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THE DYNAMICS GP MODERNIZATION PLAYBOOK

Don’t Just Replace GP. Build for What Comes Next.

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Expert-led Transformation.
Impact-led Growth.

Microsoft Dynamics GP has been a dependable ERP platform for thousands of organizations. But businesses have changed.

Operations are more connected. Customers expect faster service. Finance teams need real-time visibility. Supply chains are more complex. And AI, automation and analytics are increasingly becoming part of everyday business operations.

At the same time, Microsoft has announced that Dynamics GP support will end on **December 31, 2029,** with security updates, if required, available until **April 30, 2031.**

For GP customers, the question is no longer simply:
"When should we move?"

The more important question is:
"What should we move to?"

For some organizations, Dynamics 365 Business Central may be the right next step. For others, business growth and operational complexity may make Dynamics 365 Finance & Supply Chain Management a better long-term platform.

This playbook helps you evaluate the options and build a modernization roadmap around your business, not just your current ERP.

1. WHY START PLANNING NOW?

There is still time before GP support ends. That is precisely why now is the right time to plan.

ERP modernization is rarely just a technical upgrade. Your current GP environment may include years of:

Customizations

Third-party applications

Integrations

Reports and Excel models

Historical data

Manual processes

Business-specific workflows

Infrastructure dependencies

Waiting until support deadlines get closer can turn modernization into a time-driven migration rather than a business-driven transformation.

Starting early gives you the opportunity to decide what should be **retained, redesigned, automated or retired.**

Modernization gives you an opportunity to address:

Technology Risk
Reduce dependence on aging infrastructure, custom code and legacy integrations.

Operational Efficiency
Automate repetitive processes and reduce spreadsheet-driven work.

Business Visibility
Connect finance, operations, sales and supply chain information for faster decisions.

Scalability
Prepare the ERP environment for new entities, locations, acquisitions, products and business models.

AI & Automation
Create the digital foundation required for Copilot, AI agents, workflow automation and predictive insights.

2. DON'T RECREATE GP IN A NEW ERP

One of the biggest mistakes in an ERP modernization is attempting to reproduce the existing system exactly.

Your GP environment reflects decisions made over many years.

Some processes remain important.

Others may exist only because GP required a workaround.

Before carrying customizations, reports and processes into the new platform, ask:

Why does this exist today?

Is the business requirement still relevant?

Can the new platform handle it differently?

Can the process be simplified or automated?

Does the customization still create business value?

Modernization should reduce complexity, not migrate it.

3. START WITH THE BUSINESS

Before selecting a platform, evaluate how your organization operates today and where it is heading.
We recommend assessing six dimensions.

Business Growth

Consider:

- Revenue and transaction growth
- New business units
- Acquisitions
- Geographic expansion
- New products and services
- Increasing ERP user population

The ERP should support the business you expect to become, not only the business you are today.

Financial Complexity

Consider:

- Number of legal entities
- Intercompany transactions
- Consolidations
- Multiple currencies
- Financial dimensions
- Allocations
- Revenue recognition
- Budgeting and controls
- Regulatory requirements

Supply Chain Complexity

Consider:

- Number of warehouses
- Inventory volumes
- Demand planning
- Procurement complexity
- Supplier networks
- Lot or serial traceability
- Transportation
- Landed costs

Manufacturing Complexity

Consider:

- Make-to-stock vs. make-to-order
- Bills of material and routes
- Production scheduling
- Capacity planning
- Subcontracting
- Quality management
- Shop-floor operations
- Advanced warehouse requirements

Technology Landscape

Consider:

- CRM
- E-commerce
- WMS
- Payroll
- Banking
- Planning applications
- EDI
- Data warehouses
- Power BI
- Custom applications

The more connected your environment becomes, the more important your ERP architecture becomes.

Future Digital Ambition

Consider how important the following will be over the next three to five years:

- AI assistants and agents
- Workflow automation
- Predictive analytics
- Self-service reporting
- Real-time operational visibility
- Microsoft 365 integration
- Power Platform
- Microsoft Fabric

4. BUSINESS CENTRAL OR FINANCE & SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT?

There is no universal GP migration destination.

Dynamics 365 Business Central is designed for small and midsized organizations and provides capabilities spanning finance, sales, purchasing, inventory, manufacturing, projects and services.

Dynamics 365 Finance and Supply Chain Management provide deeper capabilities for organizations managing more complex financial, manufacturing, warehousing and global supply chain environments.

