



Microsoft

Monthly Tech Briefing

MARCH 2024



Abbas Kudrati
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[https://aka.ms/abbas \(new\)](https://aka.ms/abbas)

- Microsoft Build – May 2024
- Microsoft Ignite – November 2024
- Microsoft Tech Community Blog depot
- Microsoft Official Blog
- TechCommunity Events
- Microsoft Technical Documentation Hub

Announcements and Tips

- Microsoft Global Threat Monitor
- Microsoft Security Blog
- Microsoft Security Response Center
- Security, Compliance and Identity Blog

Security and Compliance

- Microsoft IT Showcase
- Technical Professional Training
- User Training and technology introductions

Showcase of the month

New trends with Microsoft Technology

- Industry Blogs
- Industry Cloud Announcements
- Azure Updates
- Microsoft Research Blog
- Microsoft Quantum Computing

- Office Updates
- Teams Updates
- Viva Updates
- Power Platform and Dynamics
- Power Platform Templates
- GitHub Updates
- Developer Blogs and Showcase
- Office Developer Blog

Microsoft 365 update information

Product Lifecycles

Acquisitions and Announcements

- Products Reaching End of Support in 2024-2028
- Companies and Technologies Acquired Since 2018

10 AI terms everyone should know

By Susanna Ray

The term "AI" has been used in computer science since the 1950s, but most people outside the industry didn't start talking about it until the end of 2022. That's because recent advances in machine learning led to big breakthroughs that are beginning to have a profound impact on nearly every aspect of our lives. We're here to help break down some of the buzzwords so you can better understand AI terms and be part of the global conversation.

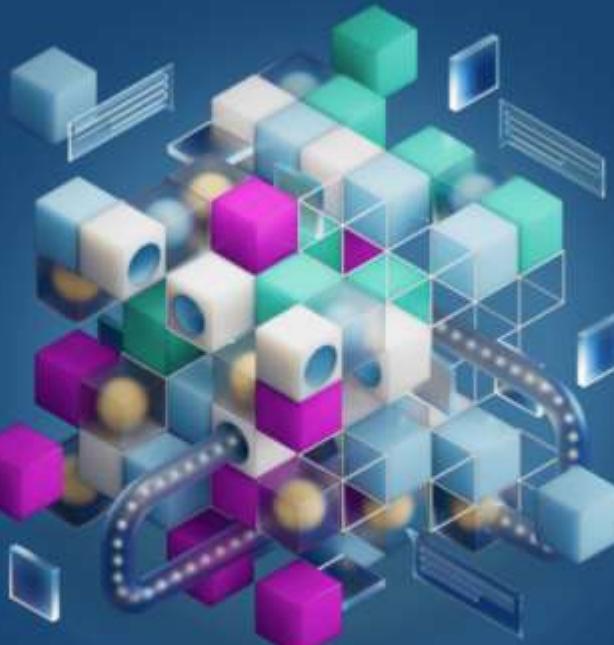
3. Large language models

Large language models, or LLMs, use machine learning techniques to help them process language so they can mimic the way humans communicate. They're based on neural networks, or NNs, which are computing systems inspired by the human brain — sort of like a bunch of nodes and connections that simulate neurons and synapses. They are trained on a massive amount of text to learn patterns and relationships in language that help them use human words. Their problem-solving capabilities can be used to translate languages, answer questions in the form of a chatbot, summarize text and even write stories, poems and computer code. They don't have thoughts or feelings, but sometimes they sound like they do, because they've learned patterns that help them respond the way a human might. They're often fine-tuned by developers using a process called reinforcement learning from human feedback (RLHF) to help them sound more conversational.



4. Generative AI

Generative AI leverages the power of large language models to make new things, not just regurgitate or provide information about existing things. It learns patterns and structures and then generates something that's similar but new. It can make things like pictures, music, text, videos and code. It can be used to create art, write stories, design products and even help doctors with administrative tasks. But it can also be used by bad actors to create fake news or pictures that look like photographs but aren't real, so tech companies are working on ways to **clearly identify** AI-generated content.



1. Artificial intelligence

Artificial Intelligence is basically a super-smart computer system that can imitate humans in some ways, like comprehending what people say, making decisions, translating between languages, analyzing if something is negative or positive, and even learning from experience. It's artificial in that its intellect was created by humans using technology. Sometimes people say AI systems have digital brains, but they're not physical machines or robots — they're programs that run on computers. They work by putting a vast collection of data through algorithms, which are sets of instructions, to create models that can automate tasks that typically require human intelligence and time. Sometimes people specifically engage with an AI system — like asking Bing Chat for help with something — but more often the AI is happening in the background all around us, suggesting words as we type, recommending songs in playlists and providing more relevant information based on our preferences.

2. Machine learning

If artificial intelligence is the goal, machine learning is how we get there. It's a field of computer science, under the umbrella of AI, where people teach a computer system how to do something by training it to identify patterns and make predictions based on them. Data is run through algorithms over and over, with different input and feedback each time to help the system learn and improve during the training process — like practicing piano scales 10 million times in order to sight-read music going forward. It's especially helpful with problems that would otherwise be difficult or impossible to solve using traditional programming techniques, such as recognizing images and translating languages. It takes a huge amount of data, and that's something we've only been able to harness in recent years as more information has been digitized and as computer hardware has become faster, smaller, more powerful and better able to process all that information. That's why large language models that use machine learning — such as Bing Chat and ChatGPT — have suddenly arrived on the scene.

5. Hallucinations

Generative AI systems can create stories, poems and songs, but sometimes we want results to be based in truth. Since these systems can't tell the difference between what's real and fake, they can give inaccurate responses that developers refer to as hallucinations or confabulations — much like if someone saw what looked like the outline of a face on the moon and began saying there was an actual man in the moon. Developers try to resolve these issues through "grounding," which is when they provide an AI system with additional information from a trusted source to improve accuracy about a specific topic. Sometimes a system's predictions are wrong, too, if a model doesn't have current information after it's trained.



MOBILE WORLD CONGRESS 2024

Registration is now open for MWC Barcelona

26 - 29 February 2024
Fira Gran Via, Barcelona

GET YOUR PASS



Barcelona and MWC – a special relationship

MWC's John Hoffman reflects on 18 years of innovation and success for a mutually beneficial public-private partnership.

[READ MORE →](#)



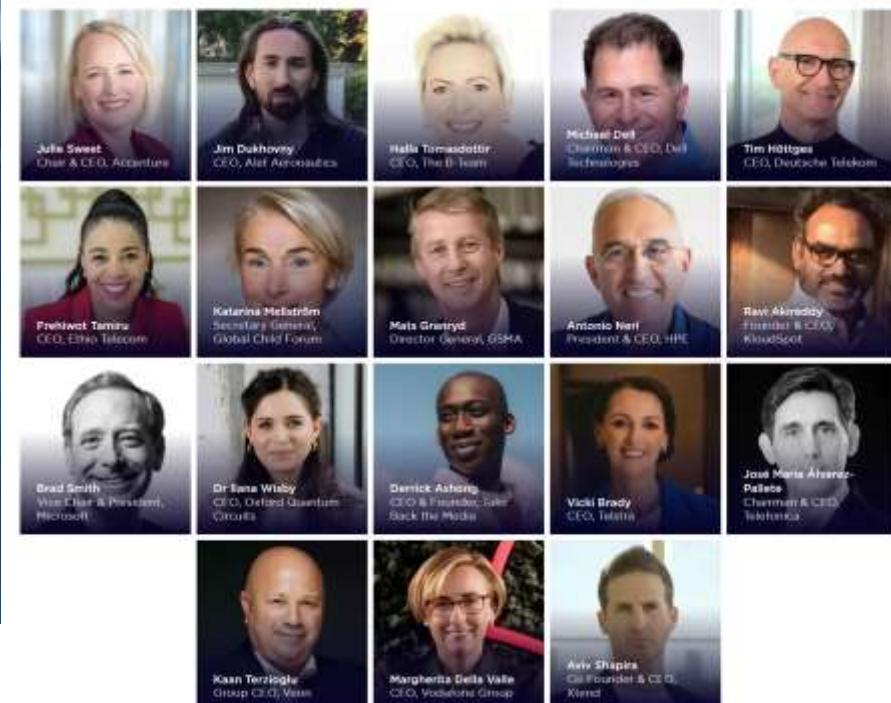
Diversity4Tech

Meet inspirational thought leaders ready to share solutions for equality, diversity and inclusion.

[DIVERSITY4TECH](#)

MWC 2024 Keynote Speakers

Hear from the visionaries and innovators creating tomorrow's tech



Security for all in the age of AI

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 | 9:00 AM-11:00 AM Pacific Time (UTC-7)

AI-powered innovations in cybersecurity are reshaping how businesses of every size—and across every industry—secure and protect their data. Join us at the second annual **Microsoft Secure** digital event to learn how to bring world-class threat intelligence, complete end-to-end protection, and industry-leading, responsible AI to your organization.

Register today to:

- Be among the first to hear about new products, capabilities, and offerings.
- Get demos on the latest AI-powered innovations.
- Learn from industry luminaries and influencers.

Register
now



Microsoft Secure

Security for all in the age of AI
Digital event / March 13, 2024



Join us at the 2024 GTC AI conference.

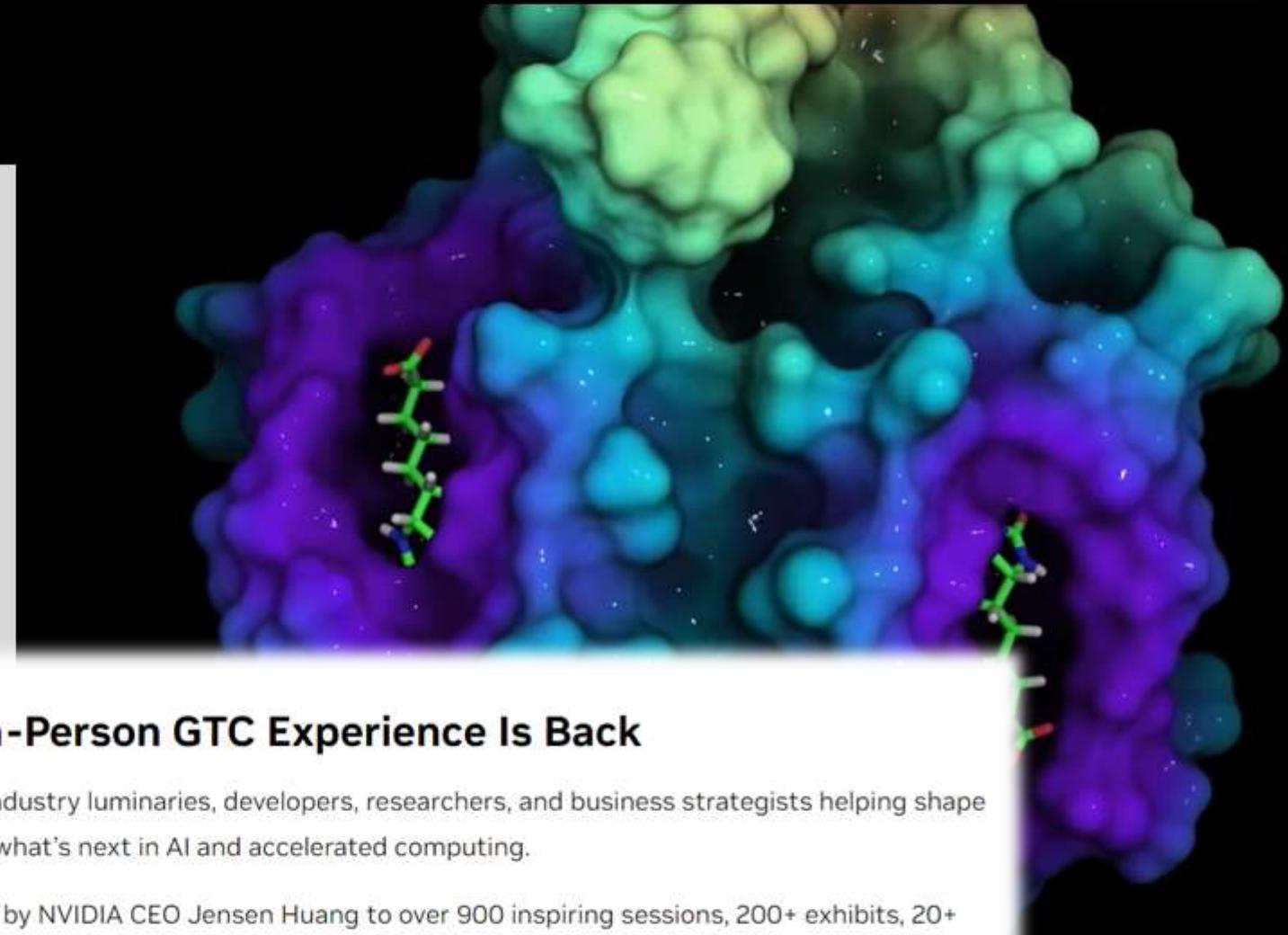
Brilliant Minds. Breakthrough Discoveries.

[Register Now](#)

The In-Person GTC Experience Is Back

Come connect with a dream team of industry luminaries, developers, researchers, and business strategists helping shape what's next in AI and accelerated computing.

From the highly anticipated keynote by NVIDIA CEO Jensen Huang to over 900 inspiring sessions, 200+ exhibits, 20+ technical workshops, and tons of unique networking events, GTC delivers something for every technical level and interest area. Whether you join us in person or virtually, you're in for an incredible experience at the conference for the era of AI.

[Register today.](#)

REGISTER



Join us in **LAS VEGAS**

March 26-28, 2024

Workshops 24, 25 & 29

[REGISTER](#)

[BOOK HOTEL](#)



The First Annual Microsoft Fabric Community Conference

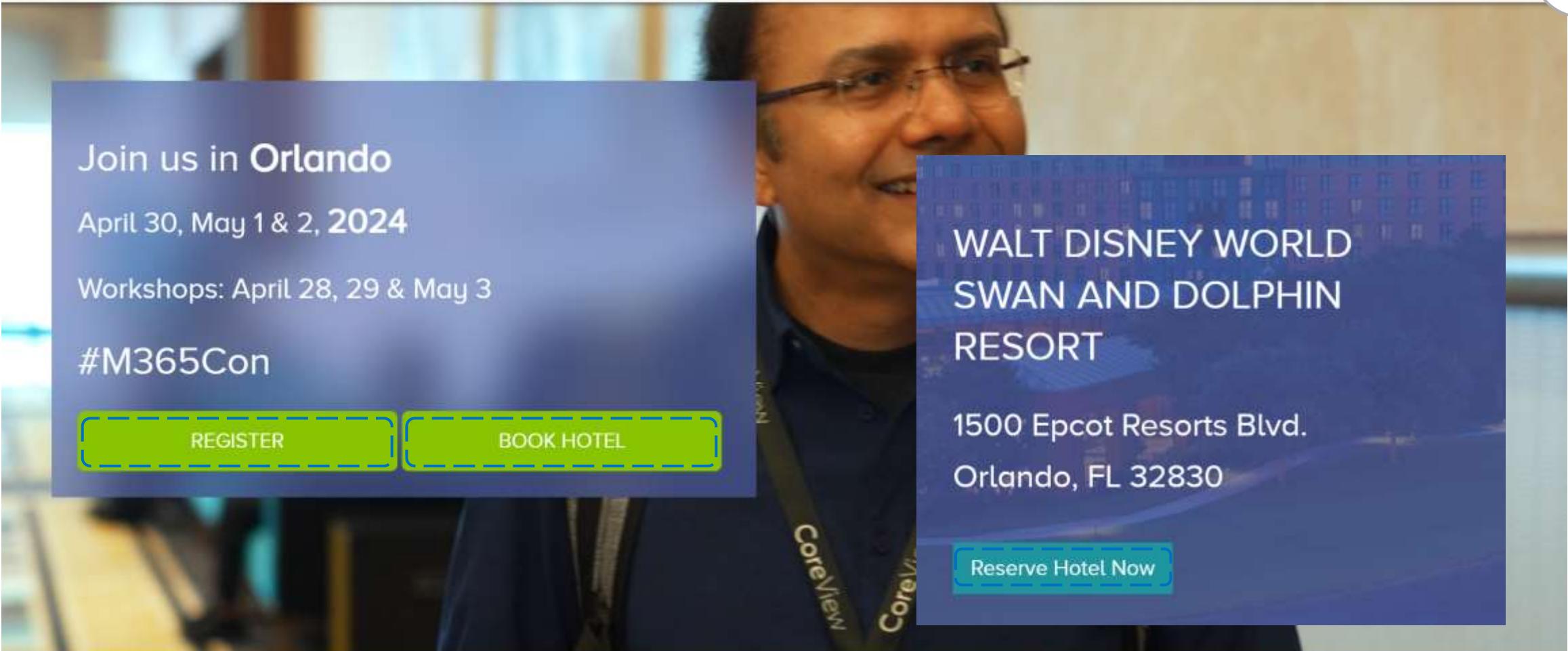
Join us at the first annual Microsoft Fabric Community Conference and see firsthand how Microsoft Fabric and the rest of the data and AI products at Microsoft can help your organization prepare for the era of AI. You'll hear from leading Microsoft and community experts from around the world and get hands on experiences with the latest features from **Microsoft Fabric, Power BI, Databases, Azure AI, Microsoft Purview**, and more.

Register today to immerse yourself in the future of data and AI and connect with thousands of data innovators like yourself eager to share their insights.

