



TH06: PowerApps, Flow, and Common Data Service – Part II

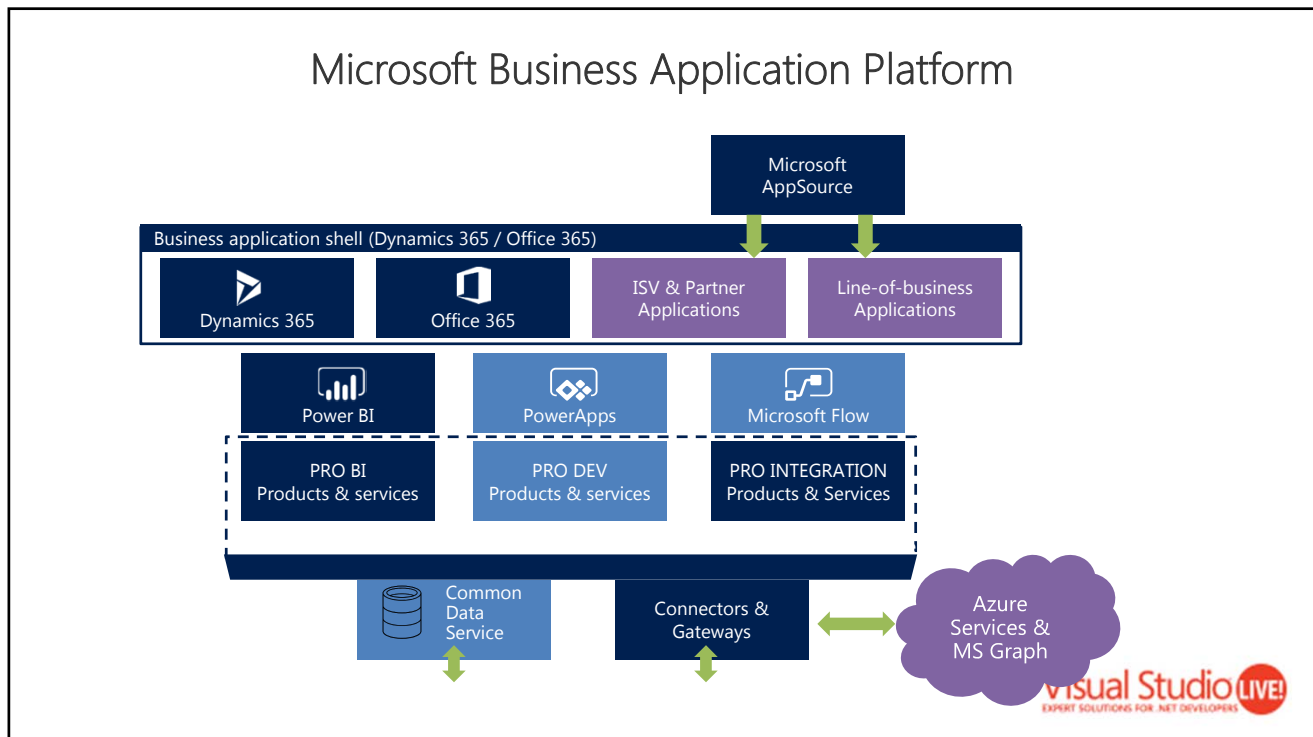
Deep Dive into Building Advanced Apps and Extending them using Azure Functions

