

Dear ,



Agility Business Solutions, Inc.

## 4th Quarter 2010 Newsletter

*The staff and management of Agility Business Solutions wish you the Happiest of Holidays and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!*

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### Role Centers

When you sign on to Dynamics AX 2009 are you gaining insight into key measures of your organization?

The screenshot displays a Dynamics AX 2009 Role Center interface. It features several key components: a 'Business Overview' section with a table of indicators (Total Receivables, Total Customer Sales, Total Payables, Total Vendor Purchases, Gross profit) comparing current and previous periods; a 'Financial KPIs' section with a table of metrics (Total Revenue, Cost of Goods Sold, Net Income, Total Expenses) and their status relative to goals; a 'Sales in the Past Periods Chart' showing a bar chart of sales from 10/1/2009 to 7/1/2010; and a 'Customer Group' section with a table of customer metrics (Customer, Qty Ordered, Qty Shipped, Value Shipped) for various locations like Baseball Stadium and Rogers Sports Center. A 'Work list' at the bottom shows a list of tasks with due dates.

Role centers provide clear, concise visibility to the metrics that are

### The Benefits of Virtualization

Simply put, hardware virtualization is the process of using software to create a Virtual Machine (VM) that emulates a physical computer. Using virtualization has a number of benefits that make it viable for a wide variety of technology deployments, including Dynamics AX.

Using virtual machines creates a separate operating system environment that is logically isolated from the host server. By providing multiple VMs at once, this approach allows several operating systems to run simultaneously on a single physical machine. Rather than paying for many under-utilized server machines, each dedicated to a specific workload; server virtualization allows those workloads to be consolidated onto a smaller number of more fully-used machines.

important to you. Whether you are the CFO looking for summarized financial information or a production supervisor looking for past due production orders, the Role Center capability can inform you.

### Cues

These indicators query the AX database and show you information that you used to have to run reports or look at queries to get a snap shot of information. They are as simple to create as a filter on an Overview screen.

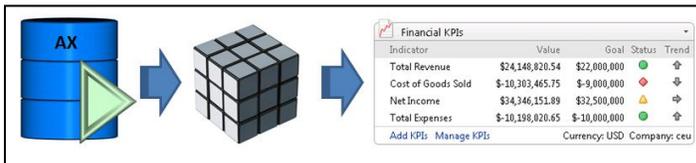
### KPI (Key Performance Measurements)

KPIs display current values and measure them against Goals and display the Status and Trend over time.

### Business Overview

This view allows for comparative analysis of periods of time. Answering questions like “What is our Open Receivables this month versus last month” or “How does our Gross Profit this fiscal year compare to last fiscal year?”

## How the information flows



- Transactions regularly update the AX database
- Periodically (generally nightly), the data cubes are updated
- The Role Center displays the data cube information

Agility Business Solutions has been working with clients to get their deployment of Role Centers and data cubes working. This allows users to select from the dozens and dozens of vanilla KPIs and measures as well as add custom measurements that are more specific to the client’s needs.

## Benefits

- Optimizes the use of physical servers by optimizing machine utilization.
- Consolidates multiple, under-utilized physical servers on a single host, running Virtual Machines.
- Increases platform stability by isolating servers, thus minimizing software conflicts.
- Provides a secure computing platform across both physical and virtual environments, enabled through next-generation architecture and security features.
- Provides increased fault tolerance and failover.
- Faster server setup and configuration.
- Provides an ideal environment for version testing of new software, minimizing potential conflicts with older installations.
- Ideal for AOS, Enterprise Portal, SSRS, SSAS and OLAP portions of a Dynamics AX installation.
- Decreased hardware footprint and energy consumption.

## Microsoft AX Training Schedule

### January 2011

- January 12, 2011 1:00 P.M. Eastern Time  
[Management Reporter and Performance Management with Microsoft Dynamics AX](#)

### February 2011

- February 8, 2011 1:00 P.M. Eastern Time  
[See the New Payroll for Microsoft Dynamics AX](#)
- February 16, 2011 1:00 P.M. Eastern Time  
[Convergence 2011 Atlanta: Getting the Most Out of Your Experience](#)
- February 23, 2011 1:00 P.M. Eastern Time  
[Microsoft Dynamics Business Ready Enhancement Plan](#)

### Agile Manufacturer Blog

Don't forget to check out our blog, [The Agile Manufacturer](#). The Agile Manufacturer is a great place to find articles related to lean manufacturing, Dynamics AX as well as general office efficiency tips and tricks.

### Save the Date

Microsoft Convergence 2011 will be held April 10-13<sup>th</sup> in Atlanta, Georgia at the Georgia World Congress Center. Convergence will feature Dynamics AX-specific content as well as information related to other Microsoft technologies.

### Agility Business Solutions

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