

What is the Future of Dynamics GP?

Microsoft continues to shift its investment away from Dynamics GP to focus on Dynamics 365 Business Central. This shift has current Dynamics GP users concerned the platform will simply stop working. This is not true, but it does mean that organizations need to evaluate if they can operate on a platform that has reached the end of its lifecycle.

One of the biggest concerns we hear from companies moving from GP to Business Central is the digital spend. This is where it is important to view the move as an IT investment, not a redundant expense. Yes, there is an upfront cost to move, but in many cases, the cost is far less than maintaining a GP deployment.

In the example below, Company A and B have the same licensing requirements, except Company A uses Business Central, and Company B uses GP. Both companies have 15 licensed users and use the core financials and distribution modules in the system. The comparison below assumes two hosted GP servers, a total GP purchase price of \$41,000, one annual GP upgrade, and \$3,000 in costs to fix stuck batches and deal with connectivity issues throughout the year. The backup internet price is an estimate based on published **Verizon Wireless** pricing and may vary depending on your location.

| Company | Platform | Annual Licensing Fees | 400 Mbps Backup Internet | Server Hosting | Annual Upgrades | Stuck Batches/Connectivity Support | Total Annual Cost | Total Five-Year Cost | Total Ten-Year Cost |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Company A | Dynamics 365 Business Central | \$12,800 | \$2,400 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$15,200 | \$76,000 | \$152,000 |
| | Dynamics GP | \$7,380 | \$0 | \$16,800 | \$4,500 | \$3,000 | \$31,680 | \$158,400 | \$316,800 |

Please note: This analysis is missing costs associated with securing the environment, one-time setup costs and end-user support issues unrelated to connectivity or stuck batches. These types of issues will occur regardless of the system.

How Can Schneider Downs Help?

Among many other digital solutions, Schneider Downs provides ERP implementation and support services for Dynamics 365 Business Central.

Contact the team at contactsd@schneiderdowns.com to determine if Business Central is right for you.