



Business Intelligence and Database Management with Microsoft SQL Server 2008 and Microsoft Dynamics AX 2009

Empower your people to make confident decisions and drive organizational success. Microsoft Dynamics® AX 2009 integrates with Microsoft® SQL Server® 2008 to deliver extensible reporting tools and a business intelligence platform that provides access to relevant, real-time data across your organization.

With Microsoft Dynamics AX, you can take advantage of standard reports for all of your business processes; analytic reports that enable deep, multi-dimensional analysis; and ad-hoc reports that you create with SQL Server Report Builder and access without support from IT. OLAP cubes and RoleTailored business intelligence help ensure that your employees get the information they need to identify and respond to critical business issues.

Customer Scenarios

A combined Microsoft Dynamics AX and SQL Server solution can help you gain insight into business data, enhance reporting, and maximize the performance of your business management solution.

Gain deep insight with powerful business intelligence (BI) tools

Streamline the development of your analysis infrastructure by building robust, high-performance solutions with intuitive data cube design tools and enhanced dimension designers. Microsoft Dynamics AX provides default cubes that automatically extract data from key business areas and then load it to a SQL Server Analysis Services database. The results can be displayed as preselected key performance indicators (KPIs) in Role Centers; as prebuilt SQL Server Reporting Services reports in the Microsoft Dynamics AX Client or Enterprise Portal in Microsoft Dynamics AX; or as rich analytical ad-hoc reports using Microsoft Office Excel®.

Easily create and distribute reports that employees can act on

With its highly scalable infrastructure, SQL Server helps you effectively design, manage, and deliver reports to the right people throughout your organization at the right time. A wide range of Microsoft Dynamics AX standard reports are built using SQL Server Reporting Services, so you can distribute them easily using Microsoft SharePoint® technologies. With SQL Server Report Builder, you can easily create and modify ad-hoc reports from your Microsoft Dynamics AX data.

Adapt to business needs with a trusted and productive data platform

With high levels of security, availability, and scalability, SQL Server enables you to run Microsoft Dynamics AX with confidence. Microsoft Dynamics AX uses database compression in SQL Server to maximize performance. Over the product lifecycle, a smaller database means decreased hardware and backup requirements, less IT administration—and reduced total cost of ownership (TCO).

BENEFITS

A combined Microsoft Dynamics AX 2009 and SQL Server 2008 solution delivers:

■ Reports that enable confident decisions

Generate standard reports with built-in business logic or customize report definitions to make strategic business decisions.

■ Improved employee productivity

Use flexible analytic tools to create and view ad-hoc reports without relying on IT assistance.

■ Deep insight into business performance

Analyze metrics for unique business needs using default data cubes for the key business areas.

■ Consolidated enterprise data

Improve security for critical business data with database encryption, password enforcement, and an enhanced security model.

■ Scalable business performance

Run Microsoft Dynamics AX on a scalable platform that adapts to your growing business needs and offers enhanced security and increased reliability.

FEATURES

Enhanced reporting tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create reports easily based on predefined cubes, such as those for financials, expense management, project accounting, production, and human resources. • Create new or customize existing SQL Server Reporting Services reports using standard development tools. • Build reports from OLAP cubes and OLTP data sources. • Integrate SQL Server Reporting Services reports into your business management solution for easy access using menu items in the client or by using the Report Viewer Web part in Enterprise Portal in Microsoft Dynamics AX.
SQL Server Report Builder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create ad-hoc reports that satisfy individual information analysis requirements. • Enable self-service reporting for end-users without the need for IT support. • Support multiple data presentation models, including tabular, matrix (cross tab), and other chart layouts.
SQL Server Report Designer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable application developers to design reports that require precision control over the report layout and programmability features.
Analytic reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze related dimensions; for example, compare inventory levels for various item colors, or compare warehouse picking efficiency by operator. • Drag business metrics and dimension attributes onto a familiar PivotTable® or PivotChart® view to analyze data and view results right away.
BI tools for developers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend and customize default OLAP cubes or create new cubes using the BI framework and SQL Server BI Development Studio. • Create custom BI solutions for customers.
Predefined cubes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use default, predefined cubes from key business areas, including accounts payable, accounts receivable, customer relationship management, expense management, general ledger, human resource management, production, project accounting, purchasing, and sales.
SQL Server Analysis Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Query data efficiently with powerful OLAP capabilities. • Perform complex analyses with a large number of dimensions and aggregations.
Permissions-based access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set user and group permissions for data access in Microsoft Dynamics AX by using Windows Authentication so that users can see only data to which they have been granted access.



Microsoft®
SQL Server® 2008



For more information about Microsoft Dynamics AX 2009, visit www.microsoft.com/dynamics/ax.

For more information about Microsoft SQL Server 2008, visit www.microsoft.com/sqlserver.