Microsoft® Dynamics™

WHAT'S NEW

Release 7.0

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Contents

Introduction

Welcome to What's New, your guide to enhancements in Dynamics Release 7.0.

The Release 7.0 enhancements are based on feedback we've received from customers like you. Because of your willingness to help us build better products, we feel that Release 7.0 is the most complete solution for small and medium-sized businesses, putting you in an even better position to build your successful organization.

The following product series are discussed:

Part 1, **Foundation Series** describes enhancements that have been added to modules in the Foundation Series.

Part 2, **Financial Series** describes enhancements that have been added to modules in the Financial Series.

Part 3, **Human Resources Series** describes enhancements that have been added to modules in the Human Resources Series.

Part 4, **Tools Series** describes enhancements that have been added to modules in the Tools Series.

Part 5, **Distribution Series** describes enhancements that have been added to modules in the Distribution Series.

Part 1: Foundation Series

Systemwide enhancements make using Release 7.0 simple and consistent, increasing your productivity and access to information.

The following modules are discussed:

- Chapter 1, “System Manager Enhancements,” describes enhancements that have been added to System Manager.
- Chapter 2, “Other System Enhancements,” describes other systemwide enhancements that have been added in Release 7.0.

Chapter 1: System Manager Enhancements

System Manager incorporates enhancements that improve efficiency and increase productivity, delivering open access to information and the flexibility to work the way you work.

Enhancements to System Manager connect you to web services and to reports displayed in a pleasing, graphical format.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Custom hyperlinks*
- *Graphical report views*
- *Office XP Smart Tags*

Custom hyperlinks

Create custom links in customer, vendor, item, salespeople, and employee cards to perform actions in other applications, such as:

- Start Microsoft Outlook to address an e-mail message to the customer, vendor, and so on.
- Start Microsoft Internet Explorer to view a web page. (For example, you can create tracking number links that, based on the shipping method for a document, link to tracking information on the shipper's web site.)
- Open a related document in Microsoft Word or Microsoft Excel.

Reports, too, contain these custom links when viewed on the screen.

You also can choose to link to the same location for all values. For example, all checkbooks could link to the same online banking web site.

Graphical report views

Many reports are displayed using a graphical format. Zoom in to view a section of a report using a larger font.

Office XP Smart Tags

Microsoft Office XP Smart Tags are context-sensitive links embedded in Microsoft Office documents that alert users to convenient options such as formatting choices or additional data analysis. Smart Tag recognizers automatically are established for key master records within Dynamics. Any time these items appear in a Microsoft Word, Outlook or Excel document, they will be recognized with a Microsoft Office XP Smart Tag.

On a per-user basis, you can indicate which master records you wish to have recognized with Office XP Smart Tags. The initial list of items that will be recognized include:

- General Ledger accounts
- Customers
- Vendors
- Items
- Employees
- Checkbooks
- Salesperson

Chapter 2: Other System Enhancements

Systemwide enhancements make using Release 7.0 simple and consistent throughout, increasing your productivity and access to information.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Online help system updated*
- *More options for figuring taxes*
- *Tax detail reports*
- *Dual currency tax summary reports*
- *Print tax registration numbers in addresses*
- *International addresses*
- *European Electronic Funds Transfer*
- *Language IDs*
- *New SmartList views*

Online help system updated

The Dynamics online help system has been updated to make it easier for you to find the information you need, as follows:

- Help is provided in HTML Help (.CHM) format. This format presents the table of contents, index, and a full-text search all within the same window, making it easier for you to navigate help, browse topics sequentially, and find the information you need.

- When you press F1 while working in a window, a window-level overview will be displayed with links to related procedures and information about the fields, buttons, and menus that appear with each window.

- Help for alert messages is organized by module, instead of by window as it was in previous releases. Only messages that require additional information are documented.

- The index has been improved so that it's easier to use.

- The search function returns improved search results and finds information across multiple modules.

- You can bookmark favorite topics so that you can return to them quickly.

More options for figuring taxes

When calculating taxes on transactions, you can choose to use the shipping method to calculate taxes at the point of exchange or choose to compare customer and vendor tax schedules against item tax schedules.

