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Power Apps – Ideas Becoming Reality

THURSDAY 15th MAY 2025

Can you hear me?

Is everything clear?

~ 45 mins

Q & A

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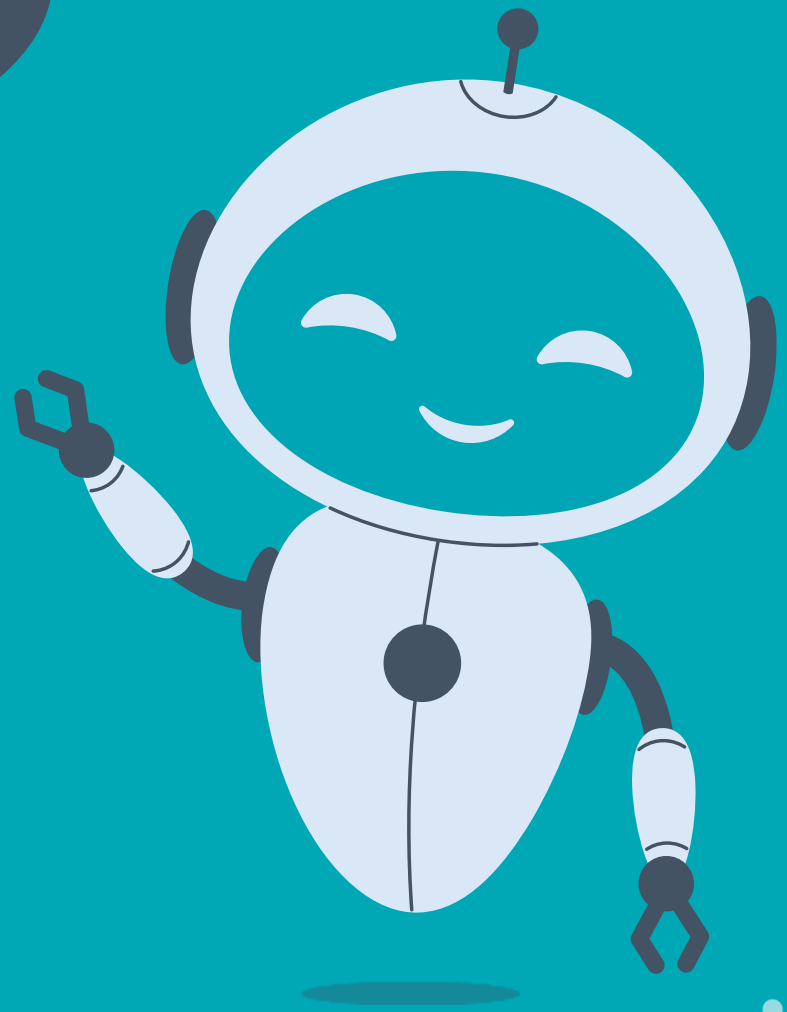

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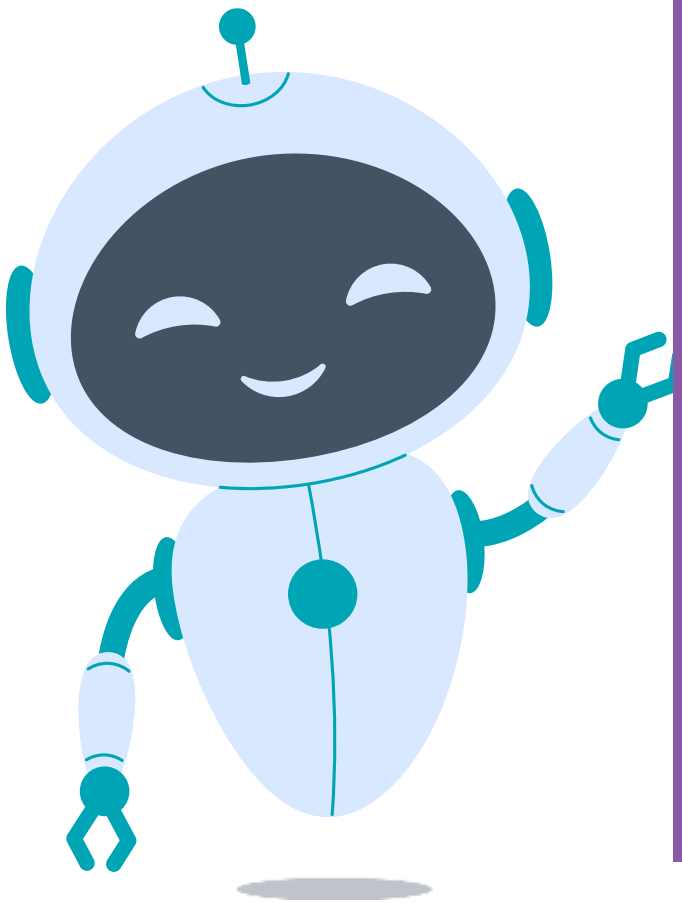
What we'll cover

1. Introduction
2. What are Power Apps?
3. Preview real-world examples
4. Power App logic & fundamentals
5. Q & A

Introduction



Off-system operational processes?

- Paper based
- Excel data records
- Sign-off processes
- Copy & Paste into emails?
- Lever Arch folders (I still see these!)?

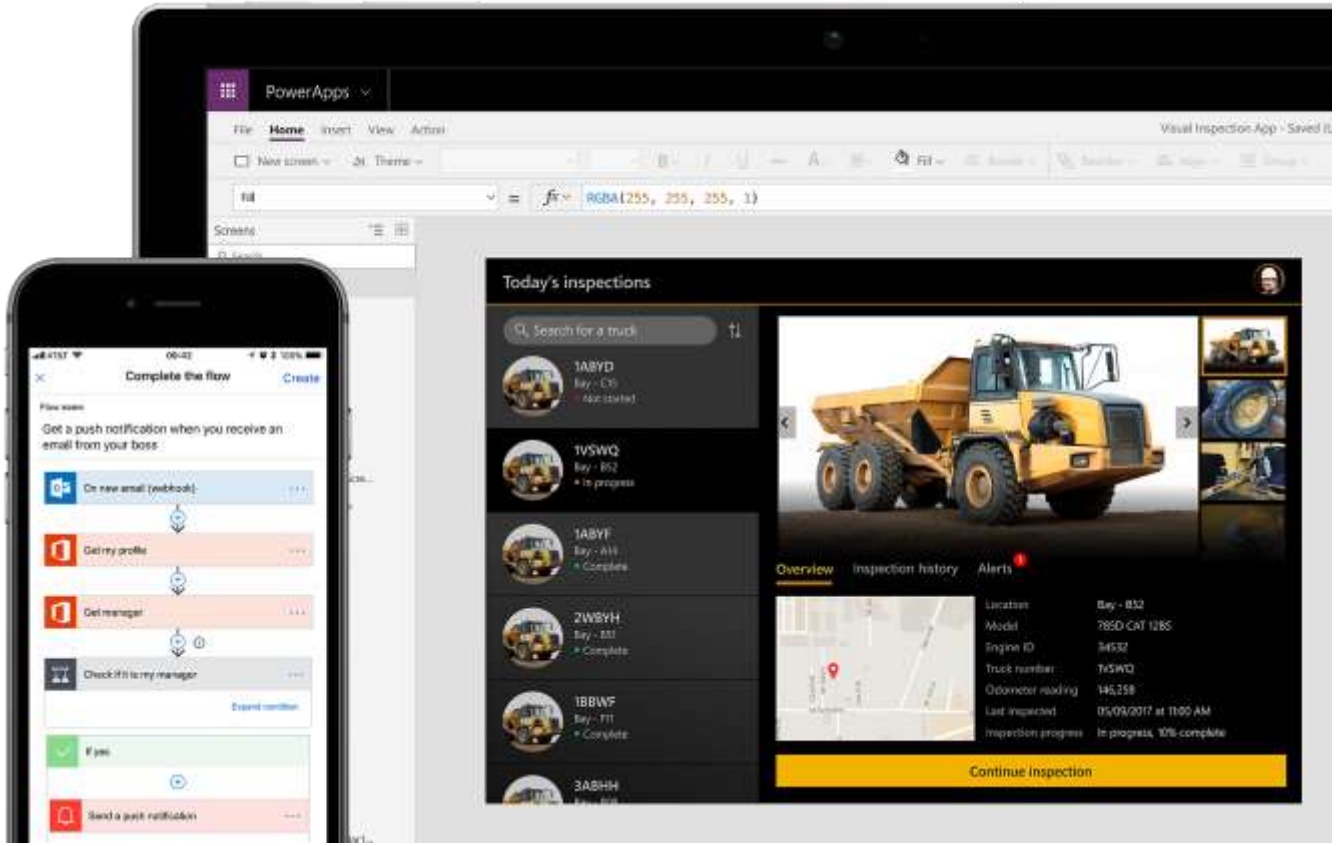
Introduction to Power Apps

What are Power Apps?

Power Apps is a suite of apps, services, connectors, and a data platform that provides a rapid application development environment.

What is a Power App?

It allows users to build mobile and web apps with little or no code.



