# The cloud advantage

7 benefits of moving your ERP to the cloud

Microsoft Dynamics 365    systemate

# Table of contents

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In just one year, the number of companies choosing a cloud ERP deployment more than tripled, compared to a 78% drop for on-premises ERP solutions. For more than a decade, **Microsoft** has been an agent for that change.

## Cloud versus on-premises deployments[1]

|  | 2017 | 2018 |
|---|---|---|
| Cloud ERP | **6%** | **21%** |
| On-premises ERP | **67%** | **15%** |

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If we didn't go to the cloud-based, mobile-based [platform], it would become a huge limiting factor to our growth and maybe even our existence in the future.[2]

**Carl Spackman**

*VP, Finance,*
*Copper State Bolt & Nut Co.*

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# Companies relying on a modern ERP platform are more likely to:

Achieve complete and on-time deliveries

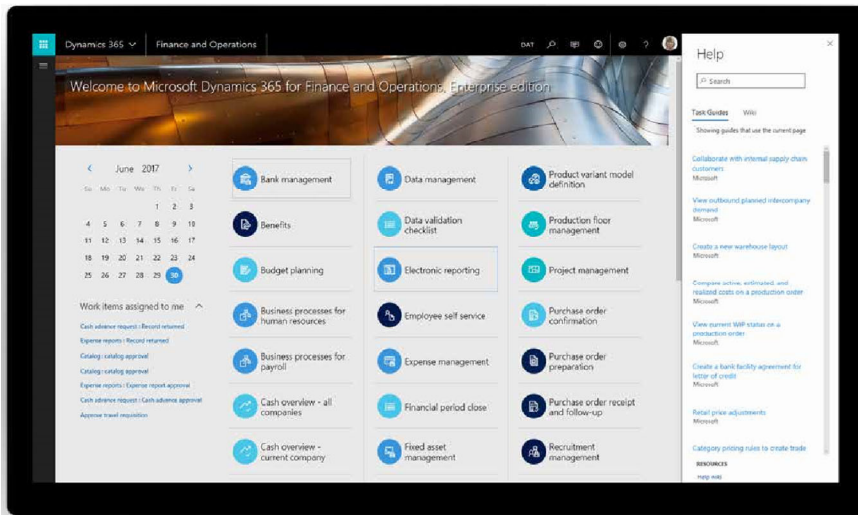Receive timely data for decisions

Meet internal schedules

See improvements in profitability

Maintain accurate inventory

But more than half of ERP-using companies still rely on an outdated platform. **That's costly.**

**The data is clear:** companies running up-to-date solutions have a competitive edge.[3]

Businesses using on-premises solutions are stuck battling yesterday's problems.

But when you upgrade your company's ERP to the cloud, you're setting up your business for future success.

**Here's how Microsoft's cloud-based Dynamics 365 platform is defining tomorrow's opportunities.**



01 Lower set-up and implementation costs

02 Flexible data storage

03 Streamlined updates & innovations

04 Simpler data backup & restoration

05 Increased security & scalability

06 Broader accessibility

07 Common data platform

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# 01 /

## Lower set-up and implementation costs

### On-premises

Deployment usually requires a significant hardware and personnel investment.

### Cloud-based

Off-site hosting and provider expertise eliminate the need for additional hardware or personnel.

A reduced **total cost of ownership** is the **#1 reason** why companies switch to a cloud-based ERP.[4]

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# 02 /

## Flexible data storage

**On-premises**
**Additional hardware needs to be purchased when on-site servers are at capacity.**

**Cloud-based**
Companies can quickly scale storage up or down as needed.

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> **Microsoft has taken most of the load off of our department – all the things that are  a cost to an IT organisation. Now we can focus on things that really add value to the business.**

