



Upgrading to BC

The Hidden Cost of Old NAV






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Why Are We Here Today?

-  Mission Parameters - What's supported (and what's not)
-  Flight Paths - Your realistic upgrade options
-  Navigation Data – Not to be missed
-  Launch Sequence - Your next steps
-  Mission Control - Q&A

What Version Are You on Today?

01

NAV – Pre 2009 to 2013

The classic era

C/SIDE, on-prem only, no upgrade path built in

02

NAV 2015 to BC 14

The bridge versions

Extensions emerging, cloud-ready but not cloud-native

03

BC 15 and newer

Modern platform

AL extensions, SaaS-first, continuous updates

04

Not sure?

That's OK – we'll help

We'll identify your version and map your options

Start thinking about this and keep this in mind throughout – it will affect your upgrade options!

Fixed Lifecycle Support

NAV 5.0



NAV 2009



NAV 2013



NAV 2013r2



NAV 2015



NAV 2016



BC 13



BC 14



Extended Support:
Security updates only

**ALL OUT OF
MICROSOFT SUPPORT**

NAV 2017

Jan 2027

NAV 2018

Jan 2028

Modern Lifecycle Support

BC 26

Oct 2026

All in support!

BC 27

Apr 2027

BC 28

Oct 2026

Oct 2027

6 months of new features, bug and regulatory fixes

12 months of bug fixes regulatory fixes

Where You Are Today: Mission Profiles



Three groups, three different starting points

Crash Landing Risk – Restart Mission

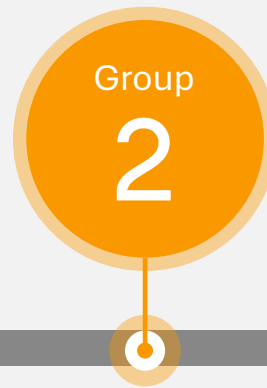
Mid-orbit refuelling → Two-hop correction

Course adjustment only



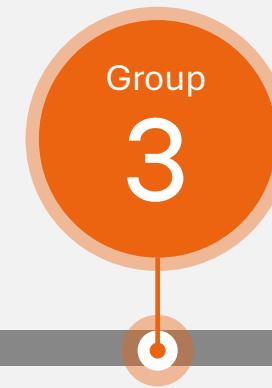
Pre-NAV 2015

Versions older than NAV 2015. Out of mainstream support — re-implementation is usually the best route.



NAV 2015 to BC 14

CAL codebase. Includes NAV 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and BC 13 to BC 14. Two-hop upgrade required.



BC 15 and higher

AL codebase. Modern platform — direct upgrade path available to the latest BC versions.

Group 1 – Re-implementation

New spacecraft, same crew knowledge

You're on an older NAV

On anything earlier than NAV 2015, a reimplementation is often more practical than the upgrade hops.

Your business has changed since day one processes, divisions, ways of working.

Technical debt is choking you

A one-day change becomes a five-day effort to avoid breaking unused features.

Much of it is 15-year-old code nobody uses yet still has to keep working.

