Microsoft Power Platform

# Transforming IT:

**The strategic impact of low-code development**

**This e-book is for CIOs and senior IT leaders seeking to understand and capitalize on the strategic advantages of low-code platforms in enhancing developer capabilities, ensuring enterprise-grade security, and driving cost-effective innovation.**

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# Accelerate innovation with a complete low-code development platform

As an IT leader, you're responsible for the strategic challenge of driving digital transformation across your organization—usually with significant time and resource constraints. Beyond keeping IT up and running, you are helping the business to achieve higher performance levels through technology.

The surging demand for digital solutions and the shortage of technical skills force leaders to seek new technology strategies. Low code is one of the most promising. Low-code tools streamline the creation of custom applications, automation, analytics, and more, making it easy for anyone in your organization to create efficient and flexible solutions.

# Introducing <u>Microsoft Power Platform</u>

Choosing Microsoft Power Platform gives your organization the world's most complete set of integrated low-code development tools. It aligns with the dual mandate of operational efficiency and strategic innovation, enabling you to meet immediate needs faster and support long-term transformation objectives. Power Platform isn't just for simple applications. It integrates with hundreds of other systems, databases, and apps to address complex challenges.

With simple app creation and workflow automation, people at your company can work smarter and more efficiently.
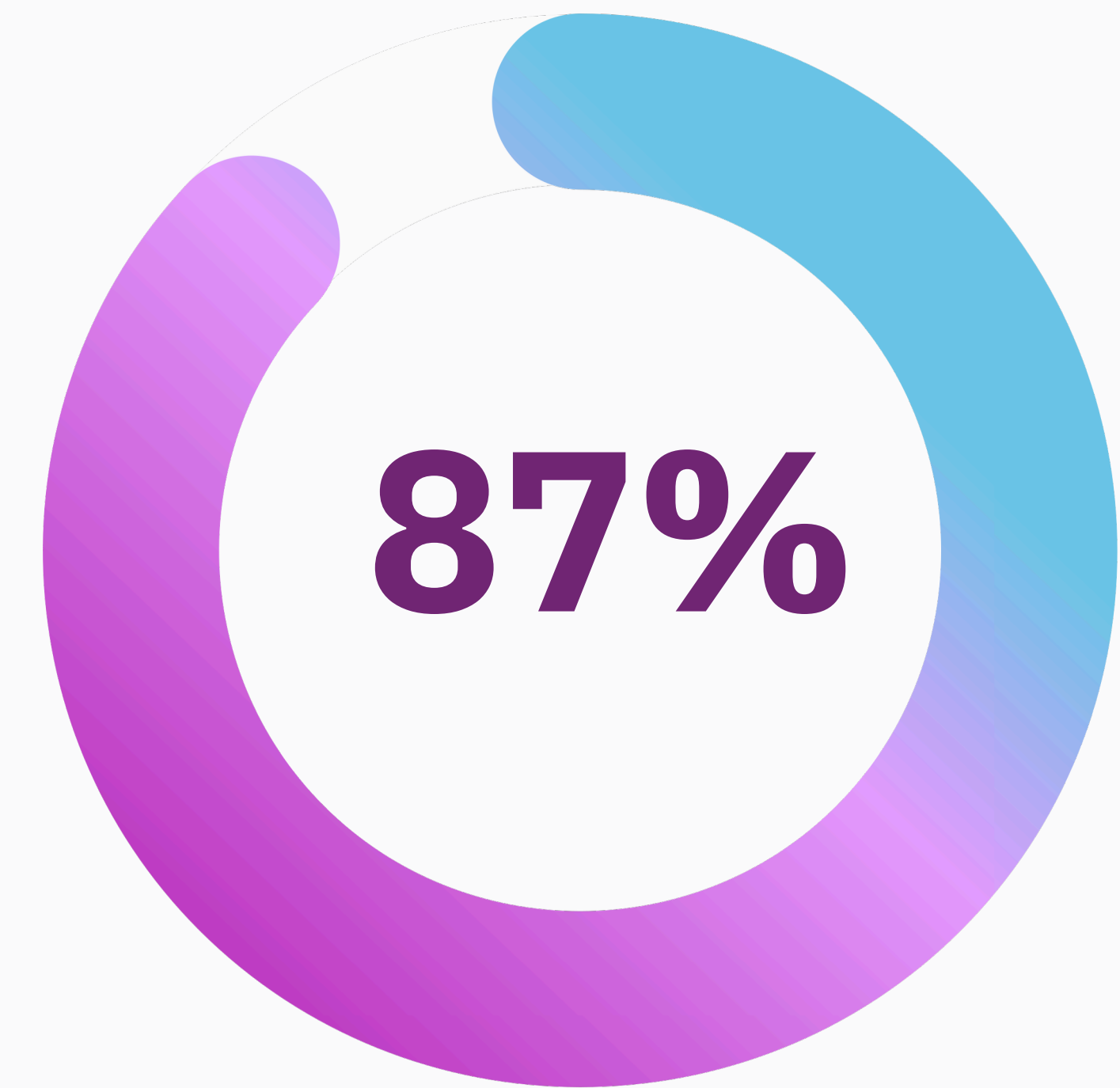
Here are some of the benefits you will experience with Power Apps and Power Automate.

