



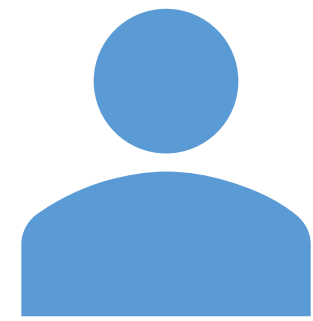
mibuso.com

# The Power Platform for Business Central Techies

Arend-Jan Kauffmann

When you are passionate about  
Microsoft Dynamics NAV/365 Business Central

# Introduction Arend-Jan Kauffmann



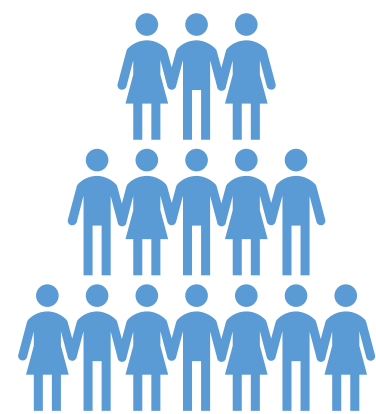
Freelance Technical Consultant &  
Trainer



Microsoft MVP Business Applications



experience with  
Dynamics NAV / Business Central  
since 2002



co-founder & chairman  
Dutch Dynamics Community

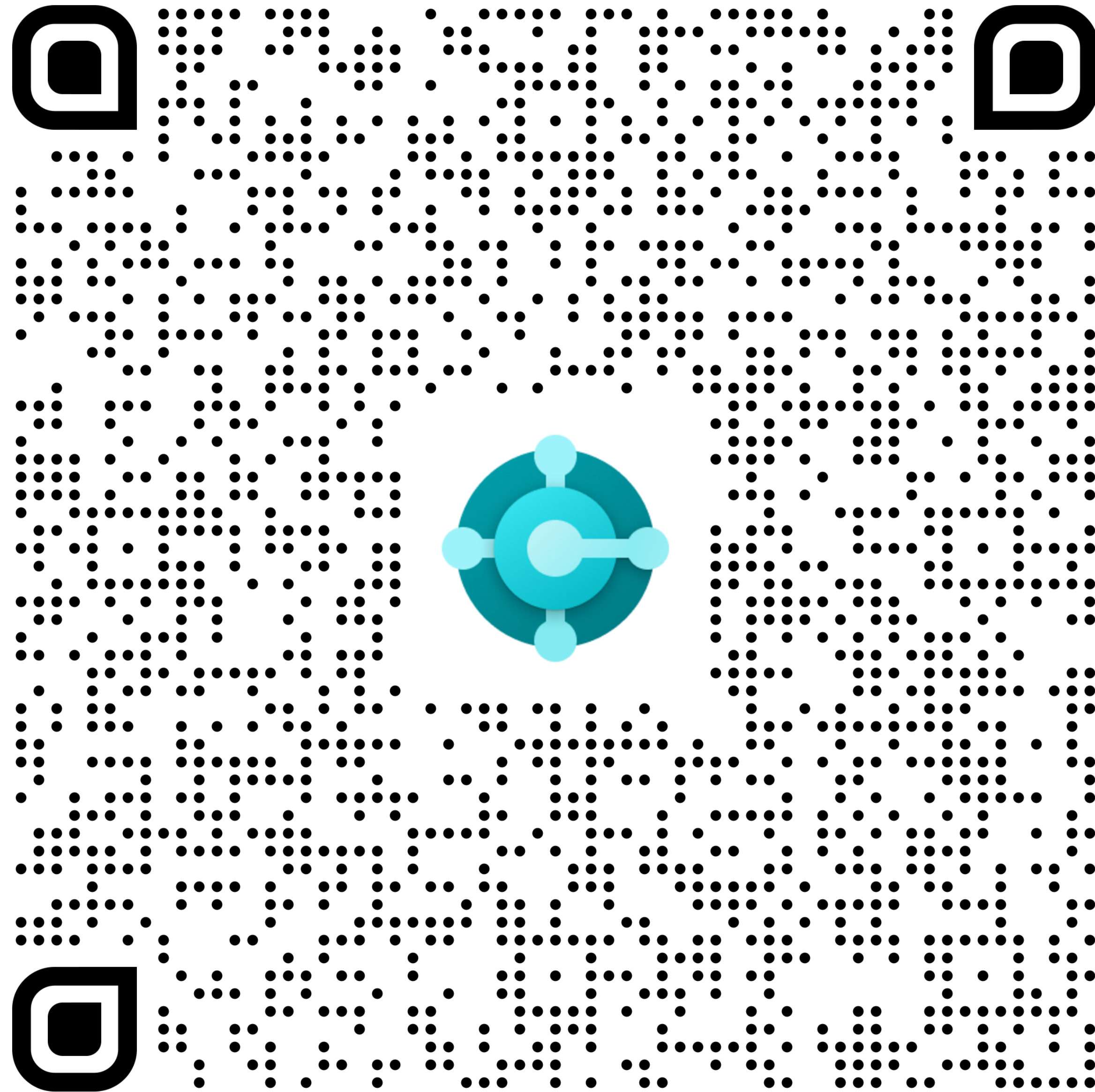