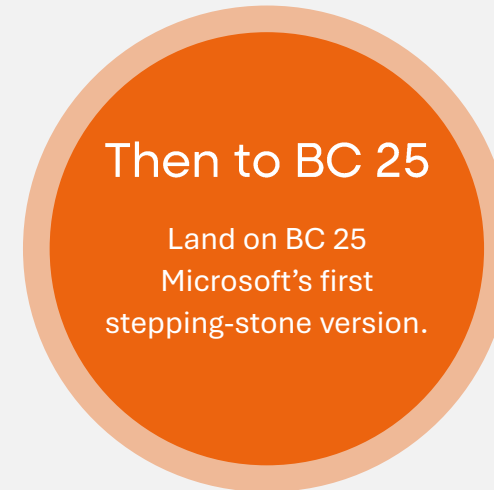
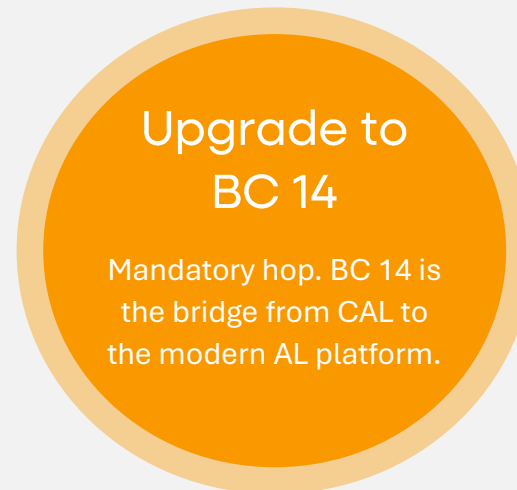
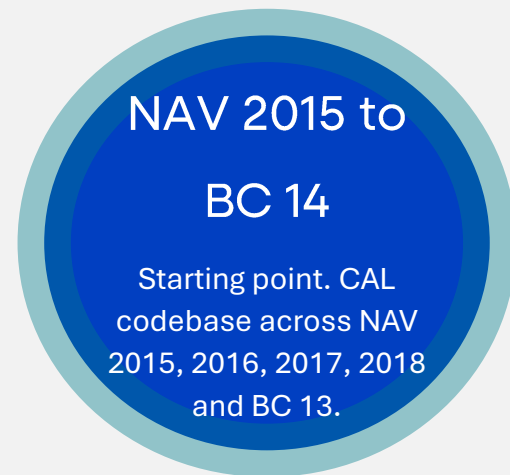
The system isn't working for you

Even on newer versions: if you're not satisfied, upgrading preserves the problems.

A reimplementation lets you design around how you actually work today.

Group 2 - Your Upgrade Path

From CAL to AL: a two-hop upgrade to BC 25



Group 3 — your upgrade path

Already on AL: a direct route



Why we stop at BC 25

Microsoft's stepping-stone model is every five versions

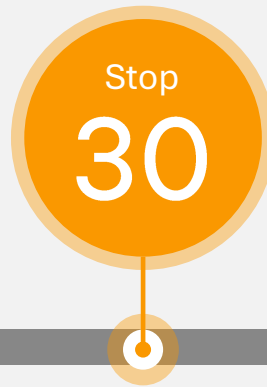
Gateway Station



BC 25

First mandatory stepping-stone. Every upgrade lands here today.

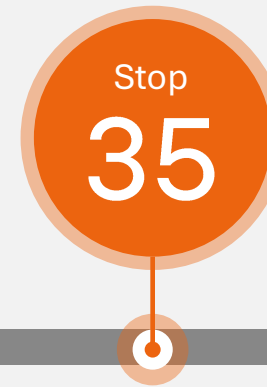
Future Checkpoint



BC 30

Next mandatory hop. Tenants must move from BC 25 through BC 30.

Future Checkpoint



BC 35

Pattern continues every five versions, so BC 40, BC 45 and beyond.

Where You Should Be - The Evergreen Approach



It is advised to never be more than 1 wave release behind the latest.

This is to avoid technical debt and staying within mainstream support

WHERE YOU SHOULD BE

Evergreen.

Always in the support window. Always current.



Treat Upgrades as Routine Maintenance

- **Stay inside the Modern Lifecycle window at all times**
No more than one major version behind.
- **Upgrade at least once a year, skip at most one wave**
Skip two waves and the clock runs out and support ends before you get there.
- **The longer you wait, the harder it gets**
Complexity, technical debt and cost all compound with each missed wave.
- **Start with an upgrade assessment**
Know your version, your reasons for upgrading, and your satisfaction with today's system.

Full Upgrade / Upgrade Factory

*You upgrade your existing code base and all your data, to work on the latest version of Business Central.
Your customisations are carried forward and your data is migrated.*

DATA

Your data is well configured

Chart of Accounts, Posting Groups and Dimensions setup reflects years of refinement.

A full upgrade preserves all of this configuration and brings it into the latest platform.

PROCESSES

Your processes work

Your workflows, approvals, and integrations are proven and running as they should.

Upgrading keeps your processes intact while giving you access to new BC capabilities.

FEATURES

You want features, not change

The system performs and behaves the way you need, but you just want the latest functionality.

