Microsoft® Navision Axapta®

What's New in Microsoft Navision Axapta 3.0

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The key word in version 3.0 of Microsoft Navision Axapta is *connectivity*.

Connectivity is the driving force behind Enterprise Portal, Axapta's new module and this release's major new development.

Enterprise Portal uses the Internet to connect you to the people you deal with who are normally outside your system. It speeds up interactions and information sharing with customers, vendors and employees by letting them work directly with Axapta via personalized web sites.

There are a number of other enhancements in existing modules, notably in Supply Chain Management, the Projects series and Financial Management.

Aside from the highlights in this document, there are hundreds of other improvements in Axapta 3.0, throughout all modules. Please contact your Navision Solution Center for more information.

Enterprise Portal

Enterprise Portal gives your customers, vendors and employees Web access to ERP data and functionality, resulting in lower information-sharing costs and faster response times. No third-party software is needed.

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The only thing your customers, vendors and employees need is an Internet connection and a browser. Little or no training is required since the Enterprise Portal user interface and navigation follow familiar Web practices. Only the information and services that users need are presented. You decide what information to share and with whom.

In the loop

All of the knowledge sharing and interaction with Axapta Enterprise Portal takes place via personalized, role-based web sites. Users can view relevant information and reports, publish documents and input data.

There are links to relevant web sites, discussion forums and Axapta functionality, as well as shortcuts to tasks and spaces for frequently used documents. Users can even be presented with questionnaires. With the right information always at hand, users experience increased productivity and greater work satisfaction.

When, for example, a customer on the other side of the world enters a purchase order in Enterprise Portal, that information is registered immediately in Axapta – eliminating your need to enter it manually. The purchase order is published instantly on the personal web sites of anyone who needs to know about it, allowing them to act fast.

Sample functionality:

Customers: view product catalog, get price and delivery quotations, submit and track orders

Vendors: track orders, view documents and diagrams, enter prices, change contact information

Employees: maintain contact details, qualifications, absences, view appraisals and development plans