The right answer depends on your business.

BUSINESS CENTRAL MAY BE A STRONG FIT WHEN:

- The organization has relatively straightforward operations.
- The ERP user population is moderate.
- There are relatively few entities or locations.
- Financial processes are largely standardized.
- Inventory and warehousing requirements are moderate.
- Manufacturing requirements are light to moderate.
- The organization wants a modern ERP with a comparatively simpler implementation footprint.
- Industry requirements can be addressed through standard functionality or the Business Central ISV ecosystem.

BUSINESS CENTRAL MAY BE A STRONG FIT WHEN:

- The organization operates across multiple entities, countries or currencies.
- Financial consolidation and intercompany requirements are complex.
- Manufacturing is a significant part of the business.
- Advanced warehousing is required.
- Planning and supply chain processes are complex.
- The organization manages high transaction volumes.
- Operations require stronger governance and controls.
- The business expects significant growth, acquisitions or international expansion.
- The ERP must support a broad enterprise operating model.

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5. THE DECISION SHOULD NOT BE BASED ON REVENUE ALONE

Company size can be a useful indicator, but it should not determine the ERP platform by itself.

A $100 million manufacturer operating multiple plants and warehouses may have greater ERP complexity than a $500 million professional services organization.

Instead, evaluate the combination of:

Decision Area	Lower Complexity	Higher Complexity
Legal entities	Few	Multiple / global
Finance	Standard	Complex consolidation and intercompany
Warehousing	Basic to moderate	Advanced warehouse operations
Manufacturing	Light / moderate	Complex production environments
Supply chain	Standard	Advanced planning and sourcing
Transaction volumes	Moderate	High
Integrations	Limited	Enterprise ecosystem
Geographic footprint	Primarily domestic	Multi-country
Growth plans	Stable	Rapid expansion / acquisition
Governance	Standard controls	Advanced enterprise controls

More indicators on the left may point toward Business Central.

More indicators on the right may indicate that Finance & Supply Chain Management should be evaluated.

The objective is not to implement the largest ERP possible.

It is to select the platform that provides the **right level of capability without unnecessary complexity.**

6. UNDERSTAND YOUR CURRENT GP LANDSCAPE

Before defining the future state, establish a clear baseline.

Core GP

- Modules currently used
- Companies and databases
- Users
- Transaction volumes
- Security roles
- Workflow

Customizations

Dexterity customizations
Custom code
SQL procedures
Macros
Custom screens
Business logic outside GP

ISV Solutions

Document every third-party application and determine:

- Is it still required?
- Does the future ERP provide the capability natively?
- Is an equivalent solution available?
- Should the underlying process be redesigned?

Integrations

Identify integrations with:

- CRM
- Banks
- Payroll
- E-commerce
- Warehouse systems
- Planning systems
- Expense applications
- EDI
- Customer and supplier portals
- Other enterprise applications

Reporting

Inventory:

- Management reports
- Financial statements
- SSRS reports
- Management Reporter
- SmartLists
- Excel reports
- Power BI
- Data warehouse reporting

Not every report needs to migrate.

A modernization program is an opportunity to rationalize reporting and establish a more consistent data model.

7. DEFINE YOUR DATA MIGRATION STRATEGY

Moving ERP does not necessarily mean moving every transaction accumulated over the life of GP.

Separate data into three categories.

Master Data

Typically includes:

- Customers
- Vendors
- Products
- Chart of accounts
- Dimensions
- Employees
- Assets
- Warehouses
- Pricing

Open Transactions

Typically includes:

- Open receivables
- Open payables
- Open purchase orders
- Open sales orders
- Inventory balances
- Work in progress
- General ledger balances

Historical Data

Ask an important question:

How much transactional history actually needs to reside inside the new ERP?

Organizations can often retain historical information in a reporting repository while migrating only theoperational history required in the new ERP.

This can reduce migration complexity while preserving access to historical information.

8. USE MODERNIZATION TO SIMPLIFY

A successful modernization program should leave the organization with less complexity than it startedwith.

Look for opportunities to:

Standardize
Reduce unnecessary process variations across departments and entities.

Automate
Replace manual approvals, reconciliations and data movement.

Consolidate
Reduce duplicate applications and point solutions.

Rationalize
Retire unused reports, customizations and integrations

Connect
Create a more integrated Microsoft business application environment.

