

The Agile Manufacturer

Welcome to the Agile Manufacturer

Agility Business Solutions is pleased to announce the release of our new email newsletter, The Agile Manufacturer. The Agile Manufacturer has been designed to bring you news regarding Dynamics AX, as well as information regarding Agility's suite of products and services.

Each quarter, you'll receive a new edition of The Agile Manufacturer which will contain helpful hints related to the use of Dynamics AX; information relating to solutions to common problems, as well as articles about lean manufacturing techniques.

Did you Know?

Did you know that there are 101 eLearning courses for Dynamics AX 4.0 and another 186 courses for AX 2009? These are free, online training courses designed to train new users on particular areas of AX, help in preparation for certification exams or just refresh an existing user on the topic of interest. These can all be a part of a user's My Learning Curriculum.

Learn more at [eLearning Link](#)

How You Can Get Involved

If you have a topic that you'd like to address in a future edition of The Agile Manufacturer please contact us at sales@agilitybiz.net. Additionally, if you have a success story or subject matter expertise or advice related to the use of Dynamics AX or general manufacturing, you're welcome to contribute.

Microsoft Extends Support for Dynamics Products

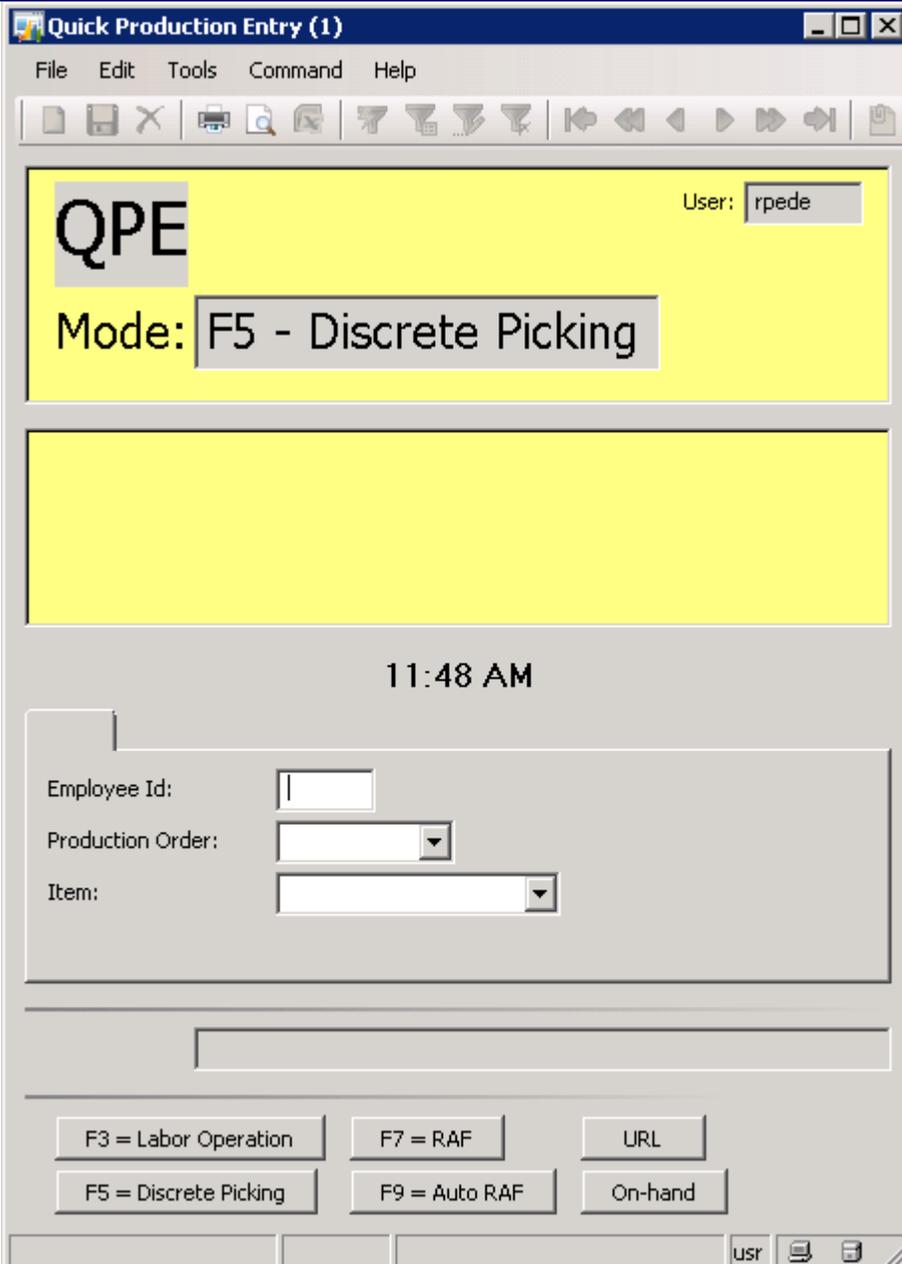


Microsoft has announced that they will be extending the service pack support policy for Dynamics SL, GL, NAV, AX and CRM. The new policy states that support for a previous service pack will be extended to 24 months from the time when a new service pack is released. Prior to this policy change Microsoft offered only 12 months of support for previous service packs. The announcement can be viewed at [Microsoft Support Announcement](#).

Quick Production Entry (QPE)

One of the limitations of working with Dynamics AX's standard interface is the ability to simplify and quickly create and maintain production orders. Often times the process is too cumbersome for shop floor employees to complete while engaged in their production-related responsibilities. To help solve this issue Agility Business Solutions has created Quick Production Entry (QPE).

QPE provides users with a simple interface that eliminates all of the non-value added steps associated with creating and maintaining a production order. QPE provides a single screen interface to simplify the process of creating, maintaining and updating production orders. QPE can incorporate the use of a barcode reader or touch screen to provide even greater simplification of the update process. QPE can be used with a variety of deployment methodologies, including barcode scanners, touch screens, and can even be deployed via the Enterprise Portal.