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# Survey



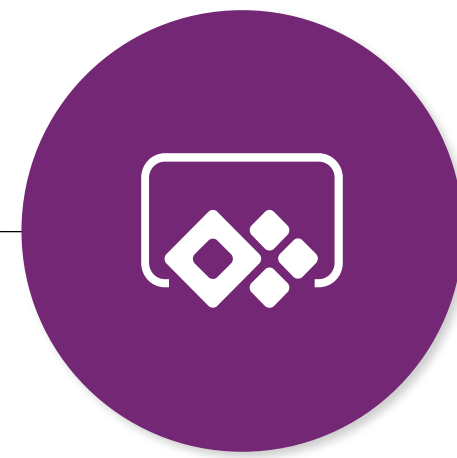
<https://cronus.page.link/survey>

# Microsoft Power Platform

The low-code platform that spans Office 365, Azure, Dynamics 365, and standalone applications



**Power BI**  
Business analytics



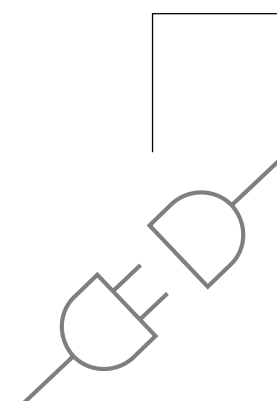
**Power Apps**  
Application development



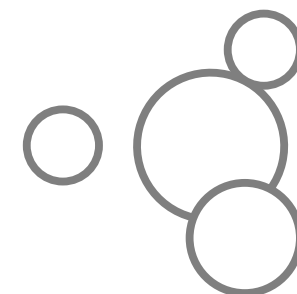
**Power Automate**  
Process automation



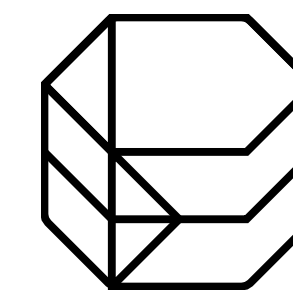
**Power Virtual Agents**  
Intelligent virtual agents



