editions) Visual Studio 2019, version 16.4 (all editions)	<b>October 12, 2021</b>
Visual Studio 2019, version 16.0	January 12, 2021

## Products Reaching End of Support for 2022

Products Moving to End of Support ( <a href="#">Fixed Policy</a> )	End of Support Date
Visual Studio LightSwitch 2011 Windows 7, ESU Year 2 (all editions)	January 11, 2022
Microsoft AppFabric 1.1 for Windows Server Dynamics AX 2009 Dynamics AX 2012 Dynamics AX 2012 R2	April 12, 2022
Cloud Platform System Microsoft Report Viewer Redistributable 2012 Microsoft Report Viewer 2012 Runtime Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Enterprise Core Microsoft SQL Server 2012 (all editions) System Center 2012 App Controller System Center 2012 Configuration Manager System Center 2012 Data Protection Manager System Center 2012 Endpoint Protection for Mac System Center 2012 Operations Manager System Center 2012 Orchestrator System Center 2012 Service Manager System Center 2012 Virtual Machine Manager System Center 2012 R2 App Controller System Center 2012 R2 Configuration Manager System Center 2012 R2 Data Protection Manager System Center 2012 R2 Endpoint Protection System Center 2012 R2 Operations Manager System Center 2012 R2 Orchestrator System Center 2012 R2 Service Manager System Center 2012 R2 Virtual Machine Manager Windows Azure Pack (on Windows Server 2012 R2) Windows Azure Pack V2 Web Sites	July 12, 2022
Windows Embedded POSReady 7, ESU Year 1	October 8, 2022
Forefront Identity Manager 2010 Forefront Identity Manager 2010 R2 Windows Embedded Standard 7, ESU Year 2	October 11, 2022
Azure StorSimple 8000 Series Azure StorSimple 1200 Series StorSimple Data Manager	December 31, 2022

# Microsoft Product Lifecycle: Products moving to Extended Support



## Products Moving to Extended Support for 2021

Products Moving to End of Support ( <a href="#">Fixed Policy</a> )	End of Support Date
Advanced Threat Analytics 1.X Dynamics 365 (CRM 2016) Microsoft Identity Manager 2016*	January 12, 2021
Dynamics C5 2016 Dynamics NAV 2016 Microsoft Diagnostics and Recovery Toolset 10	April 13, 2021
Dynamics GP 2016 Dynamics GP 2016 R2 InfoPath 2013 Project Server 2016 SharePoint Designer 2013 SharePoint Server 2016 <b>SQL Server 2016</b>	<b>July 13, 2021</b>
<b>Windows 10 Enterprise 2016 LTSC</b> (Enterprise, IoT Enterprise)	<b>October 12, 2021</b>

## Products Moving to Extended Support for 2022

Products Moving to End of Support ( <a href="#">Fixed Policy</a> )	End of Support Date
Windows Azure Pack (on Windows Server 2016) BizTalk Server 2016 (all editions) Dynamics NAV 2017 Host Integration Server 2016 HPC Pack 2016 Hyper-V Server 2016 Microsoft Internet Information Services 10.0 System Center 2016 Data Protection Manager System Center 2016 Operations Manager System Center 2016 Orchestrator System Center 2016 Service Manager System Center 2016 Virtual Machine Manager Visual Studio Team Foundation Server 2017 Windows Defender for Windows Server 2016 Windows Server 2016 (all editions) Windows Server Update Services for Windows Server 2016 Windows Storage Server 2016	January 11, 2022
Visual Studio 2017	April 12, 2022
SQL Server 2017 on Linux (all editions) SQL Server 2017 on Windows (all editions)	October 11, 2022