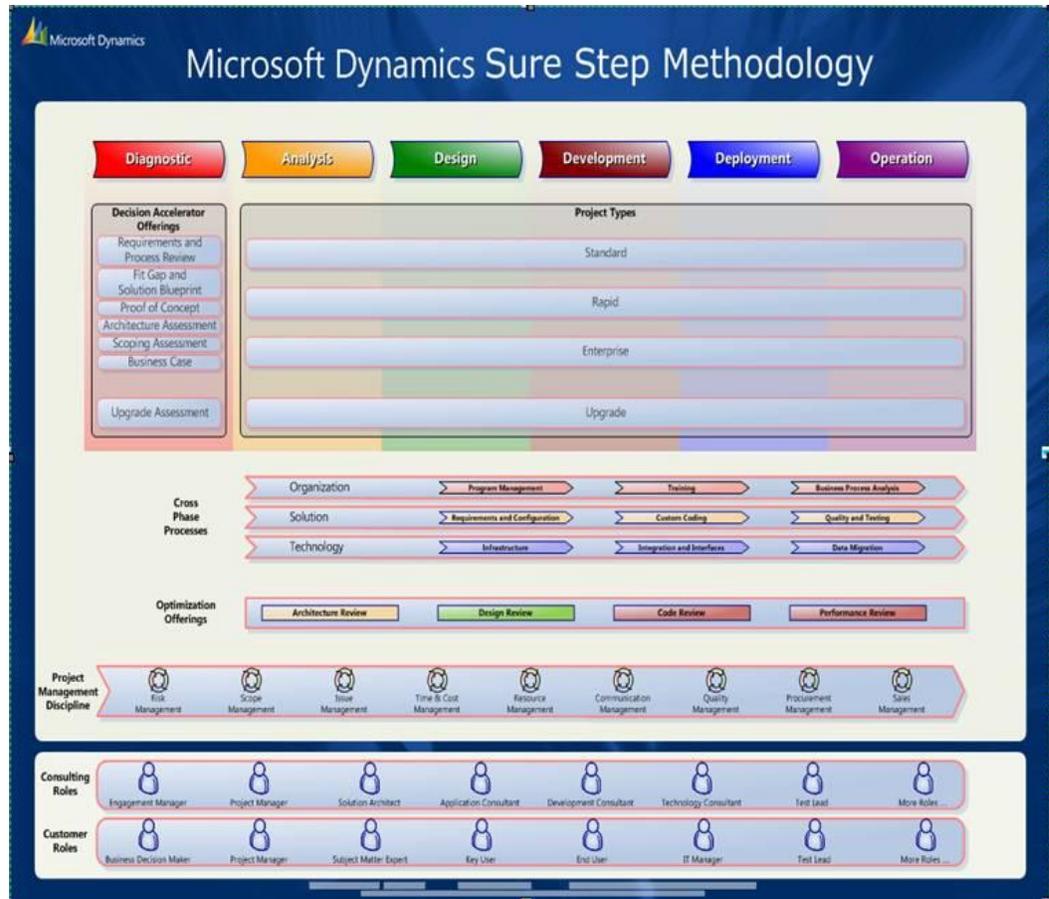
QPE Pick Screen

QPE is simple to use, easy to deploy and can quickly make an impact on your organization's bottom line. For additional information or to view a demonstration of QPE, contact your Agility Business Solutions representative.

What is the Sure Step Methodology?

Agility Business Solutions is committed to utilizing Microsoft's Sure Step Methodology and tools for all of its systems implementations. Sure Step provides a proven tool for communication, collaboration and communication during the implementation process. Sure Step will enable your Agility Business Solutions consultants to better manage your organization's implementation.

Microsoft Dynamics® Sure Step Methodology



Designed to improve the implementation management process, the Sure Step Methodology can help lower the total cost of ownership of Dynamics AX. The Sure Step Methodology can be used for projects encompassing large, medium, and small end-to-end engagements. The methodology provides different project types to suit your implementation engagement, as well as optional offerings to assist you during Diagnostic and Optimization. Flowchart diagrams within the Sure Step Methodology point you to tools and templates that can be used at different phases, while the content provides detailed guidance on roles required to perform activities and proven best practices. The content tools, templates and best practices of the methodology can help you increase the consistency, timeframes, quality and success of your implementations.

The Sure Step Methodology provides content specific to Microsoft Dynamics AX. You can choose the content that is presented to you by selecting one or more of the available

filter options, as well as the project type.