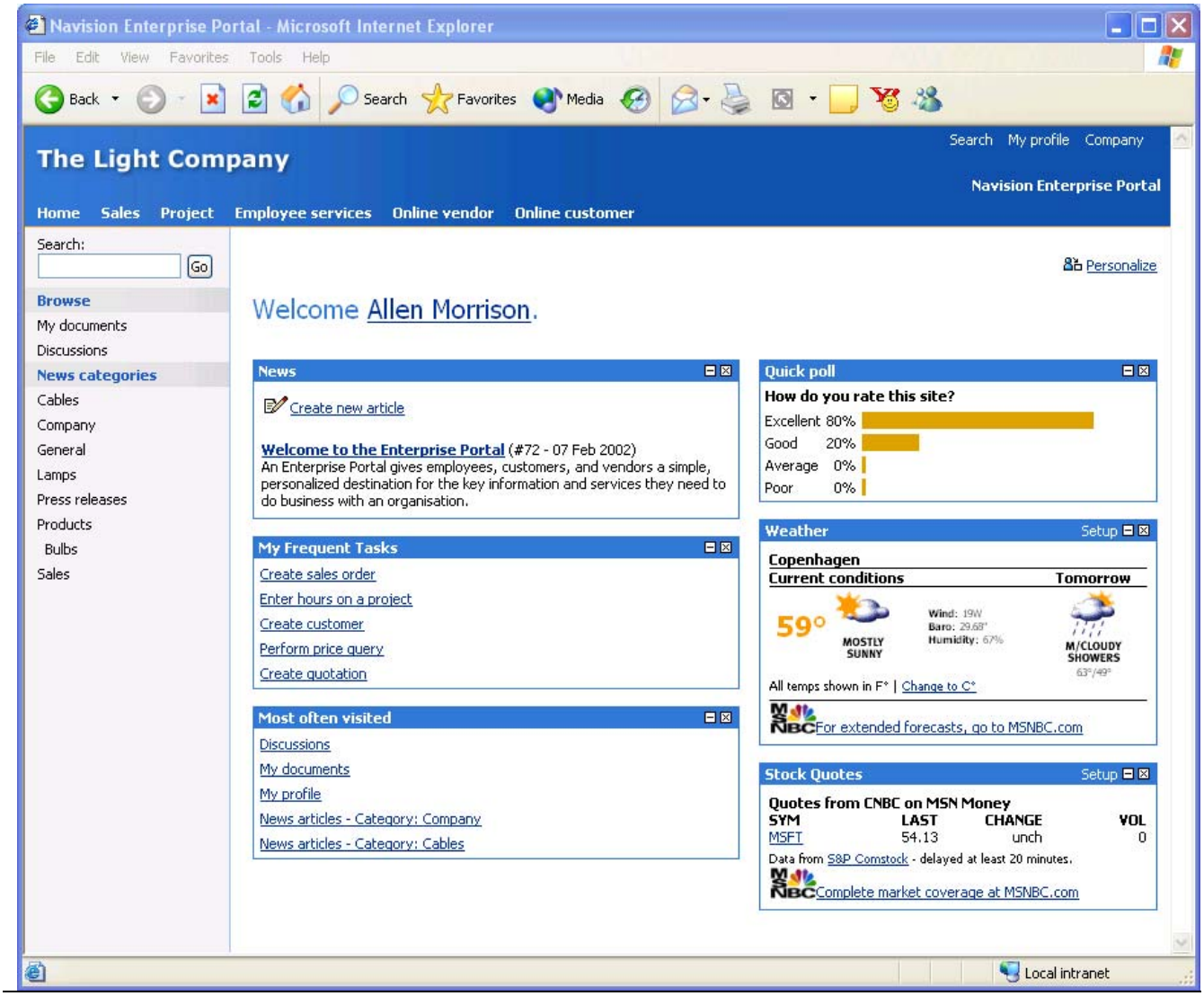
Consultants: submit time reports

Sales reps: view customer records, give quotations, submit orders, change prices, track current orders and backorder lines.

A personal approach

Users are also presented with several information panels that they can click on and off. For example, they can see corporate news relevant to their role, weather, traffic and stock market reports as well as their Microsoft Outlook calendar and task list. Live reports from the other systems that are connected to Axapta, such as warehouse management, can also be published online.

Everything is organized according to personal preferences. Move or hide elements, select the layout, colors and text preferences. Work in any of 31 languages. Vendors and customers can choose different names for items, projects and documents than the ones your company uses.



From his home page, Allen Morrison has access to all the functionality and information that is relevant to him, organized just how he likes it.

Design options

For a portal that matches your corporate image, use the built-in style sheets, images and pre-built graphical themes. Or to create a unique look, there's an editor that allows you to design your web site from scratch.

Setup and administration

Creating and launching a tailored web site takes five minutes:

1. Open the Web Application Wizard
2. Click the type of web site you want
3. Name the site, choose a Web server and click the set of company accounts you want to use

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4. Select the layout, color scheme and default language
5. Click Finish

The Web site is ready for use. No knowledge of Web programming, HTML or Active Server Pages (ASP) is required. Nor do you need external Web development tools, a consultant or an expensive upgrade. Everything you need is built-in.

Commerce Gateway

To exchange information system-to-system there's Axapta Commerce Gateway. With Commerce Gateway, you can exchange documents electronically – with any company, whatever their system.

Connect with a customer's ERP system so that a purchase order is automatically sent when their stock reaches a certain level. Axapta receives the order without any employee interaction whatsoever and notifies the warehouse, accounting and sales that the interaction has taken place.

By reducing the amount of manual work, you'll cut response times and human error.