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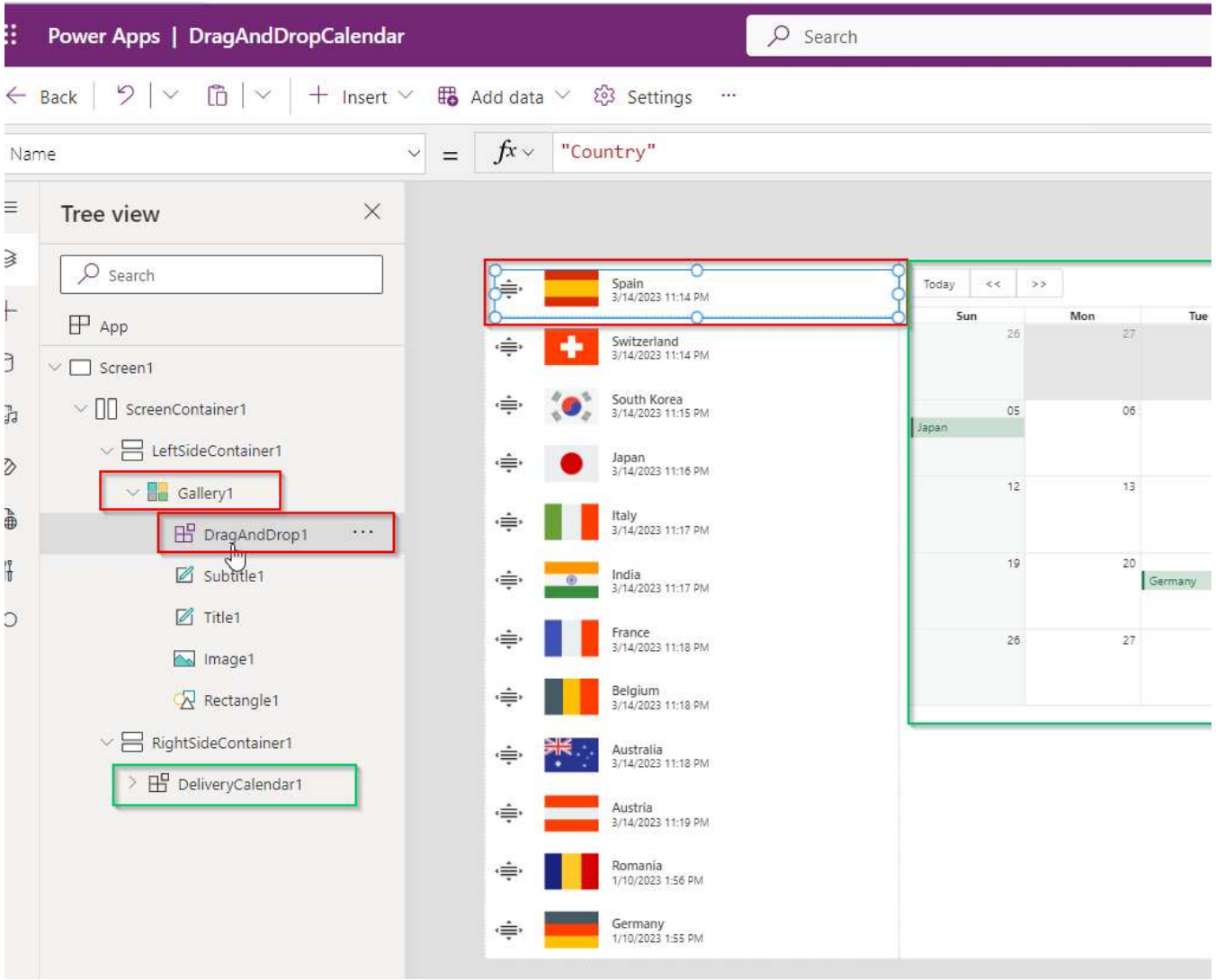

Key Features

- Drag-and-drop interface
- Connects to multiple data sources
- Integrates with Microsoft Power Platform

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Quick Power Platform Overview

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Power Platform Overview

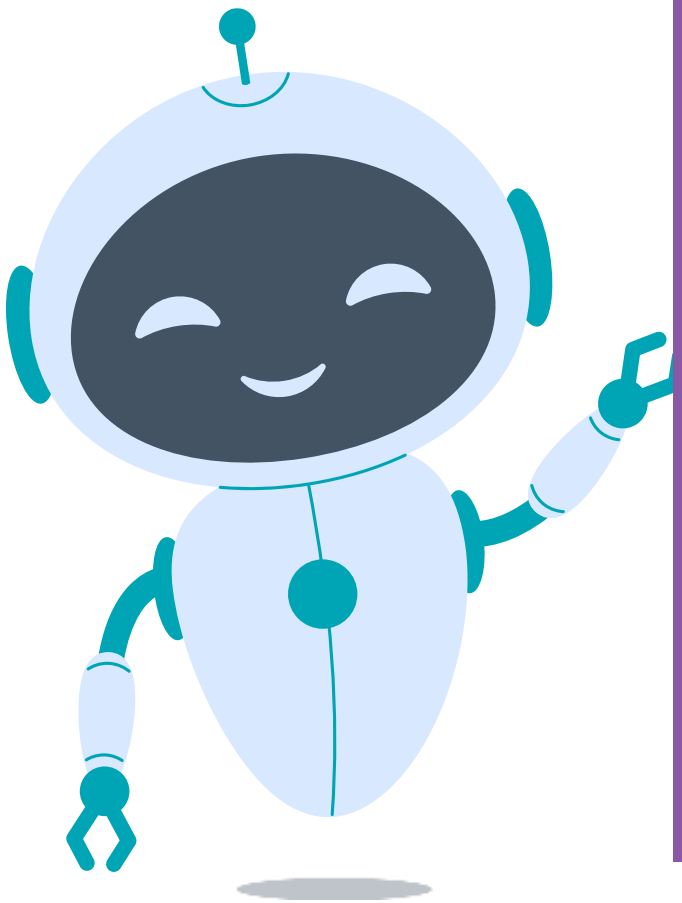
Microsoft Power Platform is a suite of low-code/no-code tools that empowers users to build solutions, automate processes, analyse data, and create virtual agents.

Core Components:

- **Power Apps** – Build custom apps to digitize business processes.
- **Power Automate** – Automate workflows between apps and services.
- **Power BI** – Analyze data and share insights with interactive dashboards.
- **Power Pages** – Build secure, low-code business websites.
- **Power Virtual Agents** – Create intelligent chatbots without coding.

Types of Power Apps

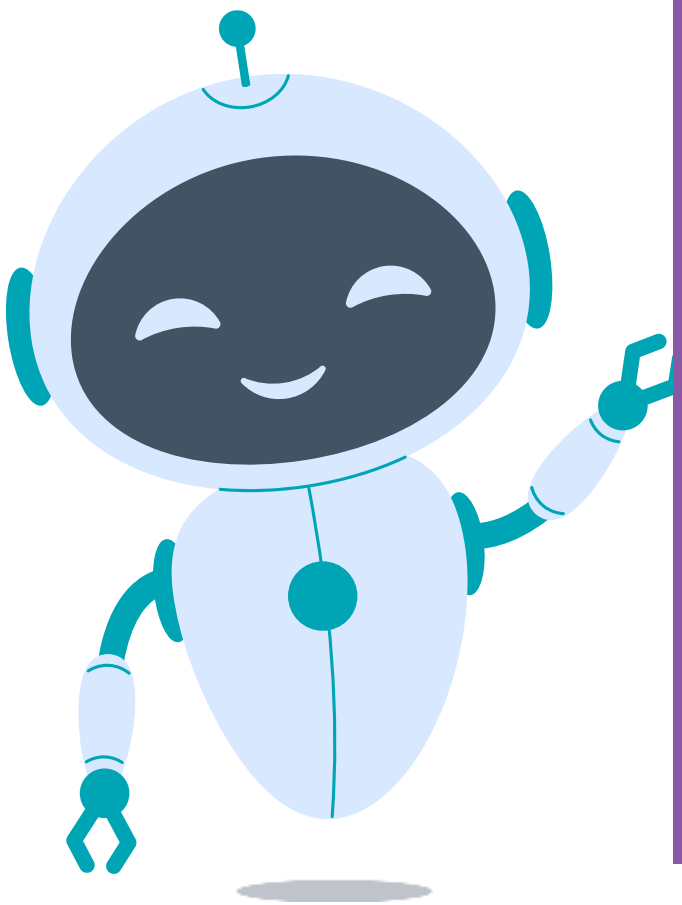
The 2 Main App Types of Power Apps



Canvas Apps

- **What it is**: Drag-and-drop app design with full control over the layout.
- **Best for**: Custom apps with a tailored UI, built from a blank canvas.
- **Features**:
  - Pixel-perfect design using PowerFX (low-code formulas).
  - Connect to 600+ data sources like SharePoint, SQL, Excel, and Dataverse.
  - Optimized for mobile, tablet, and desktop.
  - Great for task-based apps (e.g., inspections, approvals, data entry).