MGM GRAND

3799 S. Las Vegas Blvd.
Las Vegas, Nevada

[Hotel information](#)



Join us in Orlando

April 30, May 1 & 2, **2024**

Workshops: April 28, 29 & May 3

#M365Con

[REGISTER](#)[BOOK HOTEL](#)

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RESORT

1500 Epcot Resorts Blvd.
Orlando, FL 32830

[Reserve Hotel Now](#)[Entra](#)[Exchange](#)[Forms](#)[Lists](#)[Microsoft 365](#)[Microsoft Copilot](#)[Microsoft Defender](#)[Microsoft Fabric](#)

SPEAKERS

150

SESSIONS

150

WORKSHOPS

18

EXHIBITORS

50



May 6 - 9, 2024

San Francisco

Call For Submissions | Agenda | Passes | Networking | Expo & Sponsors | Programs | Health & Safety | Venue | On Demand

REGISTER

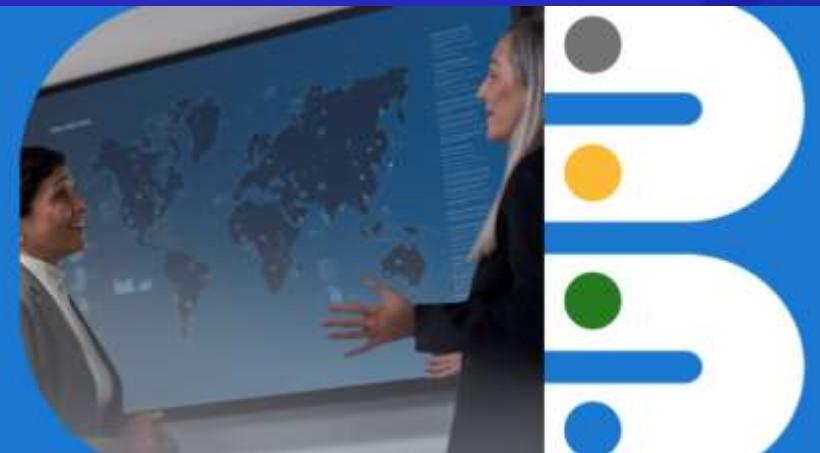
[HOME](#) > [2024 USA](#)

RSA Conference 2024 San Francisco

Moscone Center | May 6 - 9, 2024



Microsoft Pre-Day at
RSA Conference 2024



THE ART OF
POSSIBLE

Feedback



Microsoft Envision

The Tour

Join us for an exclusive one-day, in-person only event where you'll learn how to lead your organization in the era of AI. Connect with other forward-thinking senior leaders and experts to gain valuable insights to propel your business forward.

Register for a tour
location today



London, UK

October 18, 2023

[Register today >](#)



Mumbai, India

January 31, 2024

[Registration details coming soon](#)



Sydney, Australia

February 7, 2024

[Registration details coming soon](#)



Mexico City, Mexico

February 20, 2024

[Registration details coming soon](#)



Paris, France

March 12, 2024

[Registration details coming soon](#)



Tokyo, Japan

March 14, 2024

[Registration details coming soon](#)

Oct 4, 2023 | [Judson Althoff - Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer](#)

[Microsoft Envision | The Tour: How to lead in the era of AI >](#)



Microsoft AI Tour

Chart the course of the next technological era at one of our exclusive, one-day events. Fully harness the potential of AI by connecting with thought leaders, attending expert-led technical sessions, and more. Redefine what innovation means for you by unlocking the power of AI.

Register for a tour
location today



San Francisco, USA

For developers

January 11, 2024

[Register today >](#)



New York, USA

For developers

January 25, 2024

[Register today >](#)



Mumbai, India

For decision makers

January 31, 2024

[Register today >](#)



Sydney, Australia

For decision makers and
developers

February 7, 2024

[Register today >](#)



Bengaluru, India

For developers

February 8, 2024

*Registration details coming
soon*



Tokyo, Japan

For decision makers and
developers

February 20, 2024

[Register Today >](#)



Paris, France

For decision makers

March 12, 2024

[Register today >](#)



Paris, France

For developers

March 13, 2024

*Registration details coming
soon*



São Paulo, Brazil

For decision makers and
developers

March 21, 2024

*Registration details coming
soon*



Seoul, South Korea

For developers

April 30, 2024

*Registration details coming
soon*

Save the date

In Seattle and Online: May 21-23, 2024 PT

Learn from experts, get hands-on with AI, and make connections with peers, Microsoft engineers, and industry leaders. Mark your calendar.

[Join the email list](#)

Microsoft Build



Microsoft Learn Cloud Skills Challenge

Earn a free certification exam by completing one of the unique collections on Microsoft Learn. The challenge is on until June 20, 2023, so be sure to register today!

[Start now >](#)

Microsoft Build



This year's themes



AI

A new frontier in developer creativity.



Security

Proactive security, powered by AI.



DevEx

Welcome to your flow state.

Watch on demand

UNIVERSE 23

2024 Ticket Presale

October 29-30, 2024 - San Francisco, CA
Tickets 60% off until November 17, 2023



Microsoft Ignite

November 18-22, 2024

Our biggest event of the year is getting even bigger. Join us in Chicago to expand your AI knowledge, create connections, and more—mark your calendar. Sign up to be notified when registration opens.

[Learn more >](#)

Save the date

In Chicago and online: November 18–22, 2024

Our biggest event of the year is getting even bigger. Join us in Chicago to expand your AI knowledge, create connections, and more—mark your calendar.

[Join the email list](#)

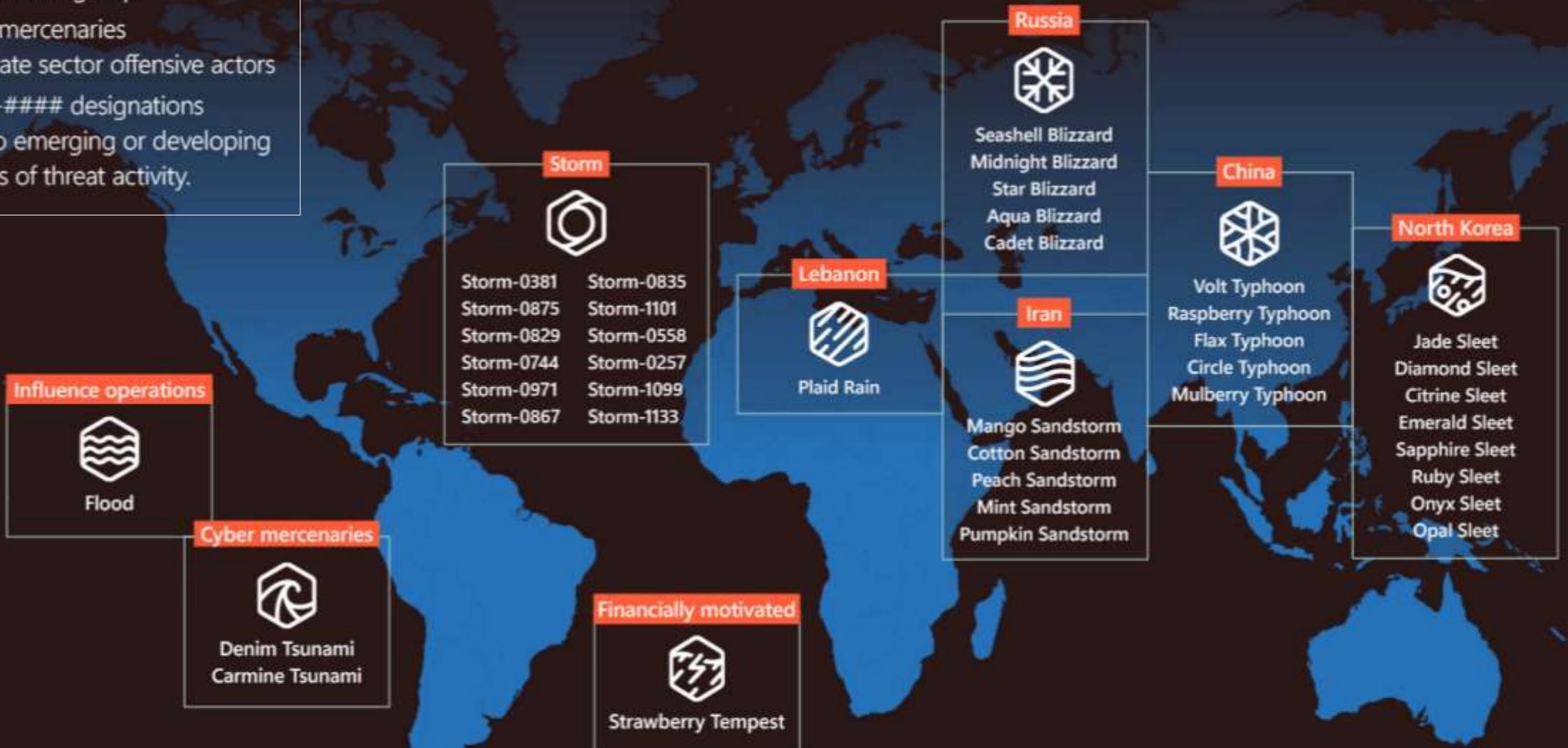
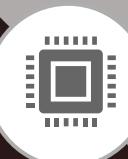
Updates of Security and Compliance



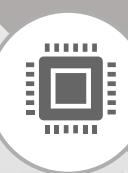
Tracked activity

- Nation-state actors
- Ransomware groups
- Cyber mercenaries
- or private sector offensive actors
- Storm-#### designations
refer to emerging or developing clusters of threat activity.

Microsoft :: Threat Intelligence Blog



Monitoring Global Threats: Microsoft :: Threat Intelligence Blog



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

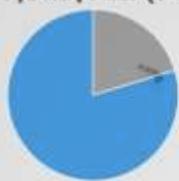
Reported enterprise malware encounters in the last 30 days

Education

Show all industries >

Devices with encounters:

7,543,082 (79.65%)



Top threats:

HackTool:Win32/AutoKMS!pz
HackTool:Win32/AutoKMS
Trojan:Script/Wacatac.B!ml
HackTool:MSI!AutoKMS!pz

Update on Microsoft Actions Following Attack by Nation State Actor Midnight Blizzard

Friday, March 08, 2024

This blog provides an update on the nation-state attack that was detected by the Microsoft Security Team on January 12, 2024. As we shared, on January 19, the security team detected this attack on our corporate email systems and immediately activated our response process. The Microsoft Threat Intelligence investigation identified the threat actor as Midnight Blizzard, the Russian state-sponsored actor also known as NOBELIUM.

Worldwide

84,931,068 devices with encounters

Top threats:

Trojan:Win32/Wacatac.B!ml
Trojan:Script/Wacatac.B!ml
HackTool:Win32/AutoKMS
PUA:Win32/Softcnapp
Trojan:Win32/Wacatac.H!ml

[Research](#) [Threat intelligence](#) [Microsoft Copilot for Security](#) [Threat actors](#)

Feb 14 · 13 min read

Staying ahead of threat actors in the age of AI

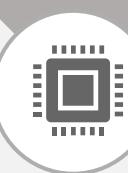
Microsoft, in collaboration with OpenAI, is publishing research on emerging threats in the age of AI, focusing on identified activity associated with known threat actors Forest Blizzard, Emerald Sleet, Crimson Sandstorm, and others. The observed activity includes prompt-injections, attempted misuse of large language models (LLM), and fraud.

ATLAS™

The ATLAS Matrix below shows the general progression of attack tactics as column headers from left to right, with attack techniques organized below each tactic. ¹ indicates a tactic or technique directly adapted from ATT&CK. Click on the blue links to learn more about each item, or search and view more details about ATLAS tactics and techniques using the links in the top navigation bar.

Reconnaissance ¹	Resource Development ¹	Initial Access ¹	ML Model Access ¹	Execution ¹	Persistence ¹	Privilege Escalation ¹	Defense Evasion ¹	Credential Access ¹	Discovery ¹	Collection ¹	ML Attack Staging ¹	Efiltration ¹	Impact ¹
5 techniques	7 techniques	6 techniques	4 techniques	3 techniques	3 techniques	2 techniques	3 techniques	1 technique	4 techniques	3 techniques	4 techniques	4 techniques	6 techniques
Search for Publicly Available Research Materials	Acquire Public ML Artifacts	ML Supply Chain Compromises	ML Model Inference API Access	User Tokenization	LLM Prompt Injection	ML Model Stealing	Obfuscate ML Model	Unknown Credentials	Discover ML Model Storage	ML Artifact Collection	Create Prod ML Model	Exploit via ML Inference API	Create ML Model
Search for Publicly Available Vulnerability Analysis	Obtain Capabilities	Voll Access	ML Enabled Productive Services	Command and Control Stealer	LLM Plug-in Compromises	LLM Prompt Injection	LLM Jitterbot	Unknown Credentials	Discover ML Model Faculty	Data from Previous Repetition	Redistribute ML Model	Exploit via ML Object	Delete ML Model
Search Violent/Greed Websites	Derive ML Model	Exploit Public Facing Applications	Physical Environment Access	LLM Plug-in Detection	LLM Jitterbot	LLM Jitterbot	LLM Jitterbot	Unknown Credentials	Discover ML Artifacts	Data from Local Systems	Redistribute ML Model Faculty	Exploit via ML System with Craft Data	Delete ML Model Integrity
Search Academic Repositories	Publicly Available Datasets	Poison Training Data	Full ML Model Access	Poison Training Data	ML Model Stealing	ML Model Jitterbot	ML Model Jitterbot	Unknown Credentials	Discover ML Artifacts	Data from Local Systems	Create Prod ML Model	Exploit via ML System with Craft Data	Craft ML Model Integrity
Active Learning		Print Job		Print Job					Discover ML Artifacts	Data from Local Systems	Create Prod ML Model	Exploit via ML System with Craft Data	Craft ML Model Integrity

Microsoft Security Blog



Best practices AI and machine learning Microsoft Copilot for Security · Mar 4 · 4 min read

Defend against human-operated ransomware attacks with Microsoft Copilot for Security >

Human-operated ransomware attacks are on the rise. See real-world examples of how Microsoft Copilot for Security helps SecOps teams defend their organizations against financial and reputational damage.

Industry trends Built-in security · Mar 7 · 4 min read

Evolving Microsoft Security Development Lifecycle (SDL): How continuous SDL can help you build more secure software >

The software developers and systems engineers at Microsoft work with large-scale, complex systems, requiring collaboration among diverse and global teams, all while navigating the demands of rapid technological advancement, and today we're sharing how they're tackling security challenges in the white paper: "Building the next generation of the Microsoft Security Development Lifecycle (SDL)", created by the pioneers of future software development practices.

News AI and machine learning · Feb 22 · 7 min read

Announcing Microsoft's open automation framework to red team generative AI Systems >

Today, we are releasing an open automation framework, PyRIT (Python Risk Identification Toolkit for generative AI) to empower security professionals and machine learning engineers to proactively find risks in their generative AI systems.

Microsoft Security Response Center

News AI and machine learning Microsoft Copilot for Security · Mar 13 · 8 min read

Microsoft Copilot for Security is generally available on April 1, 2024, with new capabilities >

Microsoft Copilot for Security is generally available April 1, 2024, with new capabilities. New tools across the security portfolio help protect and govern AI

News AI and machine learning Cybercrime · Mar 6 · 5 min read

Enhancing protection: Updates on Microsoft's Secure Future Initiative >

A few months into Microsoft's Secure Future Initiative, read the details on what we've accomplished across key engineering advances to deliver the next generation of built-in security for customers.

Industry trends Privacy Microsoft Privé · Feb 20 · 3 min read

Navigating NIS2 requirements with Microsoft Security solutions >

NIS2 is the most comprehensive European cybersecurity directive yet, covering 18 sectors and 160,000+ companies. The Zero Trust principles addressed by Microsoft Security solutions can help you protect your organization and meet NIS2 requirements.

Best practices AI and machine learning Microsoft Copilot for Security · Feb 21 · 5 min read

Get the most out of Microsoft Copilot for Security with good prompt engineering >

Good prompt engineering can greatly improve generative AI outputs, which means more relevant and accurate results. Microsoft Copilot for Security includes featured prompts as well as promptbooks to help security teams better investigate, manage, and respond to cyberthreats.

Mar 7 · 4 min read

Defend against cyber threats with AI solutions from Microsoft >

The Defense and Intelligence team at Microsoft understands defending a nation's interests requires a comprehensive national strategy that covers both the physical and digital domains. Accordingly, a reliable and secure digital backbone is the foundation, and a prerequisite for, a national cybersecurity system.



Microsoft 365 update information

Copilot available for everyone



We're bringing Copilot to more people and businesses

Copilot Pro launched for consumers; Copilot for Microsoft 365 expands availability

Copilot Pro provides:

1. A single AI experience that runs across your devices, understanding your context on the web, on your PC, across your apps and soon on your phone to bring the right skills to you when you need them.
2. Access to Copilot in Word, Excel^[i], PowerPoint, Outlook, and OneNote on PC, Mac and iPad for Microsoft 365 Personal and Family subscribers.
3. Priority access to the very latest models – starting today with OpenAI's GPT-4 Turbo. With Copilot Pro you'll have access to GPT-4 Turbo during peak times for faster performance and, coming soon, the ability to toggle between models to optimize your experience how you choose.
4. Enhanced AI image creation with Image Creator from Designer (formerly Bing Image Creator) – ensuring it's faster with 100 boosts per day while bringing you more detailed image quality as well as landscape image format.
5. The ability to build your own Copilot GPT – a customized Copilot tailored for a specific topic – in our new Copilot GPT Builder (coming soon) with just a simple set of prompts.

	For Individuals	For Organizations
	Copilot	Copilot Pro
Foundational Capabilities		
Web Grounding	•	•
Commercial Data Protection	•	•
Priority Model Access		•
Copilot in Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote		•
Copilot in Teams		
Microsoft Graph Grounding		
Enterprise-Grade Data Protection		
Customization		
		Copilot GPT builder
		Copilot Studio

For Copilot Pro, a Microsoft 365 Personal or Family subscription is required to access Copilot in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and OneNote on PC, and soon on Mac and iPad. Commercial Data Protection applies when users are signed into their work account using their organization's Azure AD.