Projects
Work in process

From the work in process (WIP) project overview, you now have direct access to the actions you can perform. You can view and adjust all related WIP transactions as well as reference all child projects. Work with the project estimates in order to follow up on the financial status of the Fixed Price projects involved.

Validation

It is now possible to define what project tasks each person is allowed to perform. It is also much easier to see who is allowed to do what and where. Employee groups, categories, and projects are combined on one screen for easy navigation and data entry. It is also possible to apply validations to journals.

Pricing

Project Pricing is now far more flexible. In addition to Hours, you can apply pricing rules to Costs and Revenues. Two new rules – Contribution Ratio and Miscellaneous Charges Amount – have also been added.

Human Resource Management

Recruitment

You can now e-mail standard correspondence, including Microsoft Word attachments, to applicants directly from within Axapta. As each e-mail is sent, Axapta automatically updates the status on each applicant. Bulk mailing is also possible, but you can still view the actual correspondence sent to any individual applicant.

Financial Management

XBRL for financial reporting

XBRL uses financial reporting standards to exchange financial statements across various technologies, including the Internet. With XBRL, Axapta users need only enter information once, and it can be exported for use in an HTML document, government filings, credit reports, loan documents or other formats.

An XBRL-based financial statement is a digitally enhanced version of a paper-based financial statement, and includes the balance sheet, income statement, statement of equity, statement of cash flows, and the notes to the financial statements as well as the accountant's report. XBRL documents can be prepared efficiently, exchanged reliably, published easily, analyzed quickly, and retrieved simply.

Intercompany accounting and consolidation

Axapta enables a business with several subsidiaries or distribution centers to set up intercompany journals. An intercompany transaction posted in one subsidiary is automatically updated in designated accounts of the other subsidiary or distribution center. Online consolidation of both accounts and budgets can be carried out directly from Axapta. Both full consolidation and pro-rata consolidation are possible. Accounts can also be imported or exported for consolidation purposes.

Subsidiary accounts are consolidated using either the subsidiary's chart of accounts or special consolidation accounts that can be set up on its chart of accounts.

Accounts in a foreign currency can be consolidated at special consolidation exchange rates. In Axapta 3.0, you can mark ledger accounts as either monetary or non-monetary and set up separate consolidation exchange rates for both. You can also calculate the exchange rate adjustment directly when consolidating.

Bills of exchange and promissory notes

General bill of exchange functionality and promissory note functionality are now available in Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable respectively.

Supply Chain Management

Dynamic master planning

With the new dynamic plan in Master Planning, you can quickly see the effect of order changes. Recalculations are carried out only on the areas where you make changes – not on the entire plan. When a customer calls and wants to change a delivery date, for example, you can confirm the change in a few seconds, rather than having to call back later after a full recalculation.