The 2 Main App Types of Power Apps



Model-Driven Apps

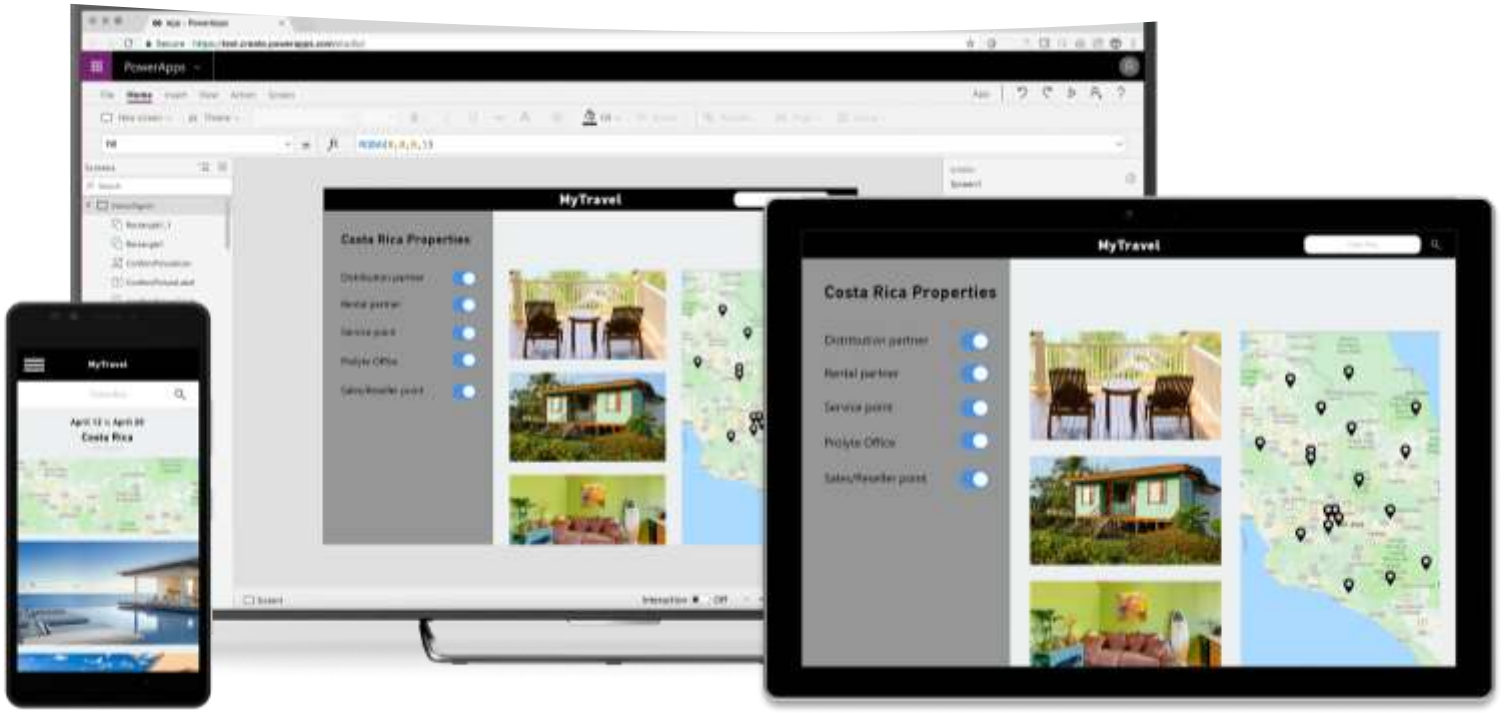
- **What it is**: App built on top of your data model in Microsoft Dataverse.
- **Best for**: Complex business processes with lots of relational data.
- **Features**:
  - Auto-generated UI based on your data and relationships.
  - Includes built-in forms, views, charts, and dashboards.
  - Responsive design by default (web and mobile friendly).
  - Ideal for scenarios like case management, sales processes, or CRM apps.

Power Apps: Canvas Apps

What is a Canvas App?

A **Canvas App** in Power Apps allows you to design and build apps from a blank canvas by dragging and dropping elements onto the screen.

You have full control over the user interface and can create custom layouts for desktop or mobile. It's ideal for simple, user-driven applications that focus on visual design and flexibility.



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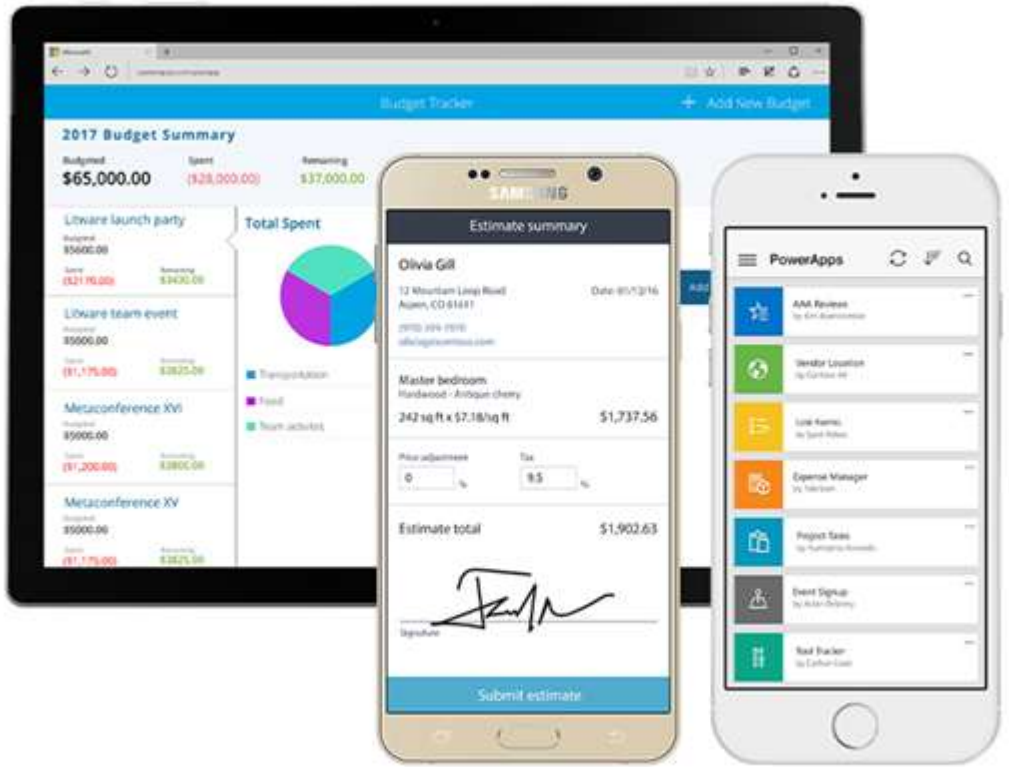
Canvas Apps can be used for…

- Immediate feedback is needed (e.g., updating a screen based on user input).



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Canvas Apps

- The logic is relatively simple and doesn't involve manipulating large datasets or complex calculations.

Canvas Apps

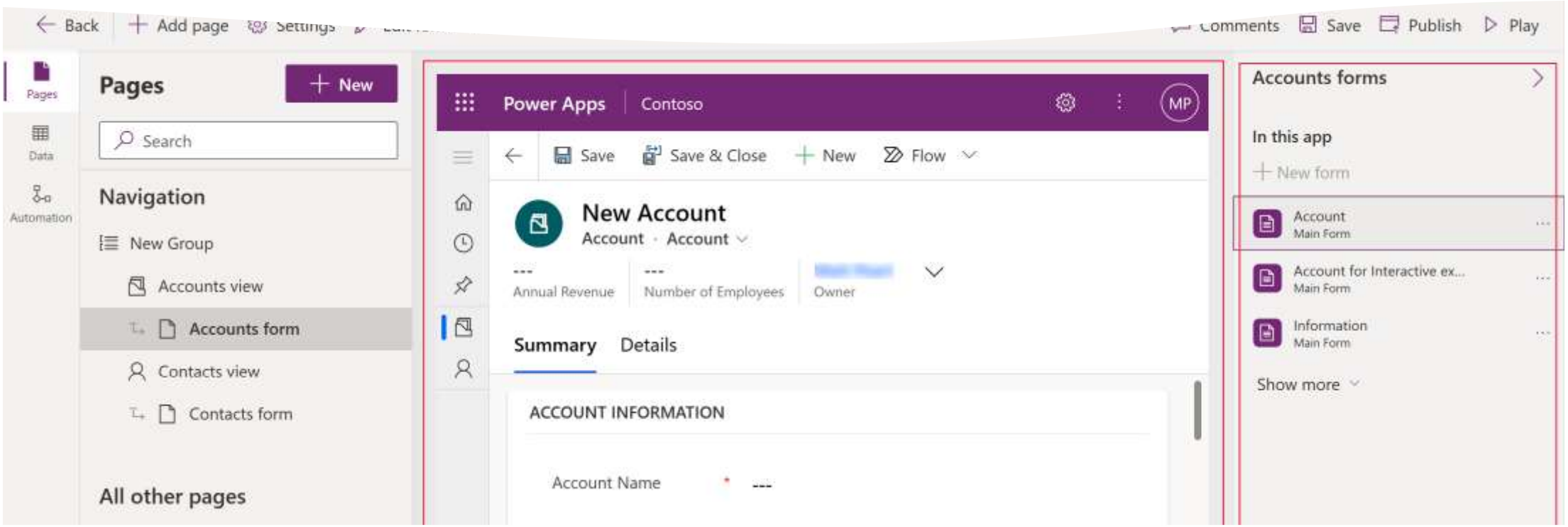
- Best practices include keeping logic simple and avoiding intensive operations like manipulating large data sets with “ForAll()”.

Power Apps: Model-Driven Apps

What is a Model-Driven App?

A **Model-Driven App** is built based on your data model in Microsoft Dataverse. Instead of focusing on the layout, you design the app around the relationships between the data entities, and the app generates the UI automatically.

It's best for complex business applications where you need consistent, structured processes.