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PowerApps, Microsoft

Agenda

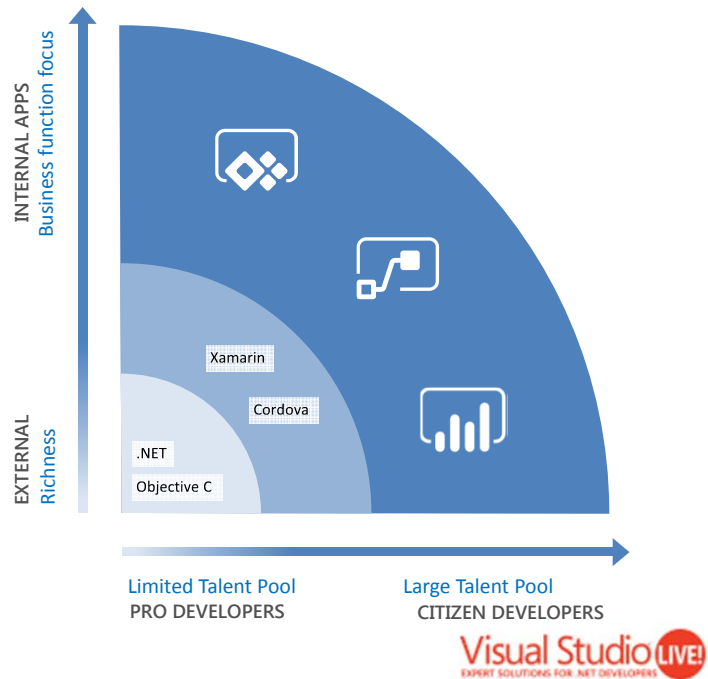
- Introduction to Business Application Platform
 - PowerApps
 - Microsoft Flow
 - Common Data Service
 - Connections, On-premises Data Gateway, Custom Connectors
- Build an app!
- Customer Stories





The platform for
business apps,
empowering
analysts and power
users

Productivity
platform for Pro
Developers



Microsoft PowerApps is a SaaS service for creating
and using custom business apps across platforms



Connect to
Common Data Service
or existing systems and
data sources



Build apps, forms, and
workflows without
writing code



Publish apps
instantly for web
and mobile

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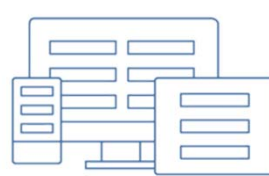
Microsoft Flow is a service for automating workflows across apps and services



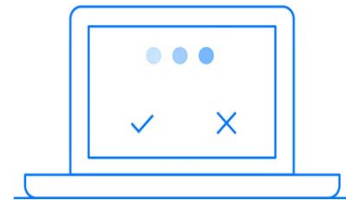
Connect to data & systems you're already using; create the data you need



Create workflows using triggers & actions without code or scripts



Edit flows on web and mobile



Approve requests or manage them on web and mobile

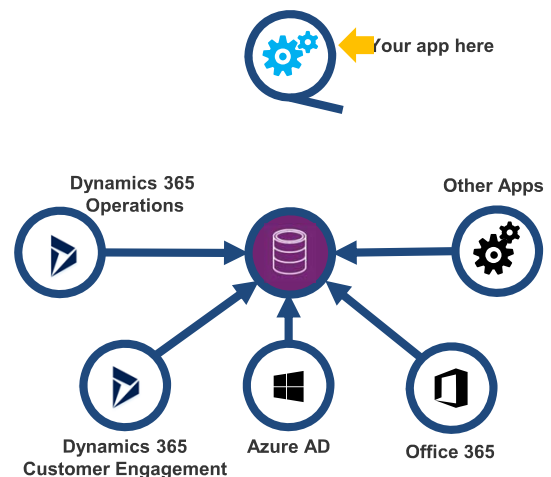
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Common Data Service

CDS brings together your data from Dynamics 365, Office 365, and Azure Active Directory into one place.

We do the heavy lifting so you can focus on what matters:

- discovering insights
- building apps for action
- automating processes



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Connect to the systems
you're already using!

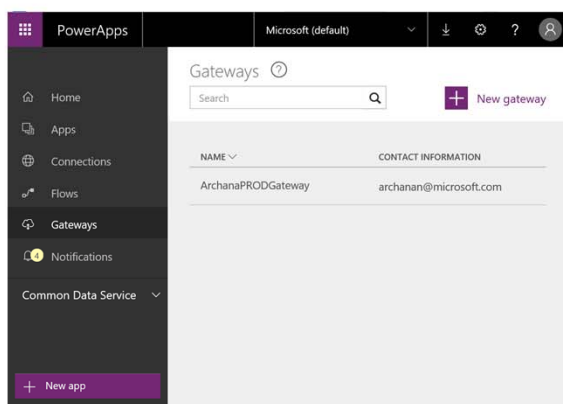
Quickly generate and customize apps
based on SharePoint, SQL, Office365
and more.

160+ out of the box connectors with
new connectors added every week

Connect to data in the cloud or on-
premises

Connect to any REST endpoint using
Custom Connectors

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On-premises data gateway

Acts as a bridge between on-premises data and
PowerApps service

Install once and use across PowerApps, Microsoft
Flow and PowerBI

Connect to on-premises data on SQL Server and
SharePoint.