- **Empower everyone with low-code tools:**
  Equip all users, from citizen developers to pro devs, to work together to build better solutions faster and drive innovation.

- **Leverage a smart data platform with built-in security and governance:**
  Help admins and organizations secure, manage, monitor, and view their data according to their needs.

- **Enable IT with complete visibility and control:**
  Integrate built-in governance, monitoring, and reporting in one centralized admin experience.

- **Connect your disconnected biz app data:**
  Utilize a single-structured platform for core business process data so organizations can rapidly adapt to and solve business challenges.

## 1. Quickly respond to business needs by reducing IT backlogs with AI and democratized development

Addressing IT backlogs improves your team's ability to respond to business needs. Freeing team members to create their own solutions eliminates the need for specialized IT resources and removes development bottlenecks.

In Power Platform, AI copilot capabilities turn natural language prompts into applications, speeding up development and reducing the low-code learning curve. Easy-to-use chatbot creation tools simplify the process of automating customer interactions.

# 87%

**87 percent of CIOs and IT pros say that increased AI and automation embedded into low-code platforms would help them better use the complete capabilities.[1]**

**Customize Microsoft Copilot for Microsoft 365 or build your own copilot experiences using Microsoft Copilot Studio. Learn more >**

[1] "Low-code signals 2023 - Microsoft Power Platform Blog,".

## 2. Empower teams to solve challenges together

By bringing low-code citizen developers, code-first pro developers, and non-technical business users together in fusion teams, Power Platform accelerates results and aligns applications to real business needs.

IT professionals have complete control to manage and secure the development process, while features like real-time co-authoring make creating a guided experience for citizen developers easy.

Fusion teams can build apps quickly using diverse starting points such as Figma files or hand-drawn designs. Citizen developers and IT professionals can use automated workflows, while complete application lifecycle management (ALM) capabilities enable adherence to modern DevOps best practices.
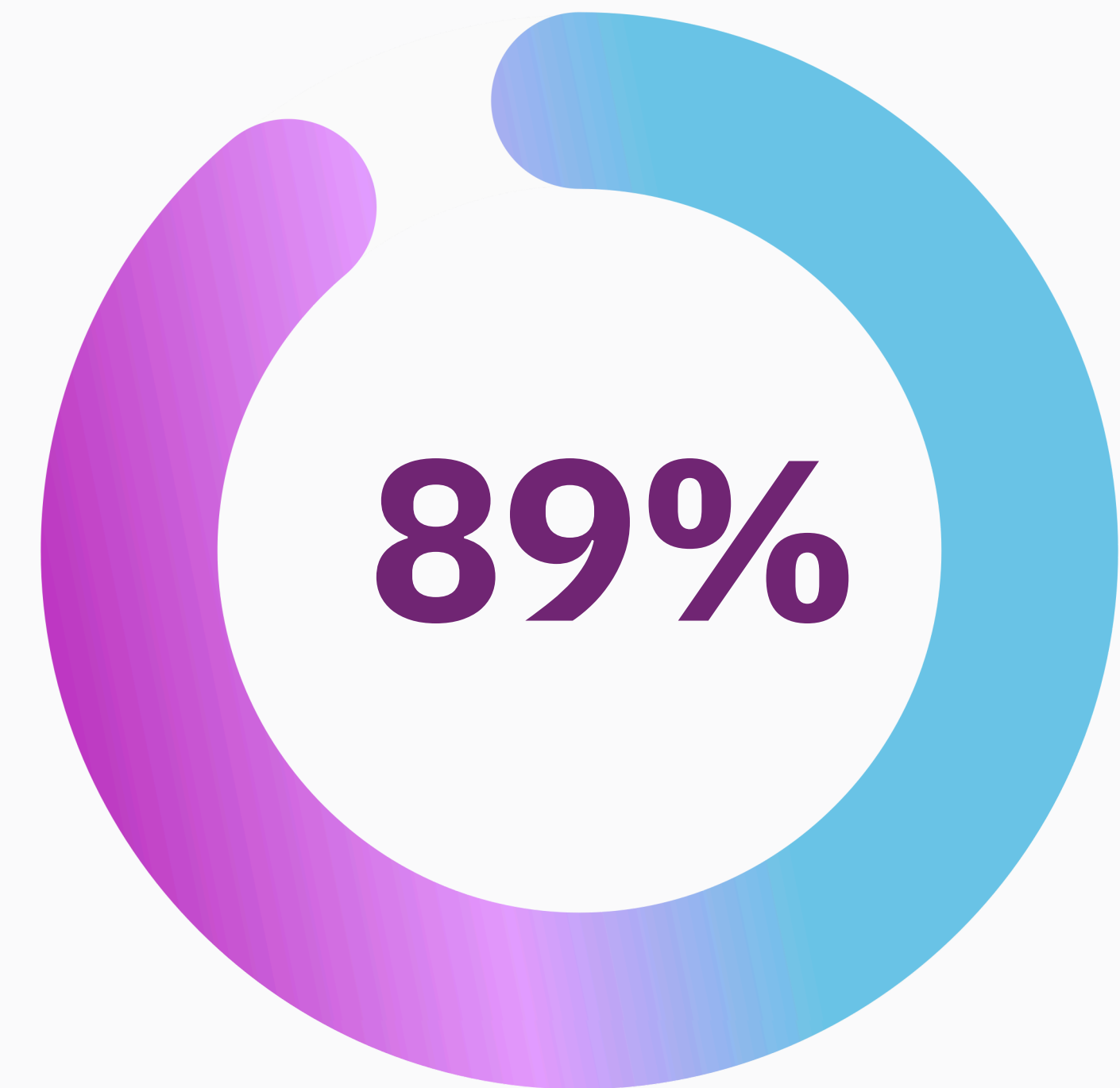
## 3. Do more within budget, time, and resource constraints