**Norman Whitelaw**

*VP, IT,
GSE Environmental*

# 03 /

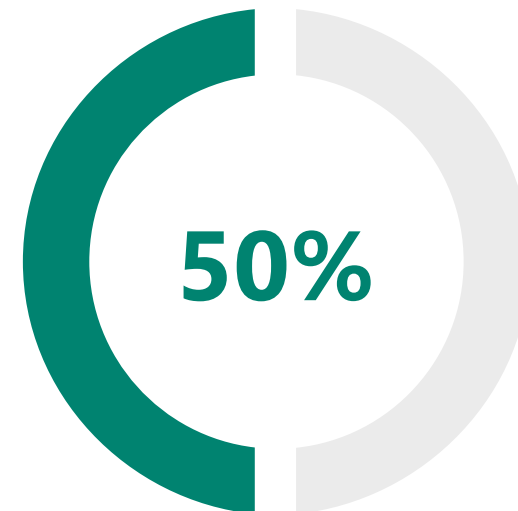## Streamlined updates & innovations

**On-premises**
On-site updates are
a time-consuming process
requiring skilled personnel.

**Cloud-based**
Upgrades are pushed out from the
provider and approved on-site to
protect customisations.

**50%**

Companies running an up-to-date ERP
system are 50% more likely to have business
analytics and intelligence.[5]

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# 04 /

## Simpler data backup & restoration

**On-premises**
A complex data backup process usually requires a maintenance plan in a SQL server, plus other products/services.

**Cloud-based**
A regular system backup is taken daily and is available to users, with a provision to create user backups.

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Nearly 1/3 of companies switching to a cloud ERP are doing so to reduce their dependence on internal IT teams.[6]

# 05 /

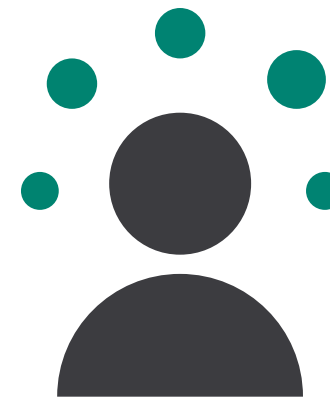## Increased security & scalability

**On-premises**
Environments are usually
less secure, requiring costly
additional monitoring and
a dedicated IT admin.

**Cloud-based**
Microsoft-owned and managed
datacentres are secure,
certified and compliant with
international standards.

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**The ability to safeguard internal information** is one of the **top 5 reasons** companies switch to a cloud-based ERP.[7]

# 06 /

## Broader accessibility

**On-premises**

Accessing an on-premises deployment remotely is complicated by the Active Directory authentication process.

**Cloud-based**

Separate authentication means Dynamics 365 can be accessed remotely and across device types.

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## 25%

More than **25% of companies** switching to cloud ERPs are looking to **improve their agility and functionality.**[8]
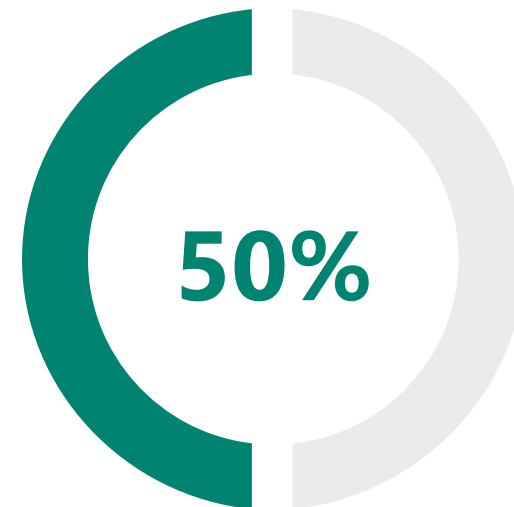
# 07 /

## Common data platform

**On-premises**

On-premises solutions are more difficult to integrate with other applications.

**Cloud-based**

Dynamics 365 Common Data Service helps to create both new data models and apps with connected data.

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**50%**

Half of all companies switching ERP providers say their previous platform was too limited in functionality.[9]

