

# Jumpstart your Automations with the Power CAT Approvals Kit

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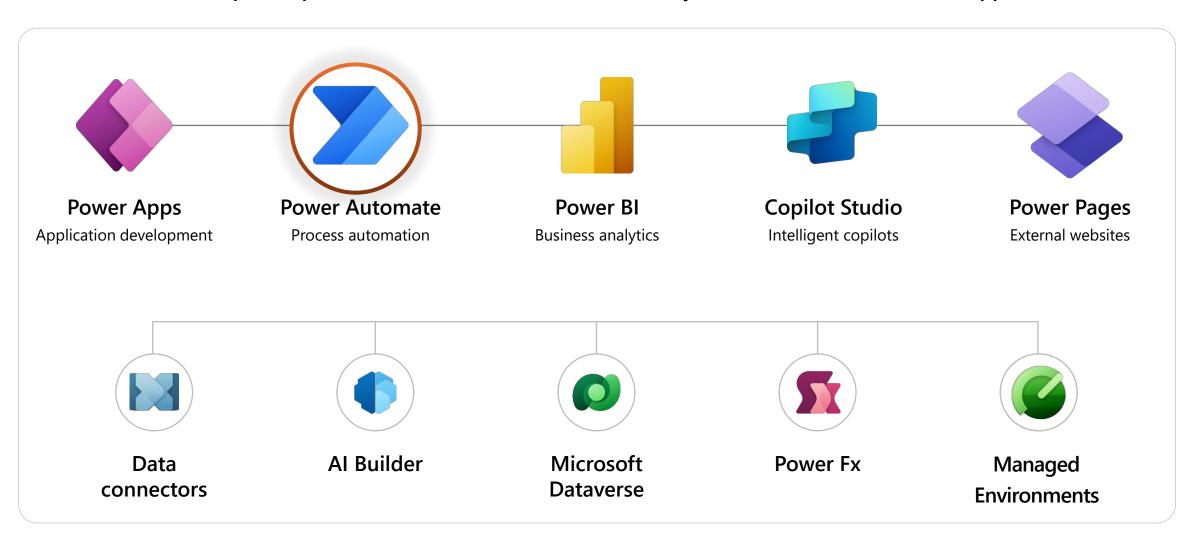
## Agenda

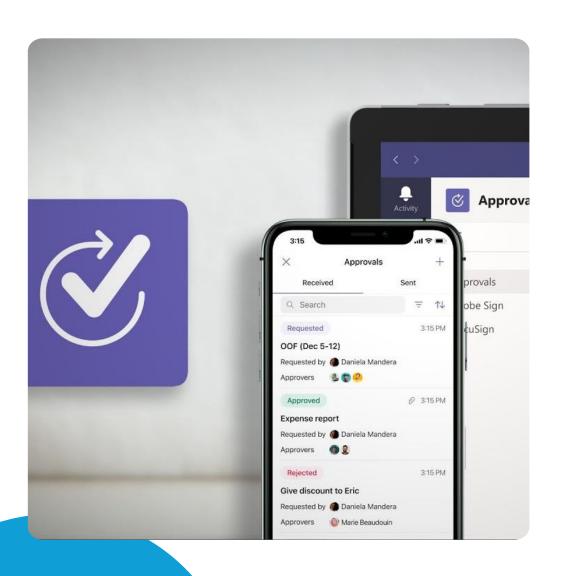
- Approvals in Power Platform
- Why the Approvals Kit?
- Installation Overview
- Demo: Overview of the Approvals Kit
- Demo: Build a multi-stage workflow
- Demo: Out of office delegation
- Demo: Build a custom copilot to interact with Approvals
- Resources

# **Approvals in Power Platform**

### Microsoft Power Platform

An all software development platform across Microsoft 365, Azure, Dynamics 365, and standalone applications