Copilot (Web)



interaction with web content

Copilots for Web

M365 Copilot



Word, Outlook, Excel,
PowerPoint, Teams

Copilot for Productivity

Windows Copilot



interaction with OS,
apps, and files

Copilot for Everyday

Designer



digital creations

Copilot for Creativity

Azure



Azure platform operations
and optimizations

Copilot for Cloud

Fabric Copilot



data analytics and
business intelligence

Copilots for Analytics

Power BI



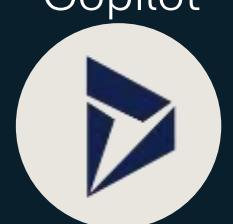
Unlock your insights

Security Copilot



threat detection,
identification, and mitigation

Dynamics Copilot



sales and customer
support

GitHub Copilot



code development

Power Platform



creation of apps,
and workflows

Copilot Studio



creation of your agents

Custom Copilot



Create your
own copilot

Copilot for Dashboard

Copilot for Security

Copilots for Business

Copilot for Development

Copilot for Low/No Code Development

Extend your M365Copilot

AI Platform

Amplify human ingenuity with a copilot for everyone



Solution Area	Copilot	Availability	Info	Demo
Modern Work	Microsoft 365 Copilot (And associated copilot functionality)	Not available for Edu	LINK LINK	Outlook: LINK Teams: LINK PowerPoint: LINK Word: LINK Excel: LINK
	Microsoft Copilot	Generally Available Dec 2023	LINK	LINK
	Windows Copilot	Public Preview	LINK	LINK
	Copilot in Power Apps	Public Preview	LINK	LINK
	Copilot in Power Automate	Public Preview	LINK	LINK
	Copilot in Power Virtual Agents	Generally Available	LINK	LINK
	Copilot in Power Pages	Private Preview		
	Microsoft Sales Copilot	Generally Available Q1 2024	LINK	LINK ; Guided: LINK
	Microsoft Service Copilot	Generally Available Q1 2024	LINK	LINK
	Copilot in Dynamics 365 Customer Service	Generally Available Dec 2023	LINK	LINK
Business Applications	Copilot in Dynamics 365 Field Service	Public Preview	LINK	LINK ; Guided: LINK
	Copilot in Dynamics 365 Customer Insights	Public Preview	LINK	Guided 1: LINK ; Guided 2: LINK
	Copilot in Dynamics 365 Business Central	Public Preview	LINK	LINK
	Copilot in Dynamics 365 Supply Chain Center	Public Preview	LINK	LINK

Last updated 23/1/2024. Use info links provided for latest availability status.

Amplify human ingenuity with a copilot for everyone



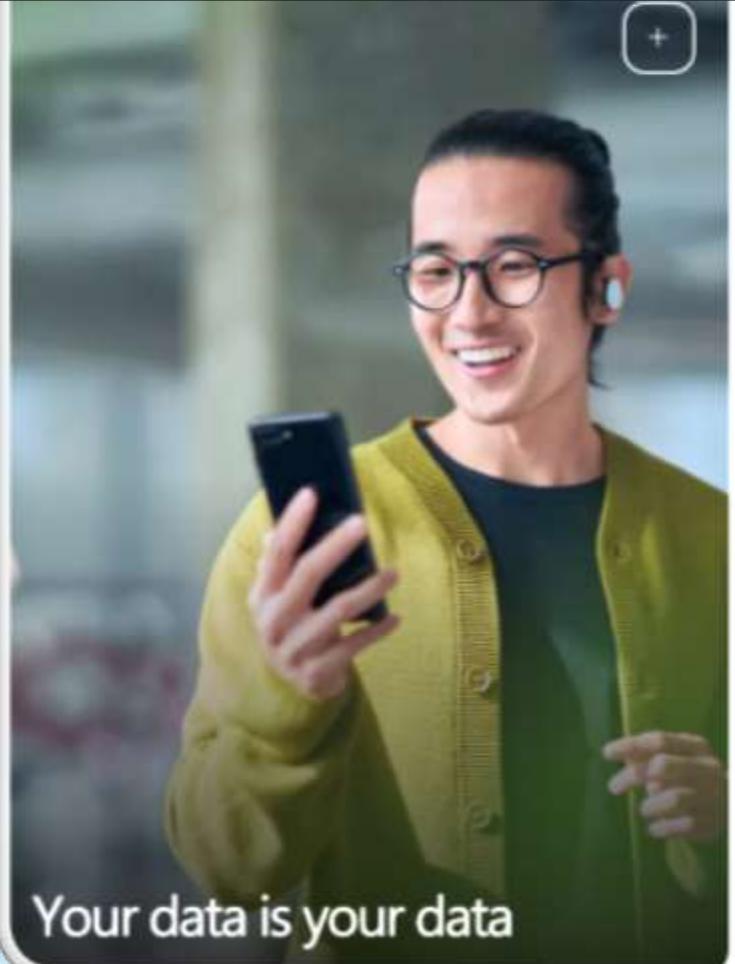
Solution Area	Copilot	Availability	Info	Demo
Digital & App Innovation	Microsoft Copilot on Azure	Private Preview (Sign Up)	LINK	
	GitHub Copilot	Generally Available	LINK	LINK
	GitHub Copilot X	Private Preview	LINK	LINK
Data & AI	Copilot stack with Azure AI	Generally Available	LINK	LINK
	Copilot in Power BI	Private Preview (sign up)	LINK	LINK
	Copilot in Microsoft Fabric	Public Preview	LINK	LINK
Security	Security Copilot	Private Preview	LINK	LINK

Microsoft AI runs on Trust

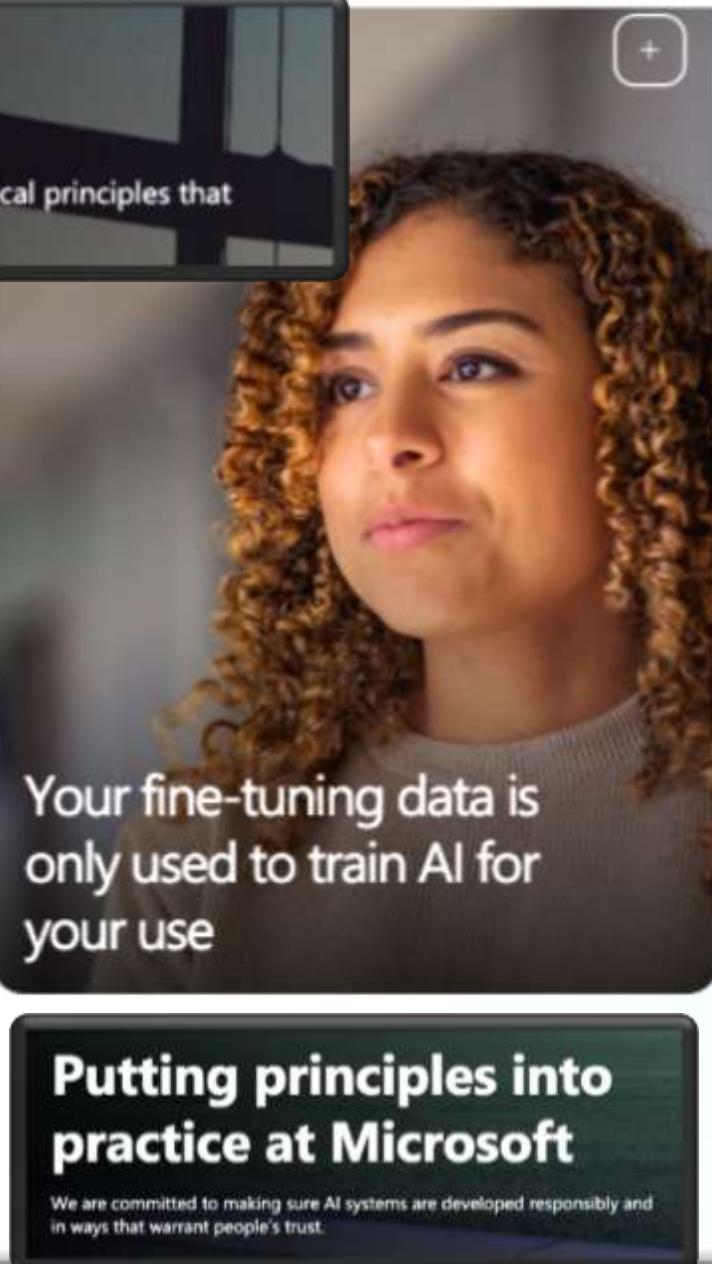


Responsible AI

We are committed to the advancement of AI driven by ethical principles that put people first.



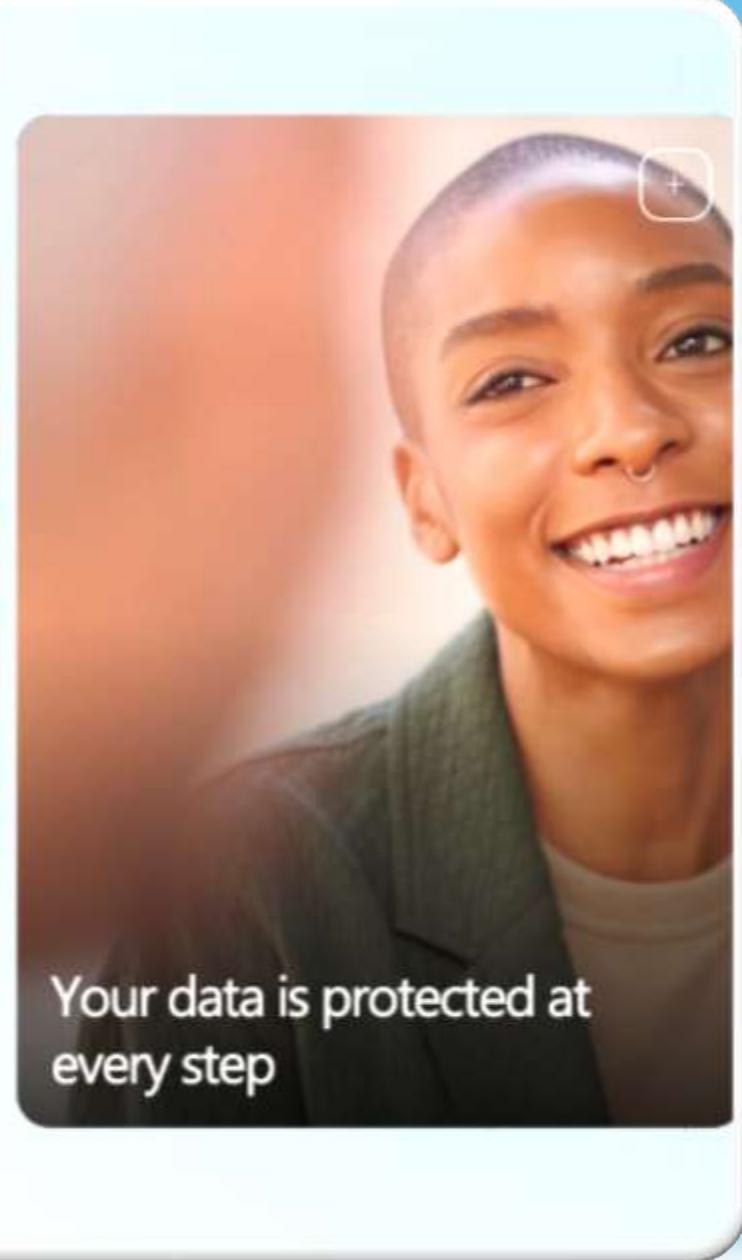
Your data is your data



Your fine-tuning data is only used to train AI for your use

Putting principles into practice at Microsoft

We are committed to making sure AI systems are developed responsibly and in ways that warrant people's trust.



Your data is protected at every step

What's New in Microsoft 365

[M365 Blog](#) and [Microsoft-365 Product Blog](#) :: Covering Office 365, Enterprise Mobility + Security and Windows

- ❖ [Data residency in the AI era: New capabilities to manage your data](#)
- ❖ [What's new in Microsoft Bookings](#)
- ❖ [Ability Summit 2024: Advancing accessibility with AI technology and innovation](#)
- ❖ [Introducing Microsoft Copilot for Finance: Transform finance with next-generation AI in Microsoft 365](#)

- ❖ [Windows IT Pro Blog](#)
- ❖ [Microsoft Entra \(Azure AD+\) Blog](#)
- ❖ [Microsoft OneDrive Blog](#)
- ❖ [Microsoft SharePoint Blog](#)
- ❖ [M365 Technical Documentation](#)

Microsoft introduces a preview of Copilot in Intune

[Stefan Kinnestrånd](#) on Mar 13 2024 09:00 AM

Explore generative AI experiences in Microsoft Intune.

MAR 11, 2024

BY AMYA RAI, LAKSHAY GUPTA

A new way to animate your content in PowerPoint for the web

Feedback in action

Find out how to animate your content, and make your slides more visually appealing and more understandable.

Microsoft 365 Admin Monthly Digest – Feb 2024

[GabeHo](#) on Feb 29 2024 10:00 AM

Balancing speed and predictability and the latest on cloud.microsoft and network connectivity.

Microsoft 365 roadmap

Get the latest updates on our best-in-class productivity apps and intelligent cloud services. Rethink productivity, streamline business processes, and protect your business with Microsoft 365.

[Using this roadmap](#)

[Roadmap improvements](#)



Outlook: Support for Exchange On-Premises Servers	Rollout Start: July 2024
Visio: Containers in Visio for the web [Visio Plan 1, Plan 2]	Rollout Start: March 2024
Outlook: Online Archive for Shared Mailboxes	Preview Available: February 2024 Rollout Start: March 2024
Outlook: New search UI for contacts and global address list	Rollout Start: March 2024
Microsoft Teams: Limit Presenter Role Permissions	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Teams: Meeting ID and passcode to join Teams Rooms on Android	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Purview compliance portal: Insider Risk Management- Recommended actions for finetuning policies	Preview Available: February 2024 Rollout Start: March 2024
> Outlook: EML, MSG, and OFT File Support in the new Outlook for Windows	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Teams: Open Teams app content in multi-window stageview	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Defender for Office 365: Attack Simulation Training in DoD	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Teams: 3P eCDN support for town halls (Premium)	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Defender for Office 365: Copy simulation action in Attack Simulation Training	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Teams: Privacy statement customization in Meetings	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Outlook: OneDrive for Business available in classic Outlook for Windows	Preview Available: February 2024 Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Viva: Viva Glint - Viva Glint admin role in Microsoft 365 admin center	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Outlook: Draft by Copilot in classic Outlook for Windows	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Teams: Ability to duplicate an existing webinar for simplified event creation	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Teams: Ability to duplicate an existing town hall for simplified event creation	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Teams for Education: iOS/Android Parent link for School Connection	Rollout Start: March 2024
> Microsoft Purview compliance portal: Communication Compliance-Ability to create custom tags in Communication Compliance policies	Rollout Start: March 2024



Microsoft Teams Blog:



What's New in Microsoft Teams | February 2024

What's New in Microsoft Teams | February 2024

[Steve Stein](#) on Feb 29 2024 08:00 AM

Welcome to the February 2024 edition of What's New in Microsoft Teams! This month we are showcasing 37 new features and ...

Chat and Collaboration:

- [New Copilot experience in Microsoft Teams Chat](#)
- Remove items from your activity feed
- Control activity notifications from the activity card

Meetings:

- [New layout for content sharing in Together mode](#)
- Microsoft Graph API for SMS notifications in Virtual Appointments

Mobile:

- Microsoft Teams now supports Android Auto
- Use sensitivity labels to protect your data when you join a Teams meeting on a mobile device
- Add Teams app shortcuts to your home screen on Android

Teams Phone, Rooms, and Devices:

- Private line
- Select IP phone models from Snom compatible with SIP Gateway
- Teams Premium meeting protection on Teams Rooms on Android
- New calendar views on Teams Rooms on Android
- Customizable meeting views for Teams Rooms on Android
- Control your Teams Room with your Windows PC on both Windows and Android
- [Improvements to Teams Rooms on Android with the 2024 Update 1 Release](#)
- Daily maintenance restart window for Teams Rooms on Android devices
- [Teams Biamp Devio SCX](#)
- [AudioCodes RXV81B10](#)

Webinars and Town Halls:

- Meeting options update for Webinars and Town halls
- Registration form updates in Webinars

Enhance productivity using Teams' developer-oriented...

[darrenportillo](#) on Mar 13 2024 08:00 AM

As technology evolves, so does our way of working. We are committed to empowering developers, giving them the tools to w...

Prompt Like a Pro: Stay on top of your chats with Copilot...

[ivaladares](#) on Feb 22 2024 08:00 AM

Microsoft Teams is a powerful tool for collaborating with your colleagues and sharing information in real time. However,...

Frontline Workers:

- Deploy frontline operational hierarchy in Teams admin center
- Automatic targeting based on roles for frontline

Administration and Security:

- Configure maintenance window for Teams devices

Collaborative Apps:

- [AI Assist](#)
- [Bigtincan app](#)
- [Culture Amp app](#)
- [EY Catalyst Connect](#)
- [SAP Sales and Service Cloud app](#),
- [Smart Connect for Jira](#).
- [Teladoc Health Condition Management app](#)
- [Workpath app](#)
- [Zoho CRM](#)



Microsoft Viva: & Viva Blog:

The employee experience platform for the new world of work



Microsoft Viva Connections



Microsoft Viva Engage



[Viva Amplify](#)



Microsoft Viva Insights



[Viva Pulse](#)



[Viva Glint](#)



Microsoft Viva Goals



Microsoft Viva Learning



Microsoft Viva Topics



Microsoft Viva Sales

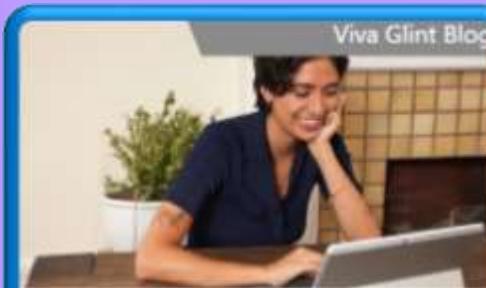
Employee
Communication
& Communities

Workplace Analytics
& Feedback

Goal Setting &
Management

Learning and
Knowledge Management

Customer &
Sales Insights



[Microsoft Viva Glint badges are here!](#)

Learn about the Viva Glint badges that are now available!

[Think like a People Scientist:
Understanding and interp...](#)

Get a recap of the Think like a People Scientist: Understanding and interpreting data to drive better decisions.

[Microsoft Viva Glint badges are here!](#)

KathrynBowen in [Viva Glint Blog](#) on 03-01-2024 09:00 AM

Learn about the Viva Glint badges th...

[What's new in Viva Insights - March 2024](#)

New features include advanced insights in the Copilot Dashboard,...

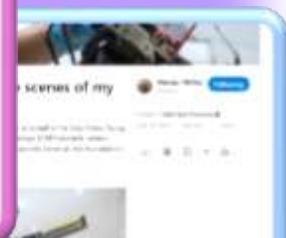
[March 2024 Viva Glint newsletter](#)

Welcome to the March edition of our Viva Glint newsletter. Our re...



[Answers in Viva: 2024 Update](#)

We are excited to share that this capability is now available to...



[Articles now available in Viva Engage](#)

Articles in Viva Engage are designed to meet these needs and give...

