

# Find your path to productivity with Microsoft Power Platform



 **Business**

 Microsoft



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# Find your path to productivity Microsoft Power Platform

**Microsoft Power Platform is a powerful suite of tools that can make workers more productive – but you need to deploy it effectively.**

The software-defined company is now a reality and we are in an era where specialist tools can deliver the agility modern businesses need. It's a shift that has come alongside the changing nature of how workers work: enterprises must be able to transform digital workflows and get the most out of data to make operations simpler.

Companies are under constant pressure to do more with less while maintaining agility. And when it comes to IT, there's a need to be able to customize and tailor enterprise apps to become more productive. That means quickly developing and deploying custom business applications without the need for extensive in-house programming expertise.



**Market demand for application development will increase at least 5 x faster than conventional IT departments can fulfill<sup>4</sup>**

Companies need to be more efficient, and many have embraced robotic process automation (RPA) to streamline working practices and reduce costs. Customer service levels have benefited from chatbot deployment, and businesses need to be able to easily build and deploy bots that can engage with customers or employees and deliver immediate responses to inquiries.

These needs have led to an increased demand for custom-built apps and tools. Workers today want a more customized, tailored working environment, but it's difficult for enterprises to give them that: 93% of businesses say there is an IT skills gap<sup>1</sup>, and 42% say the problem is due to the fast pace of technological advancements<sup>2</sup>. A further 86% say they find it hard to recruit technical talent<sup>3</sup>.

**47%** of developers say they lack access to tools needed to create apps fast enough to meet deadlines<sup>5</sup>

All of this can present an 'app gap': there's a need for specialized apps and tools that can make tasks easier and workers more productive, but companies can't fully dedicate the resources to build them. Microsoft Power Platform can be the solution you need to help internal developers enable EX and improve productivity and workflows through custom app development, automation, and conversational AI. Power Platform can change how workers work and IT departments enable them, but it's important to do so with appropriate oversight and governance.



# What is Microsoft Power Platform?

Microsoft Power Platform is a suite of applications, connectors, and a data platform that provides a robust environment for building custom apps, automating workflows, and analyzing data to generate business insights. It integrates low-code solutions with other Microsoft suite tools to enable quick, easy custom app development.

Power Platform offers businesses a low-code solution for developing apps and workflows. With Power Platform, companies can develop custom apps tailored to business, job, or individual task needs. It's designed to make employees more productive and also ideal for freeing up IT resources to carry out more valuable, business-focused tasks.

Power Platform offers a low-code option for enterprise users who have some basic programming skills to develop custom apps and create workflows themselves. Power Platform helps simplify app development for enterprises and massively speeds up app development times – 30% time savings<sup>6</sup> is a commonly-cited benefit.

**75%** Gartner forecasts low-code development tools will make up 75% of new app development by 2026, up from 40% in 2021<sup>7</sup>



Power Platform comprises five core components:

- 1 Power Apps**  
A low-code development platform for custom business applications, it can connect with Microsoft 365, SharePoint, Teams, and many other services via a drag-and-drop interface
- 2 Power Automate**  
A cloud-based automation platform that lets you automate tasks and workflows across apps and systems, everyday tasks like sending emails, creating tasks, moving files, updating records
- 3 Copilot Studio**  
Enables fast, simple chatbot creation
- 4 Power Pages**  
A secure, enterprise-grade, low-code platform for designing, hosting, and administering external-facing websites
- 5 Power BI**  
A data visualization platform that can be used by employees with varying levels of data knowledge



## What Power Platform can do for you

Power Platform can open up a whole new world for tailored app development in your organization. Your IT and business unit team members can now develop low-code apps with only the most basic programming skills.

Within the suite of tools, Power Automate can be used for task automation, Power BI can be used for customer dashboards, and Copilot Studio can be used to upscale chatbots and virtual assistants.

It allows you to leverage your employees' know-how – app development can directly benefit from employee-generated data and knowledge. Power Platform also makes app development cycles exponentially shorter, and apps can be scaled quickly and easily to benefit your teams, departments, or the whole company.



**Forrester reports that low-code platforms can reduce 74% of costs related to traditional app development<sup>8</sup>**

## How Power Platform benefits your employees

### Empowerment

Your employees can create tailored solutions to solve business problems, empowering them and reducing dependency on IT for every little need

### Efficiency and productivity

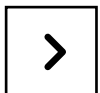
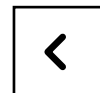
Automated workflows and custom apps streamline your operations, reducing manual tasks and freeing up time for more value-added activities

### Enhanced collaboration

Power Platform tools enhance collaboration between your teams by providing shared data sources, reports, and automated processes accessible from anywhere



**97%** of Fortune 500 companies are using Microsoft Power Platform<sup>9</sup>





## Lesaffre: custom low-code application tailored to user experience

**Lesaffre, a major player in the global fermentation industry, wanted to develop custom-built business software that would help drive the company's digital transformation to new levels. The solution it wanted should be designed to focus on collaborative user features and employee experience.**

Orange Business delivered a custom-designed, user-focused solution with low-code tools that improved collaboration and interactions between Lesaffre staff and enhanced user experience. The solution empowered employees with custom apps that enable them to manage and visualize activities like training sessions and presentations in one of the company's technical centers in France. The solution is effectively a global digital planning tool that gives an enhanced view of activities via custom dashboards built on data collected by the app.