Limited resources for app development can hinder digital progress. Traditional methods are costly, and even promising projects can fall through the cracks. Making development cheaper and faster turns more scenarios into feasible, valuable ventures.

Power Platform enables development teams to get from idea to production with less time and budget by providing pre-built templates, modular components for secure data models, and built-in business rules. AI tools convert natural language to low-code experiences, accelerating the process even more.

### 89%

**89 percent of CIOs and IT pros surveyed say low code increases efficiency.[2]**

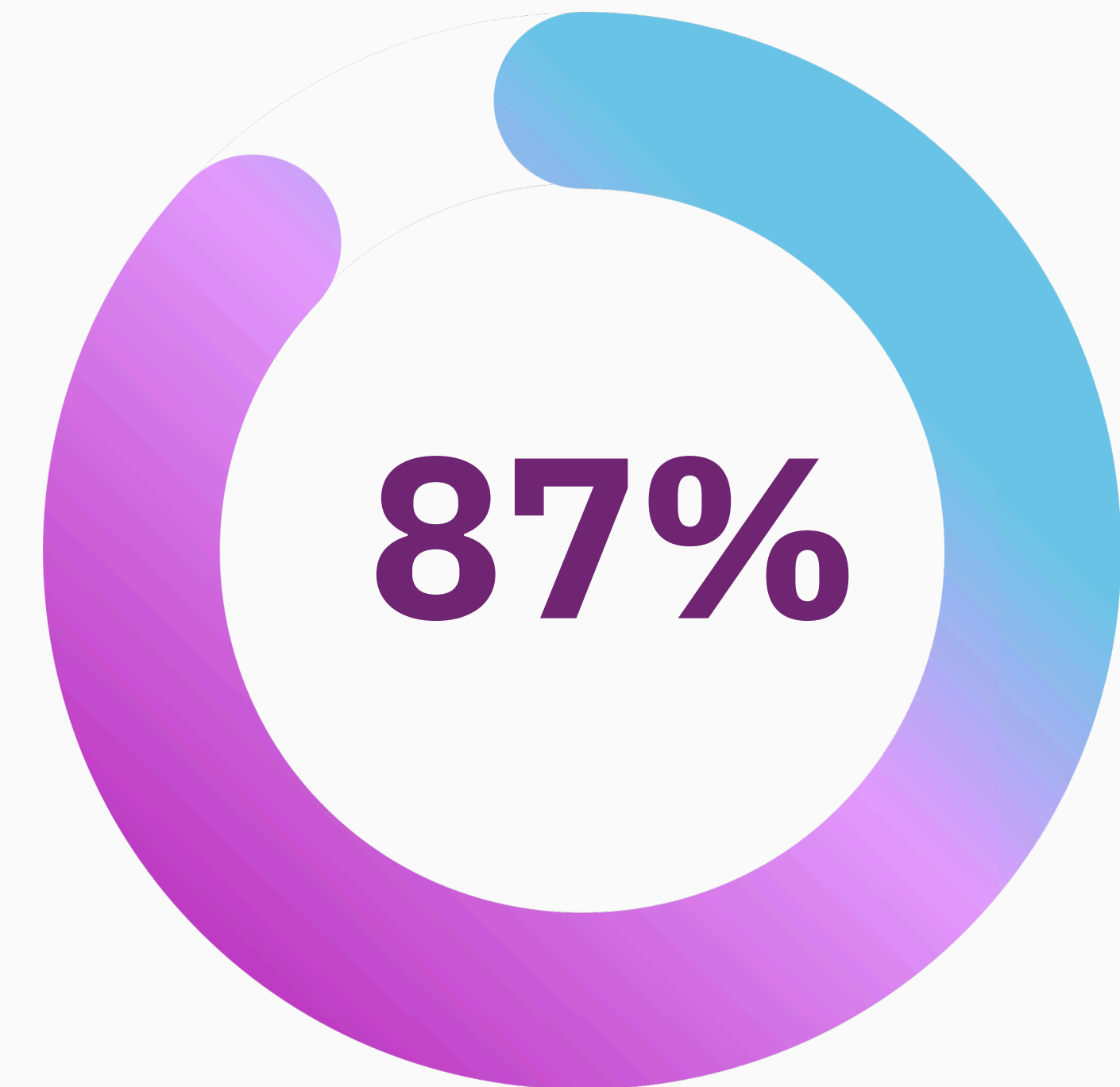[2] "Low-code signals 2023 - Microsoft Power Platform Blog,".