Tax detail reports

Tax detail information is stored for all posted transactions. You can print a tax detail report for posted transactions.

Dual currency tax summary reports

You can print summary tax information in both functional and originating currencies on a sales or purchasing document. The report includes the exchange rate, the total net value of goods and services, and the amount of tax at each tax rate in the functional and originating currencies.

Print tax registration numbers in addresses

You can use the Enable Intrastat Tracking option to print your company's tax registration number below the company address on forms. You can use the Enable EU Transaction Tracking option to print a customer or vendor tax registration number below the customer or vendor address on forms.

International addresses

Additional address and phone number fields appear in windows and reports to accommodate for longer international addresses. The size of the State field has been increased from four to 29 characters.

European Electronic Funds Transfer

European users can pay vendors electronically rather than by issuing a check.

Language IDs

An informational Language ID value and ISO code can be associated with customers and vendors. The language ID can be included in setup reports.

New SmartList views

New SmartList views are available for:

- Canadian Payroll
- Employee Master
- Paycode YTD
- O/S Accrued Amounts
- Transaction History
- Receivings Transactions
- Receivings Line Items
- Landed Cost Group ID
- Landed Cost ID
- Tax Detail Transactions
- Fixed Assets Purchase Category

PART 2: FINANCIAL SERIES

Part 2: Financial Series

Many customer-requested enhancements strengthen the core of Dynamics Release 7.0, improving capability and performance. Enhancements to the Financial Series improve integration between modules and make entering and using your information easier and more flexible.

The following modules are discussed:

- Chapter 3, “General Ledger Enhancements,” describes enhancements that have been added to General Ledger.
- Chapter 4, “Payables Management Enhancements,” describes enhancements that have been added to Payables Management.
- Chapter 5, “Receivables Management Enhancements,” describes enhancements that have been added to Receivables Management.
- Chapter 6, “Bank Reconciliation Enhancements,” describes enhancements that have been added to Bank Reconciliation.
- Chapter 7, “Fixed Asset Management Enhancements,” describes enhancements that have been added to Fixed Asset Management.

Chapter 3: General Ledger Enhancements

Many customer-requested enhancements strengthen General Ledger, the heart of the entire accounting system.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *General Ledger Trial Balance report*
- *User-defined fields*
- *View debits and credits on details*
- *Tax details in transactions*
- *Disallow manual account entry*
- *Revenue/expense deferrals*

General Ledger Trial Balance report

The General Ledger Trial Balance Report has the following enhancements:

Transaction history To help you trace the history of a transaction, the originating master name (customer or vendor name), originating master ID, and originating document number are included when posting documents to General Ledger. The General Ledger Detailed Trial Balance report also displays this information.

Multiple currencies The General Ledger Trial Balance report displays information in multiple currencies.

Graphical report The General Ledger Trial Balance report displays information using a graphical format.

User-defined fields

You can add user-defined information to an account and include user-defined information on reports.

View debits and credits on details

You can view total debit and credit values on details and history details for a posting account.

Tax details in transactions

You can include and calculate tax details in a General Ledger transaction.

Disallow manual account entry

You can choose whether to allow users to change account entries. If you limit user access to changing accounts, users can post to the account if it's a default posting account, but they won't be able to change the account or add distribution accounts.

Revenue/expense deferrals

Revenue/expense deferrals enable you to defer revenues and distribute costs over specified periods by calculating and posting values spread over selected date ranges. Allocation types can be created and then applied against transactions as they originate in Dynamics General Ledger, Receivables Management, Payables Management, Sales Order Processing, Invoicing, Purchasing Order Processing, and Inventory Control. Retroactive allocations can be applied to previously posted transactions when revenue or expenses should have been deferred, but were not. All appropriate journal entries and audit trails are maintained during this process. Revenue and costs are realized according to the rates they are applied to, enabling more accurate accounting without the administration.