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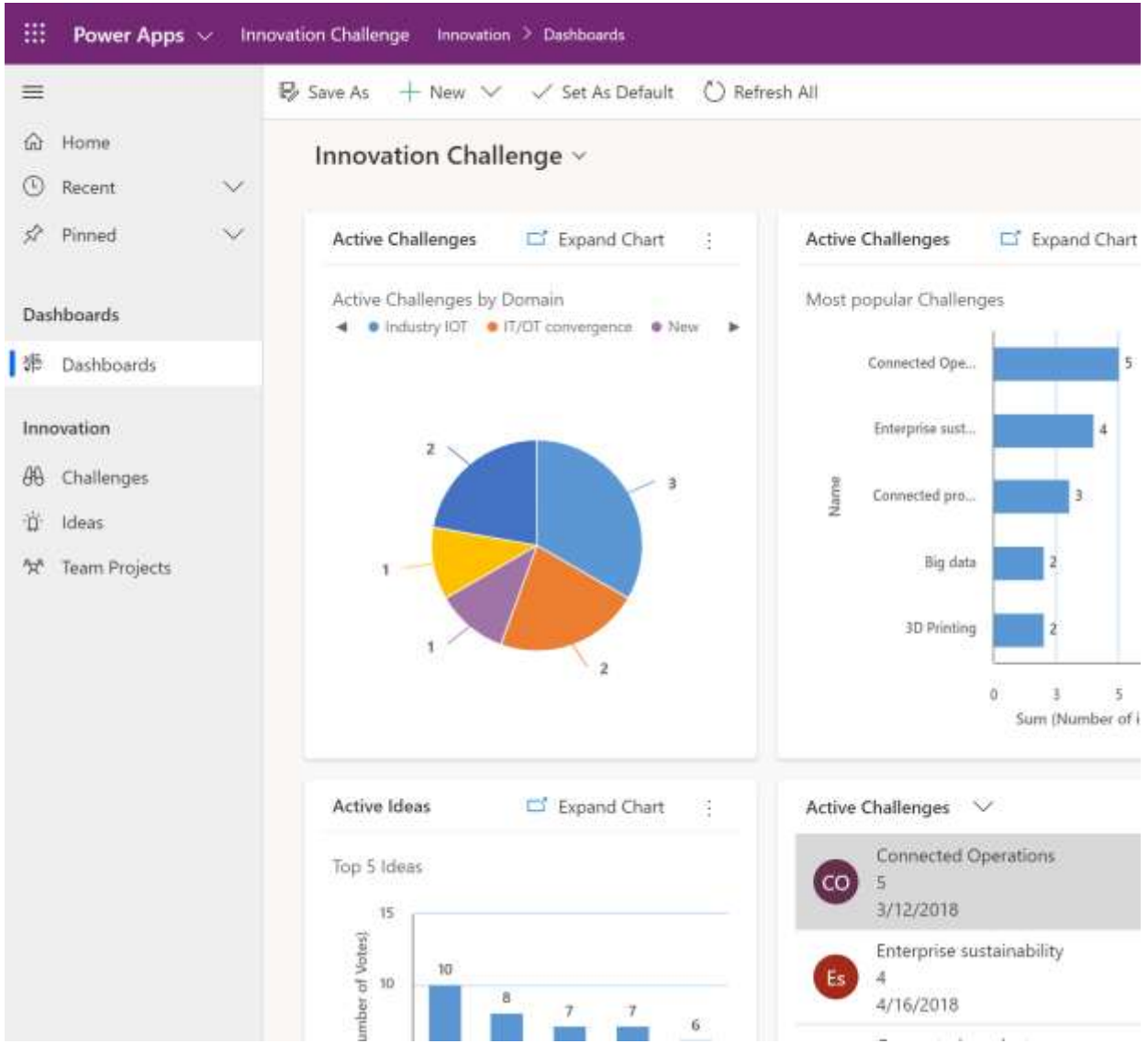
Model-Driven Apps

Model-driven apps offer multiple low-code tools for applying logic:



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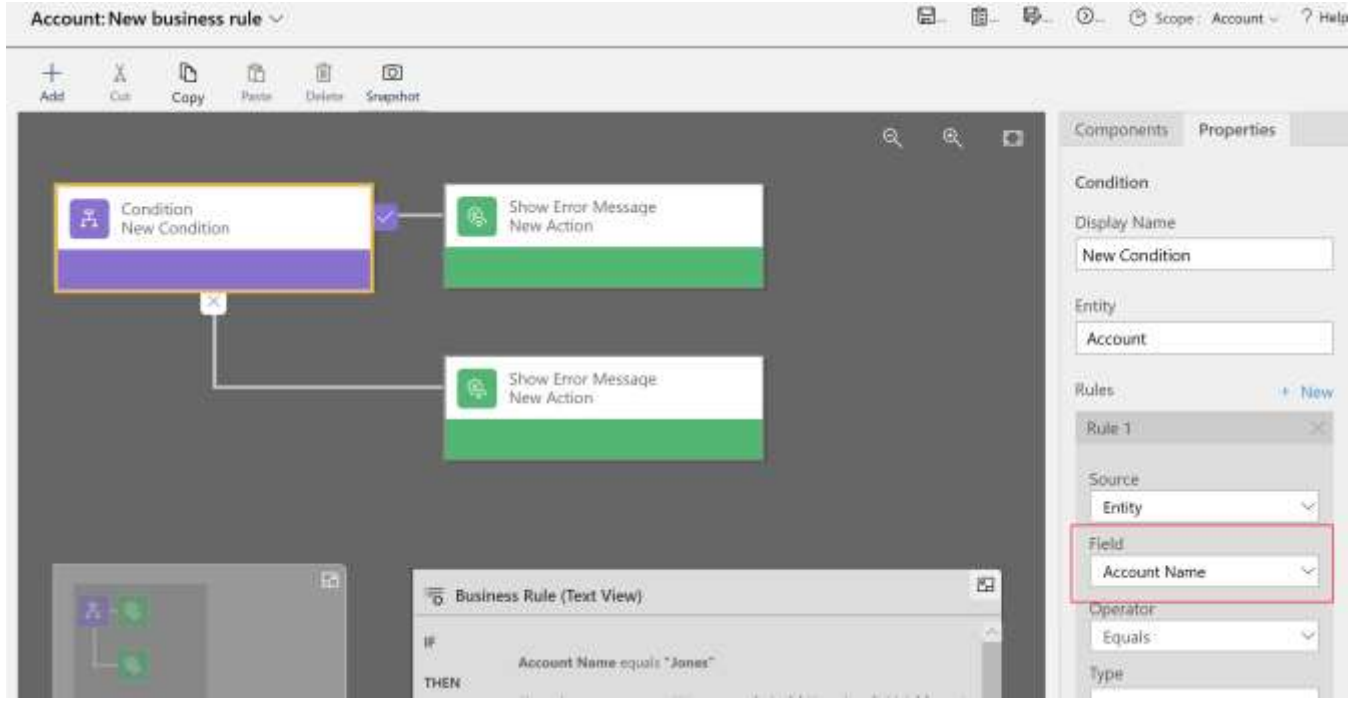
Model-Driven Apps

Business Rules: Ensure consistency by enforcing rules across different forms and tables.



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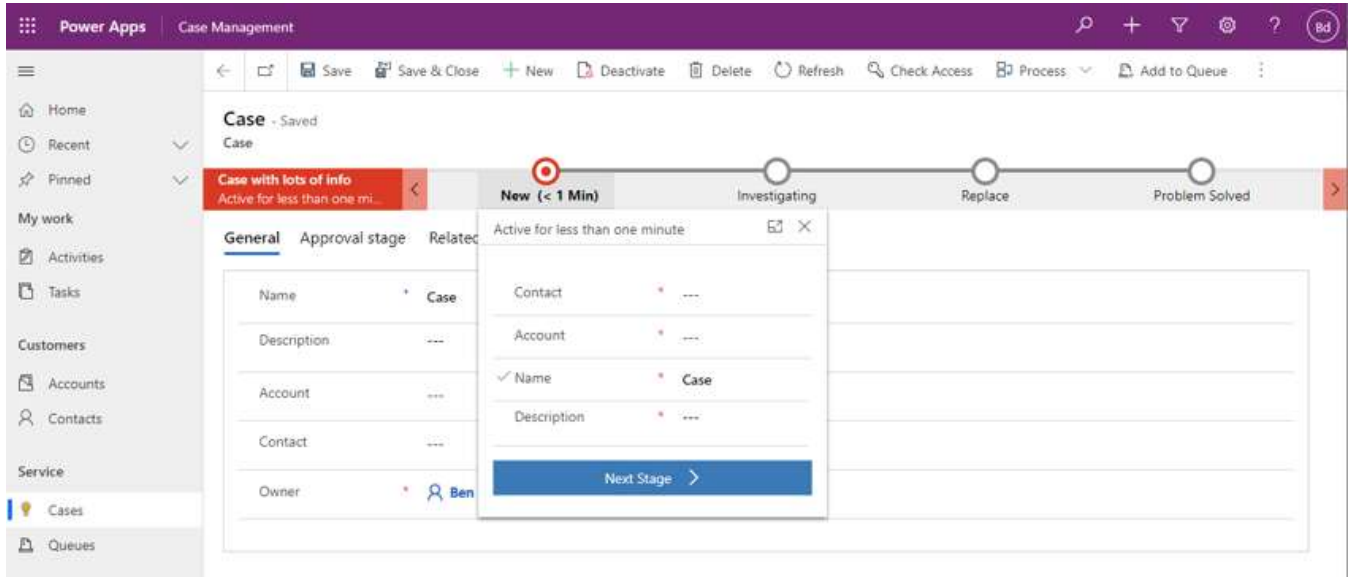
Model-Driven Apps

Business Process Flows: Guide users through multi-step processes within an app.