**Data  
connectors**



**AI Builder**

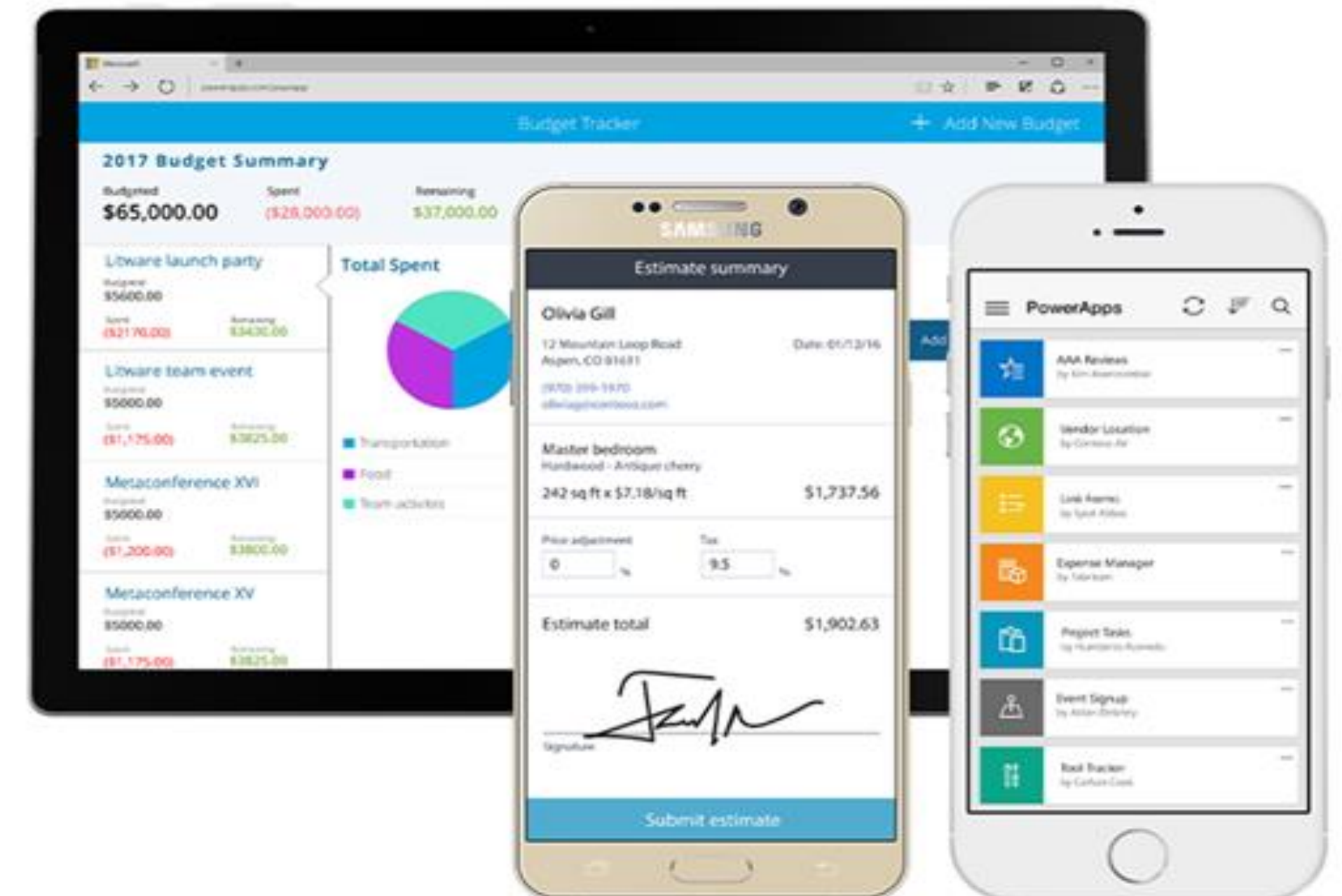


**Common  
Data Service**



# Power Apps

- Create powerful apps without writing a single line of code
- Create apps that enable you to read data, write data or take actions
- Connect using over 200 standard connectors or Custom Connector
- Business Central connector available



# What is a Connector?

- Enables communication between Power Apps / Power Automate and any publicly exposed set of APIs
- Use one of over 200 available connectors or build your own custom connector
- Each connector offers a set of operations in the form of “Actions” and “Triggers”
- A connector is used to create a data connection.