Microsoft Power Platform :: Power Platform Blog



Mar 8 • 5 min read

Prompt engineering made easier with AI Builder >

Today we are excited to launch a new set of prebuilt AI functions that can be easily added to a low-code solution without having to engineer a custom prompt. These prebuilt functions provide a great starting point to combine the power of LLMs and power of low-code, but they are just scratching the surface of what is possible.

Announcing the creation of connected tables in Excel Online

Power BI March 5, 2024 by Shannon Lindsay

You can now create tables in Excel online using data from Power BI semantic models.

Announcing the New Data Connectors for Excel and CSV for Report Creation in Fabric

Announcements Power BI Web Modeling

March 4, 2024 by Ikeychukwu Edeagu

The new Excel and CSV connectors in Fabric allows you to connect to your favorite files and create Power BI reports in a few clicks.

Copilot assistance for filling forms is now in all model-driven apps



Miti Joshi, Principal Product Manager, Power Apps, Wednesday, March 6, 2024

We're excited to announce Copilot assistance for form filling is now available for all model-driven apps – across Power Apps and your favorite Dynamics 365 model-driven apps!

[Read more](#)

Improved image mode in Power BI add-in for PowerPoint.

Power BI

March 11, 2024 by Maya Shenhar

Changing Power BI add-in as snapshot made easy and with more options. You can now change your live data to an image, that only people who can see the report will be able to see.

Visit our product blogs

Power BI

Power Automate

Power Virtual Agents

Power Apps

Power Pages

Introducing Power Fx in desktop flows: Empowering Makers with low-code capabilities

James Panadimitriou, Senior Product Manager, Thursday, March 14, 2024

Power Automate for desktop's March release includes major updates for Power Fx enabled desktop flows (preview). IntelliSense capabilities, a revamped variable picker and a dedicated function picker assist makers in creating complex functions with minimal effort.

[Read more](#)

Introducing Public Preview Copilot for Power BI chat-based capabilities: summarize, inquire, analyze

Power BI

February 26, 2024 by Carly Newsome

Copilot for Power BI has new capabilities in Public Preview! Users in view mode can now ask about insights, summaries, trends, and data questions and receive natural language responses, making analysis easier than ever.

Accelerate developer productivity with Microsoft Power Platform >

Microsoft Power Platform developer tools are enabling professional developers to create more effective business solutions using Power Platform. [Learn more](#).

Power Platform and Dynamics

Roadmaps and Release plans:



IT Professionals

[News and product updates](#)

[Dynamics 365 Commerce](#)

• Feb 26 • 4 min read

Empowering Business innovation for modernizing Retailers and manufacturers with Copilot: Unleashing Dynamics 365 Commerce investments for 2024 Wave 1 >

Dynamics 365 Commerce is a comprehensive omnichannel solution that empowers retailers to deliver personalized, seamless, and differentiated shopping experiences across physical and digital channels. In the 2024 release wave 1, Dynamics 365 Commerce continues to innovate and enhance its capabilities to improve store associate productivity and meet the evolving needs of customers and businesses. Here are some of the highlights of the new features coming soon:

IT Professionals

[Dynamics 365 Business Central](#)

• Feb 21 • 3 min read

Sustainability in Dynamics 365 Business Central: A New Way to Measure and Manage Your Environmental Impact >

We're excited to announce that Dynamics 365 Business Central will soon offer new sustainability features that will help you comply with the latest standards and best practices, as well as drive positive changes for your business and the environment.



Send an email to responder when response submitted in Microsoft Forms

By Microsoft Power Automate Community

Automated
408171



Trigger a flow with a Power BI data-driven alert

By Microsoft
Automated
150646

Business Decision Makers

[News and product updates](#)

[Dynamics 365 Sales](#)

• Mar 4 • 7 min read

AI in CRM and ERP systems: 2024 trends, innovations, and best practices >

The time has come to think about AI as something much more than a technological tool. It's a strategic imperative for 2024 and beyond. In this new year, adopting CRM AI for marketing, sales, and service and ERP AI for finance, supply chain, and operations is crucial to competing and getting ahead.



Save Office 365 email attachments to specified OneDrive for Business folder

By Microsoft Power Automate Community

Automated
245326

[Business Decision Makers](#) • Feb 29 • 6 min read

Introducing Microsoft Copilot for Finance: Transform finance with next-generation AI in Microsoft 365 >

We're announcing the public preview of Microsoft Copilot for Finance, a game-changer for finance professionals and the newest role-based extension of Microsoft Copilot. Microsoft Copilot for Finance is a momentous leap forward, specifically crafted to revolutionize the daily grind of well-known financial processes.

IT Professionals

[News and product updates](#)

[Dynamics 365 Customer Service](#)

• Feb 19 • 3 min read

Use Microsoft Copilot for Service with your external CRM >

Just like Copilot in Dynamics 365 Customer Service, Copilot for Service enables agents to easily manage customer inquiries, track service requests, and provide personalized support.



Power Apps button

By Microsoft

Instant
537651

Developer and GitHub

GitHub Blog and Changelog

- [CodeQL 2.16.4: AI-powered autofixes for Java, support for C# 12 & Go 1.22, new queries](#)
- [Secret scanning AI-generated custom patterns :: Public Beta](#)
- [Bring Your Own Identity Provider to Enterprise Managed Users](#)
- [Secret scanning and push protection are enabled by default on new public repositories](#)
- [Check if private vulnerability reporting is enabled via REST API](#)
- [GitHub Copilot Chat General Availability in JetBrains IDE](#)
- [Group Configuration Options for Dependabot Security Updates :: Public Beta](#)
- [The GitHub Enterprise Server 3.12 :: Generally Available](#)
- [GitHub Copilot Enterprise :: Generally Available](#)



Microsoft Developer Blogs:

- [Introducing Visual Studio 17.10 :: Preview 2](#)
- [Visual Studio 2022 Version 17.9: A Comprehensive Update for C++ Developers](#)
- [VisualStudio.Extensibility: Install extensions without restarting Visual Studio!](#)
- [Unity extension for Visual Studio Code – Now Generally Available](#)
- [Using Copilot Chat with C++ in VS Code](#)
- [What's New for C++ Developers in Visual Studio 2022 17.9](#)
- [Azure Developer CLI \(azd\) – March 2024 Release](#)
- [Introducing Sudo for Windows!](#)
- [How to visualize Semantic Kernel & Azure OpenAI plans using Mermaid](#)

Customizing and fine-tuning LLMs: What you need to know

Learn how your organization can customize its LLM-based solution through retrieval augmented generation and fine-tuning.

Nicole Chol February 28, 2024

Fixing security vulnerabilities with AI

A peek under the hood of GitHub Advanced Security code scanning autofix.

Tiferet Gazit February 14, 2024

How GitHub uses merge queue to ship hundreds of changes every day

Here's how merge queue transformed the way GitHub deploys changes to production at scale, so you can do the same for your organization.

Will Smythe & Lawrence Gripper March 6, 2024



GitHub Copilot Enterprise is now generally available

Our most advanced AI offering to date is customized to your organization's knowledge and codebase, infusing GitHub Copilot throughout the software development lifecycle.

Thomas Dohmke February 27, 2024

Keeping secrets out of public repositories

With push protection now enabled by default, GitHub helps open source developers safeguard their secrets, and their reputations.

Eric Tooley & Courtney Claessens
February 29, 2024

How AI code generation works

Explore the capabilities and benefits of AI code generation, and how it can improve the developer experience for your enterprise.

Jenny Ruiz February 22, 2024

Hard and soft skills for developers coding in the age of AI

While AI revolutionizes software development, it still relies on developers to pilot its use. In this blog, we'll cover the skills that developers need to have for navigating this new AI-powered coding frontier.

Sara Verdi March 7, 2024

GitHub Copilot Learning Pathway: Accelerate your business with AI

Learn what GitHub Copilot can help your business achieve in this expert-guided GitHub Learning Pathway, featuring insights from tech leaders at top organizations.

Ryan J. Salva March 4, 2024



Office Developer Blogs and Microsoft 365 Dev Center



Microsoft

Now available
Dev Proxy v0.15

Dev Proxy v0.15 with simulating CRUD APIs secured with Microsoft Entra

February 28, 2024

Waldek Mastykarz, Garry Trinder

We're excited to announce the release of Dev Proxy v0.15, with new features that allow you to spend more time building your app and less time on things you won't be shipping.

Microsoft

Breaking changes in Microsoft Bookings Graph APIs (beta)

Breaking changes in Microsoft Bookings Graph APIs (beta)

February 21, 2024

Purva Ekatpure

We are announcing a breaking change in the beta APIs effective April 30, 2024.

Microsoft

Final reminder: Outlook REST API v2.0 and beta endpoints decommissioning

Final reminder: Outlook REST API v2.0 and beta endpoints decommissioning

February 15, 2024

Luberth Morera

We are decommissioning the Outlook REST v2.0 and beta endpoints starting March 31, 2024.

Microsoft

What's new in Teams Toolkit for Visual Studio 17.9

What's new in Teams Toolkit for Visual Studio 17.9

February 14, 2024

Yu Zhang

Discover everything that's included for .NET devs to build apps for Microsoft Teams in the latest version of Teams Toolkit for Visual Studio.

Microsoft

Important update on OneDrive URL upload feature

Important update on OneDrive URL upload feature

March 7, 2024

Patrick Rodgers

We are discontinuing support for the preview feature that allows you to upload files to OneDrive from a URL.

Global Developer Updates and Bootcamps :: M365 Developer Blog :: Office Developer :: DevBlog

- Building a custom Copilot for the Microsoft Ignite conference presentations
- Teams chat bot with Open AI Assistants in VS Code
- Important update on OneDrive URL upload feature
- Inside planning for the Microsoft 365 Community Conference
- Extend Copilot for Microsoft 365: Document Search plugin sample
- Introduction to new Viva Connections Advance Card Designer capabilities with API support
- Engineering software in a remote work world: Perspectives from the Microsoft Entra Verified ID team
- RSC with Graph API
- Deploying the Microsoft Teams UI templates sample app

Build powerful applications for Office

Use the Office JavaScript API to extend functionality for Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook.

[Learn more about Office Add-ins](#)



Design beautiful user experiences using Fluent UI

[Get started >](#)



Enrich your app with data and intelligence from Microsoft Graph

[Get started >](#)



AI Guide Dog: How Technology Boost Accessibility

RieMoriguchi on Feb 06 2024 12:00 AM

Exploring the cloud-based AI Guide Dog prototype and Azure MVP EJoe Tso's inclusive mindset.

New trends with Microsoft Technology

Updates from Microsoft Industry Blogs

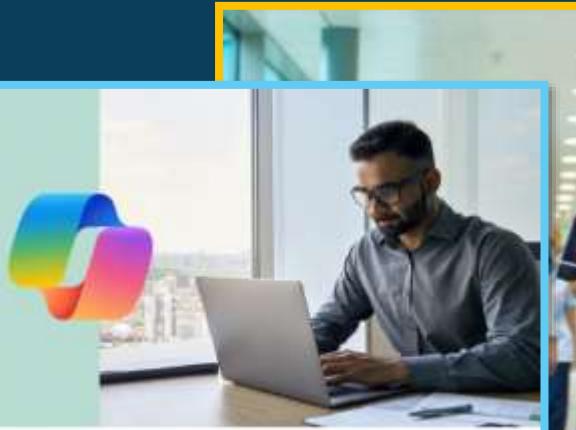


[Energy and resources](#) • Mar 5 •

4 min read

Tackle large volumes of data with new solution from SLB for Azure Data Manager for Energy >

The Microsoft partner ecosystem is a key component in how Microsoft delivers technology, services, and cloud-to-edge solutions for our customers. SLB—one of Microsoft's strategic partners in the energy sector—designed the Enterprise Data Solution to work seamlessly with Azure Data Manager for Energy, easing data ingestion, management, and discoverability for domain applications.



[Financial services](#) • Feb 29 •

6 min read

Introducing Microsoft Copilot for Finance: Transform finance with next-generation AI in Microsoft 365 >

We're announcing the public preview of Microsoft Copilot for Finance, a game-changer for finance professionals and the newest role-based extension of Microsoft Copilot. Microsoft Copilot for Finance is a momentous leap forward, specifically crafted to revolutionize the daily grind of well-known financial processes.



March 11, 2024 • 6 min read

Harness the power of data and AI in healthcare with new Microsoft solutions >

At HIMSS24, we are excited to introduce new product and feature updates which are designed to help you harness the power of data and AI in healthcare.

Mar 7 • 4 min read

Defend against cyber threats with AI solutions from Microsoft >

The Defense and Intelligence team at Microsoft understands defending a nation's interests requires a comprehensive national strategy that covers both the physical and digital domains. Accordingly, a reliable and secure digital backbone is the foundation, and a prerequisite for, a national cybersecurity system.

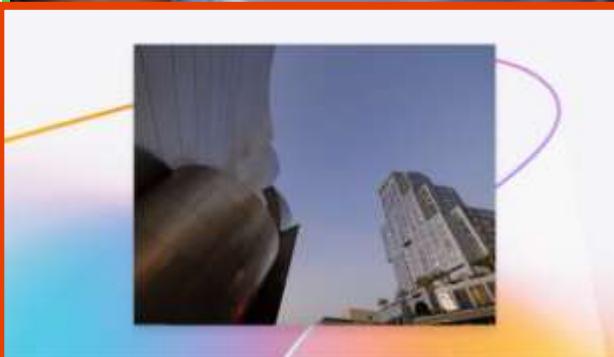
Updates from Microsoft Industry Blogs



[Financial services](#) • Feb 29 • 6 min read

Introducing Microsoft Copilot for Finance: Transform finance with next-generation AI in Microsoft 365 >

We're announcing the public preview of Microsoft Copilot for Finance, a game-changer for finance professionals and the newest role-based extension of Microsoft Copilot. Microsoft Copilot for Finance is a momentous leap forward, specifically crafted to revolutionize the daily grind of well-known financial processes.



Feb 21 • 8 min read

Microsoft at DISTRIBUTECH 2024: AI transformation in the power and utilities industry >

The Microsoft for Energy and Resources industry team looks forward to sharing new, AI-driven digital solutions at DISTRIBUTECH International 2024 in Orlando, Florida, on February 27 to 29, 2024, the leading annual energy transmission and distribution event for North America.

February 28, 2024 • 5 min read

Microsoft at HIMSS24: Shaping a healthier future with data and AI >

This year, we're excited to join the many industry thought leaders and changemakers from across the global healthcare industry at HIMSS24, taking place from March 11 to 15, 2024, in Orlando, Florida. We'll discuss the latest data and AI advancements in healthcare and focus our efforts on helping organizations address some of their biggest challenges.



[Government](#) • Feb 26 • 5 min read

Microsoft for Government: Changing the landscape with cloud and AI >

If 2023 was the year that governments recognized the potential of technology to tackle some of society's biggest challenges, then 2024 is the year that governments are putting it to work.



The 2023 Impact Summary

Building a responsible future

How can we protect fundamental rights?

In an increasingly digital world, we have a responsibility to protect people's fundamental rights, address the challenges technology creates, and help all communities succeed. For us, this means promoting responsible business practices, expanding accessibility and connectivity, advancing fair and inclusive societies, and empowering communities.

[Learn about how we protect fundamental rights >](#)

How can we expand opportunity?

We believe economic growth and opportunity must reach every person, organization, community, and country. This starts with ensuring everyone has the skills to thrive in a digital, AI-enabled economy, and extends to empowering nonprofits, entrepreneurs, and other organizations to digitally transform and address society's biggest challenges.

[Learn more about how we expand opportunity >](#)

How can we advance sustainability?

Climate change is the defining issue of our generation, and addressing it requires swift, collective action and technological innovation. We are committed to meeting our own goals while enabling others to do the same. That means taking responsibility for our operational footprint and accelerating progress through technology.

Due to required timelines for audit and ensure our environmental sustainability data after the close of each fiscal year, except where noted, the data in this section covers the reporting period for our Fiscal Year 2023, from July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023.

[Learn about how we advance sustainability >](#)

How can we earn trust?

To create positive impact with technology, people need to be able to trust the technologies they use and the companies behind them. That's why we're committed to the responsible use of AI, protecting privacy, and advancing digital safety and cybersecurity.

[Learn more about how we earn trust >](#)

Unlocking opportunity



Microsoft Global Diversity & Inclusion Report

[Read the 2023 D&I report >](#)

Satya Nadella

Chairman and CEO, Microsoft

We are living through a time of historic challenge and opportunity. The world faces ongoing economic, social, and geopolitical volatility. At the same time, we have entered a new age of AI that will fundamentally transform productivity for every individual, organization, and industry on earth, and help us address some of our most pressing challenges.

Amid this transformation, **our mission to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more** remains constant. We believe we can be the democratizing force for this new generation of technology, helping unlock its opportunity while mitigating its risks.

To do this, we focus on four enduring commitments that are central to our mission. These commitments take on even greater importance in this new era, serving as a guide to help us make decisions as we design and develop products, shape business processes and policies, help our customers thrive, build partnerships, and more—always asking ourselves critical questions to ensure our actions align with our mission:

- How can we expand opportunity?
- How can we earn trust?
- How can we protect fundamental rights?
- How can we advance sustainability?

This is our moment to show up and responsibly build solutions that drive broad economic growth. If we do it well, the world will do well, and Microsoft will do well too. I've never been more confident that we will deliver on this promise, together.

[Read Satya's Annual Shareholder Letter →](#)



Microsoft Cloud for Sustainability

Record, report, and reduce your organization's environmental impact.

Emissions Impact Dashboard

Estimate your carbon emissions related to using Microsoft cloud services—including Azure and Microsoft 365—and make more data-driven decisions about cloud usage.

Emissions Impact Dashboard

Understand and help reduce your organization's environmental impact with the Emissions Impact Dashboard.

[Explore the dashboard >](#)

GHG emissions reporting training

Explore learning modules to measure and report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

[Get started >](#)

Renewable energy procurement training

Find out how to build a roadmap to support your shift to renewable energy.