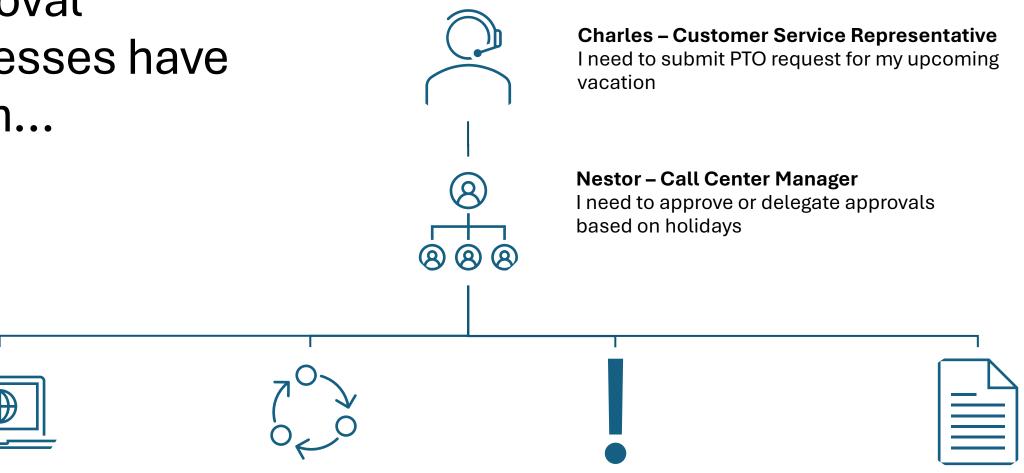




# What is an Approval?

- An approval is an electric means of signing off on something
- The Approvals app provides a simple way to bring auditing, compliance, accountability, and workflows to both structured and unstructured processes
- App that integrates with Microsoft 365 applications and across the Power Platform
- Approvals created from the Approvals app are stored in the default Microsoft Dataverse environment.
- Common examples include expenses, travel requests, document reviews

# Approval Processes have reach...



#### **Cole – Benefits Administrator**

I need to ensure the approved time off requests are submitted to third party benefits tracking system

#### Gibson - Low Code Lead

I need to support low code solutions and help grow adoption

#### Hailey - Low Code **Support Specialist**

I need to troubleshoot Approval workflows that go into error state

#### **Debra – Risk Management**

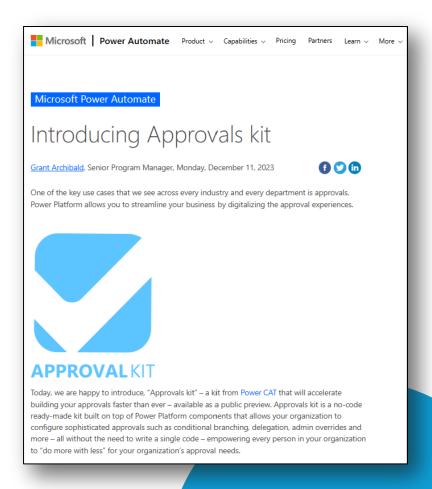
I need to ensure that everyone is following company policy and provide approval history reports to auditors

# Introducing the Approvals Kit

The Power CAT Approvals Kit is a no-code ready-made kit built on top of Power Platform components that allows an organization to configure sophisticated approvals such as conditional branching, delegation, admin overrides and more – all without the need to write code.



#### Public Preview - Dec 2023



## So why Approvals Kit?



Current approvals connector provides basic scenarios. Users need to create their own solutions for more complicated scenarios





Approval History	Custom	Yes
Multi-Stage Approvals	Custom	Yes
Delegated approvals	Custom	Yes
Out of office	Custom	Yes
	Custom	Yes
Workdays and Holidays	Yes	Premium
Standard Connector		

### **Installation Overview**

- Requires a Microsoft Dataverse Environment recommend creating a new one
  - Approvals Kit is provided as a managed solution
- Power Apps Premium for users who will create & configure approvals, approve requests, check status, and administer approval processes
- Power Automate Premium for users who will create workflows
- Data Loss Prevention policy categorized for the following connectors in the same grouping
  - Approvals
  - Microsoft Dataverse
  - Office 365 Users
  - Custom connectors with allowed pattern https://\*.crm.dynamics.com
  - Approvals Kit custom connector
- Must have Power Automate Approvals connector enabled

The Power Platform Creator Kit is a collection of tools and components designed to help developers create Power Apps experiences more efficiently. Key features:

- Component Library: Includes a variety of Power Apps component framework controls and canvas components.
- Templates: Provides starter apps and templates for both canvas and modeldriven apps, making it easier to create responsive, Fluent UI-based applications.
- Utilities: Offers tools like a theme editor to help maintain consistent design across apps.
- Reference Apps: Contains model-driven and canvas reference apps to demonstrate best practices and component usage.