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Custom APIs

Use Custom Connectors to connect to any custom REST endpoint

APIs themselves can be hosted anywhere

Register the custom connector using the OpenAPI (Swagger) file or Postman collection for your API


Use in PowerApps and Flow just like any other connection

General > Security > Definition > Test

General information

Add an icon and short description to your custom connector. Your host and base URL will be automatically generated from the swagger file.

General information

 Upload connector icon
Supported file formats are PNG and JPG, (< 1MB)

Icon background color
A color to show behind the icon (e.g., '#007ee5')

Description
The Text Analytics API is a suite of text analytics web services built with Azure Machine Learning. The API can be used to analyze unstructured text for tasks such as sentiment analysis, key phrase extraction and

* Host
westus.api.cognitive.microsoft.com

Base URL
/text/analytics/v2.0

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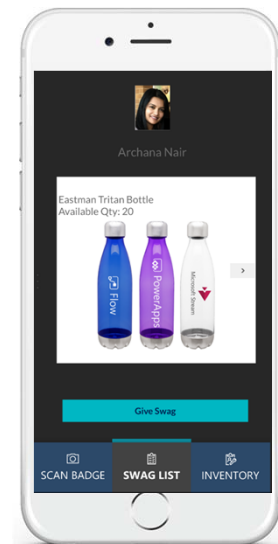
Let's build an app!

Manage swag give-away process at conference

Build a mobile app

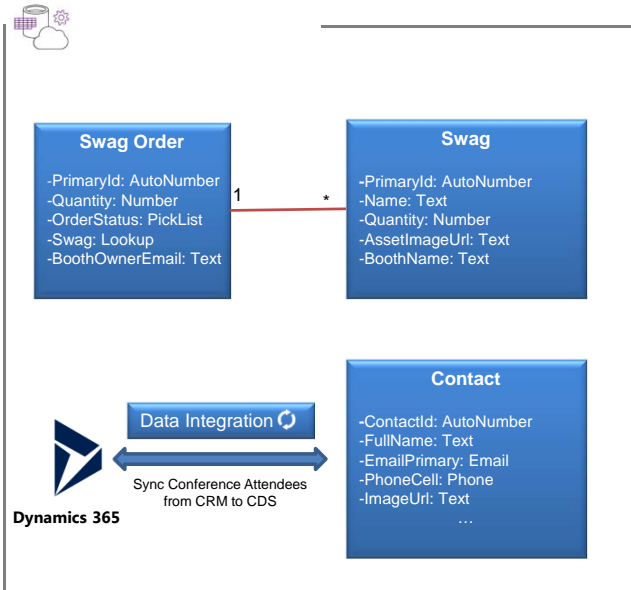
- Scan attendees to lookup their info
- Maintain database of swag levels
- Avoid swag emergencies by ordering more from the back office

... and let's build it all in 35 minutes !



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Let's build an app!



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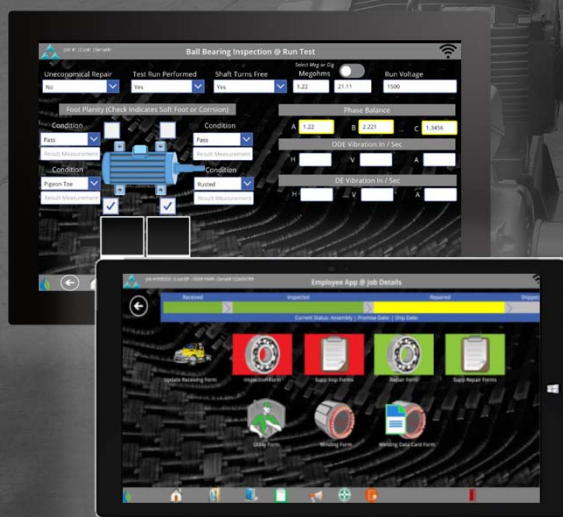
Demo

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Customer Stories



Integrated Power Services - Electric motor repair app Partner: Confluent



Who are they?