Chapter 4: Payables Management Enhancements

Payables Management helps you manage expenses by tracking vendors, recording purchases, printing checks, and supplying accurate, detailed information to help you control expenses and improve profits.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Date sensitivity*
- *Age unapplied credit amounts*
- *Updated 1099 formats*
- *Scheduled payments*

Date sensitivity

Date sensitivity allows you to enter transactions across multiple years with summaries reflecting transactions correctly. You can view summary information based on the fiscal or calendar year for any year history is saved. You can post amounts into new and past years, keeping 1099 information accurate. Reconciliation updates period summary amounts based on detailed amounts. Summary amounts for any year can be viewed by specifying the year.

Age unapplied credit amounts

You can age unapplied credit amounts on aged trial balance reports, which allows you to better analyze document activity.

Updated 1099 formats

IRS forms 1099-MISC and 1099-DIV have been updated to conform to current laws. The 1099-INT hasn’t changed.

Scheduled payments

You can create payment schedules with calculated interest and amortization amounts. You also can create “what if?” scenarios to determine the impact of changes to interest rates, payment amounts, frequency, and installment numbers. This enhancement is only available if you are using Dynamics with Microsoft SQL Server.

Chapter 5: Receivables Management Enhancements

Receivables Management helps you track customers, manage invoices, process receipts, and print statements.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Date sensitivity*
- *Customer/vendor consolidations*
- *Auto-apply credits to finance charges first*
- *Finance charge positive balances only*
- *Reprint statements*
- *Refund checks enhancements*
- *Streamlined lockbox processing data entry*
- *Scheduled payments*
- *Age unapplied credit amounts*

Date sensitivity

Date sensitivity allows you to enter transactions across multiple years, with summaries reflecting transactions correctly. You also can view summary information based on the fiscal or calendar year for any year history is saved and to view detail since the last year-end close. Reconciling updates period summary amounts based on detailed amounts.

Customer/vendor consolidations

You can consolidate balances in payables and receivables for a single company when you work with that company as both a customer and a vendor. You can assign relationships between existing customers and vendors and then apply open debit and credit documents against each other to consolidate the current balances.

Auto-apply credits to finance charges first

You have the option to auto-apply a selected unapplied credit to any unapplied finance charges before applying the credit to other transactions.

Finance charge positive balances only

You have the option to apply finance charges only to customers who have a positive balance, accounting for unapplied payments. If the Compound Finance Charge option is marked, unapplied finance charges will be included in the balance to be finance charged.

Reprint statements

You can reprint a statement at any time. The reprinted statement will show the same data as the original.

Refund checks enhancements

Miscellaneous charge documents can be created automatically for customers instead of creating an invoice in Payables Management, automatically refunding customers and transferring accounts receivable balances to accounts payable. Other enhancements include the option to create a temporary vendor, balance forward capabilities, and support for multiple currencies.

Streamlined lockbox processing data entry

User interface enhancements streamline data entry for lockbox processing, an enhancement which automatically applies customer payment information from a transaction file provided by your customer’s bank.

Scheduled payments

You can create scheduled payments with calculated interest and amortization amounts for customer accounts. You also can perform “what if?” scenarios to determine the impact of changes to interest rates, payment amounts, frequency, and installment numbers. This enhancement is only available if you are using Dynamics with Microsoft SQL Server.

E-mail statements to customers in PDF format

You can print a statement in Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (.PDF) and send it to a customer as an e-mail message attachment.

Age unapplied credit amounts

You can age unapplied credit amounts on aged trial balance reports to better analyze document activity by date.

Chapter 6: Bank Reconciliation Enhancements

Bank Reconciliation manages cash-in, cash-out transactions, integrating all bank-related activity including cash, check, and credit card transactions. Track and review all bank account balances and reconcile bank statements using Bank Reconciliation.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Select transactions more easily*
- *Default checkbook selection*

Select transactions more easily

User interface enhancements ease selecting bank transactions, allowing you to easily see which transaction is being focused on. Arrows on either side of the active transaction provide a visual indicator of the line you're currently editing.

Default checkbook selection

The new default checkbook enhancement speeds transaction entry by allowing you to select a checkbook to be the default checkbook when entering transactions in the Bank Transaction Entry window.