# Acquisitions and Announcements



# Microsoft Acquisitions - 2021

Company	Date	Description
<a href="#">TakeLessons</a>	09-08-2021	We're so excited to announce that <b>TakeLessons has been acquired by Microsoft</b> . We believe this will further support TakeLessons' mission: <b>to empower people to learn, connect, grow, and live more meaningful lives through education</b> .
<a href="#">Clipchamp</a>	09-07-2021	<a href="#">Clipchamp</a> is a natural fit to extend the cloud-powered productivity experiences in <a href="#">Microsoft 365</a> for individuals, families, schools, and businesses. It's also a great fit for Microsoft Windows, which is a platform for boundless creativity. Clipchamp's <b>template-driven, task-focused user experience</b> gives everyone the confidence that they can create. Its <b>rich library of filters, styles, transitions, and stock media combined with the power of a multi-track audio and video compositing editor</b> gives everyone the fine control they need, and artistic help if they need it, to <b>create exactly what they want, quickly and with confidence</b> .
<a href="#">Peer5</a>	08-10-2021	<a href="#">Peer5</a> expands Microsoft's ability for delivering <b>secure, high-quality, large-scale live video streaming with optimized network performance in Teams</b> . Peer5 offers a WebRTC-based eCDN solution that runs in-browser to optimize bandwidth usage helping mitigate impacts to network and line of business (LOB) applications. Its <b>mesh networks are self-balancing and automatically scale</b> as the number of viewers increase.





# Microsoft Acquisitions - 2021

Company	Date	Description
<a href="#">Suplari</a>	07-28-2021	<a href="#">Suplari</a> , a leading provider of <b>supplier spend insights</b> . Suplari enables <b>companies to proactively manage supplier spend by transforming data from multiple sources</b> , such as contracts, purchase orders, invoices, expenses, and supplier risk, into valuable insight. By bringing Suplari's spend intelligence insights together with the existing <a href="#">Microsoft Dynamics 365</a> capabilities, Microsoft is <b>further helping organizations become insight-driven</b> and enabling business leaders to take strategic action.
<a href="#">CloudKnox</a>	07-21-2021	Enhanced Zero-Trust controls. The acquisition of <b>CloudKnox</b> further <b>enables <a href="#">Microsoft Azure Active Directory</a> customers with granular visibility, continuous monitoring and automated remediation for hybrid and multi-cloud permissions</b> . Microsoft is committed to providing our customers with unified privileged access management, identity governance and entitlement management. With this Cloudknox, Microsoft is uniquely positioned to <b>empower and defend the future of hybrid work and multi-cloud environments, providing essential visibility, control and monitoring Zero Trust demands</b> .
<a href="#">RiskIQ</a>	07-12-2021	A <b>leader in global threat intelligence and attack surface management</b> , to help our shared customers build a more comprehensive view of the global threats to their businesses, better understand vulnerable internet-facing assets, and build world-class threat intelligence. <a href="#">RiskIQ</a> offers global threat intelligence collected from across the internet, <b>crowd-sourced through its PassiveTotal community of security researchers and analyzed using machine learning</b> . The combination of RiskIQ's attack surface management and threat intelligence empowers security teams to assemble, graph, and identify connections between their digital attack surface and attacker infrastructure and activities, to help <b>provide increased protection and faster response</b> .
<a href="#">ReFirm Labs</a>	06-02-2021	<b>ReFirm Labs</b> is joining Microsoft to <b>enrich our firmware analysis and security capabilities across devices that form the intelligent edge, from servers to IoT</b> . This acquisition marks the <b>next step in our journey and ability to help secure customers from the chip to the cloud</b> , backed by more than 3,500 defenders at Microsoft and the >8 trillion security signals we process every day. <b>ReFirm are the authors of the well-respected <a href="#">Binwalk open-source software</a></b> , which has been used to <b>analyze thousands of device types for firmware security issues</b> , uncovering unpatched common vulnerabilities and exposures (CVEs), insecure secrets, and a multitude of other security problems in plugin IoT devices and embedded firmware. <a href="#">Microsoft acquires ReFirm Labs to enhance IoT security - Microsoft Security</a>
<a href="#">Kinvolk</a>	04-29-2021	<a href="#">Kinvolk</a> has a <b>rich, innovative history</b> in open source cloud-native distributed computing, including Kubernetes, eBPF, community building, and <b>container-optimized Linux</b> . Kinvolk will be key contributors to the engineering development of <a href="#">Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS)</a> , <a href="#">Azure Arc</a> , and future projects that <b>will expand Azure's hybrid container platform capabilities and increase Microsoft's upstream open source contributions</b> in the Kubernetes and container space.
<a href="#">Nuance</a>	04-12-2021	<a href="#">Nuance</a> is a cloud software pioneer and a leading provider of conversational AI and ambient clinical intelligence. Nuance provides <b>AI expertise and intelligent customer engagement across Interactive Voice Response (IVR), virtual assistants, and digital and biometric solutions</b> to some of the largest organizations in the world. Nuance's global customer and partner base spans nearly every industry, and <b>together we are well-positioned to advance our AI capabilities with high-value solutions and a platform to support our customers' and partners' future innovation</b> .
<a href="#">The Marsden Group</a>	03-16-2021	<a href="#">The Marsden Group</a> is a <b>leader in industrial technology innovation and rapid prototyping</b> . The Marsden Group has earned a unique reputation as a powerful and trusted partner among industry leaders who seek to <b>quickly identify business needs, ideate technology solutions and build high-quality prototypes tailored to individual customer needs</b> . The Marsden Group has helped its enterprise customers rapidly envision, prototype and implement solutions that <b>drive meaningful value to their businesses, employees and customers</b> .