Specialized electric and motor repair company

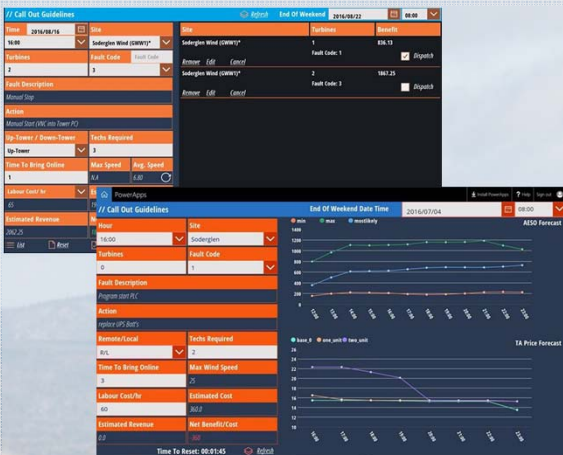
How did they use PowerApps?

Automate specific instructions on disassembling and assembling specialized motors

- Enables mechanics to input data real-time
- Management and customers kept updated on status and progress

<https://customers.microsoft.com/en-US/story/motor-and-generator-service-company-develops-custom-apps-unifying-processes>

TransAlta - Efficient scheduling of wind turbine repair technician



Who are they?

- \$3 billion Canadian multi-national power generation and energy trading company

How did they use PowerApps?

- Internal resource planning and decision validation app to maximize the ROI, reduce overtime for technicians
- Recovered cost of building PowerApps in the first 2 weeks of deployment
- Backend API (Azure App Service) rationalizes through 11 different internal and external data sources, if it's worth dispatching technician

<https://customers.microsoft.com/en-US/story/multi-national-energy-company-uses-powerapps-to-create-a-decision-validation-tool>

Session Takeaway

- Create rich and functional LOB apps without having to write code, with PowerApps, Flow and CDS
- Customize PowerApps, add business logic using formulas
- Pro-devs can use PowerApps as a productivity tool
- Pro-devs can make their solutions available as Custom Connectors, to extend PowerApps

The market is noticing our progress...



"When we first took a look at the beta version of PowerApps last year, it **left a lot to be desired**.

A year later as a generally available product, **Microsoft has come back with a low-code tool that has just about everything a power user or developer would want** in terms of design, usability, and a comprehensive set of features for building intuitive business apps with little to no coding.

Appian and Google App Maker are less of a headache for users with zero technical experience, but for seasoned Excel users and IT workers, PowerApps gives you a polished, full-featured experience combined with low pricing and strong integrations. For those reasons, Microsoft PowerApps earns an Editors' Choice for developers as a **strong low-code development platform for IT and power users.**"

PowerApps

PROS

Powerful visual app designer with a look/feel combining Excel and PowerPoint. Integrates with Office 365, Dynamics 365, and Power BI by default. Wide selection of UI objects and pre-built templates. Great mobile and tablet development and app previews. Connects to Salesforce and other third-party apps and data sources. Advanced workflow automation built in with Microsoft Flow. No coding required for basic app development.

CONS

Creating and connecting data sources can be a pain. Somewhat longer load times. Adjusting UI elements in the property editor is a bit tedious. Customizing entities and form fields can be difficult for users without Excel proficiency.

BOTTOM LINE

Microsoft PowerApps is a sleek, mobile-optimized, and integration-rich low-code development tool. The database connectors and customization aspects are a bit much for average business users to handle, but its familiar design and uncluttered-yet feature-packed environment makes it our Editors' Choice for power users and IT departments.

vs Salesforce App Cloud

PROS

Extensive AppExchange marketplace of pre-built apps and components. Reusable objects and elements in Lightning App Builder. Drag-and-drop Process Builder and Schema Builder for creating complex automated logic. Best-in-class mobile and tablet app design capabilities. Salesforce1 mobile app with built-in collaboration. Kanban boards built in. Deep security and identity configuration features.

CONS

Cluttered interface with an overwhelming array of features. Confusing to navigate. Easy to get lost in other Salesforce apps. Trailhead tutorials don't always correspond accurately to what's in the interface.

BOTTOM LINE

Salesforce App Cloud is the most powerful low-code development platform on the market with a visual tool-set and third-party ecosystem that can't be matched, but its cluttered and confusing UI and a messy collection of tutorials holds it back from unifying the sum of its impressive parts into a cohesive app creation process.

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Questions?

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