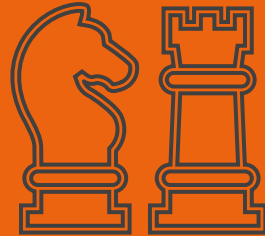
A full upgrade delivers new features and modern tooling without redesigning what already works.

Upgrade Assessment

Discovery Session



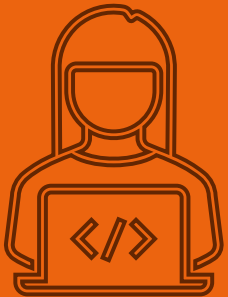
Upgrade Strategy & Objectives



- Your version of NAV/BC
- Reasons for looking to upgrade & expectations
- Satisfaction with existing solution
- Initial Code Review
- Our recommended approach
- Tailored Demonstration

Upgrade Factory Foundation Phase

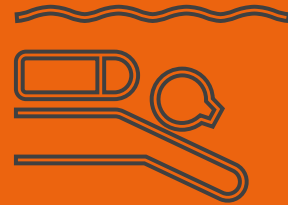
Detailed Code Review



- Publish existing extensions against latest version of BC Online
- Review Add-on apps
- Check for non-cloud compliant code
- Review database size

Upgrade Factory Foundation Phase

Deep Dive Workshops



- Licensing – BTC3 promo
- Data Storage
- Integrations
- Reporting & Power BI
- M365 integration
- New Functionality
- Review database size

Upgrade Factory Foundation Phase

Upgrade Proposal



- Full Cost estimate
- Project plan
- Licensing
- Payback Assessment

On-Prem or SaaS?

Either path gets you to the latest Business Central. The question is where it runs and how it's managed



On-Premises

- Full control of infrastructure
- You manage data residency
- Updates sit with you
- Best for strict compliance
- No Copilot

Full control

of your infrastructure & update cadence



SaaS (Cloud)

- Fully managed by Microsoft
- Continuous innovation and security
- Designed for growth and scale
- Full copilot built in
- Built-in disaster recovery
- Lower total cost of ownership

Lower TCO

no hardware, automatic updates & Disaster Recovery

Both paths lead to Business Central, choose what fits your business

The On-prem Hidden Costs

Costs that rarely make it into upgrade planning, but should.

1

Server maintenance

Requires trained in-house staff or a third-party provider for hosting, patching and support.

2

Hardware refresh

Every 3–5 years. After ~5, failure rates rise, performance drops, maintenance climbs.

3

Surrounding infrastructure

Networking, storage arrays, UPS, power, cabling and racks which all need renewal.

4

Server software licences

The licences are needed just to run on-prem servers which are all gone with a SaaS instance.

Cloud isn't right for everyone — but for most, these costs aren't factored into upgrade planning.