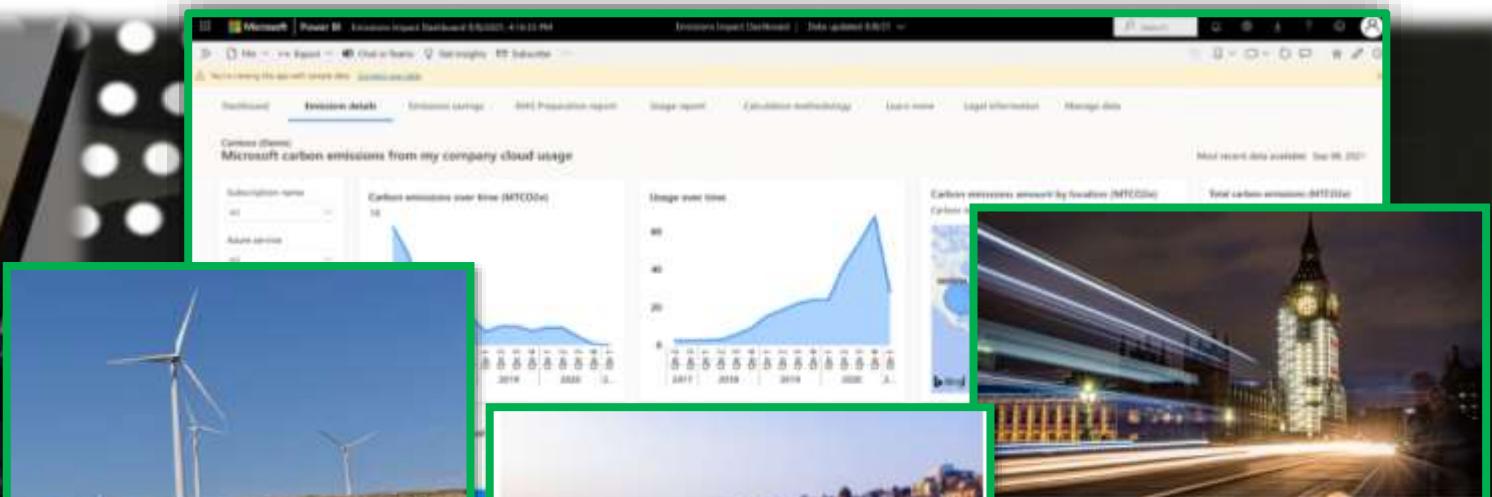
[Get started >](#)

Cloud carbon tracking for your path to net zero

Using Power BI template apps and consistent, third party-validated carbon accounting, the Emissions Impact Dashboard for Azure and the Emissions Impact Dashboard for Microsoft 365 (now in preview) help you measure your Microsoft Cloud-based emissions and carbon savings potential.

[App for Azure >](#)

[App for Microsoft 365 >](#)



Feb 13 • 7 min read

Achieving sustainable growth with Azure and FinOps best practices >

With Azure Carbon Optimization, engineering and IT teams can use ready-to-consume insights and recommendations for optimizing their carbon emissions, all within the Azure portal. Microsoft Azure emissions insights enable data analysts and engineers to dive deeper into emissions data, allowing them to slice and dice the data and perform deeper analytics using Microsoft Fabric.

The journey to water positive

In 2020, we set an ambitious commitment to be water positive and co-founded the Water Resilience Coalition (WRC), a CEO-led initiative to reduce water stress by 2050. We're building on this foundation with the WRC and signing an Open Call for Water Action to accelerate the collective impact businesses can have in building greater water resilience.

[Read about our commitment >](#)

Azure



Azure Updates

Azure Blog



AI + Machine Learning • 5 min read

Azure AI Health Bot helps create copilot experiences with healthcare safeguards >

Hadas Bitran

Partner General Manager, Health AI,
Microsoft Health & Life Sciences

Published March 13, 2024 • 4 min read

Accelerate your productivity with the Whisper model in Azure AI now generally available >

By Marco Casalaina Vice President Of Products, Azure AI

Azure AI offers an industry-leading portfolio of AI services to help customers make sense of their voice data. Our speech-to-text service in particular offers a variety of differentiated features through Azure OpenAI Service and Azure AI Speech.

With the Azure AI Health Bot infused with generative AI and healthcare safeguards, health organizations can build health data services, transform their medical professionals and patient experiences, discover new insights with the power of machine learning and AI, and manage protected health information (PHI) data with confidence.

Published February 25, 2024 • 9 min read

Modernizing and monetizing telecom networks with AI-powered Azure for Operators >

By Yousef Khalidi Corporate Vice President, Azure for Operators

Advancements in generative AI continue to accelerate the pace of industry transformation, with telecommunications emerging as a leader AI adoption. In this blog, I will share a number of exciting updates about our Azure for Operators portfolio of cloud-based solutions that enable operators to drive innovation and efficiency in the network.



Published February 21, 2024 • 4 min read

Microsoft supports cloud infrastructure demand in Europe >

By Alysa Taylor Corporate Vice President, Azure and Industry

Demand for cloud infrastructure continues to grow as organizations focus on migrating to the cloud and building new solutions that take advantage of AI.

Microsoft and Mistral AI announce new partnership to accelerate AI innovation and introduce Mistral Large first on Azure >

By Eric Boyd, Corporate Vice President, Azure AI Platform, Microsoft

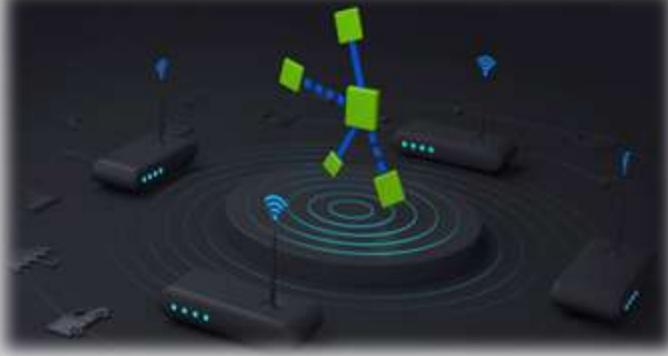
Updates & Announcements

- ❖ [support on Apple Silicon Macs](#) :: Generally Available
- ❖ [Billing for Azure Monitor stateful log search alerts](#)
- ❖ [Azure IoT Edge supports Ubuntu Core Snaps](#)
- ❖ [Now available: Free data transfer out to internet when leaving Azure](#)
- ❖ [JVM memory fit in Azure Container Apps](#) :: Public Preview
- ❖ [Modernizing Azure Resource Manager Throttling](#) :: Public Preview
- ❖ [Azure Defender for Microsoft Azure Database for PostgreSQL - Flexible Server](#) :: Generally Available
- ❖ [Major version upgrade logs for Azure Database for PostgreSQL - Flexible Server](#) :: Generally Available
- ❖ [Microsoft Entra ID integration with Azure Cosmos DB for PostgreSQL](#)
- ❖ [WhatsApp Business Platform now available for applications built on Azure](#)
- ❖ [Azure API Center Updates](#)
- ❖ [App Service Backup and Restore over Azure Virtual Network](#)
- ❖ [Azure NetApp Files volume enhancement – allow the same file path for volumes in different availability zones](#) :: Public Preview
- ❖ [New Generation AMD VMs - Dasv6/Easv6/Fasv6](#)

What's new in Azure Data, AI, and Digital Applications: Data operates as the currency of AI >

By Jessica Hawk Corporate Vice President, Data, AI, and Digital Applications, Product Marketing

Azure Services Directory

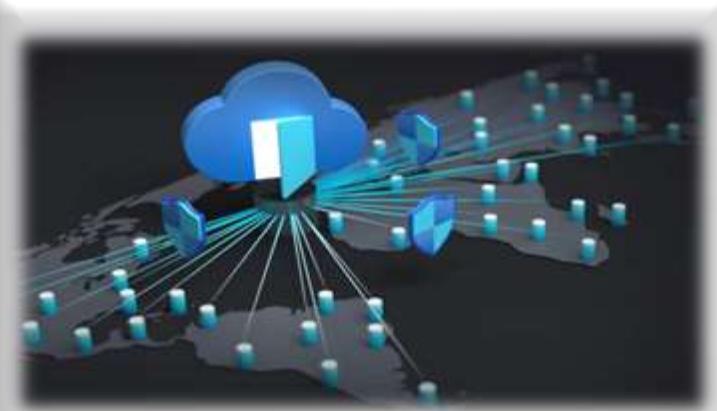


Azure Private 5G Core

Deliver accurate, hyper-personalized responses in your Gen AI applications

Azure Private 5G Core

- ❖ Simple, Scalable, secure deployments of private 5G on Azure [Arc-Managed edge](#) platform
- ❖ 5G core network functions including User Plane, Control Plane, Subscriber and Policy
- ❖ Deployed on [Azure private MEC](#) (Multi-Access Edge Compute)
- ❖ Single Multi-Access Core to support 4G LTE & 5G standalone Radio Access Network (RAN) from any vendor
- ❖ Centralized Orchestration and Automation of 5G
- ❖ Deploy Private 5G network in minutes
- ❖ Scale Globally with unified cloud management

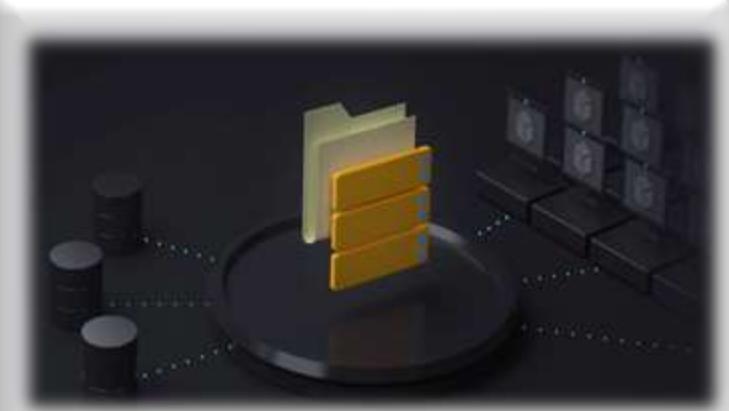


Microsoft Azure Attestation

Unified solution for remotely verifying the trustworthiness of a platform and integrity of the binaries running inside it

Azure Attestation

- ❖ Verify the identity and security posture of a platform before you interact with it
- ❖ Receive evidence from the platform and validate it with Security Standards
- ❖ Produce an attestation token for claims-based applications
- ❖ Supports Trusted Platform Modules (TPMs) and Trusted Execution Environments (TEEs) like Intel Software Guard Extensions (SGX) and Virtualization-based Security (VBS) enclaves
- ❖ Enforces customized Attestation Policies



Avere vFXT for Azure

Run High-Performance, File-based workloads in the cloud

Avere vFXT for Azure

- ❖ Process large datasets – terabytes to petabytes – quickly in Azure
- ❖ Automatically identify and cache active data for demanding workloads
- ❖ File-based applications access Azure through NFS, SMB or Azure Blob storage (REST)
- ❖ Supports Hybrid-Cloud and Cloud bursting architectures
- ❖ Used for visual effects rendering, life science, and HPC workloads



Azure Services Directory

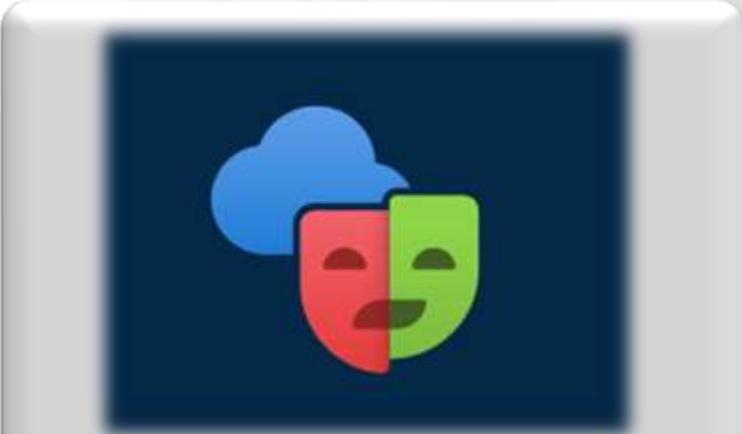


Azure AI Search

Deliver accurate, hyper-personalized responses in your Gen AI applications

Azure AI Search

- ❖ Leading information retrieval and search platform for RAG
- ❖ Reduce the complexity of data ingestion and search-index creation through integration with Azure storage solutions and simple RESTful APIs and SDKs.
- ❖ [Use advanced deep-learning models](#) from Microsoft Research and Bing to provide contextual and relevant results in your apps..
- ❖ [Knowledge Mining](#): Combine Azure AI Search with [Azure OpenAI Service](#) to apply the most advanced AI language models to your search solutions using your own data.
- ❖ Use state-of-the-art vector representations
- ❖ Store, index, and search vector embeddings for sentences, images, audio, graphs, and more
- ❖ Tailor the search experience to meet the unique requirements of your organization.



Microsoft Playwright Testing

Scalable end-to-end modern web app testing service

Microsoft Testing :: PreviewPlaywright

- ❖ Run Playwright tests with browser and OS combinations hosted in the cloud
- ❖ [Distribute tests across browsers with higher parallelization](#) in CI to run test suites faster.
- ❖ [Ensure apps work as expected for any user](#). Add OS-browser combinations in your test matrix without slowing execution.
- ❖ [Set up continuous end-to-end testing with GitHub Actions, Azure Pipelines, and other CI tools](#).
- ❖ [Learn more about using the Playwright Testing service](#) for your web application testing.
- ❖ [Scale your tests beyond the processing power](#) of your developer workstation, local infrastructure, or CI agent machines.
- ❖ Get support for the latest OSS framework features at scale



Azure Cost Management

Monitor, allocate, and optimize cloud costs with transparency, accuracy, and efficiency

Azure Cost Management

- ❖ Do more with less. Reduce costs and increase the efficiency of your cloud investments.
- ❖ [AI-powered functionality in Cost Management ::Preview](#)
- ❖ [Track usage, monitor expenses, isolate trends, and benefit](#) from forecasting
- ❖ [Implement governance policies](#) for effective cloud cost management and increase accountability with budgets and cost allocation.
- ❖ [Maximize the return on your cloud investment](#) by using continuous cost optimization and industry best practices.
- ❖ Learn how to use [Microsoft Cost Management APIs](#) to add cloud cost data to your applications
- ❖ [Optimize your costs from a consolidated set of resources](#) available to you in one place

Azure Services Directory



Azure AI Content Safety

Use AI to monitor text and image content for safety.

Azure AI Content Safety

- ❖ Monitor content with advanced AI-powered language and vision models
- ❖ [Detect offensive or inappropriate content in text and images](#) quickly and efficiently.
- ❖ [Multilingual capabilities in Azure AI Content Safety](#) enable content moderation in English, German, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Italian, and Chinese.
- ❖ [Establish responsible AI practices](#) by monitoring both user-and AI-generated content
- ❖ [Get Started with AI content Safety](#) :: Documentation and samples
- ❖ [Content Safety Studio not only contains out-of-the-box AI models but also includes Microsoft's built-in terms blocklists](#) to flag profanities and stay up to date with new trends.

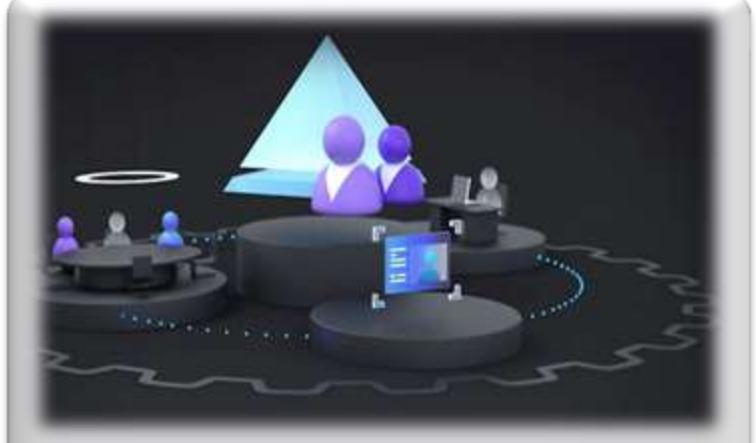


Azure AI Studio

Simplify Generative AI application development

Azure AI Studio

- ❖ [Build your own Copilot](#)
- ❖ [Infuse your solution with AI capabilities](#) : Speech, Vision, Language
- ❖ Developers can ground models on their enterprise data and seamlessly integrate structured, unstructured, and real-time data using [Microsoft Fabric](#).
- ❖ [Built on Responsible AI](#): developers integrate responsible AI principles into the development process and evaluate AI applications for quality and safety.
- ❖ [New methods of creating AI solutions](#)
- ❖ [Built-in Retrieval augmented generation](#) and indexes capabilities
- ❖ [Azure AI Studio online training](#)



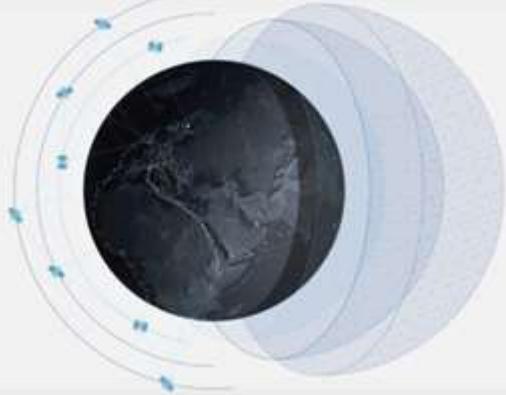
Azure AD is now Microsoft Entra

Cloud identity, access, management, and security

Microsoft Entra

- ❖ [Security Copilot is coming to Microsoft Entra](#)
- ❖ [Application Integration](#) and [Single Sign-on \(SSO\)](#)
- ❖ Manage all your identities and access to all your applications in a central location, whether they're in the cloud or on-premises
- ❖ Protect access to resources and data using strong authentication and risk-based adaptive access policies
- ❖ [Microsoft Entra Permissions Management](#) has significant integrations that will give you insights on permission risks
- ❖ [Conditional Access Controls](#), Apply the right access controls to strengthen your organization's security.