# Business Central & Power Platform

## Data Source

## Data Connectors

## Power Platform



Dynamics 365 Business Central

- 3 Power BI Apps
- Default role center reports
- Web Service based connector
- Embed experience on Role Center and List Pages



Dynamics 365 Business Central

- API based connector
- Support Business Functions
- 12 Flow Templates
- App auto create supported



Power BI



PowerApps



Flow

# Demo 1: Generate a Power App

- Use the Business Central connector
- Let Power Apps generate an app
- Unfortunately search doesn't work... (yet)

**DEMO**

items	↺	↻	+
Search items			
1896-S ATHENS Desk PCS			>
1900-S PARIS Guest Chair, black PCS			>
1906-S ATHENS Mobile Pedestal PCS			>
1908-S LONDON Swivel Chair, blue PCS			>
1920-S ANTWERP Conference Table PCS			>
1925-W Conference Bundle 1-6 PCS			>



# Demo 2: Update Item inventory

- Standard Item API supports to update inventory
- No customization required, unless you don't like this anonymous approach

**DEMO**

✕ Adjust Inventory ✓

number  
1896-S

displayName  
ATHENS Desk

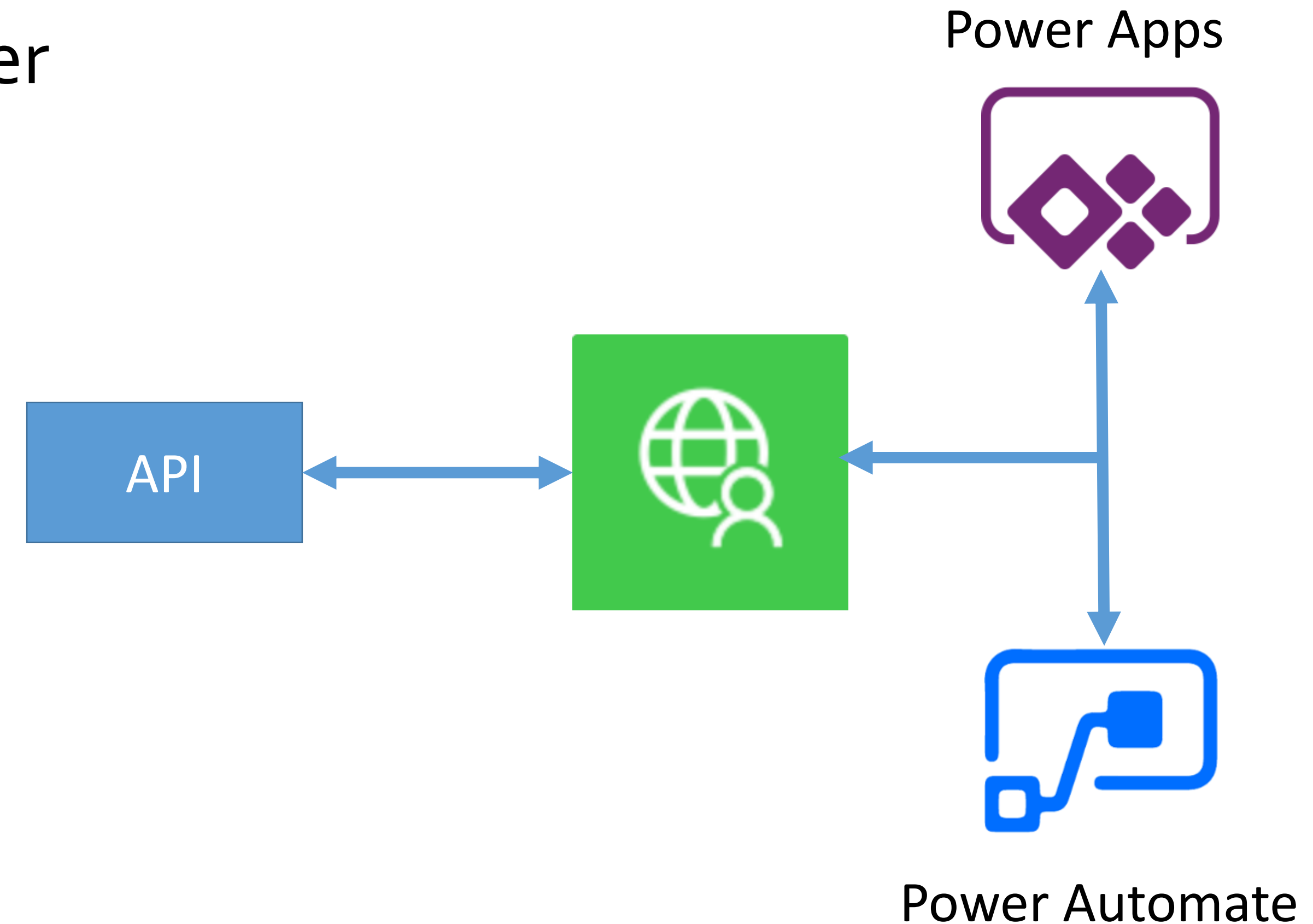
inventory

# Missing information in the connector...

- Business Central connector is based on API v1.0
- Customers API does not contain financial data
  - There is a separate API customerFinancialData
- Standard connector does not support custom fields or tables
- You need a custom connector as soon as you want to read data that is not in the standard connector (which happens pretty often...)

# Custom Connector

- Channel between Power Apps and Power Automate and API's
- Define your own functions and triggers
- Based on OpenAPI specification




# Demo 3: Custom Connector

- Custom table created with an extension
- API for CRUD actions
- Customer connector with actions for each