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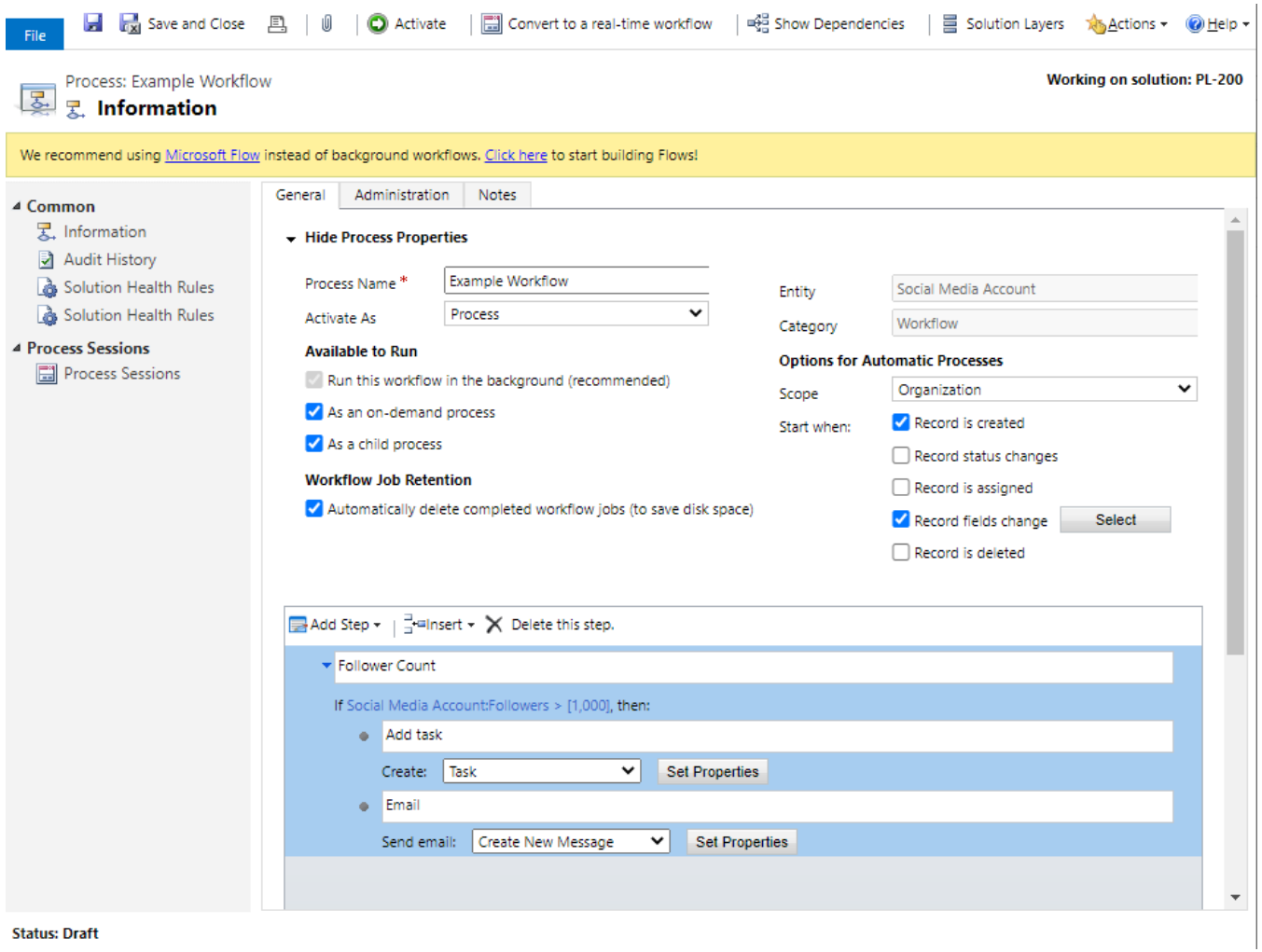
Model-Driven Apps

Workflows and Actions: Allow for automation of repetitive tasks, like approvals or notifications.



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Power App Examples

Canvas App – Retro Stop Kit (Business Central)

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Canvas App – Retro Stop Kit Application

The Retro Stop Application kit was designed to track and submit stock collected and delivered on site.

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Canvas App – Retro Stop Kit Application

The app uses an API to communicate with Business Central.

Pulling down the relevant data into a collection, on press of “Refresh Data”

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Canvas App – Retro Stop Kit Application

The app pulls data from Business Central via API messages

Date and Time	Message Short	Response Short	APP Code	Entry No.
11/10/2024 09:29	[{"action":"get","appcode":"KIT","table":"wmsuserlist","value":"Get...	[{"userid":"USER1","defaultlocationcode":""},{"...	KIT	{2e779a07-e82d-464b-9c62-44f3c9c8fb59}
11/10/2024 09:29	[{"action":"get","appcode":"KIT","table":"kitlocationlist","value":"G...	[{"code":"MAIN","name":"Main Warehouse"}]	KIT	{092467b0-21eb-4757-9027-ffe954e249b4}
11/10/2024 09:29	[{"action":"get","appcode":"KIT","table":"kitlist","value":"Get Kit Lis...	[{"customerno":"10000","customername":"Th...	KIT	{969b717d-6ae9-42b4-84ee-ebab072cbba5}

Canvas App – Retro Stop Kit Application

It allows quick collection of vital onsite information while doing collection and deliveries of stock.

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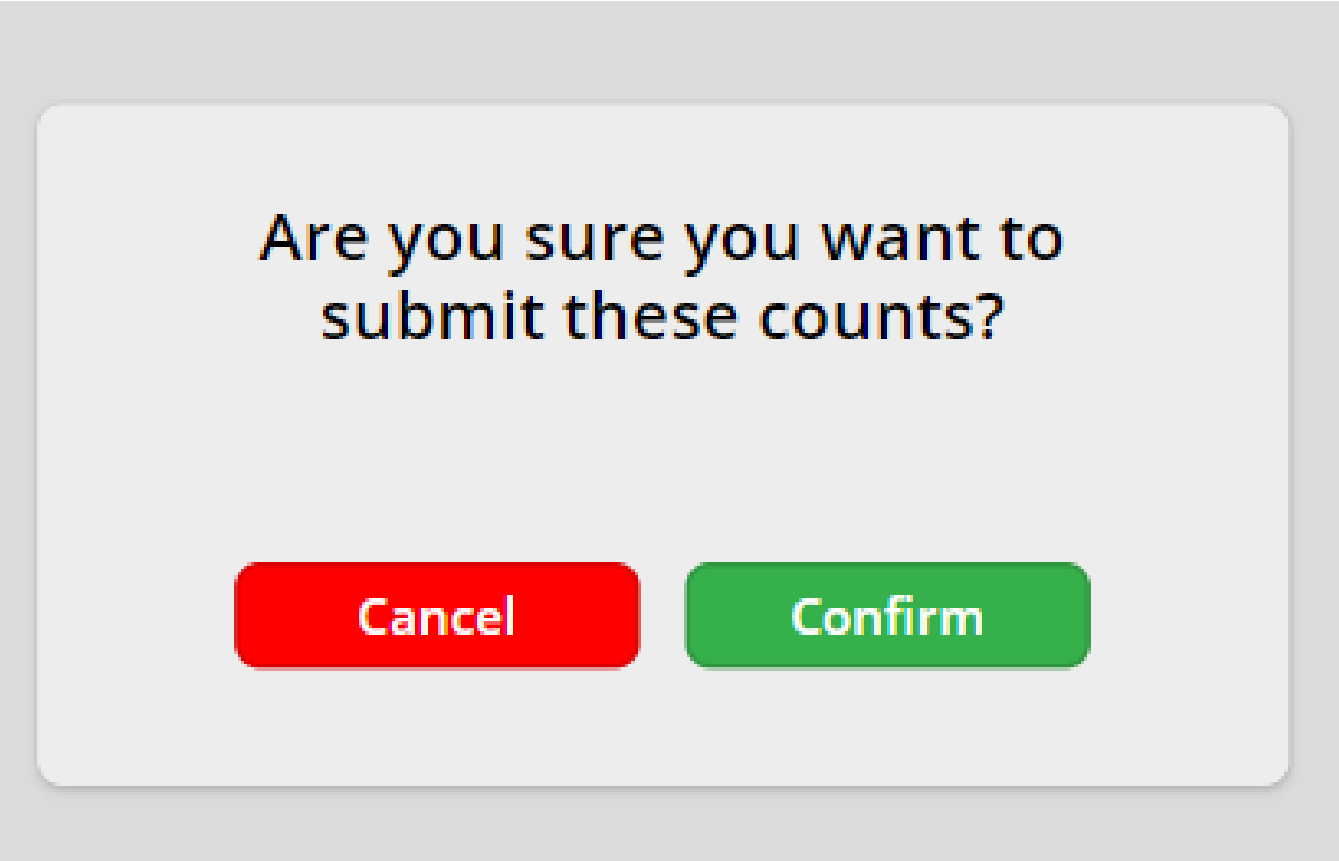
Canvas App – Retro Stop Kit Application

On Submission, the app has confirmation prompts before it submits data to business central via API Messages



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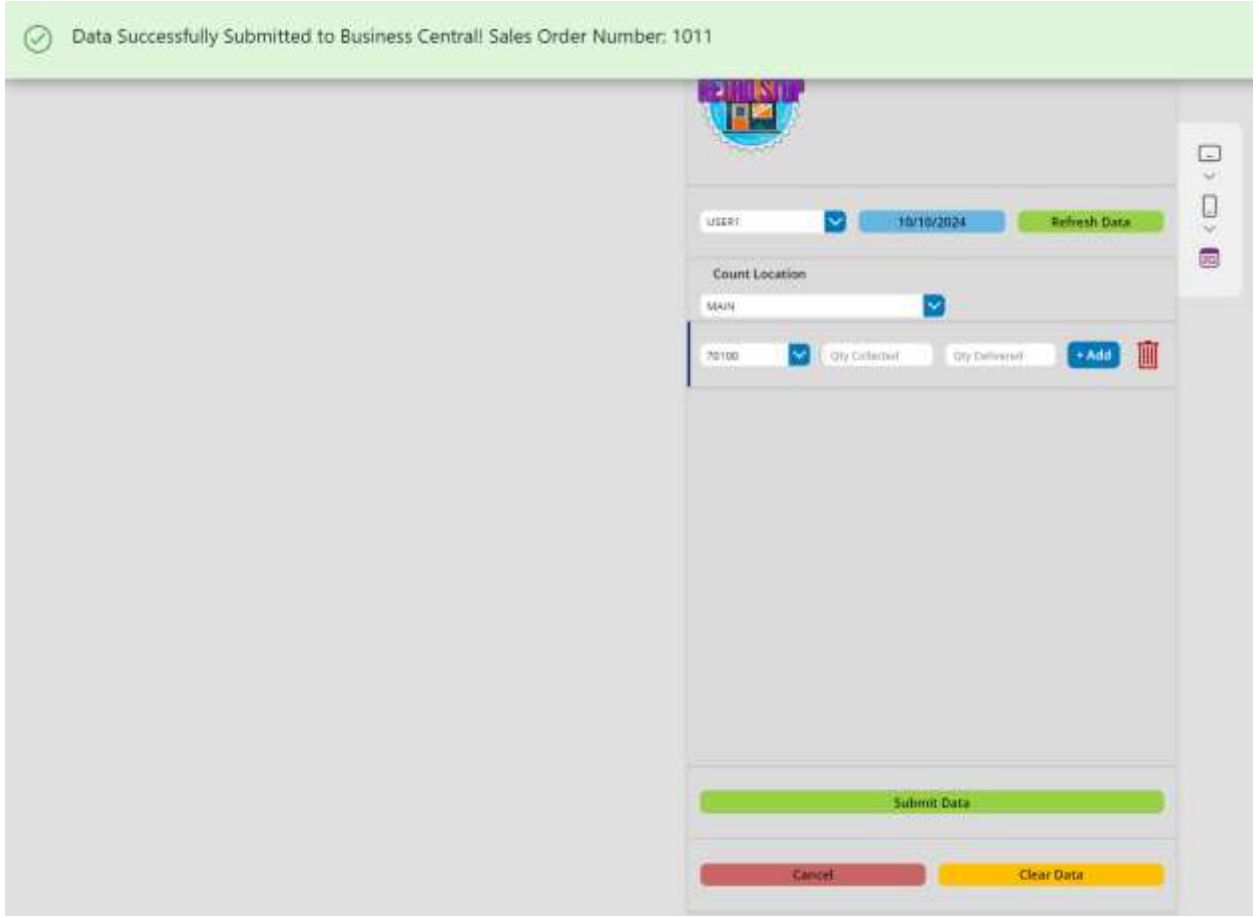
Canvas App – Retro Stop Kit Application