Chapter 7: Fixed Asset Management Enhancements

Fixed Asset Management tracks, controls, and depreciates assets. Release 7.0 enhancements make using Fixed Asset Management simple and consistent, allowing you to increase productivity and have easy access to information.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Calendar information*
- *Straight-line original life depreciation*
- *Import asset information*
- *Inquiry reports*
- *Purchasing transactions and asset records*
- *User-defined fields*
- *Integration Manager adapter*

Calendar information

The Fixed Asset Management fiscal calendar supplies all calendar information for fixed assets processes.

Straight-line original life depreciation

The new straight-line original life depreciation method uses the standard depreciation formula based on the original life of the asset, providing a more constant yearly rate than remaining life value calculation.

When a fixed asset automatically is switched to a straight-line option for depreciation, the straight-line remaining life method is still used.

Import asset information

Use asset ID/suffix data to import asset information into an asset group for mass maintenance or depreciation. Assets can be selected using the SmartList search function, exported to Microsoft Excel, then imported into Fixed Asset Management.

Inquiry reports

You can print reports that include the information found in the Asset Inquiry, Asset Book Inquiry, Financial Detail Inquiry, and Projections Inquiry windows.

Purchasing transactions and asset records

You can assign purchasing transactions to asset records, as follows:

- You can assign multiple purchasing transactions to an asset record when creating the asset record in Payables Management or Purchase Order Processing.
- You can assign purchasing transactions to an existing asset record and change or delete purchasing information after the record has been added.
- You can assign one purchasing transaction to more than one fixed asset record.
- You can assign transactions in multiple currencies to an asset record. Asset acquisition cost can include costs not integrated from a purchasing transaction.

User-defined fields

You can define a required valid entry for user-defined fields.

Integration Manager adapter

With Release 7.0, Integration Manager adds the Fixed Asset Management adapter to the available source and destination adapters. The adapter allows you to integrate Fixed Asset Management with Dynamics, including asset general information, book records, insurance data, and lease information.

Part 3: Human Resources Series

Human Resources helps you to capture all of your employee information in a single system, from personnel and payroll to recruitment, training and performance.

The following modules are discussed:

- Chapter 8, "Human Resources Enhancements," describes enhancements that have been added to Human Resources.
- Chapter 9, "Payroll Enhancements," describes enhancements that have been added to Payroll.
- Chapter 10, "Direct Deposit Enhancements," describes enhancements that have been added to Direct Deposit.

Chapter 8: Human Resources Enhancements

Human Resources tracks information about your organizational structure, employees and prospects. Human Resources includes government-mandated reporting, unlimited pay and benefit records, and optional integration with Payroll.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Inactive employee records*
- *Inactive employee reporting*
- *Updated VETS-100 report*
- *Auto-assign employee IDs*
- *Zero-value benefits and deductions*

Inactive employee records

You have the option to automatically remove employee records for employees marked inactive.

Inactive employee reporting

You have the option to include or exclude inactive employees in all Human Resources reports.

Updated VETS-100 report

New reporting requirements for the VETS-100 report include tracking "other veterans" as well as the maximum number and minimum number of regular employees on board during the period covered by the VETS-100 report.

Auto-assign employee IDs

The employee setup process in Human Resources has been streamlined. You can assign employee IDs automatically.

Zero-value benefits and deductions

You can set up zero-value benefits and deductions on an employee-by-employee basis in Human Resources with Payroll.

Chapter 9: Payroll Enhancements

Payroll helps you to manage unlimited pay, deduction, and benefit records for each employee.

The following enhancements are discussed:

Print any pay codes on check stubs

You can print any year-to-date amounts and codes on check stubs or earning statements (even when a specific pay code is not included in the current pay run), providing employees a complete record of all year-to-date amounts.

Federal wages and federal tips

Wages and tips subject to federal tax will be stored with employee summary records, making it easy to access and report on this information. You can view federal wages in the Employee Summary window and federal tips in the Employee Tips Summary window.