Orange enabled Lesaffre with much more than 'just' a simple technical solution – the offering was built around a global framework with user experience as its central focus. The new low-code tools enabled Lesaffre to test ideas rapidly without going through long development process, and helped avoid potential shadow IT and app sprawl. Orange went on to design many more custom low-code solutions for Lesaffre for different departments in the overall organization that help solve business challenges with a cost-effective approach and in short timeframes compared to traditional app development. Lesaffre employees were empowered to upgrade and enhance their own tools with minimal training, and Orange's Microsoft-certified experts ensured that they are long-term solutions that meet industry standards.

## The rise and rise of low code

- Low-code apps offer new opportunities for innovation and agility
- Low code is exploding in popularity and usage
- 89% of organizations credit low-code apps for efficiency improvements<sup>10</sup>
- They allow non-technical employees to develop powerful software tailored to specific tasks and business needs
- Low-code platforms help reduce app development time by up to 90%<sup>11</sup>
- 80% of organizations say in-house app developers give IT departments more breathing room<sup>12</sup>



# The importance of governance

**For its many benefits, Power Platform requires oversight. Your workers may spot opportunities for custom app development, but if you allow it to run unchecked, you risk a snowballing problem similar to that of Shadow IT. Giving different workers in your organization roles as app developers means giving them access to sensitive company data that they could share unwittingly.**

With appropriate Power Platform app development governance, you can reduce the risk of data security breaches and mishandling sensitive information. Strict governance also helps you ensure compliance with data regulations like GDPR and HIPAA by defining data access controls and monitoring data usage throughout your organization.

# 80%

**of technology products and services will be built by non-tech professionals by the end of 2024<sup>13</sup>**



It's almost inevitable that fractures will occur when you have different departments independently developing apps to help them do their jobs better. It can create a fragmented landscape of applications and workflows that nobody is fully in charge of. And the snowball effect means you risk creating disconnected systems and siloed data, something many companies have worked hard to eliminate. There's also the cost factor: unmonitored custom app development and deployment throughout a company can create spiraling costs, and before you know it, you have a whole new financial issue to deal with.

## How Power Platform benefits your IT Department

### Governance and security

Power Platform provides robust security and governance features, enabling your IT department to manage data access, compliance, and security policies effectively

### Integration capabilities

Power Platform includes extensive integration capabilities with other Microsoft products and third-party services, helping your IT team to create a seamless ecosystem of applications and services

### Reduced development burden

By empowering non-technical users to develop apps, your IT department is freed up to focus on more complex and strategic IT initiatives, reducing the burden of small, departmental projects



# How Orange helps you get the most from Power Platform

**Orange Business has extensive low-code app development expertise that focuses on user experience and strategic governance.**

Orange Business takes a two-pronged approach to Power Platform projects designed to help you enhance workflows, enable great EX, and make your workers more productive and less stressed, underpinned by robust governance.

We work with you to ensure app development initiatives are built around innovation and are strengthened by training, support, and auditing. Our European Center of Excellence has experts on hand offering the best advice on maximizing Power Platform. Our Microsoft-certified experts work with your HR teams to engage workers, we focus on productivity and business to extend your workspace, and we focus on content to enhance your collaboration.

Microsoft Power Platform helps companies overcome operational inefficiencies, improve decision-making, enhance customer engagement, and foster innovation through a comprehensive, integrated suite of tools and capabilities. Orange Business can help you get the most out of your Power Platform projects.

Microsoft Power Platform is another powerful tool in the digital workplace that can enhance employee experience and effectiveness. It helps drive positive productivity, an approach in which employees have both the desire and the means to be more effective.

# 1,000+

**Orange Business Microsoft Technology specialists including 30+ Microsoft Power Platform Certified Consultants**

## Steps to building positive productivity

- Create a digital workplace centered on users, their needs and how they want to work
- Develop an attractive employee experience to enhance satisfaction with digital tools
- Deploy a high-performing, flexible, personal productivity environment that optimizes work/life balance
- Manage devices, operating systems and applications in a modern and efficient way and free your IT teams for more business-valuable work
- Work to build a responsible company every day, aligned with environmental, social and governance issues





To find out more about Orange Business and Employee Experience, please visit: <https://www.orange-business.com/en/business-needs/digital-work-experience/provide-outstanding-employee-experience>

And to learn more about how Orange Business helps companies leverage Microsoft Power Platform, please visit: <https://www.orange-business.com/en/case-study/lesaffre-custom-designed-application-built-around-user-experience>

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