Submission of data feedback to the app to advise of any errors or successful Sales Order creation.



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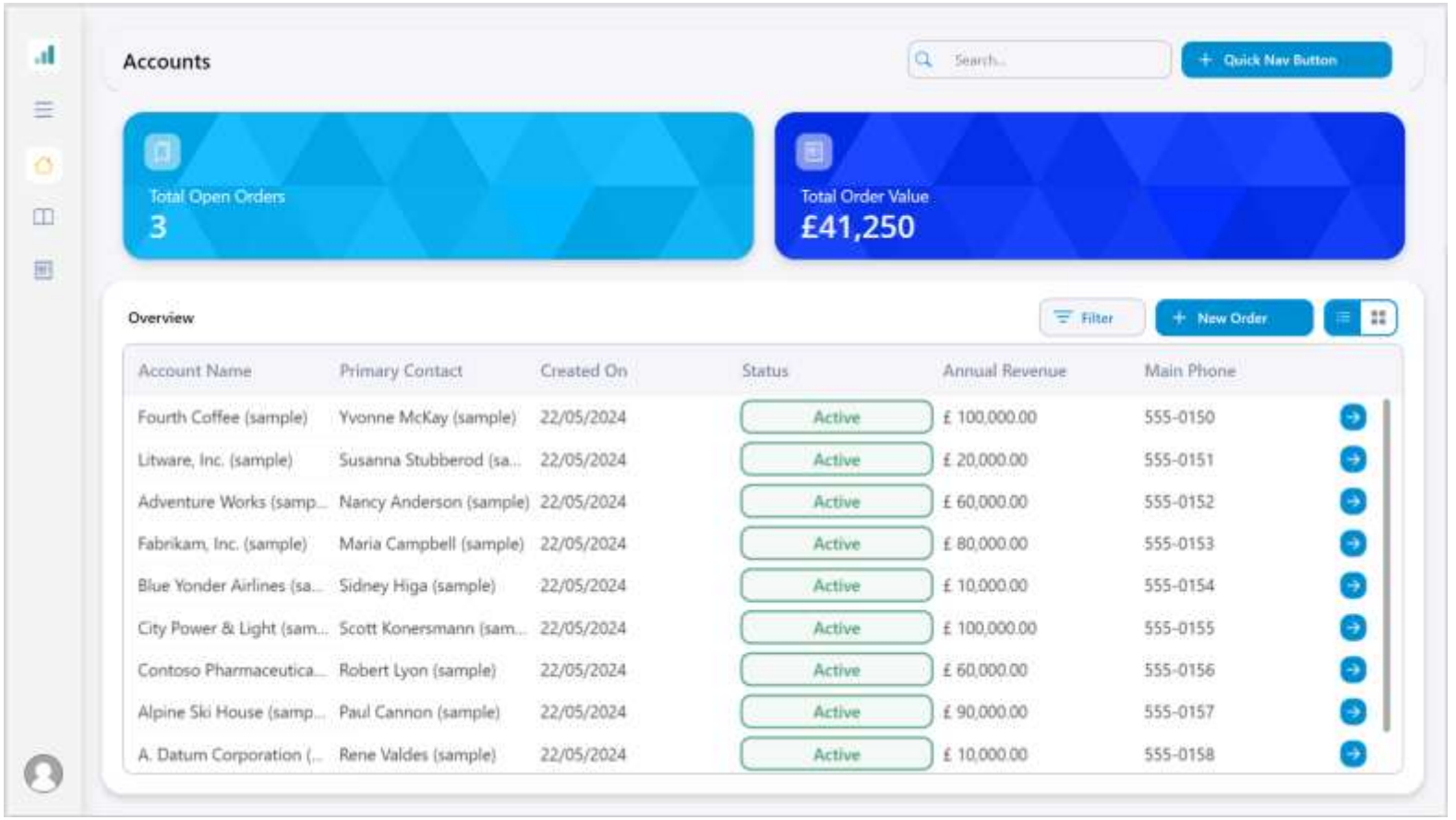
Canvas App – Retro Stop Kit Application

We can see the API message with a successful response of a sales order creation

Date and Time ↓	Message Short	Response Short	APP Code	Entry No.
11/10/2024 09:42	[{"action":"post","appcode":"KIT","countlocation":"MAIN","custo...	[{"salesorderno":"1011"}]	KIT	{89dbdef7-6070-4d9a-af50-c446d173a40e}

Canvas App – Sales Dashboard (Dataverse & Business Central)

Canvas App – Sales Dashboard App



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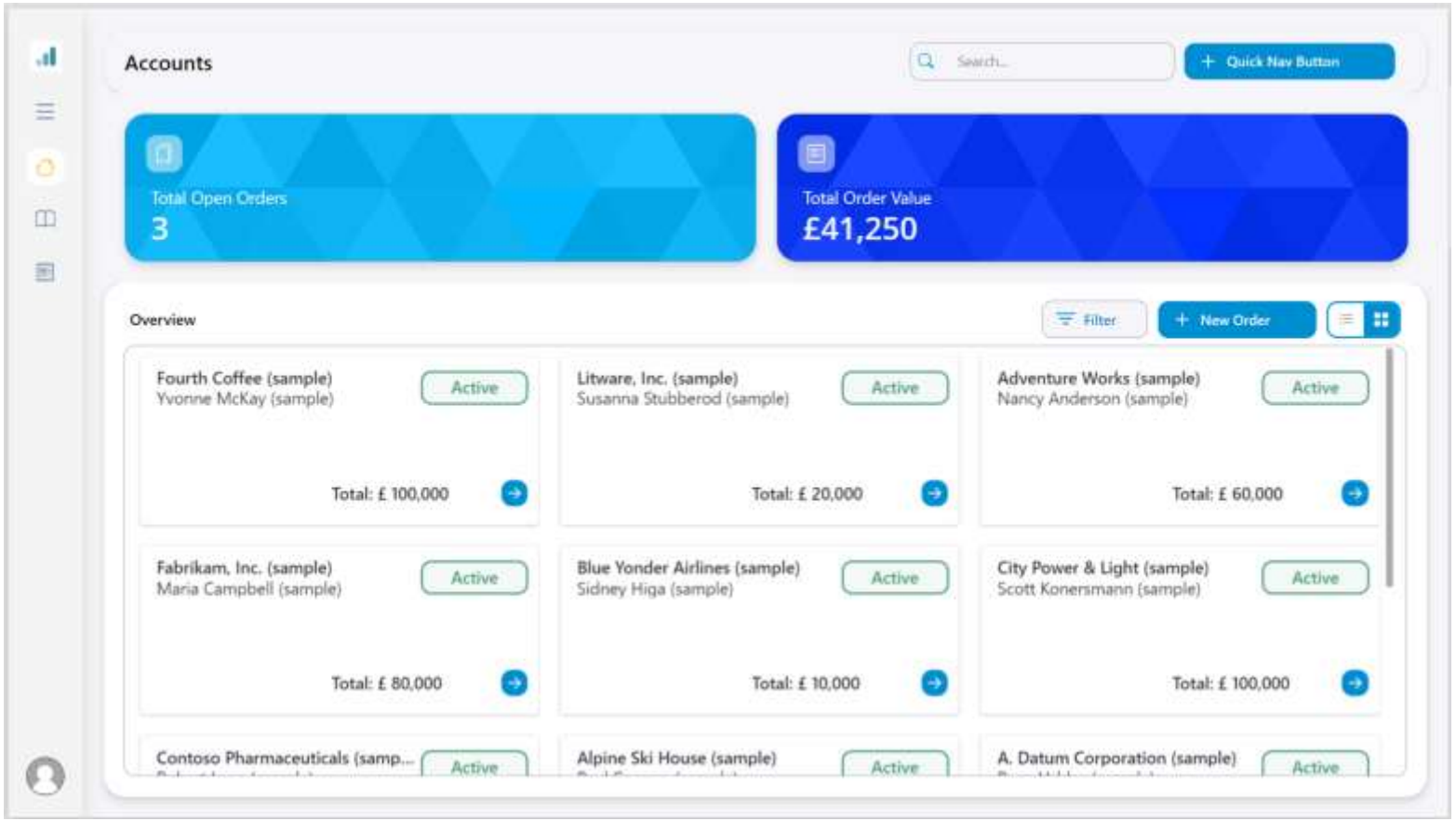
Canvas App – Sales Dashboard App