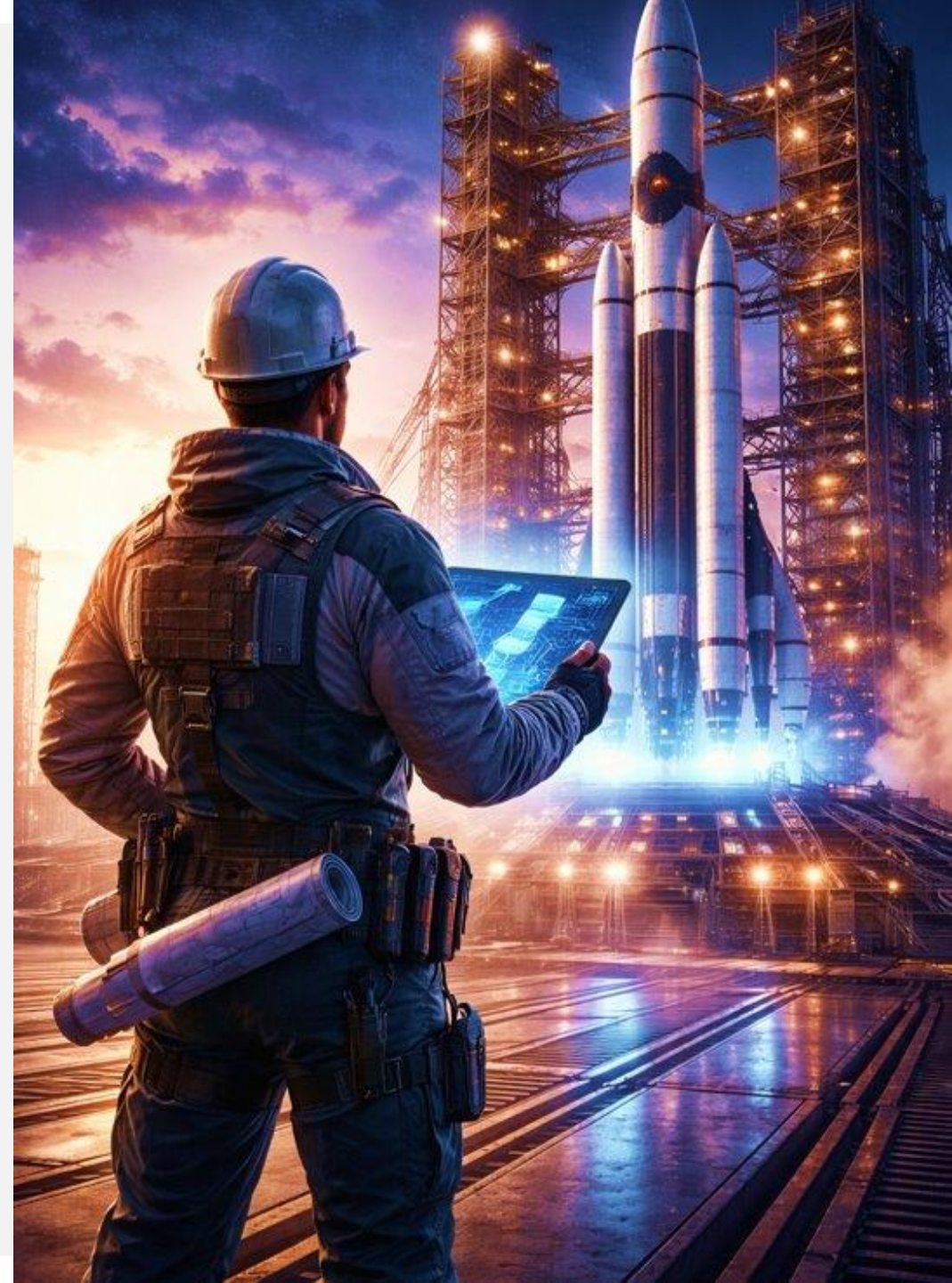
What Online Unlocks

- Always on latest BC version
- Copilot built in
- Native Microsoft 365 Integration
- Power Platform and Power BI Ready
- Access to Appsource extensions

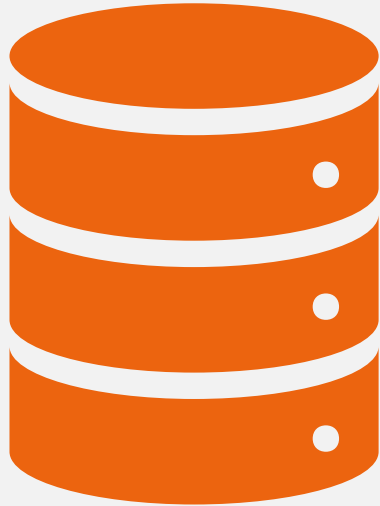


Data Storage

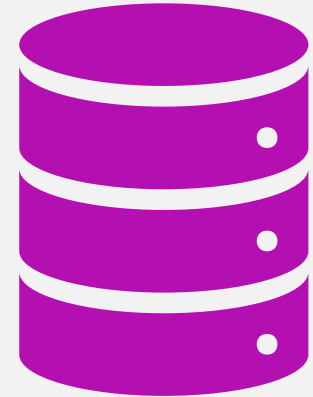
**Business Central
Online**



Data Storage - Environments



Production



3 Sandboxes

Data Storage - Environments



Data Storage - Environments



Addl. subscription

Addl. Prod. Env.

