



4th Quarter  
2010

# Microsoft Dynamics SL Newsletter

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## A Peak Behind the Curtain at Dynamics SL 2011

The folks at Microsoft are hard at work putting the finishing touches on the newest version of your Dynamics SL software which is expected for release in the 2nd quarter of next year. Recently, we got a sneak peak at what to expect with Dynamics SL 2011. In fact, NexTec is participating in beta testing for the new release and we think you'll like what's in store so let's take a closer look.

### The 30,000 Foot View

At a top level, Microsoft Dynamics SL 2011 aims to achieve 4 objectives that are driven by feedback from customers like you. The objectives include:

**"Help my Employees to be More Productive"** - Dynamics SL processes will be made easier by improving interoperability, interface design, and usability.

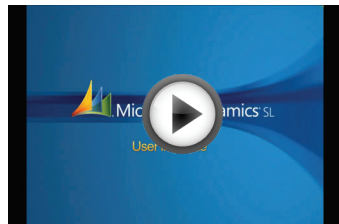
**"Help Me Connect My Business"** - Dynamics SL 2011 will enable you to integrate more of your business ecosystem and adapt quickly to meet changing requirements.

**"I Need Better Insights Into What's Happening"** - you'll see a tremendous improvement in reporting and query tools to find the information you need quickly, share with people who need to see it, and make timely and informed decisions.

**"Help Us Manage Documents Better"** - new capabilities will enable you to receive, link, store, and recall ERP-related documents such as email, images, and other correspondence.

### More Productive Interface and Design

Microsoft is putting significant effort into improving productivity by rolling out a new interface for Dynamics SL 2011 that features a familiar **Microsoft Office** look and feel. The new design will also include **role-specific dashboards** which allow you to focus on the information, reports, and screens that matter most to you based on your role with the company. Another handy new feature includes **integrated login** allowing you to access **multiple companies at the same time** as well as color coding to easily identify different company screens.



### See it in Action!

Watch the new Dynamics SL [User Interface Video](#) online and see for yourself how you can get more done in less time with a new design that makes every activity easier and more organized.

### Connecting Your Business

Project-driven businesses will appreciate the investment going in to extending integration with popular technology that you may already rely on such as Microsoft Project Server, Microsoft SharePoint, Microsoft Office, Microsoft SQL Server, and Dynamics CRM. Connections like these

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# Dynamics SL 2011 (Cont) ...

bring project **management** and project **accounting** even closer together, reducing redundant data entry and synchronizing data more closely so you can make better decisions during the project. Tighter integration with Microsoft SharePoint, in particular, offers flexibility to access project information from virtually anywhere ... in the office, on the road, or on location.

## Better Insight

As you've probably heard by now, Microsoft has decided to discontinue development and support for FRx Financial Reporter. With Dynamics SL 2011, you'll get your first chance to meet the new **Dynamics Management Reporter**. This new financial reporter represents a significant upgrade to the current FRx technology, offering a Microsoft Office-like interface while preserving the "building block" approach to report design. And since it runs on a SQL server database and reports are processed on the server (not the workstation), you'll experience much improved performance.

**Note:** A utility will be available to assist in upgrading your current FRx report definitions to the new Management Reporter. Even if you upgrade to Dynamics SL 2011, you can still run your old FRx reports ... but eventually, FRx will be completely phased out so it's a good idea to become familiar with Management Reporter as soon as possible.

Keeping with the "Better Insight" theme, a new **Quick Query** tool will provide business intelligence data based on your perspective and whether you need organizational data (budgeting, analysis), team data (monitor divisional performance), or data for your personal role (specific transactions and detailed information). These ad hoc inquiries allow you create query views on the fly, add/remove columns, sort, filter, export to Excel, and share with other personnel.

## Better Document Management

Building on the Doc Share and Windows SharePoint document repository features already available in Dynamics SL 7, Dynamics SL 2011 will make it easy to scan and link an image or document to the relevant transaction/record in Dynamics SL. That means paper-based communication like vendor invoices, bills of lading, customer correspondence, employee timecards, and signed documents will be easy to retrieve when you're answering inquiries or resolving disputes with vendors or customers.

## Better, Easier, and Faster

Everything in Microsoft Dynamics SL 2011 is geared toward saving you time while making the software better, easier to use, and faster.

[Contact us](#) with your questions or just stay tuned for more details as we get closer to the launch date during the first half of next year. You can also keep tabs on what's going on by visiting our [NexTec company blog](#) for Dynamics SL.

## UPCOMING NEXTEC WEBCASTS

[Backing Up Microsoft Dynamics SL](#)

**10/20/2010 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST**

Disaster recovery training for Dynamics SL data

[Microsoft Dynamics SL Year End Closing Review](#)

**12/8/2010 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST**

Helpful tips & tricks for closing out the year

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