## 4. Automate time-consuming and manual business processes

Low-code app development and low-code automation platforms work in tandem to significantly enhance organizational productivity. With low-code app development, teams can quickly build custom applications tailored to specific business needs. Low-code automation complements this by making it possible to streamline various business processes with minimal manual intervention.

Using both together offers a comprehensive solution for maximum automation. Applications built through low-code platforms can feed into automated workflows and vice versa. This unified approach streamlines the development cycle and reduces time-to-value, helping organizations adapt quickly to emerging opportunities or challenges.

With Power Platform, citizen developers can quickly create powerful automations with natural language using Copilot in Power Automate.

# 87%

**87 percent of CIOs and IT pros say low code is very useful in helping their organizations modernize legacy applications.**[2]

[2] "Low-code signals 2023 - Microsoft Power Platform Blog,".

## 5. Work across platforms

Unified data serves as a strategic asset for both app development and analytics. Power Platform is built on Microsoft Dataverse, an integrated platform that simplifies bringing together information from different sources, business units, and third parties.

This data-centric approach also supports scalable app development with the ability to run applications of any complexity. Out-of-the-box features and open ecosystems support rapid change and agile service delivery. Custom connectors can be reused across solutions, saving time and development resources.



**We started by developing basic productivity apps and we're now using Power Platform to support important manufacturing processes.**"

**Kevin Kainz**,
Power Platform Solutions Manager, ZF

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## 6. Maintain security and control

Security and compliance are essential for the value and adoption of low-code solutions. Activity logs and governance models increase visibility and control, building organization-wide confidence in adopting and using low-code tools. Power Platform meets over 90 global compliance requirements, making it a reliable choice for enterprise development.

Centralized management aligns low-code adoption with compliance needs. Power Platform also offers resource-level control and data loss prevention policies. These features protect the organization and support secure, efficient innovation.

**With an increased knowledge and understanding of the platform, I'm able to deliver global solutions for Jaguar Land Rover that are available to all employees at an enterprise level of design, build, and security.**

**Gareth Crompton,**
Senior Digital Engineer, Human Resources,
Jaguar Land Rover

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## 7. Maximize the skills of your pro developers

Low code reduces routine development tasks, shifting the focus of professional developers toward more strategic, innovative work. AI integration and analytics speed customization to drive competitive advantage.

Using Power Platform, pro developers can create custom connectors, code efficiently through a command-line interface (CLI), and build sophisticated solutions with Visual Studio, Azure Functions, and Azure Logic Apps. They can also quickly incorporate prebuilt or custom AI models into apps using AI Builder to deliver new insights and automate business processes.

This approach makes application development more efficient for businesses and opens the door to solving complex challenges that were previously too resource-intensive to tackle. Development teams can combine expertise in a shared environment, increasing productivity and innovation potential.

> **Don't be fooled by the low-code branding. Anything that you can build with the full-code solution, you're likely to be able to do with this as well. Really, consider it a no-limits platform.**
>
> **Brian Hodel**,
> Principal Developer, Power Platform,
> T-Mobile

**Read the story >**

# Make technology a competitive advantage

Agility, innovation, and efficiency have never been more critical. Your competitive edge depends on optimizing technology and talent. Power Platform enables transformative results by accelerating the development of novel, practical solutions to pressing business challenges.

Whether citizen developers, pro developers, or both working together in fusion teams, Power Platform leverages AI, unifies data, and connects with many other technologies to expand the potential for transformative results. With Power Platform, you empower every employee to be an innovator.

**Try Power Platform free >**

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