Per User

80gb - base

SAAS STORAGE ALLOCATION

80 GB

base storage, shared across 1 production + 3 sandboxes

PLUS PER USER

- Premium +5 GB
- Essential +3 GB
- Device +1.5 GB

Additional Storage

- 100 Gb Packages

e.g. 30 Essential + 20 Device + 1 Data Package =

80 GB + 90 GB + 30 GB + 100 GB = 300 GB

Data - Your Biggest Cloud Cost

If your data exceeds the allocation, four options:

OPTION 1

Clean Start

Start a fresh company with opening balances. Viable if historical data doesn't drive daily operations.

OPTION 2

Data reduction

Investigate attachments, change logs, integration logs, staging records. Often half can be cleaned up.

OPTION 3

Offload attachments

Move attachments to Azure Blob Storage to free up database space in BC.

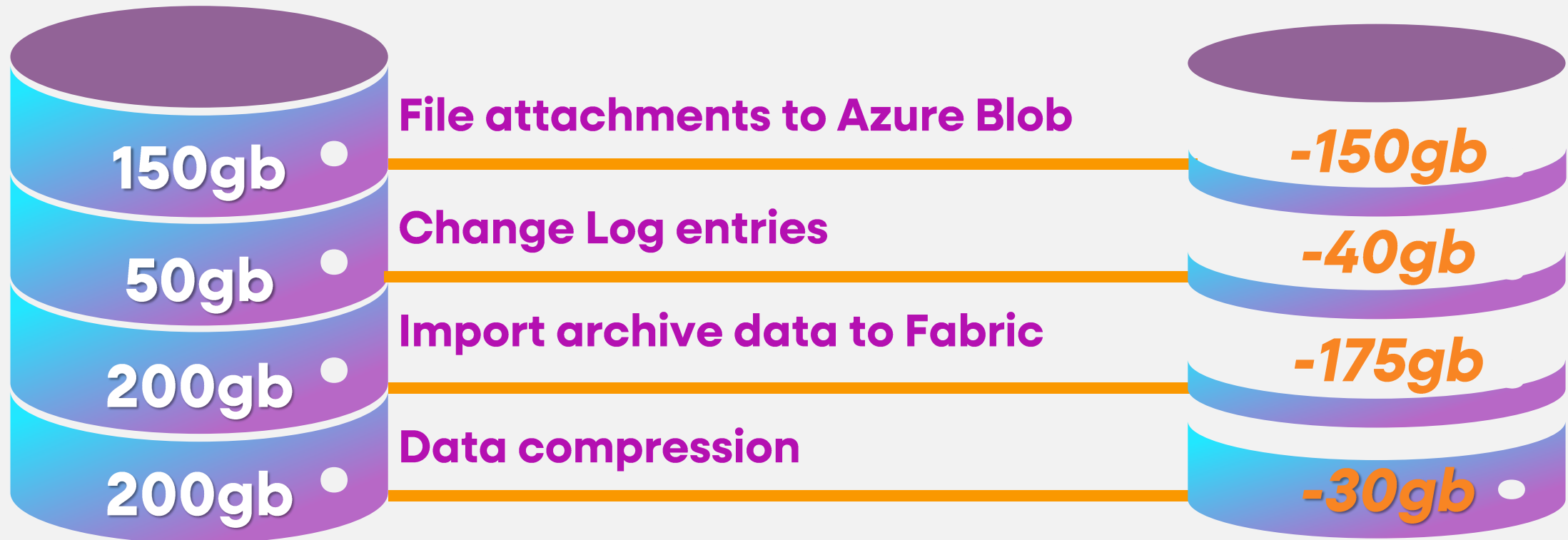
OPTION 4

Data warehouse

Keep history in a warehouse, start BC clean with master data and opening balances.