The Sales Dashboard app is based on the Foundation App Tecman has developed to help excel application builds



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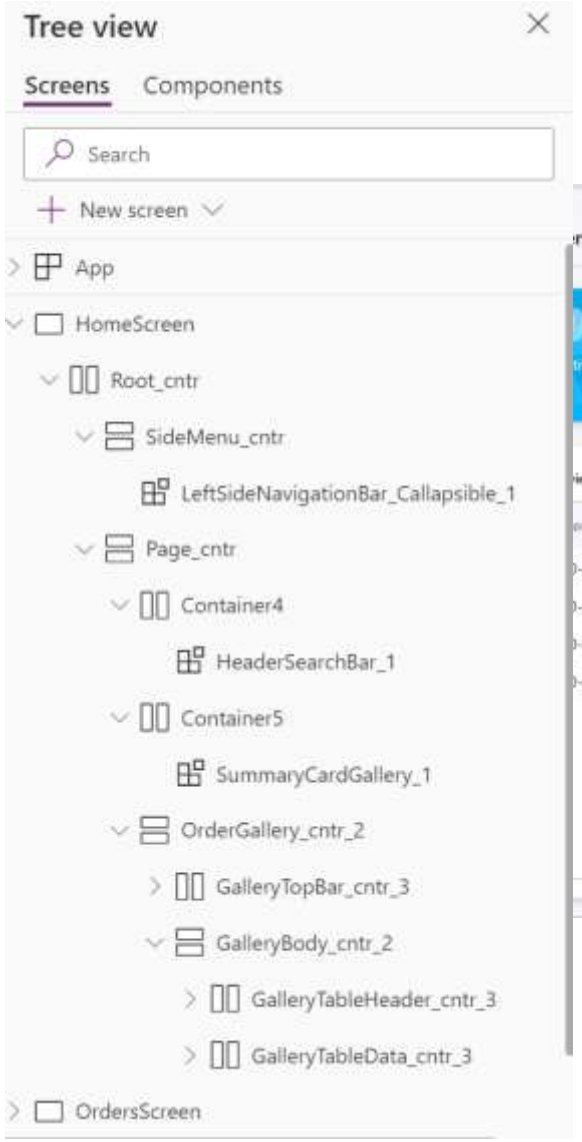
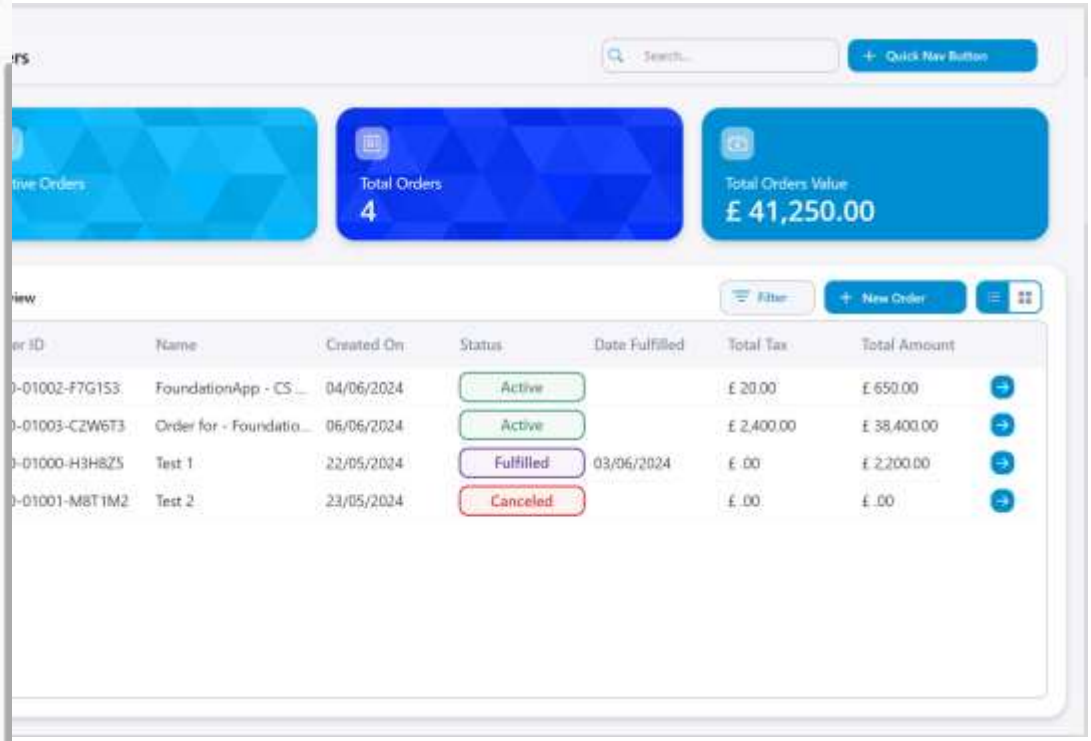
Canvas App – Sales Dashboard App

Responsive screens built upon a container structure





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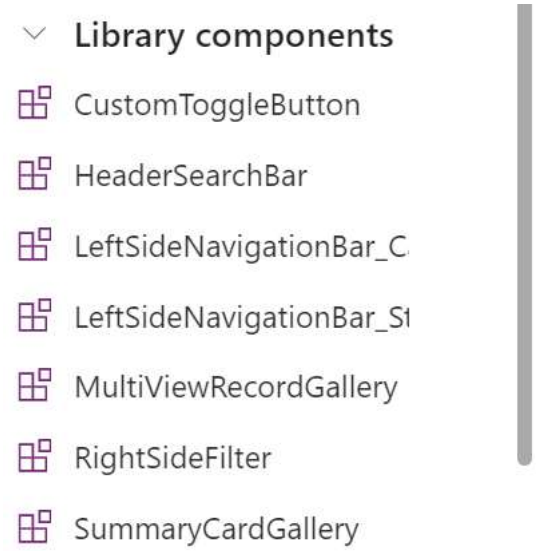
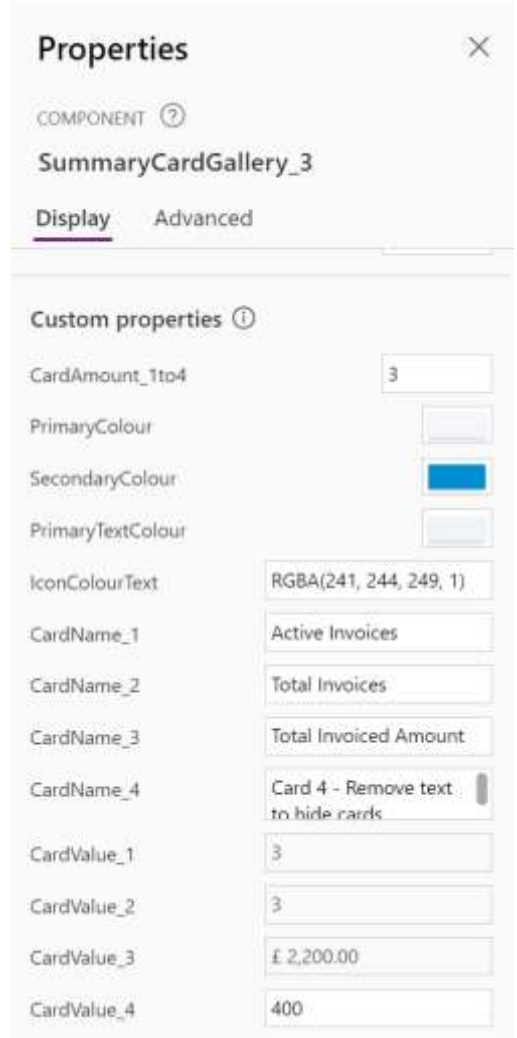
Canvas App – Sales Dashboard App

The application utilises Library components which have pre-defined components that can be drag into the app and customised.