Multiple years of payroll history

Unlimited years of payroll data can be retained, making it easy to report and inquire on historical information on a calendar or fiscal year basis. Historical detail and summary information is readily available for quick inquiries on specific employees or full audits of an entire year. In addition, the reconcile process has been enhanced, giving you the option to update the summary data from the history detail.

Enhanced period-end reporting

Period-end payroll reports can include ranges of employees and can be based on specific date ranges that can cross multiple periods, including multiple years.

Supervisor and location

You can use the Supervisor and Location fields in employee records without registering Human Resources.

Beginning balances post only to Payroll

Beginning balances entered in the Manual Check Adjustment Entry window post only to Payroll and not to General Ledger and Bank Reconciliation.

Modify financial information in Employee Summary window only

To provide a stronger audit trail for financial changes you make, Payroll users will no longer be able to edit financial information in any payroll windows other than the Employee Summary window.

Chapter 10: Direct Deposit Enhancements

With Payroll Direct Deposit, you can automatically deposit pay to your employees' bank, savings and loan or credit union accounts through an electronic Automated Clearing House (ACH) file.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Data removed when inactive employees removed*
- *Active and inactive employees*

Data removed when inactive employees removed

When you remove inactive employee records, associated Direct Deposit information is removed automatically

Active and inactive employees

Employee direct deposit information can be automatically inactivated or reactivated when an employee record is inactivated or reactivated.

Part 4: Tools Series

The Tools Series assists you in system customization and data integration.

Chapter 11, "Integration Manager Enhancements," describes enhancements that have been added to Integration Manager.

Chapter 11: Integration Manager Enhancements

Integration Manager allows you to import your organization's existing business data into Dynamics or to create ongoing data integrations that safely transfer data from external business databases, e-commerce solutions, or desktop applications into Dynamics.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Integration Manager VBScript library*
- *XML source and destination adapters*
- *More Integration Manager packaging options*

Integration Manager VBScript library

The VBScript library for Integration Manager is a collection of commonly used VB (Visual Basic) scripts. Start this library from the script editor. The VBScript library provides you with examples that were created to assist you in customizing and extending integrations.

VB scripts can be used throughout Integration Manager to map and transform data, trigger events and commands, process user input, and provide feedback about your integrations.

XML source and destination adapters

While XML offers outstanding flexibility for defining data in eCommerce implementations, exchanging data using XML can be challenging. With the XML adapters, sharing XML-defined data between applications and businesses is quick and easy and requires no programming skills.

Separately or together, the XML source adapter and the XML destination adapter, along with Integration Manager, help you solve today's integration challenges. You can:

- Move XML data into applications that may not support XML.

- Extract data from applications, exporting it into an XML format that you specify.

- Reformat XML documents quickly and easily, even if you don’t have extensive programming skills.

The XML source adapter allows you to create integrations that use XML files as source data. The XML destination adapter allows you to transform just about any source to any XML format. Together, the XML source adapter and XML destination adapter make a complete XML solution.

More Integration Manager packaging options

Integration Manager is offered in different packages:

Conversion-Only This offering provides a one-time use of Integration Manager for initial conversions.

Financials or Distribution Only This offering for Dynamics gives you the ability to purchase tools for integrating into just the Financials and/or Distribution series, rather than purchasing the entire Integration Manager product.

Runtime This offering gives solutions developers the ability to package Integration Manager with their solution at a reduced price.

PART 5: DISTRIBUTION SERIES

Part 5: Distribution Series

The Distribution Series offers baseline functionality to manage sales order processing, inventory and purchasing processes.

The following modules are discussed:

- Chapter 12, "Sales Order Processing Enhancements," describes enhancements that have been added to Sales Order Processing.
- Chapter 13, "Invoicing Enhancements," describes enhancements that have been added to Invoicing.
- Chapter 14, "Purchase Order Processing Enhancements," describes enhancements that have been added to Purchase Order Processing.
- Chapter 15, "Inventory Control Enhancements," describes enhancements that have been added to Inventory Control.