**DEMO**

### General information



Upload connector icon  
Supported file formats are PNG and JPG. (< 1MB)

Upload

Icon background color  
A color to show behind the icon (e.g., '#007ee5')

Description  
Give your custom connector a short description

☐ Connect via on-premises data gateway [Learn more](#)

Scheme \*  
☒ HTTPS ☐ HTTP

Host \*  
api.contoso.com

Base URL  
/

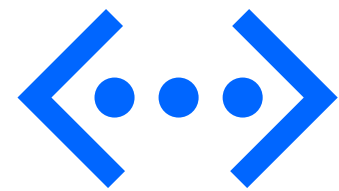
# Demo 4: Take picture and upload

- Power Apps can take pictures with camera control
- Output is a base64 encoded picture
- With a custom connector we can upload the picture to a blob field

**DEMO**



# Power Automate



Automate cloud / on prem services (APIs)

Connectors & actions



Automate human-in-the-loop processes

Business process flows & Approvals



Automate cognitive & intelligent processes

AI Builder



Automate legacy applications + web

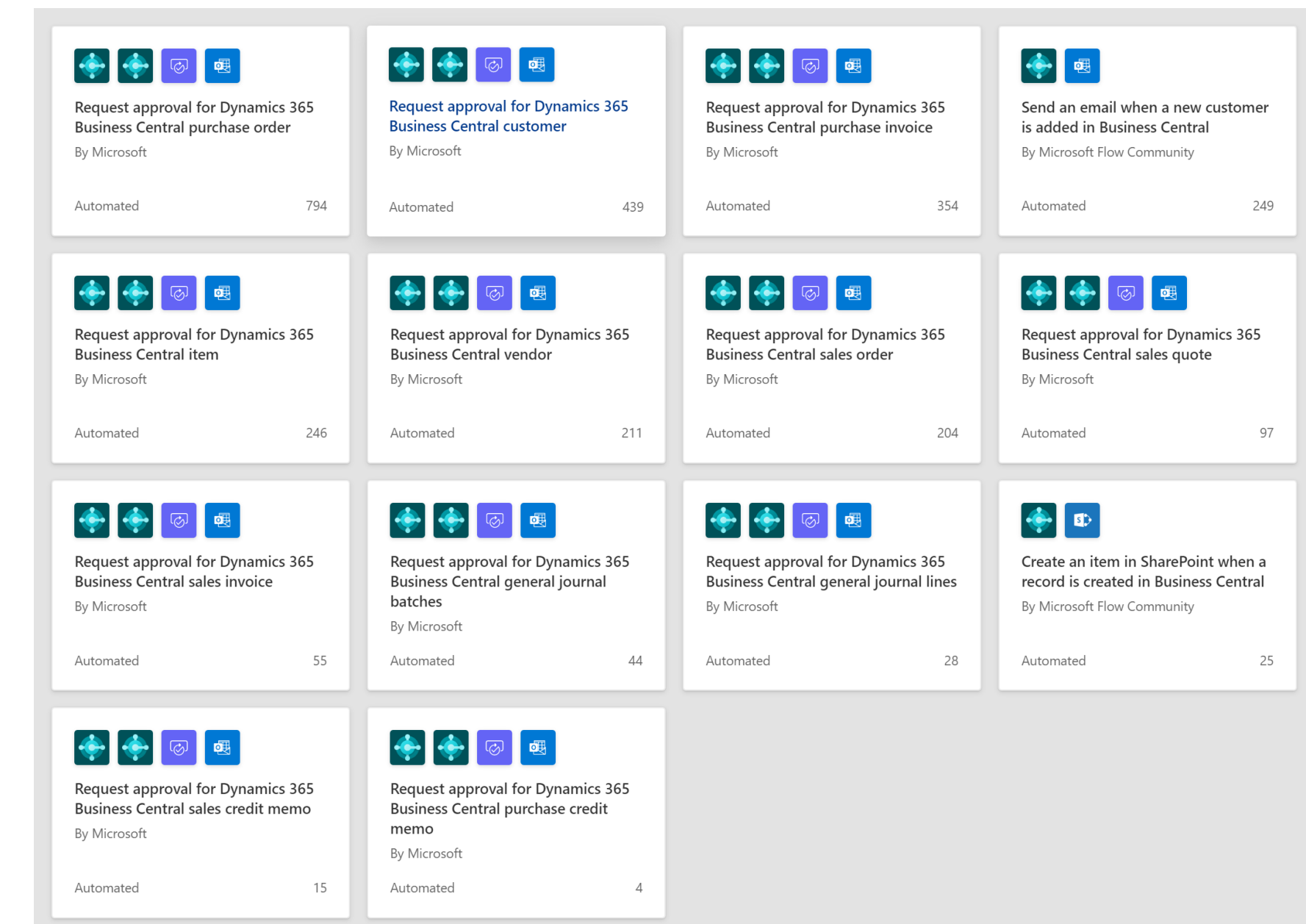
UI flows (Preview)