Azure Services Directory

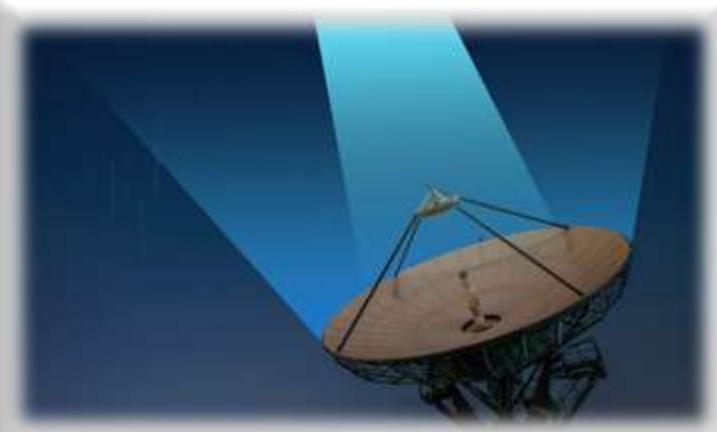


Azure Space

Combine the possibilities of space with the power of the cloud

Azure Space

- ❖ Offer end-to-end on-orbit edge processing solutions on Azure.
- ❖ Build and publish a real-time spacecraft simulation that interacts with on-orbit applications
- ❖ Downlink data without building or managing your own satellite ground station infrastructure
- ❖ Build cloud access points anywhere in the world by leveraging the power of 5G through satellite connectivity.
- ❖ Accelerate time to insight with Earth observation data using [Azure Synapse Analytics](#), [Azure AI](#), and real-time tasking
- ❖ [Reference architecture articulates](#) how to apply artificial intelligence over satellite imagery at scale
- ❖ Build streamlined data processing pipelines in the cloud to manage petabyte scale data with Azure data services.
- ❖ Reduce costs with free backhaul of space data to Azure from Earth observation ground stations.

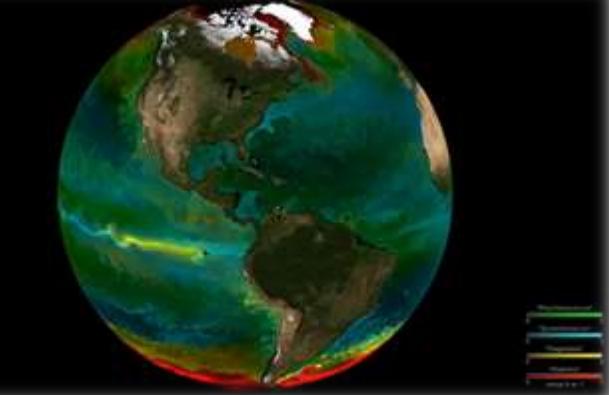


Azure Orbital Ground station

Rapidly ingest data from space into the cloud with a satellite ground station service.

Azure Orbital Ground station

- ❖ Select from a global network of Microsoft and partner [antennas](#), and scale as you grow your satellite fleet.
- ❖ Access an extensive ecosystem of cloud-based services, ground stations, and virtual modems through the Azure platform.
- ❖ Rely on resilient and security-enhanced ground stations for sending and receiving data from your satellite.
- ❖ Azure Orbital Ground Station collocates Microsoft ground stations in or near Azure datacenters.
- ❖ Azure Orbital Ground Station helps schedule contacts with Non-Geostationary Earth Orbit satellites (NGSO), which include Low Earth Orbit (LEO) and Medium Earth Orbit (MEO) satellites.
- ❖ Process your signal using integrated high-speed software modems or leverage partner offerings for signal, image processing, and calibration



Microsoft Planetary Computer

A Planetary Computer for a Sustainable Future

Microsoft Planetary Computer

- ❖ [The Planetary Computer includes petabytes of environmental monitoring data, in consistent, analysis-ready formats, accessible through our APIs](#)
- ❖ Leverage the [Hub](#), a fully managed computing environment that allows scientists to process massive geospatial datasets.
- ❖ Planetary Computer data and APIs are publicly accessible
- ❖ Use the [request access form](#) to express your interest in becoming an early user.
- ❖ Microsoft's [AI for Earth program](#) also provides open source technical resources for conservation work
- ❖ Use tools for [accelerating biodiversity surveys with AI](#) and [AI-accelerated land cover analysis](#).

Azure Services Directory



Microsoft Genomics

Power Genome Sequencing and Research Insights

Microsoft Genomics

- ❖ Cloud implementation of [Burrows-Wheeler Aligner](#) (BWA) and the [Genome Analysis Toolkit](#) (GATK) for secondary analysis
- ❖ ISO-certified and covered by Microsoft under the [HIPAA BAA](#)
- ❖ Global coverage to meet your data sovereignty needs
- ❖ Only pay for what you use with no commitment
- ❖ [Easy-to-use API for integration with partner solutions](#)
- ❖ [Cromwell on Azure](#), users can accelerate their genomic research with the hyperscale compute capabilities of Azure
- ❖ Leverage [Genomics Notebooks in GitHub](#) for faster results



Azure Health Bot

A managed service purpose-built for development of virtual healthcare assistants

Health Bot

- ❖ Build AI-powered healthcare experiences at scale
- ❖ Empowers developers in healthcare organizations to build and deploy AI-powered, compliant, conversational healthcare experiences at scale.
- ❖ Create health bots using built-in medical knowledge bases, triage protocols and language models trained to understand clinical terminology
- ❖ Leverage privacy and security mechanisms to align with industry compliance requirements
- ❖ Authenticate and integrate with EMR data using FHIR data connections to personalize patient flows



Azure Health Data Services

Unify and Manage Health Data and Protected Health Information (PHI)

Azure Health Data Services

- ❖ Purpose-built suite of technologies for protected health information (PHI) in the cloud
- ❖ Evolved Azure API for FHIR and offers additional technology and services.
- ❖ Quick deployment of managed, enterprise-grade [FHIR](#), [DICOM](#), and [MedTech services](#)
- ❖ Connectors to [Azure Synapse Analytics](#), [Azure Machine Learning](#), and [Power BI](#) to generate insights from real-world data
- ❖ Azure Health Data Services is [HITRUST CSF certified](#), store PHI in accordance with HIPAA and GDPR requirements and meet ONC and CMS mandates

Azure Services Directory



Cloud for Sovereignty

Unlocking Global Government Innovation

Cloud for Sovereignty: Preview

- ❖ [Sovereign control portfolio](#) including; Azure Confidential Compute, Azure Key Vault, and Data Sovereignty Policies
- ❖ [Sovereign guardrails and guidance](#) including; Infrastructure as code, Automated policy enforcement, and Workload templates
- ❖ [Compliance and Transparency](#): Meeting specific governance requirements, Enhanced Operational transparency, and Policy Portfolio for local and regulatory adherence
- ❖ [Public cloud capabilities with sovereign protection](#): Public cloud technology and flexibility, Trusted security, and Resiliency and Availability with low latency to the most extensive global footprint
- ❖ Improve resiliency, security, and scalability
- ❖ Achieve compliance to satisfy legal, security, and policy requirements with operational transparency

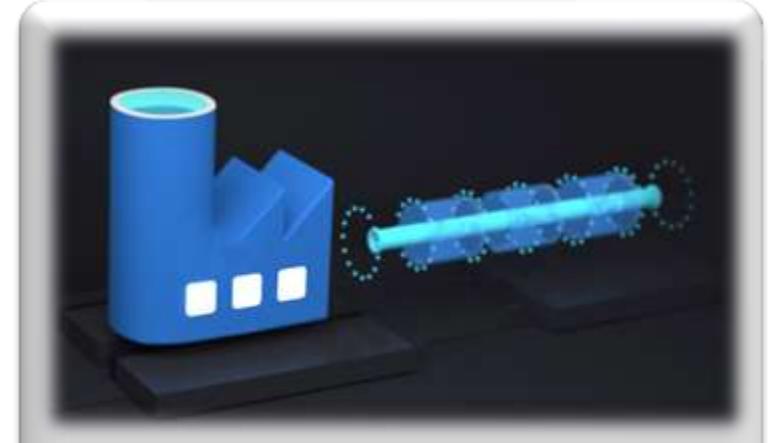


Azure AI Document Intelligence

Accelerate Information Extraction from documents

Azure AI Document Intelligence

- ❖ Applies advanced machine learning to extract text, key-value pairs, tables, and structures from documents automatically and accurately.
- ❖ Customize Results: Get output tailored to your layouts with automatic custom extraction and improve it with human feedback.
- ❖ Built-in Security: Rely on enterprise-grade security and privacy applied to both your data and any trained models.
- ❖ [Document Analysis](#): detects and extracts text and layout
- ❖ [Prebuilt, pretrained models](#)
- ❖ [Custom Form Service](#): train on your own data



Azure Data Factory

Simplify Hybrid Data Integration at Enterprise Scale

Azure Data Factory: Updates

- ❖ Fully managed, serverless data integration service
- ❖ [Accelerate data transformation with code-free data flows](#): data integration and transformation layer works across ETL
- ❖ [Rehost and extend SSIS in a few clicks](#): Azure Data Factory can help organizations looking to modernize SSIS.
- ❖ [Ingest all your data with built-in connectors](#): more than 90 built-in connectors from big data sources such as Amazon Redshift, Google BigQuery, and HDFS; enterprise data warehouses such as Oracle Exadata and Teradata; SaaS apps such as Salesforce, Marketo, and ServiceNow; and all Azure data services.
- ❖ [Orchestrate, monitor, and manage pipeline performance](#)
- ❖ [Leverage Azure Synapse Analytics](#) new capabilities

Azure Services Directory



Azure AI

Drive business results and improve customer experiences with AI solutions

Azure AI

- ❖ [Azure Applied AI Services](#) – Modernize business, Accelerate development, and run responsibly
- ❖ [Azure Cognitive Services](#) – New sophisticated AI models, Deploy anywhere – Cloud to Edge and all in between
- ❖ [Azure Machine Learning](#) – Develop in your choice of tools, Create and deploy models at scale, Innovate responsibly, and build with your frameworks and languages
- ❖ [Azure AI Infrastructure](#) – Purpose-built AI Supercomputing infrastructure for accelerating your innovation running [AI at scale](#).
- ❖ [AI models for Financial Services, Manufacturing, Retail, and Healthcare](#).
- ❖ [AI Business Solutions](#) – Knowledge Mining, Conversational AI, Document Process Automation, Machine Translation and Speech Transcript

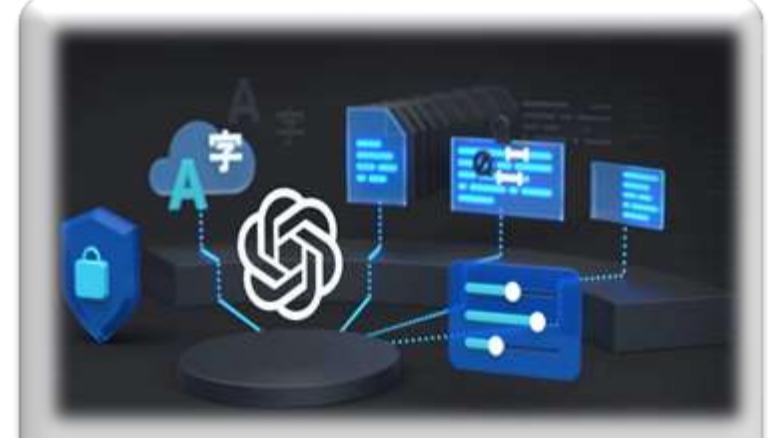


Azure Cognitive Services

Add cognitive capabilities to apps with APIs and AI services

Azure Cognitive Services

- ❖ [Speech, Language, Vision, Decision, and Azure OpenAI Services](#) are all part of OpenAI and Cognitive Services
- ❖ [AI and Cognitive Services resources for developers](#)
- ❖ [Azure OpenAI and Azure Cognitive Search can be combined](#) to power application experiences like ChatGPT on enterprise data.
- ❖ Customizable, pretrained models built on responsible AI and security
- ❖ [Deploy Cognitive Services anywhere from cloud to edge with containers](#)
- ❖ [Microsoft's Florence foundation model](#) is a renaissance in computer vision AI



Azure OpenAI Service

Apply large language models and generative AI to a variety of use cases:

Azure OpenAI Service : Updates

- ❖ [Power Apps with large-scale AI Models](#)
- ❖ [Apply pre-trained generative models to new scenarios](#) for language, code, reasoning, inferencing, and comprehension
- ❖ [GPT-4 now in Azure OpenAI Services](#)
- ❖ [New Service Models](#) grouped by family and capacity
- ❖ [Responsible AI – Data, Privacy, and Security](#) for Azure OpenAI Service
- ❖ [Azure Reliability tools and training](#) designed for operating Azure OpenAI and mission-critical systems
- ❖ [Safety built directly into Azure GPT-4 model](#)
- ❖ [GPT-4 and ChatGPT models on Azure](#)
- ❖ [Speech, Language, Vision, Decision, and Azure OpenAI Services](#) are all part of OpenAI and Cognitive Services

Azure Services Directory



Azure Confidential Computing

Tamperproof, unstructured data store hosted in Trusted Execution Environments (TEE) and backed by cryptographically verifiable evidence

Azure Confidential Compute

- ❖ [Solutions to enable the isolation your sensitive data](#)
- ❖ [Confidential VMs with Application Enclaves](#) + [Confidential VMs](#) + [Confidential Containers](#)
- ❖ [Azure Confidential Ledger](#) : Tamper-proof register for storing sensitive data for record keeping and auditing or for data transparency in multi-party scenarios. It offers Write-Once-Read-Many guarantees, which make data non-erasable and non-modifiable. The service is built on Microsoft Research's [Confidential Consortium Framework](#).
- ❖ [Microsoft Azure Attestation](#) : a remote attestation service for validating the trustworthiness of multiple Trusted Execution Environments (TEEs) and verifying integrity of the binaries running inside the TEEs.



Azure Arc

Secure, develop, and operate infrastructure, apps, and Azure services anywhere

Azure Arc

- ❖ [View and run across datacenters, at the edge, and in multi-cloud environments](#)
- ❖ [Get up and running immediately with your existing tools](#) and practices including GitHub, Terraform, and Visual Studio.
- ❖ [Leverage Reference Architectures](#) to cross environments, datacenters, and clouds
- ❖ Use Linux and Windows virtual machines (VMs), bare-metal servers, and other clouds with the same server management experience across environments.
- ❖ Meet [governance](#) and compliance standards for apps, infrastructure, and data with [Azure Policy](#).



Azure Sphere

Create, Connect, and maintain secured intelligent IoT devices from the edge to the cloud

Azure Sphere

- ❖ [Secured IoT platform for building solutions](#) : From Silicon, through the OS, and the Cloud
- ❖ [Develop, Connect, Manage and Protect intelligent devices](#)
- ❖ [Deploy updates, real-time security patches, OS Updates Over-the-Air \(OTA\)](#)
- ❖ [Solve industry-specific Chip-to-Cloud solutions with advanced device security](#)
- ❖ [Develop real-time capable apps](#)
- ❖ [Use Azure IoT and Azure Sphere for factory-floor operations](#)

Azure Services Directory

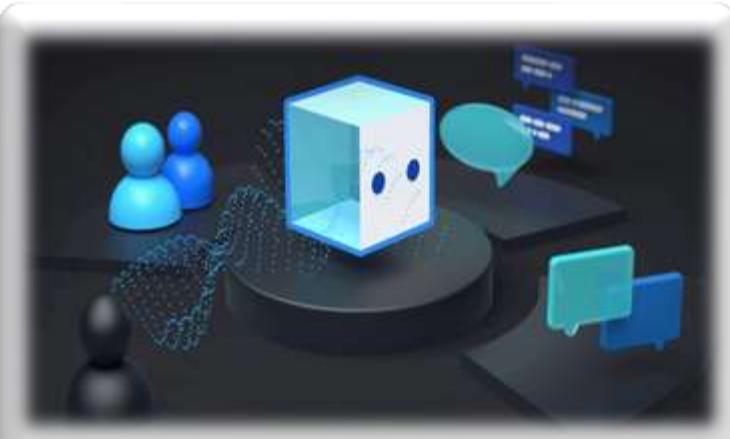


Azure Operator Nexus

Build mission-critical mobile networks with carrier-grade, hybrid cloud platform

Azure Operator Nexus

- ❖ purpose-built for operators' network-intensive workloads and mission-critical applications
- ❖ Operators can unify data governance and enforce security and compliance policies by [Azure Role based Access Control](#) and [Azure Policy](#).
- ❖ Optimize and scale next-generation 5G networks
- ❖ Enhance operations with AI-based analytics
- ❖ Create new revenue with the Azure ecosystem
- ❖ [AT&T runs its 5G Near Edge network functions on Azure Operator Nexus](#)



Azure AI Bot Service

Design and Build enterprise-grade AI Bots

Azure AI Bot Service

- ❖ Build conversational experiences with [Power Virtual Agents](#) and [Azure AI Bot Service](#)
- ❖ [Collaboratively build bots with fusion teams](#)
- ❖ Fusion teams can easily extend bots for complex scenarios with [Bot Framework Composer](#).
- ❖ [Extend your reach with multiple channels and languages](#)
- ❖ Create multimodal and multichannel experiences
- ❖ Scale safely with centralized management
- ❖ Leverage [Bot Framework SDK](#) to build, test, deploy, and manage chatbots
- ❖ Use [Azure AI Services](#), [Azure AI Language](#), [Azure AI Vision](#), and [Azure AI Speech](#) for enhanced bots



Microsoft Purview

Govern, protect, and manage your data estate

Microsoft Purview

- ❖ [Create a unified map of data](#) across your entire data estate
- ❖ [Make data easily discoverable](#)
- ❖ [Discover, classify, and protect sensitive information](#) wherever it lives or travels
- ❖ [Get a bird's-eye view of sensitive data](#) with Data Estate Insights
- ❖ [Share data without having to make duplications](#)
- ❖ [Enable access to the right data for the right users](#)
- ❖ [Import and archive non-Microsoft data](#) and apply Microsoft 365 protections and governance
- ❖ [Purview Privileged Access Management](#)

