**Power - Apps Administration**

**Introduction:**

First off let’s start by answering some questions about Power Apps and what it is.

**What is Power Apps?**

It’s a Platform as a Service that allows you to create Mobile Apps that run on Android, iOS, Windows – and with almost any Internet browser

**What Does PowerApps Do?**

PowerApps provides a nice drag-and-drop user interface to allow you to add different controls (ie fields, etc), media (images, videos, etc), forms, and screens to construct a mobile app.

It also allows you to connect to external data sources or store data directly inside the app. Once you have created an app, all you have to do is publish it and share it with your organization.

**What Doesn’t PowerApps Do?**

PowerApps was designed to be used for business mobile apps – meaning internal use ONLY. You’re not going to create a PowerApp to share with everyone in the world and make a ton of money with it. These are not designed for consumer consumption, mostly due to the licensing model, as well as technical limitations with sharing with external users. Also, all of the functionality in PowerApps is “no-code.” So your in-house developers won’t be able to add any customize or do hack-y things to the underlying device. If PowerApps can’t access anything external to it, then neither can your users or your developers.

**Administration:**

**What's the role of a PowerApps administrator?**

As an administrator, the first few questions you should ask yourself are

1. How you can protect your organization's data?
2. What data is accessible through these services?
3. Are there best practices to follow?
4. What is the PowerApps security model and how should I control access to data?

Once you’ve figure out protection, control and visibility, the next thing you should think about is deployment. Individual users and teams can deploy apps on their own, but how do you centrally deploy solutions, orchestrate updates, and identify and fix issues?

**Managing environments**

An Environment is a space to store, manage, and share your organization’s business data, apps, and flows. They also serve as containers to separate apps that may have different roles, security requirements, or target audiences. How you choose to use environments depends on your organization and the apps you are trying to build:

* You may choose to only build your apps in a single environment.
* You might create separate environments that group the Test and Production versions of your apps.
* You might create separate environments that correspond to specific teams or departments in your company, each containing the relevant data and apps for each audience.
* You might also create separate environments for different global branches of your company.

**Environment permissions**

Environments have two built-in roles that provide access to permissions within an environment:

**Environment Admin -** can perform all administrative actions on an environment including the following:

* Add or remove a user or group from either the Environment Admin or Environment Maker role.
* Provision a Common Data Service database for the environment.
* View and manage all resources created within an environment.
* Set Data Loss Prevention policies.

**The Environment Maker** role can create new resources within an environment including apps, connections, custom APIs, gateways, and flows using Microsoft Flow.

**Data Policies**

An organization’s data needs to be protected so that it isn’t shared with audiences that should not have access to it. To protect this data, you can create and enforce policies that define which consumer services and connectors specific business data can be shared with. These policies that define how data can be shared are referred to as data loss prevention (DLP) policies.

* There will be certain data that is critical for business and needs to be protected this data can go into the Business data group
* Those that do not contain protected information would go to No business data group.

Once you set the policy, a environment user creating an app will not be able to add connections from both Business data only group and No-business data allowed group.

**Data Integration**

The Data integration tab refers to Data Integration Platform. The Data Integrator (for Admins) is a point-to-point integration service used to integrate data into Common Data Service. At the bottom of the screen you’ll notice the 3 options:

1. **Projects -** enable the flow of data between systems. A project contains mappings for one or more entities. Mappings indicate which fields map to which other fields.
2. **Connection Sets -**  are a collection of two connections, environments for the connections, organization mapping information, and integration keys that can be reused among projects.
3. **Templates -** A template provides you with source, destination, and direction of data flow. You need to keep this in mind while customizing and/or creating your own template.