Chapter 12: Sales Order Processing Enhancements

Sales Order Processing helps you to manage complex, multi-step orders, working with other Dynamics modules such as Receivables Management, Multicurrency Management, Bank Reconciliation, General Ledger, and the Dynamics e-commerce applications eView and eOrder.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Credit card payments*
- *"Ship To" address per line item*
- *Line item detail in transaction entry*
- *Create returns from invoices*
- *More options for figuring taxes*
- *Create tracking number links*

Credit card payments

You have the option not to bill your customers' credit cards until their orders ship. An order can be taken and a credit card can be authorized, but the credit card isn't charged nor is revenue recognized until the order ships to the customer. When only a partial order is shipped, amounts consistent with the shipment are charged to the credit card and recognized as revenue.

Multiple bins capabilities

When you fill a sales order, the quantity to be fulfilled can be split across multiple bins. When you enter a return, a default sales returns bin will be used for each quantity type.

"Ship To" address per line item

Each line item of a sales document includes a unique "ship to" address that can be used to print a shipping document for each address.

Line item detail in transaction entry

You can view and enter line item detail within the transaction entry window for sales orders.

Create returns from invoices

You can automatically create a return from an existing invoice already moved to history.

More options for figuring taxes

For calculating taxes on transactions, you can choose whether to use the shipping method to calculate taxes at the point of exchange or to compare customer and vendor tax schedules against items.

Create tracking number links

You can create tracking number links that, based on the shipping method for a document, link to tracking information on the shipper’s web site.

Chapter 13: Invoicing Enhancements

Invoicing provides a full-featured invoicing environment in single-window invoicing process.

The following enhancement is discussed:

- *Value-Added Tax availability*

Value-Added Tax availability

All users can use the Value-added Tax (VAT) functionality that was previously a company setup option.

Chapter 14: Purchase Order Processing Enhancements

Purchase Order Processing helps you to automate the process of issuing and managing purchase orders and receiving inventory tracked by purchase orders.

The following enhancements are discussed:

- *Revalue inventory for cost variances*
- *Landed costs*
- *Calculate tax for purchase orders*
- *Return items against posted receipts in inventory*
- *User-defined fields*
- *Auto-generate purchase orders*

Revalue inventory for cost variances

When you receive an invoice where the cost differs from what was previously expected, you can update or revalue purchase receipts in Inventory Control or leave purchase receipts alone, posting variances to an expense account.

Landed costs

Different costs that your business incurs in delivering products, such as freight, insurance, or duty can be defined, giving you a more accurate picture of an item's cost. Landed costs will be added to the expected cost from your vendor and are used to update Inventory Control. You can display these costs and items on a purchase order receipt where you can edit them. You can associate landed costs with individual line items or with entire shipments, and then allocate the costs to the line items.

Calculate tax for purchase orders

When you generate a purchase order and calculate freight and miscellaneous charges, you can calculate taxes using single or advanced tax schedules.

Return items against posted receipts in inventory

You can remove items from inventory which were received directly in inventory or from a purchase order receipt. You also can decrease the amount owed a vendor for a previous order. All returns ensure the correct cost is removed from inventory and the correct General Ledger account distributions are made.

Multiple bins capabilities

When entering a purchase order return, the default purchase returns bin will be obtained from the item/site record. If there is no default entry, the default bin will be obtained from the site.

User-defined fields

A shipment or shipment/invoice can have 35 user-defined fields assigned to it. There are five user-defined lists, 10 user-defined text fields, and 20 user-defined date fields. You can define the prompts for the user-defined fields.

Auto-generate purchase orders

The purchase order generator allows you to automatically generate purchase orders to replenish inventory based on variables you specify.

Chapter 15: Inventory Control Enhancements

Inventory Control helps you to manage inventory at an unlimited number of warehouse and sales sites. Inventory Control is capable of handling an unlimited number of inventory items. It tracks quantities, costs, and prices, and records item receipts, disbursements, and transfers. Inquiry windows and management reports help to identify strong and weak product lines, spot trends, and forecast future purchase needs.

The following information is discussed:

Multiple bins capabilities

New multiple bins capabilities enable you to track quantities at the bin level. You can create an unlimited number of bins for each site. You can use bins in item quantity transactions and transfer items from bin to bin. You can view information about different quantity types in each bin.