# Demo 5: The power of Power Automate

**DEMO**

# Demo 6: Business Central Approval Templates

- 12 Approval templates
- Same logic, just different trigger
- 2 Templates from “Microsoft Flow Community”
- Approval templates are linked to Workflow in Business Central

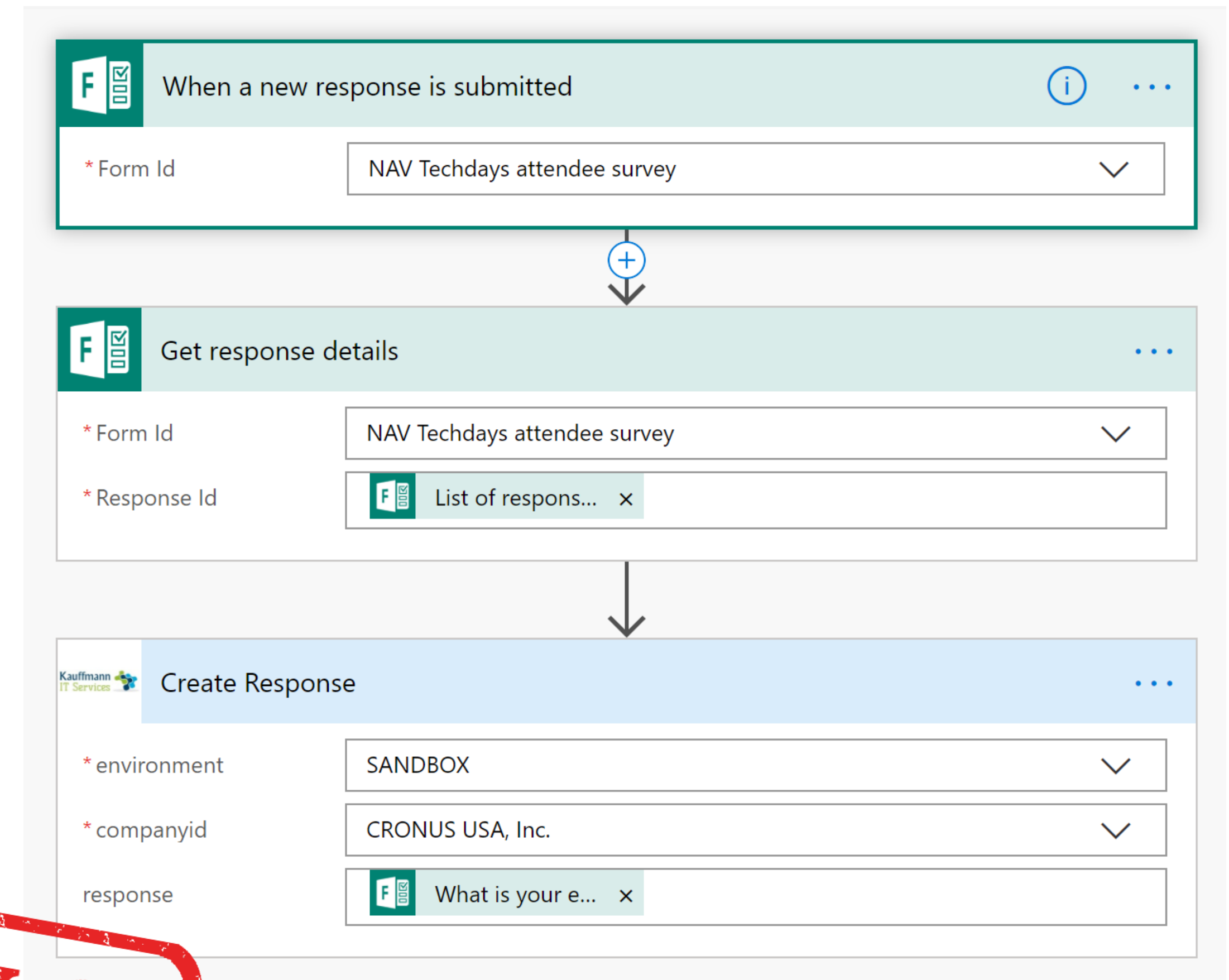


# Working with Approval Flow

- The user of the connection is the actual user that approves in Business Central
- This user needs to be set up as Approver for at least one user
- Based on page web services, not on API's
- Page web services can be extended!

# Demo 7: The survey

- Flow trigger for Forms
- Flow action to get details
- Custom API to store response in Business Central
- Customer Connector to link the flow to the API



**DEMO**





**Arend-Jan Kauffmann** @ajkauffmann · 23 mei

If know it's hard to pick sessions at @DaysOfKnowledge, there are too many interesting topics. But if you want to get some great ideas how to deal with files in Business Central, make sure to not miss my session on Saturday at 09:00.  
[#daysofknowledge](#)



**waldo** @waldo1001 · 23 mei

<session>  
you shouldn't work with files  
</session>

;-)

Tweet vertalen



3



6



**Erik Hougaard** @eHougaard · 23 mei

Yeah, I usually say: If you're using a file, you're doing something wrong!