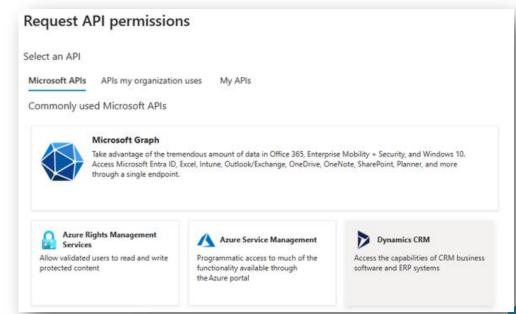
The Creator Kit aims to streamline the development process, allowing you to build modern, seamless user experiences with less effort.

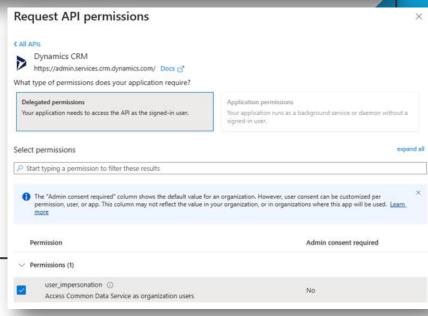
### Pre-Requisites

### **Creator Kit**

### **App Registration**

- Once the approvals kit solution is imported to an environment successfully, you must update the Approvals kit custom connector to point to the target tenant Identity provider and turn on cloud flows.
- You must have an app registration to interact with Dataverse table and Custom API. By registering your app, you establish a trusted relationship, enabling features like authentication and access control.
- App Registrations are created in Microsoft Entra Admin Center.

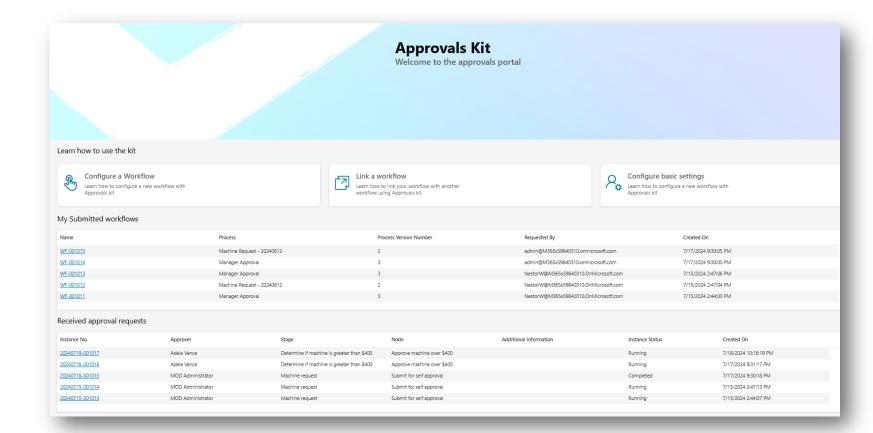




Demo: Approvals Center

### Overview

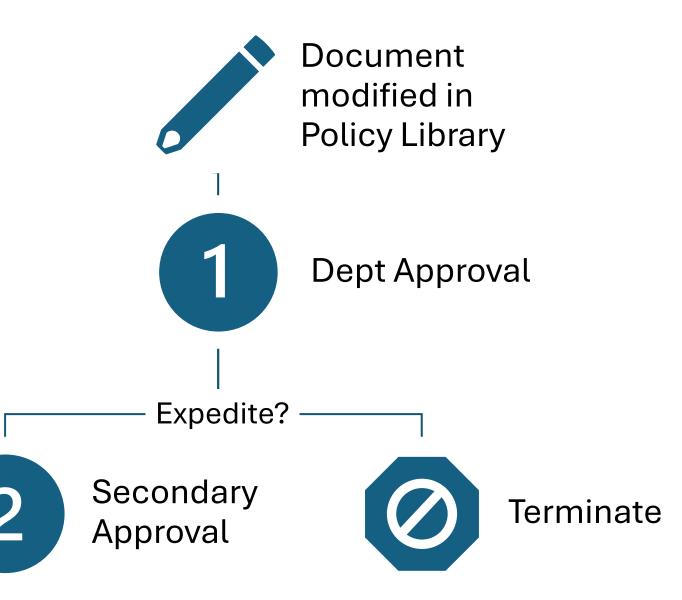
- Launch Business Approval Management App
- 2. Home Page
  - 1. Configure a Workflow
  - 2. Link a Workflow
  - 3. Configure Basic Settings
- 3. My Submitted Workflows
- 4. Received Approval Requests