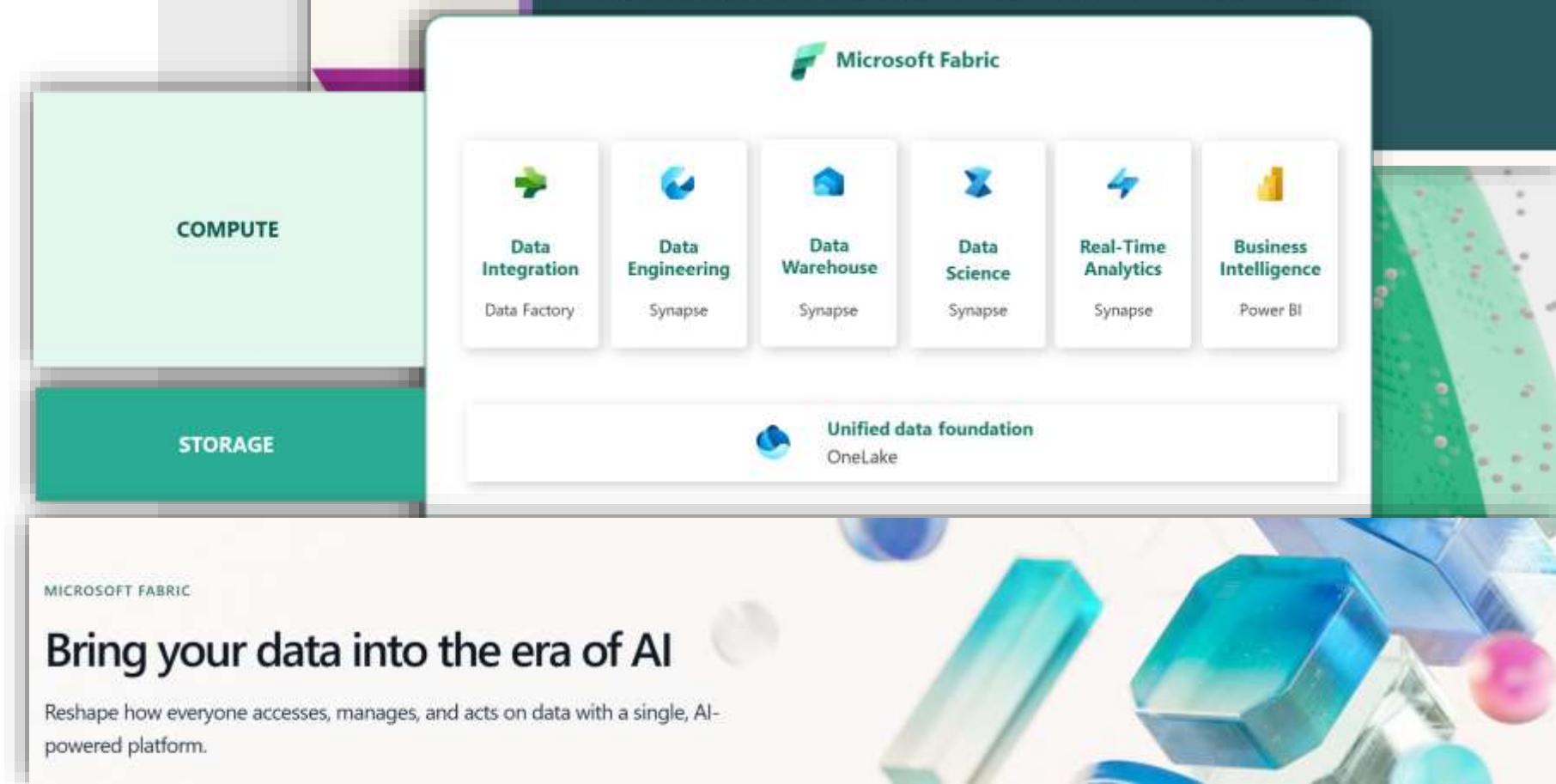


Microsoft Fabric: Generally Available

Data Control end-to-end

Microsoft Fabric—an end-to-end analytics platform that brings together all the data and analytics tools that organizations need:

- Data Factory (Data Integration)
- Synapse Data Engineering
- Synapse Data Warehouse
- Synapse Data Science
- Synapse Real-Time Analytics
- Power BI (Business Intelligence)
- Data Activator (*coming soon*)



The image shows the Microsoft Fabric landing page. At the top right is a circular 'F' logo. Below it is a banner with the text 'Announcements · 17 min read' and a main headline: 'Prepare your data for AI innovation with Microsoft Fabric—now generally available'. The author is listed as 'By Arun Ulagaratchagan, Corporate Vice President, Azure Data—Microsoft'. The central part of the page features a diagram illustrating the Microsoft Fabric architecture. It shows three main vertical columns: 'COMPUTE' (top), 'STORAGE' (middle), and 'MICROSOFT FABRIC' (bottom). The 'MICROSOFT FABRIC' column contains six boxes representing different services: Data Integration (Data Factory), Data Engineering (Synapse), Data Warehouse (Synapse), Data Science (Synapse), Real-Time Analytics (Synapse), and Business Intelligence (Power BI). Below these boxes is a box labeled 'Unified data foundation OneLake'. At the bottom of the page is a call-to-action: 'Bring your data into the era of AI' with the subtext 'Reshape how everyone accesses, manages, and acts on data with a single, AI-powered platform.'

Microsoft Research Blog



RESEARCH FOCUS
MARCH 04, 2024

Improving LLM understanding of structured data and exploring advanced prompting methods >

March 7, 2024 | [Mengyu Zhou](#)

Structural Understanding Capabilities is a new benchmark for evaluating and improving LLM comprehension of structured table...

Research Forum Episode 2: Transforming health care and the natural sciences, AI and society, and the evolution of foundational AI technologies >

March 6, 2024

Research advances are driving real-world impact faster than ever. Episode 2 of Microsoft Research Forum explores how AI is transforming health care and the natural sciences, the intersection of AI and society, and the evolution of foundational AI technologies.

ViSNet: A general molecular geometry modeling framework for predicting molecular properties and simulating molecular dynamics >

February 29, 2024 | [Tong Wang](#), [Bin Shao](#), and [Tie-Yan Liu](#)

Molecular geometry modeling is a powerful tool for understanding the intricate relationships between molecular structure and biological activity – a field known as structure-activity relationships (SAR). The main premise of SAR is that the biological activity of a molecule is dictated by its specific chemical...

Research Focus: Week of March 4, 2024 >

March 6, 2024

In this issue: Generative kaleidoscopic networks; Text diffusion with reinforced conditioning; PRISE – Learning temporal action abstractions as a sequence compression problem.

Orca-Math: Demonstrating the potential of SLMs with model specialization >

March 5, 2024 | [Arindam Mitra](#), [Hamed Khanpour](#), [Corby Rosset](#), and [Ahmed Awadallah](#)

Microsoft's Orca-Math, a specialized small language model, outperforms much larger models in solving math problems that require multi-step reasoning and shows the potential of using feedback to improve language models. [Learn more.](#)

Microsoft Quantum Blog :: Innovation News



Responsible computing and accelerating scientific discovery across HPC, AI, and Quantum >

March 5, 2024 • 5 min read



By [Matthias Troyer](#), Technical Fellow and Corporate Vice President of Quantum at Microsoft

The technological landscape can evolve quickly, and early adoption of governance and risk mitigation measures sets a critical foundation for future innovation. [Read more](#)



+ Technical docs

Explore the Azure Quantum technical documentation including quick starts, tutorials, and API references.

+ Quantum katas

Learn quantum computing and Q# programming with self-paced tutorials and exercises on GitHub.

[Try Copilot in Azure Quantum](#)



Microsoft and 1910 Genetics partner to turbocharge R&D productivity for the pharmaceutical industry >

February 29, 2024 • 6 min read



By [Zulfi Alam](#), Corporate Vice President of Azure Quantum at Microsoft

Unprecedented collaboration will build the most powerful, fully integrated, AI-driven drug discovery and development platform to dramatically improve pharmaceutical research and development (R&D) productivity and bring novel therapeutics to patients faster and more cost-effectively than traditional approaches. [Read more](#)

Showcase Blog



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.

Mar 5, 2024 | Lukas Velush

Redesigning how we work at Microsoft with generative AI

Generative AI has emerged as a transformational force in computing, but it's not always clear how to utilize it when designing new products. At Microsoft, our teams are learning how to incorporate Microsoft Copilot and other new AI technology into their everyday work. Our UX designers and managers in Microsoft Digital (MSD), the company's IT...

Mar 7, 2024 | Juan Jimenez

Modernizing our cloud networking infrastructure with a DevOps mindset

DevOps has become a fundamental philosophy critical to the success of our cloud networking teams and solutions. In today's rapidly changing technology landscape, the conventional model of infrastructure management—receiving user requirements, designing solutions, deploying infrastructure, and manually monitoring for health and availability—lacks the agility and efficiency we need to operate our network infrastructure in a...

Mar 4, 2024 | Alex Fleck

Enhancing Microsoft's security posture with Microsoft Azure Firewall Manager

Imagine an enterprise company with dozens or hundreds of firewalls, each with its own set of policies for keeping corporate networks secure. That was the situation here at Microsoft until our IT teams started using Microsoft Azure Firewall Manager. This platform helped streamline and centralize their control over our large firewall ecosystems. It also cleared...

Feb 21, 2024 | Lukas Velush

Transforming Microsoft's enterprise IT infrastructure with AI

AI is changing everything at Microsoft, including our approach to core IT. We in Microsoft Digital (MSD), the company's IT organization, are using the advent of generative AI to reexamine and transform our entire IT infrastructure. "We've crossed an important threshold with AI," says Mark Sherwood, vice president of Infrastructure and Engineering Services in MSD...

Feb 12, 2024 | Lukas Velush

Five tips for prompting AI: How we're communicating better at Microsoft with Microsoft Copilot

It's all in the prompt. The AI revolution is here, and we're finding that the best way to take advantage of it is to learn how to prompt it. Here in Microsoft Digital (MSD), the company's IT organization, we've had early access to Microsoft Copilot, including Copilot with Bing, Copilot for Microsoft 365, and Copilot...

Feb 22, 2024 | Christian Dobler

Revolutionizing SAP and ADP connectivity with Microsoft Azure VWAN and VPN

Connecting line-of-business solutions into the Microsoft Azure networking environment is a critical part of enabling an efficient hybrid network environment and an important step in transforming enterprise networking using Azure. We've recently helped SAP, one of our key business partners, replace an outdated VPN connectivity solution with a highly secure, cost-efficient connection into Azure for...

Microsoft Events and Training: Updates



Microsoft Virtual Training Days

Gain new skills by attending a free technical skilling event with Microsoft.

[Register now >](#)

Browse all courses, learning paths, and modules

Learn new skills and discover the power of Microsoft products with step-by-step guidance. Start your journey today by exploring our learning paths and modules.

Further your goals with Microsoft events

Whether you're a developer, IT professional, partner, educator, or business professional, we have plenty of Microsoft events specifically created with your growth in mind. Explore special events and learning opportunities created to help you expand your expertise, learn new skills, and build community.

[All events](#) [Azure](#) [Microsoft 365](#) [Dynamics 365](#) [Power Platform](#) [Surface](#)

Fabric Analyst in a Day - Oakwood Systems Group - United States

04/05/2024 | 09:00 - 17:00 (CDT)

Digital

English (United...)

Training

Security

Microsoft Security Virtual Training Day: Configure Security Operations Using Microsoft Sentinel

Learn best practices for hunting, detecting, and investigating threats and managing incidents with Microsoft Sentinel.

Date & Time: Wed 03 Apr 2024, 12:00 PM - 05:15 PM

Timezone: EDT

Country: United States

Skill Level: Intermediate

[Register >](#)

Azure

Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: Accelerate Development using Azure DevOps and GitHub

Discover real-world challenges and how to resolve them using Azure DevOps and GitHub – for both admins and end users.

Date & Time: Thu 04 Apr 2024, 12:00 PM - Fri 05 Apr 2024, 12:00 PM

Timezone: EDT

Country: United States

Skill Level: Intermediate

[Register >](#)

Microsoft 365 Virtual Training Day: Transform Your Employee Experience with Microsoft Viva

04/08/2024 | 07:00 - 11:00 (CDT)

Digital

Training

APR 4-5, 2024
11:00 - 15:15 (CDT)

Microsoft Azure Virtual Training Day: Accelerate Development using Azure DevOps and GitHub



[Show more](#)



ESI Training Journey

PDF documents outlining the right journey to your training needs: <https://aka.ms/pathways>

Microsoft Azure Training Journey

This pathway provides a comprehensive guide to learning Microsoft Azure, covering various services and best practices.

<https://aka.ms/ESIAzureTrainingJourney>

Microsoft Security Operations Analyst

This pathway focuses on Microsoft Security Operations Analyst certification, covering topics like threat hunting, security operations, and Microsoft Defender.

Microsoft Security, Compliance, and Identity Training Journey

This pathway covers Microsoft Security, Compliance, and Identity training, including Microsoft Security Operations Analyst certification.

<https://aka.ms/ESISecurityTrainingJourney>

Azure AI Engineer Learning Pathway

This pathway guides you from zero to hero in 4 weeks with Azure AI, covering Cognitive Services, Machine Learning, and more.

Fabric Learning Companion

This pathway provides a comprehensive guide to Microsoft Fabric, covering data engineering, data science, and more.

Microsoft Learning and Training :: Learning Blog



CAREER PATHS

Find your career path

Learn more about career paths that intrigue you, follow the guided training paths to help you get certified, and get connected to help reach your career goals.

[Explore career paths](#)

MODULE

Introduction to the Microsoft Azure Well-Architected Framework

⌚ 1 hr 4 min

Beginner • Solution Architect • Azure



MODULE

Build natural language solutions with Azure OpenAI Service

⌚ 57 min

Azure • AI Engineer • Intermediate



A monitor displaying a brain icon and a lightning bolt, symbolizing AI technology.

AI Engineer

Define and implement cutting-edge AI solutions.

A smartphone displaying various security-related icons like a lock, a key, and a shield.

Security Operations Analyst

Protect your organization for security threats.

MODULE

Automate development tasks by using GitHub Actions

⌚ 49 min

Beginner • DevOps Engineer • GitHub



LEARNING PATH

Develop Generative AI solutions with Azure OpenAI Service

⌚ 5 hr 34 min

Azure • AI Engineer • Intermediate

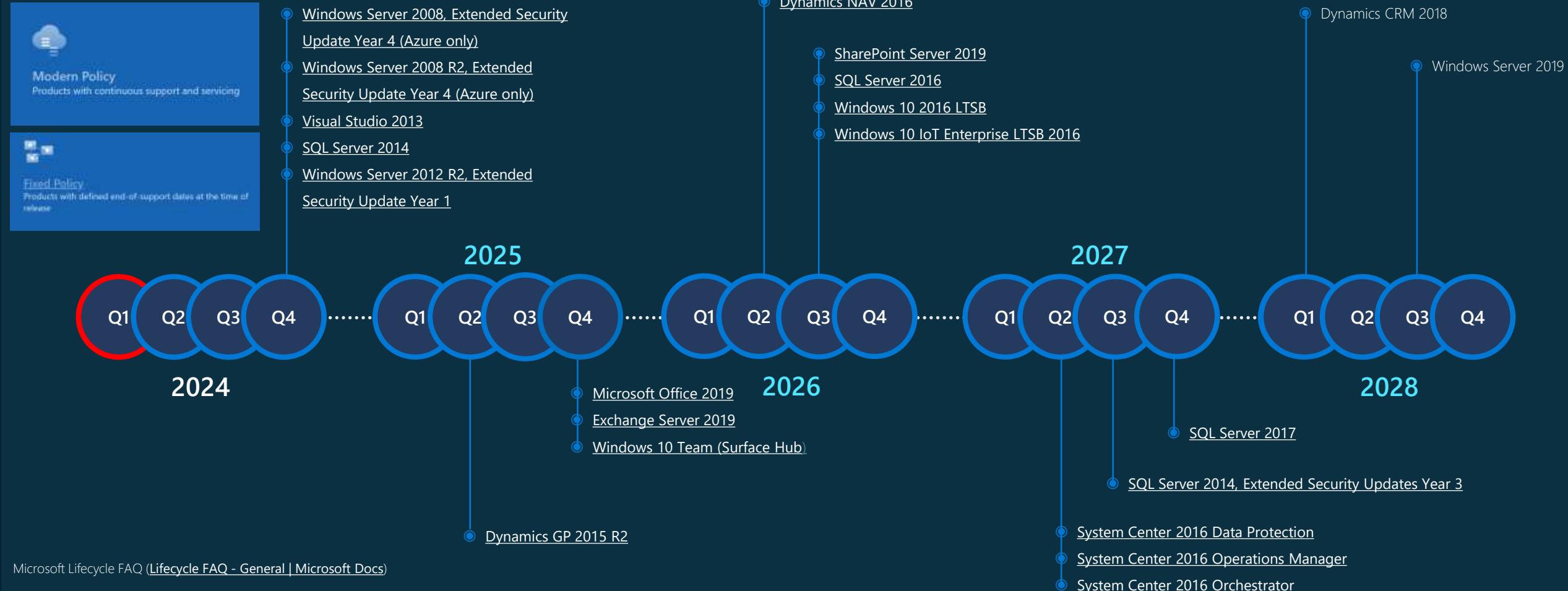


Product Lifecycles





End of Service Roadmap to 2028



Microsoft Lifecycle FAQ ([Lifecycle FAQ - General | Microsoft Docs](#))

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 in 2024

Products Moving to End of Servicing (Modern Policy)	Retirement Date
Azure Data Lake Storage Gen1	February 29, 2024
Azure Cloud Services (classic) Machine Learning Studio (classic) Visual Studio for Mac	August 31, 2024
Azure Database for MySQL Single Server	September 16, 2024

Products under Modern Policy that will Retire in 2025

Products Moving to End of Servicing (Modern Policy)	Retirement Date
Azure Basic Load Balancer Azure Unmanaged Disks	September 30, 2025
Windows 10 Enterprise and Education Windows 10 Home and Pro Windows 10 IoT Enterprise	October 14, 2025

Announcements

- Teams Live Events retiring September 30, 2024
- Power BI Windows app to be retired December 31, 2023
- Visual Studio for Mac to be retired August 31, 2024
- Windows 11, version 21H2 end of servicing (Home & Pro)
- Power BI Windows app for Surface Hub reaching retirement
- Windows 10, version 22H2 end of support date updated

Lifecycle data export

Export all products

Export lifecycle data for all products by clicking below:

[Export All Products](#)

- Windows 10, version 21H2 end of servicing (Home & Pro)
- Windows 10, version 20H2 end of servicing (Enterprise, Education)
- Microsoft Store for Business and Education retiring March 31, 2023
- Windows Server 2012 and 2012 R2 reaching end of support
- UPDATED: Support extended for Visio Services in SharePoint Online (aka Visio Web Access)
- Windows 10, version 21H1 end of servicing