Tweet vertalen



3



2



Tweet vertalen



3



2



# Upload files with API's

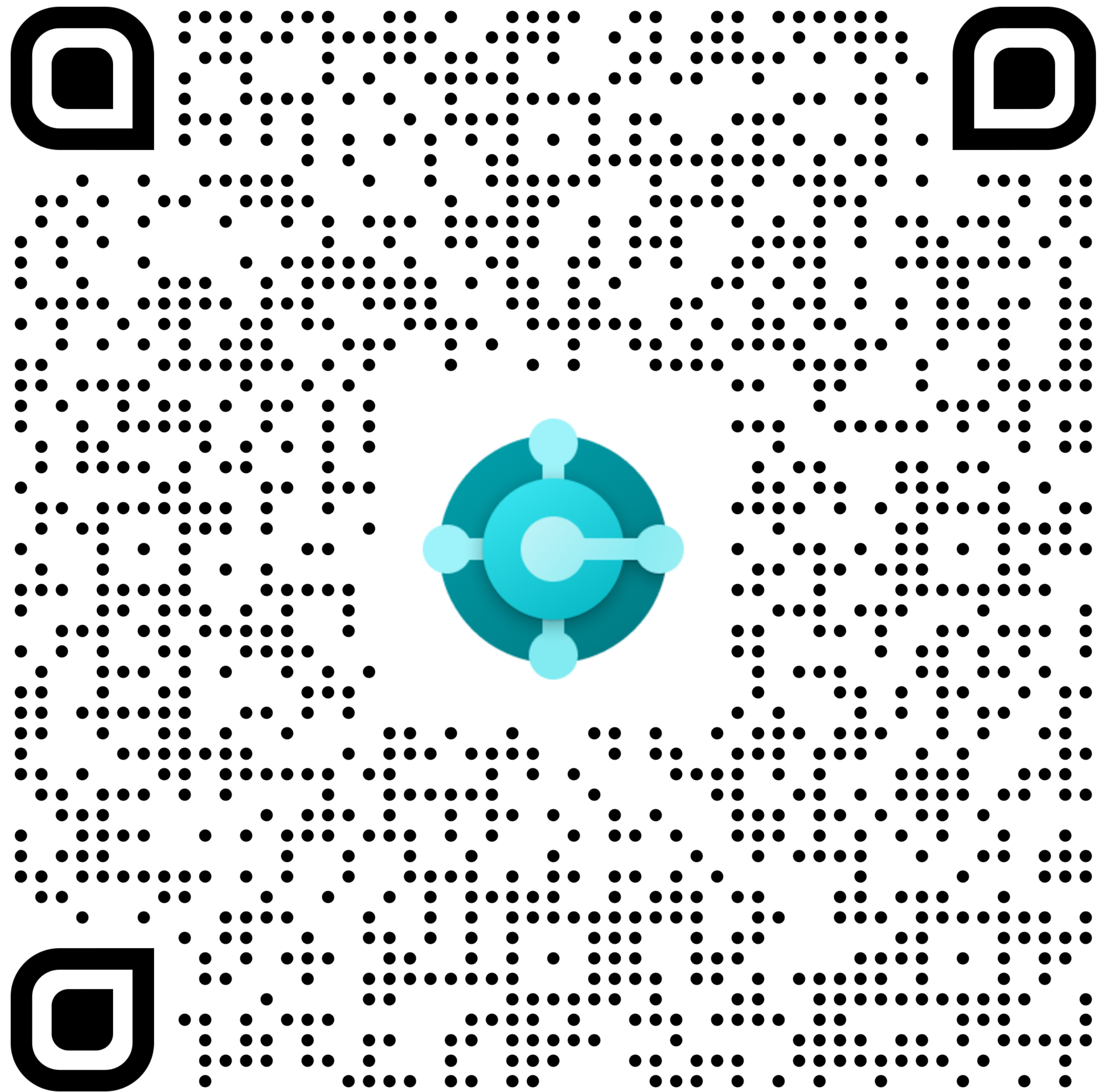
- Use Business Central API's to directly upload files into blob fields
- Blob fields in API's
  - Have their own URL
  - Accept binary data

# Combine API's with Flow

- Automatically send new files to Business Central
- Power Automate supports many integrations
  - When a new file is created
    - Azure Blob
    - FTP
    - Local storage
  - When a new email arrived
  - ...

# Demo 8: Import email attachments

**DEMO**



# Custom triggers

- With custom connectors you can also create custom triggers
- Examples
  - When a Sales Order is shipped
  - When a user is created
  - When Inventory goes below a certain level
  - When sales drops below a certain level
  - ...
- Customer triggers are similar to webhooks: don't call us, we call you.



# Demo 9: Custom Trigger

- Table in Business Central to store flow webhooks
- Flow registers himself in Business Central for a certain event
- The webhook is called when the event occurs

General

Summary [Learn more](#)

When a sales order is shipped

Description [Learn more](#)

Operation ID \*

This is the unique string used to identify the operation.

OnShipSalesOrder

Visibility [Learn more](#)

☒ none ☐ advanced ☐ internal ☐ important

Trigger type [Learn more](#) \*

☒ Webhook ☐ Polling

**DEMO**

# Q&A

## Any Questions?

*Thank  
You!*