Microsoft® Navision Axapta®

# Microsoft Navision Axapta Object Server

Microsoft Navision Axapta Object Server minimizes bandwidth requirements and ensures easy, efficient, and homogeneous client deployment.

**Key Benefits:**

- No need for additional products or 3rd party solutions
- Minimal cost of data communication
- High level of database security

**Key Features:**

- Low client bandwidth
- Less requirement for client machinery
- All business logic is executed on the server so processing power and memory are shared between the clients

The Microsoft Navision Axapta Object Server Technology is unique in offering companies a very flexible solution where thin and fat clients can coexist on the same Local Area network (LAN). Both clients and servers can use standard PC and network technology and standard Microsoft operating systems. This reduces the demand for maintenance compared to mainframe solutions because it runs in a standard Microsoft environment using standard UDP/IP and TCP/IP protocols.

With the database running on a central server and the Axapta Object Server (AOS) handling the business logic, the client is left to handle only the user interface and the necessary program logic. This means lower processor and bandwidth requirements; you do not need to invest in new machinery to run Axapta when you have an AOS solution.

## Object server technology

The AOS is based on well-established industry standards so technical requirements are minimal. The network communication is based on the Internet Protocol (IP) and, as with Axapta in general, the database support is provided by a Structured Query Language (SQL) database. All system-related tasks are based on the facilities provided by the operating system such as logging, performance and monitoring.

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The AOS technology has been extended with features to share its resources between all the connected clients. These new features include shared data caching, object caching, SQL connections, and SQL cursors to further improve the performance and stability of your Axapta installation.

## A scalable solution

The scalability of the AOS is what differentiates it from a terminal server based solution. There is less demand for system resources and more room for additional users. The AOS does not generate network traffic unless the server is actually involved in the current operation. For example, browsing through customer lists results in only a few network transmissions when getting the data to present itself. This means less strain on the network and more room for additional client traffic.

The AOS technology utilizes much lower bandwidth lines. The data is transferred in bursts of data using the entire available bandwidth instead of flowing continuously through the transmission lines. When the client has obtained the required information from the server, no further network traffic is generated. This frees up the available bandwidth for other clients to use, thereby increasing the number of possible concurrent users.

## Server clustering

Using the Axapta Server clustering technology gives you all the advantages of scalability, accessibility and simplicity without having to invest in expensive hardware. All that is needed is a standard Microsoft Windows 2000 Server machine.

The AOS can be configured to run in a logical cluster, benefiting from the processor power of several servers at the same time. This provides extended security against system outage, and a great return on your investment. When connecting to Axapta, the client connects to the server currently handling the least amount of clients, which creates a balanced load over the cluster. With two or more Axapta Object Servers, you can even the number of users, and reduce the strain on the different servers.

## Client deployment

The Axapta Web Deployment makes it possible to access Axapta via your company's Internet connection. With Web deployment, the user is able to install, update, configure or launch Axapta all by the touch of one button.

You can update and configure Axapta easily using the web deployment utility. There is no need for manual installations on each individual client. Once Axapta is installed and configured on your server, the user can instantly see if the Axapta client is installed on the machine, if an update is needed or if the Axapta client

is ready to run. Users do not need to worry about having the latest Axapta client version because updates are made available automatically.

## Contact your partner

To learn more about Microsoft Navision Axapta, contact your local Navision Solution Center. They have the expertise necessary to meet your specific business needs.

## About Microsoft Business Solutions

Microsoft Business Solutions, which includes the businesses of Great Plains®, Microsoft bCentral™ and Navision a/s, offers a wide range of business applications designed to help small and midmarket businesses become more connected with customers, employees, partners and suppliers. Microsoft Business Solutions' applications automate end-to-end business processes across financials, distribution, project accounting, electronic commerce, human resources and payroll, manufacturing, supply chain management, business intelligence, sales and marketing management, and customer service and support. More information about Microsoft Business Solutions can be found at:

http://www.microsoft.com/BusinessSolutions

**Address:**
Microsoft Business Solutions
Navision
Frydenlunds Allé 6
2950 Vedbaek
Denmark
Tel +45 45 67 80 00
Fax +45 45 67 80 01
***www.navision.com***

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# Data Summary Sheet

| Key Features | Description |
|---|---|
| **Easy to use** | • Intuitive layout and structure<br>• User-adjustable menus, forms and reports<br>• User-adjustable layout of main tables and journals<br>• Windows commands incl. 'copy and paste' from and to Axapta<br>• Direct access to main tables from journals<br>• Advanced sorting and filter options<br>• Built-in user help including an integrated manual<br>• Option to mail and fax directly from Axapta<br>• Application can be run in different languages |
| **3-tier environment** | • 3-tier thin client<br>▫ Low client bandwidth<br>▫ Less requirements for client machinery<br>▫ High database security<br>• 3-tier fat client<br>▫ Maximum utilization of client hardware capacity<br>▫ Ideal for batch execution and 'heavy clients' |
| **Web deployment** | • Install, update, configure or launch Axapta by the touch of a button<br>• No manual installation process<br>• Button showing status of local installation<br>• Client configuration stored on the server-side |
| **Cluster technology** | • Automatically balance users between servers in the cluster<br>• Increase redundancy by adding extra AOS servers<br>• If one server fails, clients only have to reconnect to continue working |
| **Scalability** | • Increase number of users to expand your business solution as your business grows<br>• Expand capacity by adding another server to your AOS cluster |
| **Rationalization of resources** | • All business logic is executed on the server so processing power and memory are shared between the clients<br>• Reduced number of database connections<br>• The database driver is shared between the clients<br>• Reduced need for client hardware |

## System Requirements

To obtain all of the features mentioned in this fact sheet, the following modules and technologies are required:

- Microsoft Navision Axapta 3.0
- Microsoft Navision Axapta Object Server + Users

To make it easy for you to find the right hardware size for a given configuration, Microsoft business Solutions, Navision a/s has created a set of sizing tools in collaboration with leading hardware vendors.

Compaq: www.compaq.dk/axapta
HP: http://www.hpproposal.com/navision
IBM: http://www.developer.ibm.com/welcome/myvc.pl?mvcid=overview&packageid=999navaxap&language=en