Measure
Establish business baselines so modernization outcomes can be quantified.

9. BUILD THE BUSINESS CASE BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION

The value of ERP modernization should not be measured only by whether the new system goes live.
Establish the current baseline before implementation.
Examples include:

Finance

- Days to close
- Manual journal volume
- Reconciliation hours
- AP processing effort
- AR collection effort
- Reporting preparation time

Supply Chain

- Inventory accuracy
- Inventory turns
- Stockouts
- Procurement cycle time
- Expedite costs
- Supplier performance

Warehouse

- Receiving time
- Picking productivity
- Order accuracy
- Warehouse labor effort

Manufacturing

- Production schedule adherence
- Material availability
- Production downtime
- Scrap and yield
- Planning effort

Technology

- Infrastructure costs
- Integration maintenance
- Customization support
- Upgrade effort
- Number of disconnected applications

These baselines create the foundation for measuring the business value delivered after modernization.

10. THINK BEYOND ERP

The move from GP should not be viewed as an isolated ERP project.
Modern Dynamics environments can connect ERP with the broader Microsoft ecosystem, including:

Microsoft 365
Bring business processes closer to the tools employees use every day.

Power BI & Microsoft Fabric
Create enterprise reporting, analytics and a unified data foundation.

Power Platform
Automate workflows and extend business processes.

Dynamics 365 CRM
Connect customer-facing processes with finance and operations.

Copilot & AI Agents
Introduce intelligent assistance and increasingly autonomous business processes.

The opportunity is larger than replacing an accounting system.
It is about creating a connected business platform.

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11. YOUR GP MODERNIZATION ROADMAP

ASSESS

Understand the current GP environment.

Inventory:
- » Processes
- » Customizations
- » Integrations
- » ISVs
- » Reports
- » Data
- » Infrastructure

Establish business and operational baselines

ENVISION

Define where the business expects to be over the next three to five years.

Identify future requirements across:
- » Finance
- » Supply chain
- » Manufacturing
- » Warehousing
- » Sales
- » Reporting
- » AI and automation

SELECT

Evaluate the appropriate Dynamics platform.

Business Central
or
Dynamics 365 Finance & Supply Chain Management

Base the decision on business requirements, complexity, scalability and total cost of ownership.

Manufacturing Complexity

Determine what should be:
- » Migrated
- » Redesigned
- » Replaced
- » Automated
- » Retired
- » Avoid carrying unnecessary legacy complexity forward.

MODERNIZE

Implement the future-state solution.

Migrate the right data, redesign priority processes, rebuild necessary integrations and drive user adoption.

MEASURE

Compare post-implementation performance against the original baseline.
Measure improvements in:
- Cost
- Productivity
- Cycle times
- Working capital
- Visibility
- Operational efficiency
- Business agility

Modernization is successful when the business performs better, not simply when the technology changes.

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12. WHERE SHOULD YOUR GP JOURNEY GO NEXT?

Your organization may not need to replace GP tomorrow.
But it should understand the path forward.

A structured assessment can help answer:

- **Is Business Central sufficient for our future needs?**
- **Have we outgrown what a traditional GP-to-BC migration would provide?**
- **Should we evaluate Dynamics 365 Finance & Supply Chain Management?**
- **Which GP customizations and ISVs do we still need?**
- **How much historical data should we migrate?**
- **What will modernization cost?**
- **What business value should we expect in return?**

START WITH A GP MODERNIZATION ASSESSMENT

Korcomptenz can help you evaluate your existing GP environment, business requirements and future growth plans to determine the right modernization path.

The assessment can include:

GP Environment Review

Modules, infrastructure, users, customizations and technical dependencies.

Process & Complexity Assessmen

Finance, supply chain, manufacturing, warehousing and operational requirements.

Application Landscape Review

ISVs, integrations, reporting and surrounding applications.

BC vs. F&O Fit Assessment

An objective evaluation of which Dynamics platform better aligns with your future state.

Migration Strategy

Recommendations for master data, open transactions and historical data.

Modernization Roadmap

Priorities, sequencing, implementation considerations and next steps.

Business Value Baseline

Establish measurable KPIs before implementation so modernization outcomes can be quantified.

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YOUR GP HAS SUPPORTED WHERE YOU'VE BEEN.

LET'S BUILD THE PLATFORM FOR WHERE YOU'RE GOING NEXT.

Assess. Simplify. Modernize. Measure.

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