## Microsoft Acquisitions - 2020

Company	Date	Description
<a href="#">ZeniMax Media</a>	09-21-2020	<b>ZeniMax Media, the parent company of Bethesda Softworks</b> , one of the <b>largest privately held game developers and publishers in the world</b> . Creators of critically acclaimed and <b>best-selling gaming franchises including The Elder Scrolls, Fallout and many others</b> , Bethesda brings an <b>impressive portfolio of games, technology and talent</b> — as well as a track record of blockbuster commercial success — to Xbox.
<a href="#">Orions Systems</a>	07-07-2020	Orions Systems, a pioneer in the development <b>of large-scale, hybrid, smart vision systems focused on “human-in-the-loop” machine teaching</b> combined with <b>services that can adapt to running on a single device or scale to address large scale edge-to-cloud network topologies</b> . The Power Platform and Orions Systems is enabling intelligent retail spaces by leveraging observational data to unlock the full potential of customers, employees, and assets.
<a href="#">CyberX</a>	06-22-2020	CyberX will complement the existing <a href="#">Azure IoT security</a> capabilities and <b>extends to existing devices including those used in industrial IoT, Operational Technology and infrastructure scenarios</b> . With CyberX, customers can <b>discover their existing IoT assets, and both manage and improve the security posture of those devices</b> . CyberX, customers can see a digital map of thousands of devices across a factory floor or within a building and gather information about their asset profile and vulnerabilities,
<a href="#">ADRM Software</a>	06-18-2020	ADRM Software is a <b>leading provider of large-scale industry data models</b> , which are used by large companies worldwide as information blueprints. ADRM's robust industry data models have been built and refined over decades for business-critical analytics. <b>Together with Microsoft Azure, these capabilities will be delivered at scale</b> , enabling our customers to accelerate digital progress, and reduce risk in a variety of major initiatives.
<a href="#">Softomotive</a>	05-19-2020	<a href="#">Softomotive</a> currently helps more than 9,000 global customers seamlessly <b>automate business processes across legacy and modern desktop applications</b> . Together <b>with Power Automate, WinAutomation will provide customers additional options for RPA desktop authoring</b> so anyone can build a bot and automate Windows-based tasks.
<a href="#">Metaswitch Networks</a>	05-14-2020	<a href="#">Metaswitch Networks</a> , a leading provider of <b>virtualized network software and voice, data and communications solutions for 5G operators</b> .
<a href="#">Corp.Com</a>	04-07-2020	“To help in keeping systems protected we encourage customers to practice safe security habits when planning for internal domain and network names. We released a security advisory in June of 2009 and a security update that helps keep customers safe. In our ongoing commitment to customer security, we also acquired the Corp.com domain.”
<a href="#">Affirmed Networks</a>	03-26-2020	<b>Affirmed Networks with its leadership in virtualized 5G mobile networks</b> . Affirmed Networks and Microsoft will play an important role in helping advance 5G and deliver new network solutions that offer step-change advancements in speed, cost and security. This combination of technology leaders will enable a host of new opportunities for businesses and society, <b>including autonomous vehicles, smart cities, virtual reality and a range of other smart industry use cases and services</b> .