Demo: Rapid creation of a multi-level approval process

## Demo: Create a multi-stage approval workflow

- To illustrate, we will look at a business use case of a policy library in SharePoint Online.
- If a document is modified, the first step is to send an approval task to the department approver to ensure they approve of the edits.
- Furthermore, if the changes are expedited, we need to ensure secondary approval is collected.



## Demo: Create a multi-stage approval workflow

- 1. Rapid creation of a multi-level approval process
  - 1. Show how to change to the Designer
  - 2. Start a new process
  - 3. Note the fields we are filling out
  - 4. Definitions of terms
    - a. Workflow Instance
    - b.Stage
    - c. Node

Demo: Out of Office Delegation & Holiday Calendar

### Demo: Out of Office Delegation & Holiday Calendar

#### 1. Setup

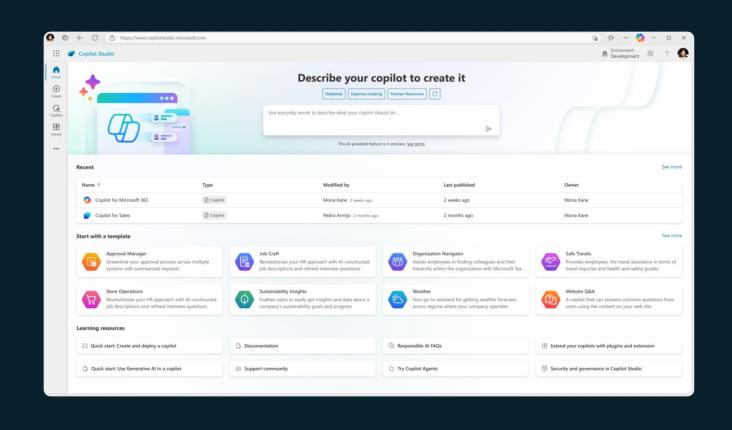
- 1. Setup Public Holidays & Holiday Calendars\
  - 1. How do I create and assign holidays to calendars?
- 2. Setup Active Business Profile
- 3. Define working days
- 4. Assign Holiday Calendar
- 5. Design the Workflow
- 6. Home page basic settings
  - Set Approval Delegate, Backup Delegate, Out of Office
  - 2. Select work profile which will import holiday calendar
- 7. Set out of office for user and send an approval task

Extending the Approvals Kit with Copilot Studio to provide visibility and action follow-up on approvals