Gantt charts in Master Planning

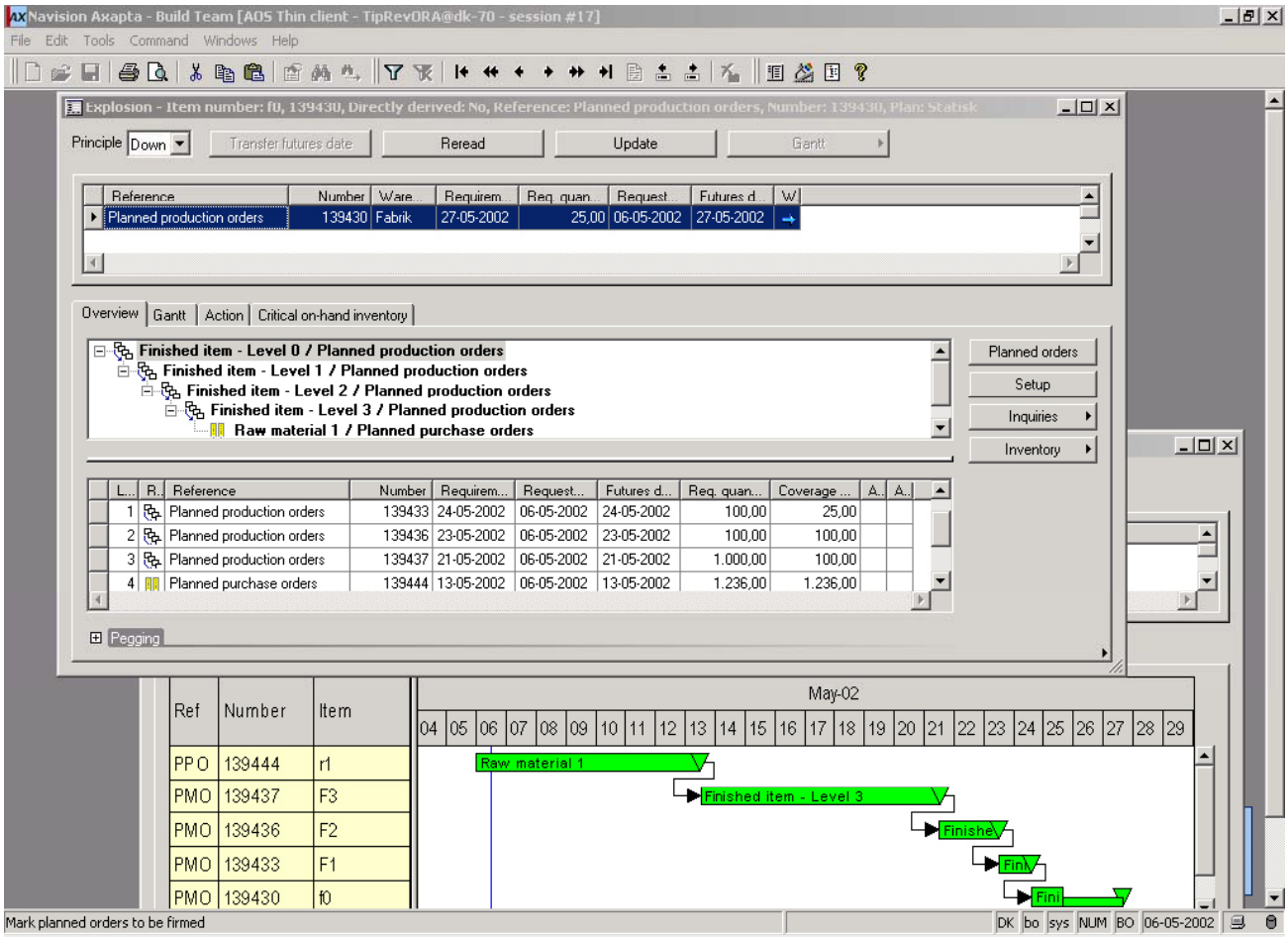
To give a graphical overview of the sequence and timing of planned production orders, transfer orders and purchase orders, Gantt charts are now included in Master Planning. Each order type can be assigned a different color to aid understanding. Receipt margins, issue margins and reorder margins can also be illustrated.

Intercompany trading

The new Intercompany solution handles internal trade between your subsidiaries or warehouses in different locations. Sales and purchase orders are transferred automatically using Commerce Gateway.

Inventory dimensions

The Configuration item dimension is now a fully functional item dimension. In addition, two new item dimensions, which you can assign for any purpose, have been added. All are supported throughout Axapta, so, for example, they integrate with price/discount, reports, trade agreements, and sales/purchase orders.



The Gantt chart in Master Planning makes it easy to visualize planned productions, transfers and purchases, including margins.

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Production

Gantt charts

Gantt planning in the Production III series now gives you an even clearer view of production jobs and operations. You can assign unique colors to each production job and change the colors for different types of operation. You also get a live graphical view of work center load, as determined by scheduled jobs and capacity.

Contact your partner

To learn more about Microsoft Navision Axapta 3.0, contact your Navision Solution Center.

About Microsoft Business Solutions

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