## Microsoft Acquisitions - 2019

Company	Date	Description
<b>Movere</b>	10-21-2019	Movere accelerates cloud migrations. It increases business intelligence by accurately <b>presenting entire IT environments within a single day</b> , providing enterprises with the confidence they need to have <b>visibility and control of their environments regardless of platform, application or geography as organizations grow, change and digitally optimize</b> .
<b>Semmlle</b>	09-18-2019	Semmlle's revolutionary <b>semantic code analysis engine allows developers to write queries that identify code patterns in large codebases and search for vulnerabilities and their variants</b> . Semmlle is <b>trusted by security teams at Uber, NASA, Microsoft, Google</b> , and has <b>helped find thousands of vulnerabilities in some of the largest codebases in the world</b> , as well as over 100 CVEs in open source projects to date.
<b>JClarity</b>	08-19-2019	The <b>leading contributor to the AdoptOpenJDK project</b> , to support their continued contributions to open source while <b>driving increased performance for Java workloads on Azure</b> . The team, formed by Java champions and data scientists with proven <b>expertise in data driven Java Virtual Machine (JVM) optimizations</b> , will help teams at Microsoft to leverage advancements in the Java platform.
<b>PromoteIQ</b>	08-05-2019	The <b>leading provider of vendor marketing technology to online retailers and brands</b> . <b>PromoteIQ has pioneered the private marketplace approach to digital vendor marketing</b> . PromoteIQ's technology strategically complements Microsoft's current retail advertising offerings, and can <b>enable retailers with a portfolio of technology solutions to modernize their e-commerce platforms and maximize their monetization opportunity</b> . retailers such as Kroger, Kohl's and Overstock.com — will continue to benefit from the PromoteIQ platform and team.
<b>BlueTalon</b>	07-29-2019	A <b>leading provider of Unified Data Access Control solutions for modern data platforms</b> . BlueTalon works with leading Fortune 100 companies <b>to eliminate data security blind spots and gain visibility and control of data</b> . BlueTalon provides a customer-proven, data-centric solution for data access management and auditing across the diverse systems resident in modern data estates.
<b>PullPanda^</b>	06-17-2019	PullPanda^ <b>helps teams create more efficient and effective code review workflows on GitHub</b> . Better code reviews mean better code for software teams of all sizes, whether you work in open source or on a Fortune 500 team. PullPanda^ <b>gives teams a better way to manage reviews, reduce turnaround times, and ship code faster</b> .
<b>Double Fine Productions</b>	06-09-2019	Double Fine is <b>a beacon of creativity and spirit in game development for almost 20 years with classic games like Psychonauts, Brütal Legend and Broken Age</b> . At the root of every game is an emphasis on creating crazy worlds with originality, story and fun. That commitment to creating a unique, player-centric experience is what drew us to the studio, and I'm looking forward to seeing what we create together.
<b>Drawbridge Solutions</b>	05-28-2019	<b>LinkedIn will integrate Drawbridge's technology into our marketing solutions portfolio</b> to help our customers <b>better reach and understand their professional audiences and measure the ROI of their campaigns</b> .
<b>Dependabot</b>	05-23-2019	<b>Dependabot is integrated directly into GitHub and will monitor your dependencies for known security vulnerabilities and automatically open pull requests to update them to the minimum required version</b> . We are <b>rolling out automated pull requests to all accounts with security alerts enabled</b> along with other enhancements in the coming months.