Sure Step Methodology has six phases: Diagnostic, Analysis, Design, Development, Deployment and Operation. While Diagnostic is a pre-implementation phase, the Analysis through Operation phases represent the five phases of an implementation project. The Operation phase also encompasses post-implementation activities, in that it extends the project lifecycle beyond the implementation and into the Support stage.

Phases can be used to navigate through the Sure Step Methodology, by stepping through all the phases and activities during an Implementation, Upgrade, Diagnostic Decision Accelerator, or Optimization Project. Once you navigate into the methodology, you will see business process flow diagrams with links so you can continue to navigate through the implementation methodology, step by step.

The Sure Step Methodology offers the following project types:

The Standard project type is a lean approach for implementing Microsoft Dynamics solutions at a single site.

The Rapid project type depicts an accelerated approach for implementing Microsoft Dynamics solutions with minimal or no customizations.

The Enterprise project type represents a standardized approach for implementing Microsoft Dynamics solutions in complex single-site deployments, or in global/multi-site organization wherein country/site specific unique business needs have to be factored on top of a core solution.

The Upgrade project type describes the approach for bringing an existing Microsoft Dynamics solution to a subsequent release of that solution. This approach starts with a Technical Upgrade to address moving existing functionality to the subsequent release. Any new functionality desired is then deployed using the above project types: Rapid, Standard or Enterprise.



**7000 Fitzwater Rd.
Suite 220
Cleveland, Ohio
44141**

**Phone
(440) 546-8384**

**Fax
(440) 546-9291**

**E-mail
sales@agilitybiz.net**

**Web Address
www.agilitybiz.net**