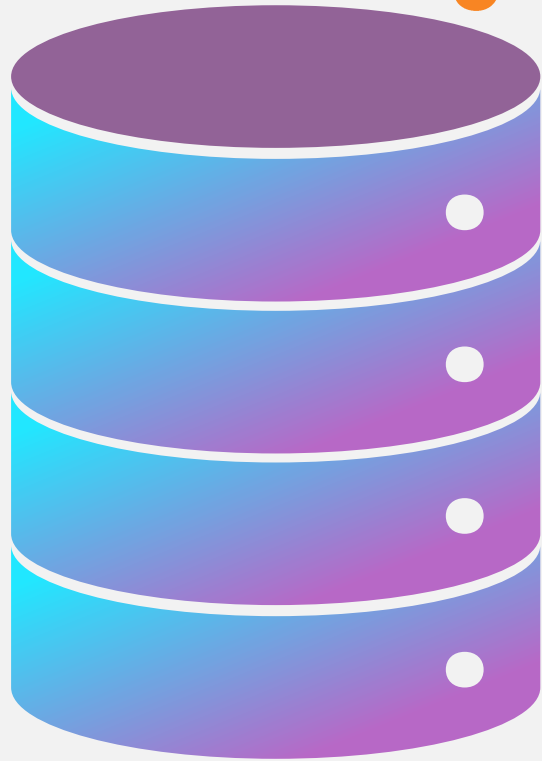
Data Strategy – Online - Example

Total – 600gb



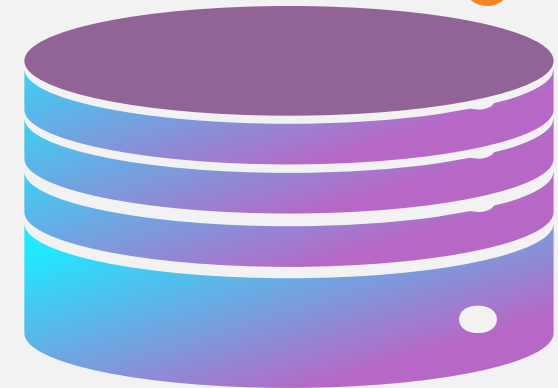
Data Strategy – Online - Example

Total – 600gb



Data reduction
- 395gb

Total – 205gb



What's Next?

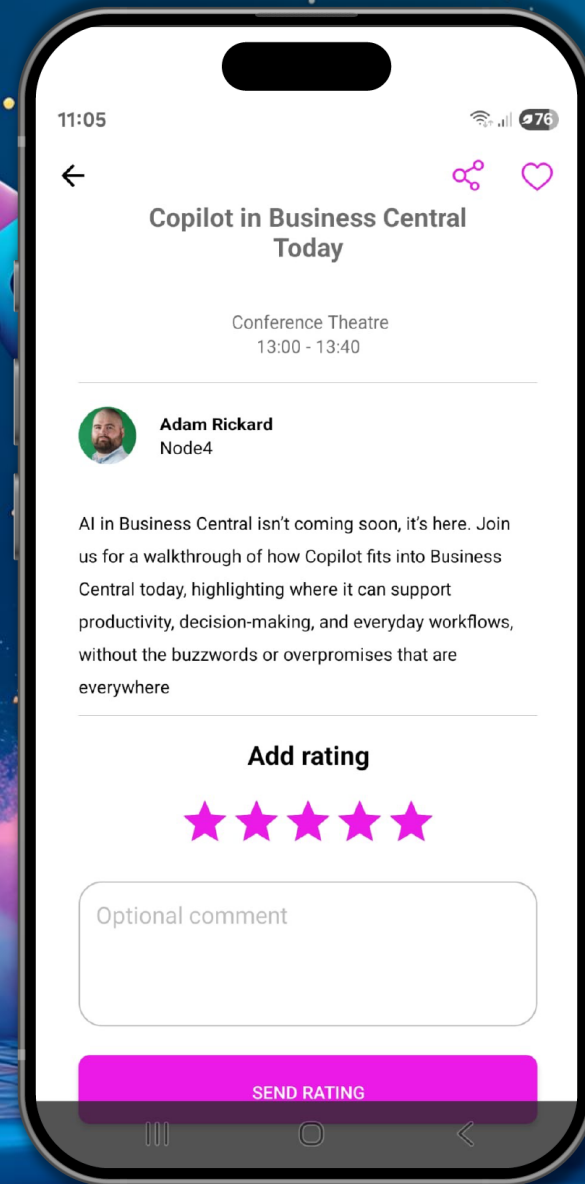
Ready for launch? Speak to your EM to arrange an intro and requirements session to get things off the ground.

Mission Control Open Channel



Loved it? Learned something? Had opinions?

Head to the app and share your thoughts - stars and honest opinions encouraged



Thank You.



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