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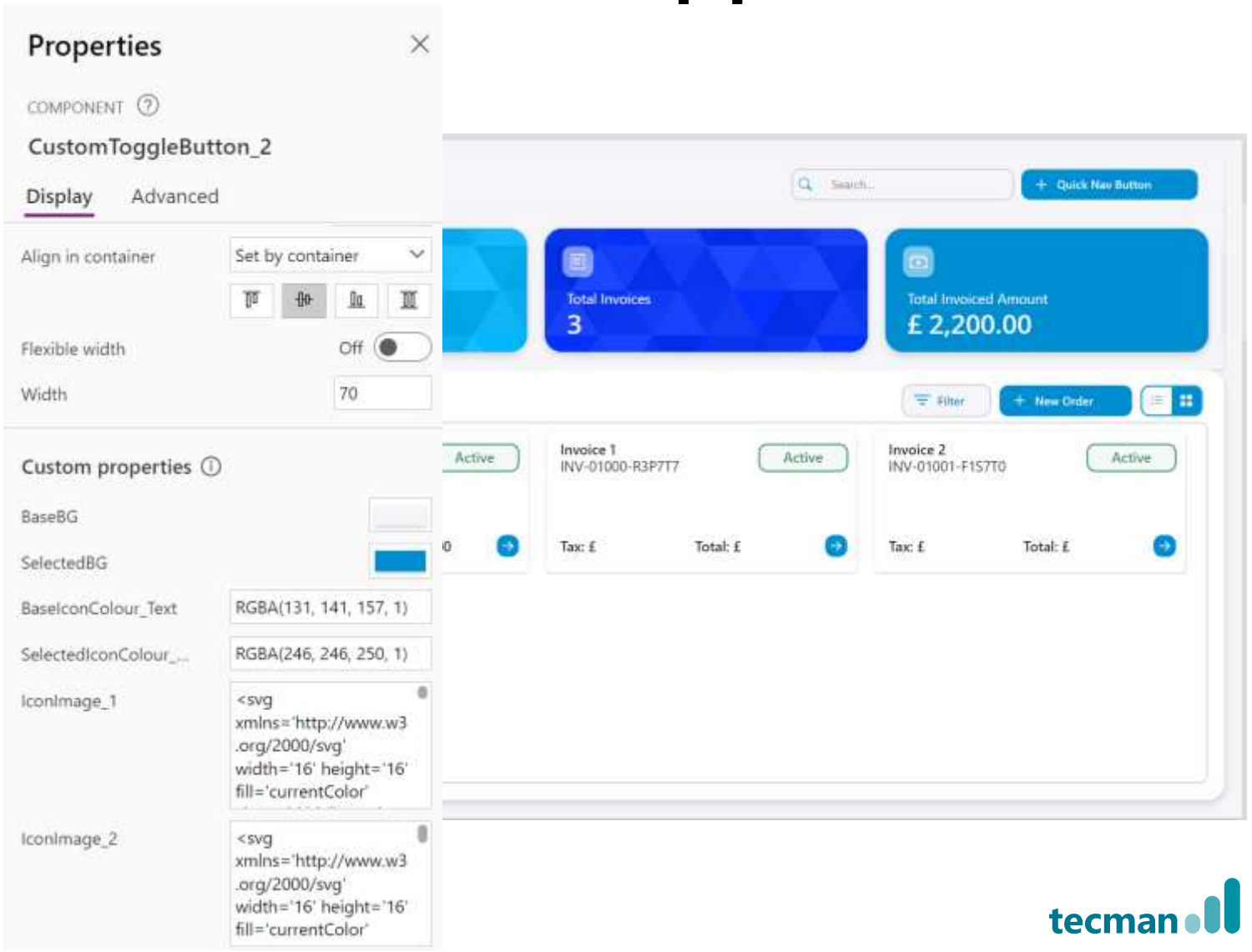
Canvas App – Sales Dashboard App

Customisable components and buttons using the component library



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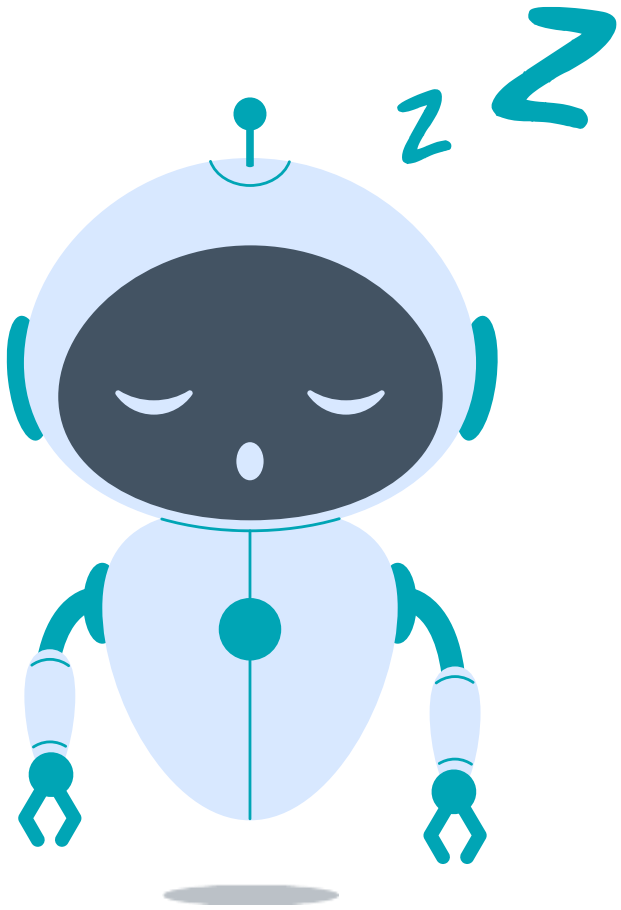
Get to the good Stuff!

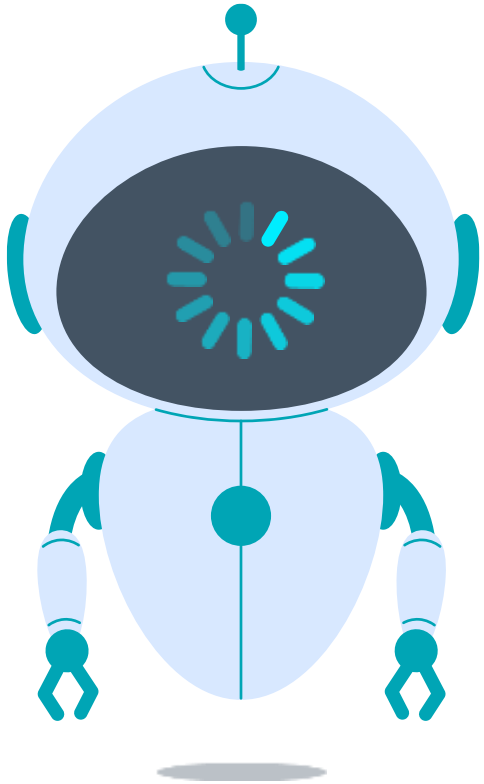
Let’s have a look as some demo examples:

1. Retro Stop App
2. Sales Dashboard App
3. Non Conformance



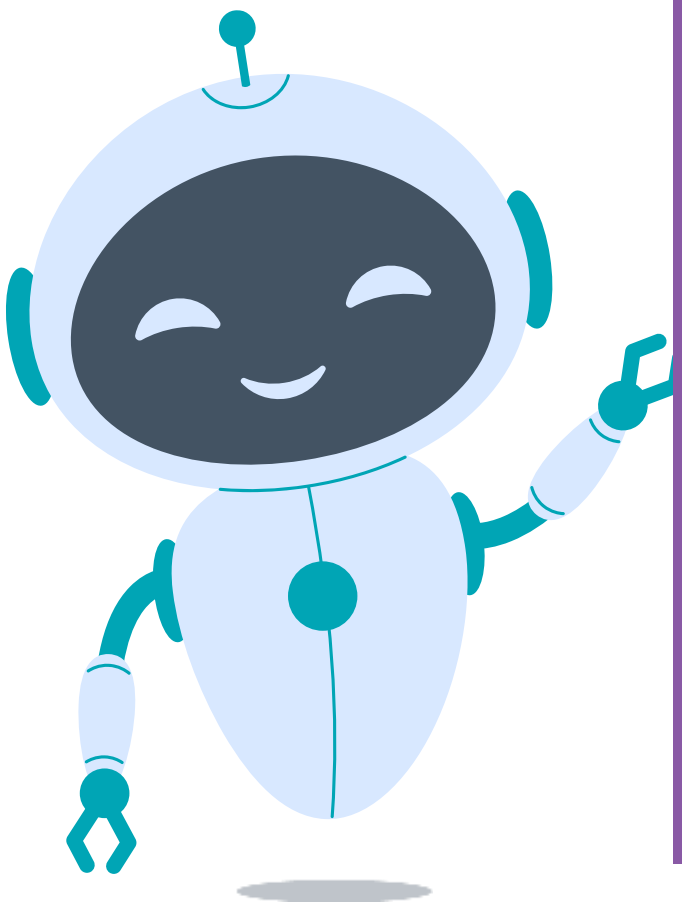
DEMO TIME

What we covered



1. Introduction
2. What are Power Apps?
3. Types of Power Apps
4. Preview real-world examples
5. Do any of you NOT have an example in mind?

Apps we've built



Packing App

Engineer front end apps

Sale Order Processing

Transfer Orders, Inventory management

Tradeshow App

Outreach Worker App (Case Logging)

Questions?

Resources

Microsoft Power Apps:

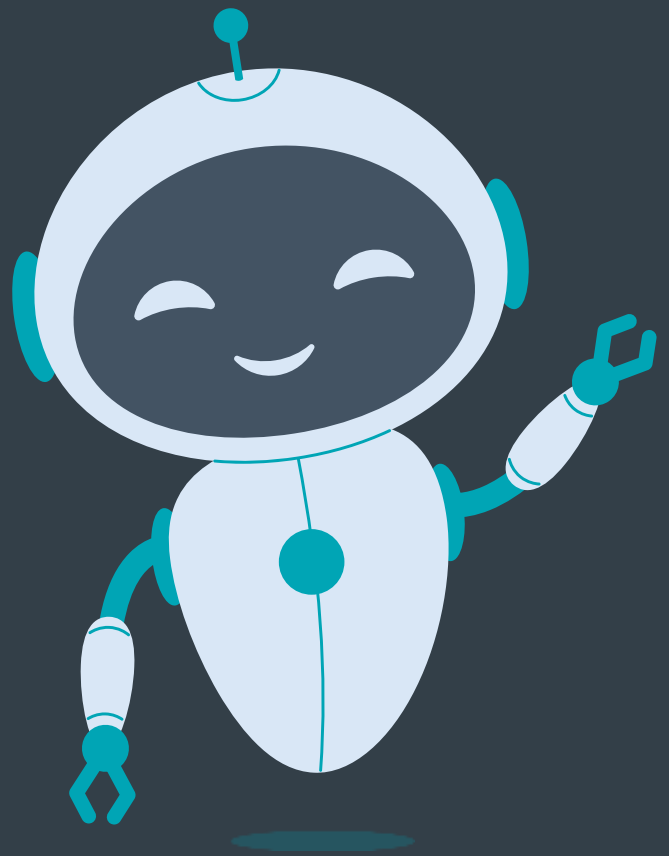
https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/power-platform/products/power-apps?msockid=11025b2d345266381cec4f783562676d

Power Apps | Microsoft Learn:

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-apps/

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-apps/guidance/planning/logic

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-platform/



Thank you!

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