**On-premises**

1. Deployment usually requires a hardware and personnel investment.

2. Data storage capabilities depend on capacity of on-site servers.

3. On-site updates require skilled personnel and an involved deployment process.

4. Data can be backed up with a SQL server maintenance plan, plus other products/services.

5. Additional monitoring costs and a dedicated IT admin suggested for a less secure environment.

6. Authentication for an on-premises platform usually requires local access.

7. On-premises solutions can be integrated with other apps through intensive customisations.

The payoff of moving to the cloud: **A platform that's more reliable, accurate and profitable.**[10]
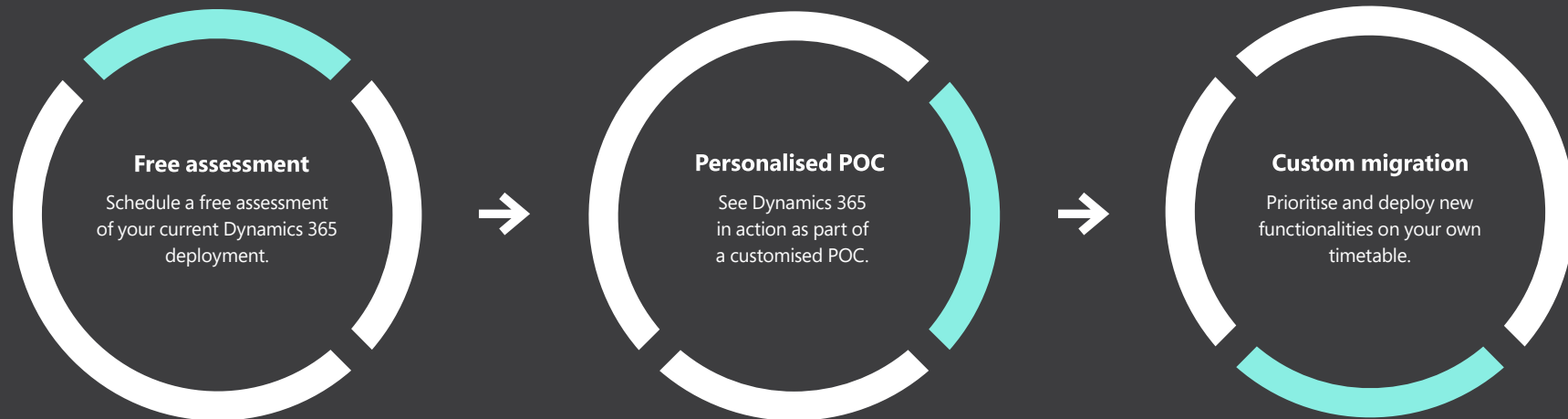
**Cloud-based**

1. Off-site hosting implementation can be completed in just days or hours.

2. Companies can quickly scale storage up or down as needed.

3. Upgrades are pushed out from the provider and approved on-site to protect customisations.

4. A regular system backup is taken daily and is available to users, with a provision to create user backups.

5. Microsoft-owned and managed datacentres are secure, certified and compliant with international standards.

6. Separate authentication means Dynamics 365 can be accessed remotely and across device types.

7. Dynamics 365 Common Data Service helps to create both new data models and apps with connected data.

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# The advantages are obvious. The process is easy.

Microsoft also offers the quality partnership you
need to make migration to the cloud possible.[11]

**Free assessment**

Schedule a free assessment
of your current Dynamics 365
deployment.

→

**Personalised POC**

See Dynamics 365
in action as part of
a customised POC.

→

**Custom migration**

Prioritise and deploy new
functionalities on your own
timetable.

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When you look at it in terms of the efficiencies around improving how quickly people can do things, how easily people can do things… that's where Dynamics 365 for Finance and Operations had the biggest impact.[12]

Mark Everest

*IS Development Manager,*
*Renault Sport Formula One Team*

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# ERPs have fundamentally changed. We're here to help you change with them.

Learn more about Microsoft Dynamics 365 for Finance and Operations

[1] "2018 ERP Report", Panorama Consulting Solutions
[2] "2018 ERP Report", Panorama Consulting Solutions [3] "Business SaaS Decision Making", Keystone, 2018
[3] "Top Performers Know It's Time To Migrate to Cloud ERP: Here's Why and How", Aberdeen, 2016
[4] "Business SaaS Decision Making", Keystone, 2018
[5] "Top Performers Know It's Time To Migrate to Cloud ERP: Here's Why and How", Aberdeen, 2016
[6] "Business SaaS Decision Making", Keystone, 2018
[7] "Business SaaS Decision Making", Keystone, 2018
[8] "Business SaaS Decision Making", Keystone, 2018
[9] "Business SaaS Decision Making", Keystone, 2018
[10] "Business SaaS Decision Making", Keystone, 2018
[11] "ERP Value Matrix", Nucleus Research, 2017
[12] "ERP Value Matrix", Nucleus Research, 2017

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