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/Investor/acquisition-history.aspx>



## Microsoft Acquisitions – 2019 & late 2018

Company	Date	Description
<b>Express Logic</b>	04-18-2019	a leader in <b>real time operating systems (RTOS) for IoT and edge devices powered by microcontroller units (MCUs)</b> . Express Logic's ThreadX RTOS has over <b>6.2 billion deployments</b> , making it one of the most deployed RTOS in the world per <a href="#">VDC Research</a> . This widespread popularity is driven by demand for technology to support resource constrained environments, especially those that require safety and security.
<b>DataSense</b>	02-04-2019	The <b>integration of DataSense into Microsoft's suite of products, we will help educational institutions – and school and district IT leaders in particular – better collect, manage and explicitly control access to their data</b> within Azure to help drive the best possible learning outcomes for their students. Read more at <a href="https://educationblog.microsoft.com/en-us/2019/02/introducing-datasense-to-microsoft-educations-family-of-products/#E6CKQEBUjS35TOH4.99">https://educationblog.microsoft.com/en-us/2019/02/introducing-datasense-to-microsoft-educations-family-of-products/#E6CKQEBUjS35TOH4.99</a>
<b>Citus Data</b>	01-24-2019	a leader in the PostgreSQL community. Citus is an <b>innovative open source extension to PostgreSQL that transforms PostgreSQL into a distributed database, dramatically increasing performance and scale for application developers</b> . Because Citus is an extension to open source PostgreSQL, it <b>gives enterprises the performance advantages of a horizontally scalable database while staying current with all the latest innovations in PostgreSQL</b> . Citus is available as a fully-managed database as a service, as enterprise software, and as a free open source download.
<b>FSLogix</b>	11-19-2018	FSLogix is a <b>next-generation app-provisioning platform that reduces the resources, time and labor required to support virtualization</b> . From small businesses to very large global enterprises across numerous industries, FSLogix solutions enhance customer experience and productivity, while reducing support requirements for IT departments.
<b>XOXCO</b>	11-14-2018	A <b>software product design and development studio known for its conversational AI and bot development capabilities</b> . The company has been paving the way in conversational AI since 2013 and was responsible for the creation of <a href="#">Howdy</a> , the <b>first commercially available bot for Slack that helps schedule meetings, and Botkit</b> , which provides the development tools used by hundreds of thousands of developers on GitHub. Over the years, we have partnered with XOXC and have been inspired by this work.
<b>Obsidian</b>	11-10-2018	<b>The studio quickly made a name for itself with the Xbox exclusive <i>Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic II: The Sith Lords</i></b> . Over the last fifteen years, they have delivered genre-defining RPGs to players on both console and PC through titles including <i>Fallout: New Vegas</i> , <i>South Park: The Stick of Truth</i> , and <i>Pillars of Eternity</i> . Read more at <a href="https://news.xbox.com/en-us/2018/11/10/obsidian-inxile-join-microsoft-studios/#P4ARqRq505qOpmfU.99">https://news.xbox.com/en-us/2018/11/10/obsidian-inxile-join-microsoft-studios/#P4ARqRq505qOpmfU.99</a>
<b>InXile</b>	11-10-2018	<b>Like Obsidian, InXile excels at creating vast worlds for players to explore with titles such as <i>Wasteland 2</i>, <i>Torment: Tides of Numenera</i>, <i>Bard's Tale IV</i> and the upcoming <i>Wasteland 3</i></b> . Read more at <a href="https://news.xbox.com/en-us/2018/11/10/obsidian-inxile-join-microsoft-studios/#P4ARqRq505qOpmfU.99">https://news.xbox.com/en-us/2018/11/10/obsidian-inxile-join-microsoft-studios/#P4ARqRq505qOpmfU.99</a>
<b>Lobe</b>	09-13-2018	Lobe makes deep learning simple, understandable and accessible to everyone. Lobe's <b>simple visual interface empowers anyone to develop and apply deep learning and AI models quickly, without writing code</b> .





Thank YOU!