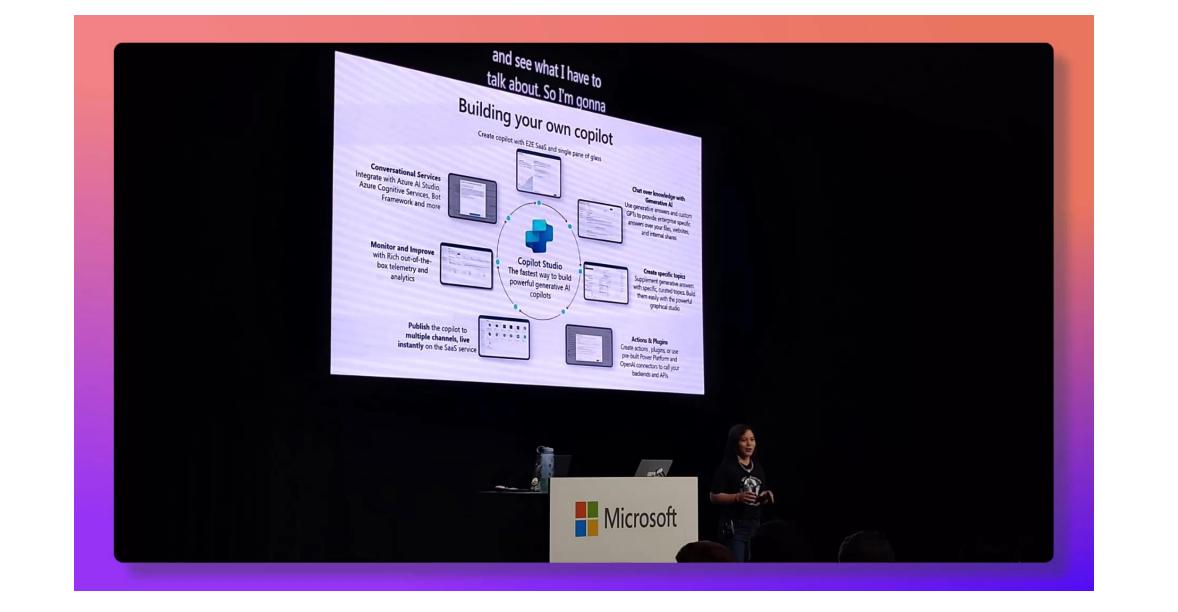
Your copilot, your way

Copilot Studio is an end-to-end conversational Al product for building your own copilots or extending Microsoft Copilot with generative Al, large language models and your data.



# Demo: Use Copilot Studio to build a custom copilot to interact with Approvals

SharePoint Document library: This information is 1. Approver = Me listed in SharePoint 2. Expedite = Yes Which policies of mine require expedited approval? Approvals table: This information is listed in the Approval 1. Active approval Workflow Instance instance assigned to table in Dataverse Me



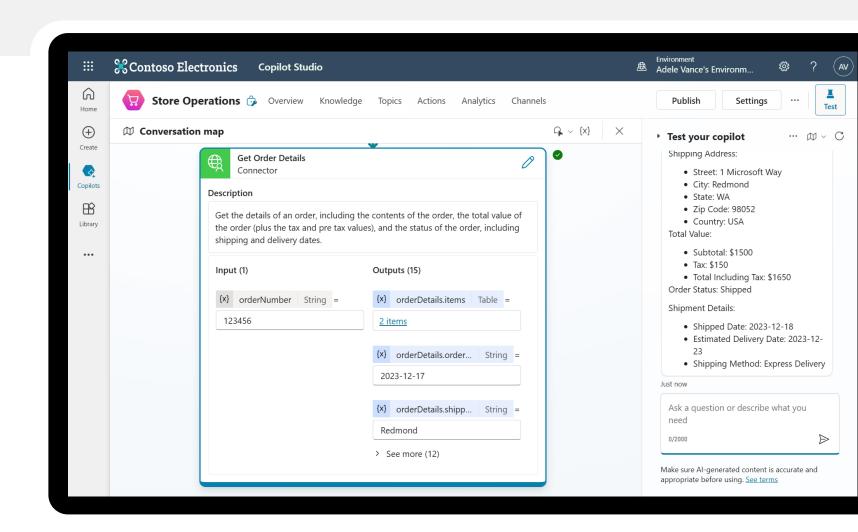
### aka.ms/ai-in-action/building-with-mcs

Build agents

Developer experiences

AI capabilities

... and more



# Feedback Form

• <a href="https://aka.ms/approvalsfeedback">https://aka.ms/approvalsfeedback</a>

Help us shape the future of approvals in the Power Platform



### Resources

Setup: <a href="https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-automate/guidance/business-approvals-templates/setup">https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-automate/guidance/business-approvals-templates/setup</a>

Creator Kit: <a href="https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-platform/guidance/creator-kit/setup">https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-platform/guidance/creator-kit/setup</a>

GitHub Repository: <a href="https://github.com/microsoft/powercat-business-approvals-kit">https://github.com/microsoft/powercat-business-approvals-kit</a>

Approvals Kit Workshop: <a href="https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/approvals-kit-">https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/training/modules/approvals-kit-</a>

workshop/