[See more >](#)

Microsoft Product Lifecycle: Modern Policy Reaching End of Servicing



Products Release End of Servicing for 2024

Products Moving to End of Servicing (Modern Policy)	End of Servicing Date
Microsoft Configuration Manager, Version 2207	February 12, 2024
Dynamics 365 Business Central on-premises (Modern Policy), 2022 release wave 2, version 21.x	April 14, 2024
.NET 7	May 14, 2024
Windows 10 Enterprise and Education, Version 21H2 Windows 10 IoT Enterprise, Version 21H2	June 11, 2024
Microsoft Configuration Manager, Version 2211	July 19, 2024
Dynamics 365 Business Central on-premises (Modern Policy), 2023 release wave 1, version 22.x Windows 11 Enterprise and Education, Version 21H2 Windows 11 Home and Pro, Version 22H2 Windows 11 IoT Enterprise, Version 21H2	October 8, 2024
Microsoft Configuration Manager, Version 2303	October 24, 2024
PowerShell, PowerShell 7.2 (LTS-current)	November 8, 2024
Azure IoT Edge, Version 1.4 (LTS) .NET 6.0 (LTS)	November 12, 2024

Products Release End of Servicing for 2025

Products Moving to End of Servicing (Modern Policy)	End of Servicing Date
Dynamics 365 Business Central on-premises (Modern Policy), 2023 release wave 2, version 23.x	April 2, 2025
Microsoft Configuration Manager, Version 2309	April 9, 2025
Windows 11 Enterprise and Education, Version 22H2 Windows 11 IoT Enterprise, Version 22H2	October 14, 2025

Microsoft Product Lifecycle: Fixed Policy Reaching End of Support 2024



Products Reaching End of Support for 2024

Products Moving to End of Support (Fixed Policy)	End of Support Date
Dynamics CRM 2013 Microsoft Host Integration Server 2013 Visual Studio 2022 , Version 17.2 (LTSC channel) Windows Server 2008, Extended Security Update Year 4 (Azure only) Windows Server 2008 R2, Extended Security Update Year 4 (Azure only)	January 9, 2024
Microsoft Deployment Agent 2013 Microsoft Diagnostics and Recovery Toolset 8.1 Test Agent, Controller User Experience Virtualization (UE-V) 2.0 Visual Studio 2013 Visual Studio Team Foundation Server 2013	April 9, 2024
Microsoft SQL Server 2012, Extended Security Update Year 2 SQL Server 2014	July 9, 2024
Visual Studio 2022 , Version 17.4 (LTSC channel)	July 11, 2024
Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Parallel Data Warehouse (Analytics Platform System) Windows Embedded POSReady 7, Extended Security Update Year 3* Windows Server 2012, Extended Security Update Year 1 Windows Server 2012 R2, Extended Security Update Year 1	October 8,

Microsoft Product Lifecycle: Fixed Policy Reaching End of Support 2025



Products Release End of Support for 2025

Products Moving to End of Support (Fixed Policy)	End of Servicing Date
Visual Studio 2022 , Version 17.6 (LTSC channel)	January 9, 2025
Dynamics C5 2015 Dynamics CRM 2015 Dynamics NAV 2015 Dynamics SL 2015	January 14, 2025
Dynamics GP 2015 Dynamics GP 2015 R2	April 8, 2025
Microsoft SQL Server 2012, Extended Security Update Year 3 SQL Server 2014, Extended Security Updates Year 1	July 8, 2025

Products Moving to End of Support (Fixed Policy)	End of Servicing Date
Access 2016 Access 2019 Dynamics 365 Business Central on-premises (Fixed Policy) Excel 2016 Excel 2019 Exchange Server 2016 Exchange Server 2019 Microsoft Office 2016 Microsoft Office 2019 Microsoft Report Viewer 2015 Runtime OneNote 2016 Outlook 2016 Outlook 2019 PowerPoint 2016 PowerPoint 2019 Project 2016 Project 2019 Publisher 2016 Publisher 2019 Skype for Business 2016 Skype for Business 2019 Skype for Business Server 2015 Skype for Business Server 2019 Visio 2016 Visio 2019 Visual Studio 2015 Visual Studio Team Foundation Server 2015 Windows 10 2015 LTSB Windows 10 IoT Enterprise LTSB 2015 Windows 10 Team (Surface Hub) Windows Defender Exploit Guard Windows Defender for Windows 10 Windows Server 2012, Extended Security Update Year 2 Windows Server 2012 R2, Extended Security Update Year 2 Word 2016 Word 2019	October 14, 2025

Microsoft Product Lifecycle: Products moving to Extended Support



Products Moving to Extended Support for 2024

Products Moving to Extended Support (Fixed Policy)	End of Support Date
Dynamics SL 2018	
Exchange Server 2019	
Hyper-V Server 2019	
Project Server 2019	
SharePoint Server 2019	
Skype for Business 2019	
Skype for Business Server 2019	
Windows 10 Enterprise LTSC 2019	
Windows 10 IoT Core LTSC	
Windows 10 IoT Enterprise LTSC 2019	
Windows 10 IoT LTSC 2019 Core	
Windows Server 2019	
Windows Server IoT 2019	
Windows Server IoT 2019 for Storage	
	January 9, 2024
Azure DevOps Server 2019	
System Center 2019 Data Protection Manager	
System Center 2019 Operations Manager	
System Center 2019 Orchestrator	
System Center 2019 Service Manager	
System Center 2019 Virtual Machine Manager	
Visual Studio 2019	
	April 9, 2024

Products Moving to Extended Support for 2025

Products Moving to Extended Support (Fixed Policy)	End of Support Date
SQL Server 2019	February 28, 2025
Azure DevOps Server 2020 Microsoft Robotics	October 14, 2025

Microsoft Product Lifecycle: Azure Changes 2024



Azure Item	Retirement
Select Batch images	January 9, 2024
Azure Active Directory Connect version retirement (2021)	February 29, 2024
Azure Application Gateway analytics solution	
Azure Batch rendering VM images & licensing	
Azure Batch Transcription and Customization Rest API v2	
Azure Data Lake Analytics	
Azure Data Lake Storage Gen 1	
Azure Media Services v2 API	
Azure Network Watcher Connection Monitor (classic)	
Azure Stack Edge Pro FPGA	
AzureRM Powershell modules	
Classic alerts in Azure Monitor for Gov cloud	
Classic alerts in Azure Monitor for Mooncake	
Classic Application Insights	
Classic Azure Migrate	
Cognitive Services Text Analytics v2.x	
Jenkins plug-ins for Azure	
Legacy Azure Kubernetes Services AAD integration	
Standard version of Custom Voice	
Virtual Machines NC Series	
Virtual Machines NCv2 Series	
Virtual Machines ND Series	
Virtual Machines NVv1 Series	
Retirement of Azure Storage PHP SDK	March 17, 2024
Changes to My Groups admin controls	March 31, 2024
Select Batch Pool Autoscale Statistics	
.NET 7 on App Service	May 13, 2024
Azure Media Services	June 30, 2024
Azure Video Indexer adjustments due to Azure Media Services retirement	

Azure Item	Retirement
App Service Environment v1 and v2	August 31, 2024
Azure Automation Agent-based user Hybrid Runbook Worker	
Azure Automation Update Management	
Azure Cache for Redis Cloud Services	
Azure Functions Azure Cosmos DB V3 Extension Retirement	
Azure Monitor Log Analytics Agent	
Azure Monitor Multi Step WebTest	
Azure Monitor Release Annotations using API keys	
Change Tracking with LA (Log Analytics) Agent	
Classic Storage Account	
Cloud Services - Integration Service Environment (ISE)	
Cloud Services (RDDE)	
HPC Pack burst to Cloud services	
RDDE networking resources (classic)	
Retirement of Azure Cosmos DB .NET SDK (Cosmos DB)	
Synapse Analytics Data Flows Compute Optimized SKU	
Text To Speech (Standard Voice)	
Virtual Machines Basic and Standard A-series AV1	
Virtual Machines HB Series	
Microsoft Azure Storage Track 1 SDK for Java	September 13, 2024
Retirement of Azure Storage Android Track 1 SDK	
Retirement of Azure Storage Ruby Track 1 SDK	
Azure database for MySQL Single Server	September 16, 2024
Automatic configuration of LVM for CycleCloud Volume mounts	September 30, 2024
Azure Monitor Application Insights Python OpenCensus SDK	
Azure Sphere CLI V1	
BeeGFS filesystem cluster type	
HTCondor scheduler cluster type	
Pool list usage metrics API	
Task authentication token	

Azure Item	Retirement
Python 3.8 on App Service	October 1, 2024
Azure Cache for Redis TLS 1.0/1.1 Azure-wide TLS 1.0/1.1 support announcement	October 31, 2024
Flexible PG 11 retirement Single Server PostgreSQL 11	November 9, 2024
.NET 6 LTS on App Service	November 12, 2024
Azure Spatial Anchors	November 20, 2024
PHP 8.1 on App Service	November 25, 2024
Python 3.8 on App Service	October 1, 2024
Azure Cache for Redis TLS 1.0/1.1 Azure-wide TLS 1.0/1.1 support announcement	October 31, 2024
Flexible PG 11 retirement Single Server PostgreSQL 11	November 9, 2024
.NET 6 LTS on App Service	November 12, 2024

Microsoft Product Lifecycle: Azure Changes 2025



Azure Item	Retirement
“Global ingestion endpoints” (resulting in Instrumentation Key deprecation)	March 15, 2025
Azure Database for PostgreSQL - Single Server	March 28, 2025
Application Insights ‘instrumentation key’ based global ingestion Azure Time Series Insights Container Monitoring solution QnAMaker Service V1 Retirement of Platform Enabled DR for App Service Web Apps	March 31, 2025
Cluster Configuration Flux v1	May 24, 2025
SAP HLI SKU Retirement	June 30, 2025
Azure Database for MariaDB	September 19, 2025
App Insights API Key Retirement Azure Database for MySQL v5.7 end of support Basic IP Basic Load Balancer Default Outbound Access Legacy MFA and SSPR policies - authentication methods Unmanaged Disks VPN Gateway Standard and High-Performance SKUs	September 30, 2025



Acquisitions and Announcements

Microsoft Acquisitions - 2024



Company	Date	Description
		No Acquisitions Yet for 2024

Microsoft Acquisitions - 2023



Company	Date	Description
Fungible	01-09-2023	<p>Fungible Inc., a provider of composable infrastructure aimed at accelerating networking and storage performance in datacenters with high-efficiency, low-power data processing units (DPUs).</p> <p>Fungible's technologies help enable high-performance, scalable, disaggregated, scaled-out datacenter infrastructure with reliability and security.</p> <p>The Fungible team will join Microsoft's datacenter infrastructure engineering teams and will focus on delivering multiple DPU solutions, network innovation and hardware systems advancements.</p>

Microsoft Acquisitions - 2022



Company	Date	Description
<u>Lumenisity</u>	12-09-2022	Lumenisity® Limited , a leader in next-generation hollow core fiber (HCF) solutions. Lumenisity's innovative and industry-leading HCF product can enable fast, reliable and secure networking for global, enterprise and large-scale organizations. The acquisition will expand Microsoft's ability to further optimize its global cloud infrastructure and serve Microsoft's Cloud Platform and Services customers with strict latency and security requirements .
<u>Miburo</u>	06-14-2022	Miburo will enhance Microsoft's Cybersecurity and Threat Analysis capabilities. The addition of Miburo will enable Microsoft to expand its threat detection and analysis capabilities to address new cyber-attacks and shed light on the ways in which foreign actors use information operations in conjunction with other cyber-attacks to achieve their objectives. Miburo is a leading expert in the identification of foreign information operations . Miburo's research teams detect and attribute malign and extremist influence campaigns across 16 languages . The combination of Microsoft and Miburo will help to stop foreign adversaries from threatening public and private sector customers and, in fact, the very foundations of our democracy.
<u>Minit</u>	03-31-2022	Minit currently enables businesses to transform the way they analyze, monitor and optimize their processes . Minit's solutions have helped businesses gain deep insights into how processes run , uncover root causes of operational challenges and help mitigate undesired process outcomes. This acquisition will further empower Microsoft to help our customers digitally transform and drive operational excellence by creating a complete picture of their business processes, enabling every process to be easily and automatically analyzed and improved. Customers will be able to better understand their process data, uncover what operations look like in reality and drive process standardization and improvement across the entire organization to ensure compliance at every step .
<u>Oribi</u>	02-28-2022	Microsoft's LinkedIn will acquire Oribi , an Israel based marketing analytics company , to further help customers, from marketers to recruiters, gain actionable insights, make smarter decisions and drive business results . The integration of LinkedIn and Oribi will accelerate Microsoft's marketing attribution and codeless analytics capabilities .
<u>Activision Blizzard</u>	01-18-2022	Microsoft announced plans to acquire Activision Blizzard Inc. (Nasdaq: ATVI), a leader in game development and interactive entertainment content publisher. This acquisition will accelerate the growth in Microsoft's gaming business across mobile, PC, console and cloud and will provide building blocks for the metaverse . "The combination of Activision Blizzard's world-class talent and extraordinary franchises with Microsoft's technology, distribution, access to talent, ambitious vision and shared commitment to gaming and inclusion will help ensure our continued success in an increasingly competitive industry."

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List of cool collections of interesting portals and links

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- [John Savill's Technical Training](#)
- [Microsoft Cybersecurity Reference Architecture](#)
- [Microsoft Service Trust Portal](#)
- [Microsoft Defender Mind Map](#)

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3 months ago – AgentSmith HIDS is a powerful component of a Host-based Intrusion Detection system, it has anti-rootkit functionalities and is a very performant way to collect information about a host.

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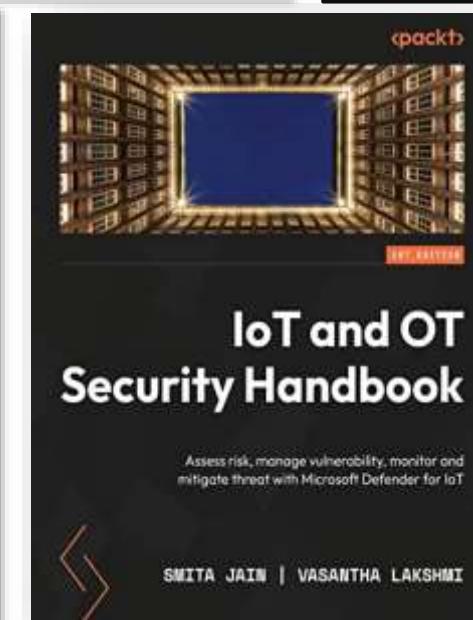
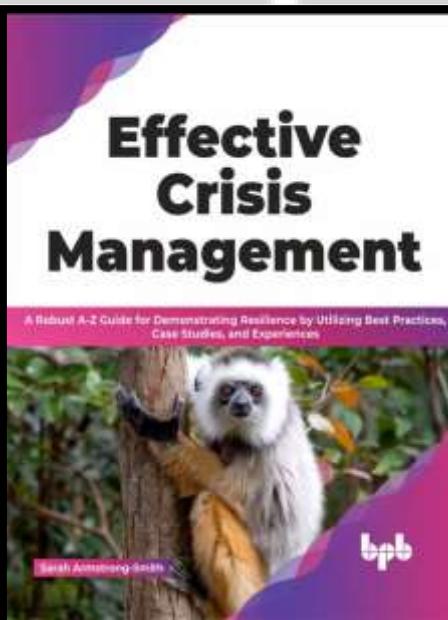
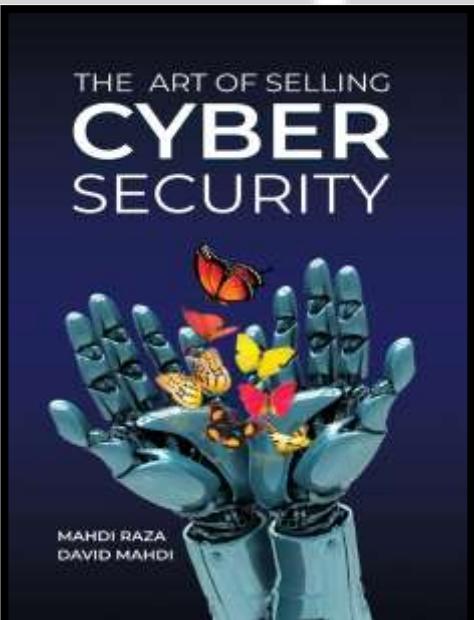
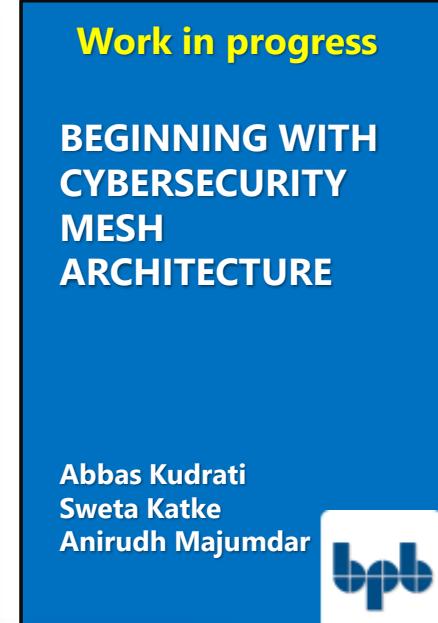
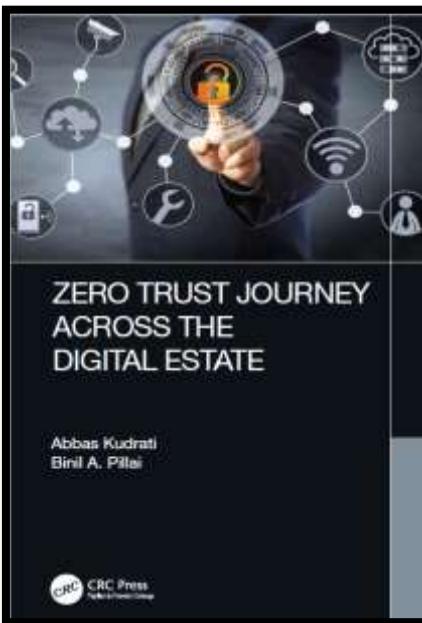
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