Data Entities

Not Just For Implementation

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Data Entities Not Just for Implementations

Jody Cronk

THE CITY OF COLUMBUS

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Every-Day Use of Data Entities

- What is a Data Entity
- Why Data Entities
- A City of Columbus Use Case

Data Entity MS Explanation

Data entities provide conceptual abstraction and encapsulation of underlying table schema that represent data concepts and functionalities.

In Microsoft Dynamics AX 2012, most tables, like the Customer and Vendor tables, were de-normalized and split into multiple tables. This was beneficial from a database design point of view, but made it difficult for implementers and ISV's to use without a thorough understanding of the physical schema.

Data entities were introduced as part of data management to be used as a layer of abstraction to easily understand by using business concepts. In previous versions there were multiple ways to manage data, such as Microsoft Excel Add-ins, AIF, and DIXF. The concept of data entities combines those different concepts into one. After data entities are created, you should be able to reuse them for an Excel Add-ins, import/export, or integration.

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Say What?

- Using basic and familiar business concepts, data from multiple tables is grouped together in a way that is easy to understand.
  - Example: Vendor Record

Dynamics365musings.com/d365-data-entity

Why Data Entities

- Easily understood (familiar business concepts)
  - A Customer/Vendor Record
  - Items, including storage and financial dimensions
- Controls access to certain tables
  - Especially for 3rd party applications
- Add and/or Extract Data

City of Columbus Use Case

- Fixed Assets
  - Monthly: 40-60 assets
  - Year End: (Project related Assets) 900+ assets
  - Manual Addition: 2-3 min/asset
  - Resource: 1 Person

Test Plan

- Identify the Fixed Asset Data Entity(s)
- Export Existing
- Determine the Required and Desired Fields
  - Populated upon export
  - Entered during manual process
- Create a Template
- Import to Sandbox
- Review Results

A Note About Security …..

Very few roles have access to Data Management ….

Which is as it should be!

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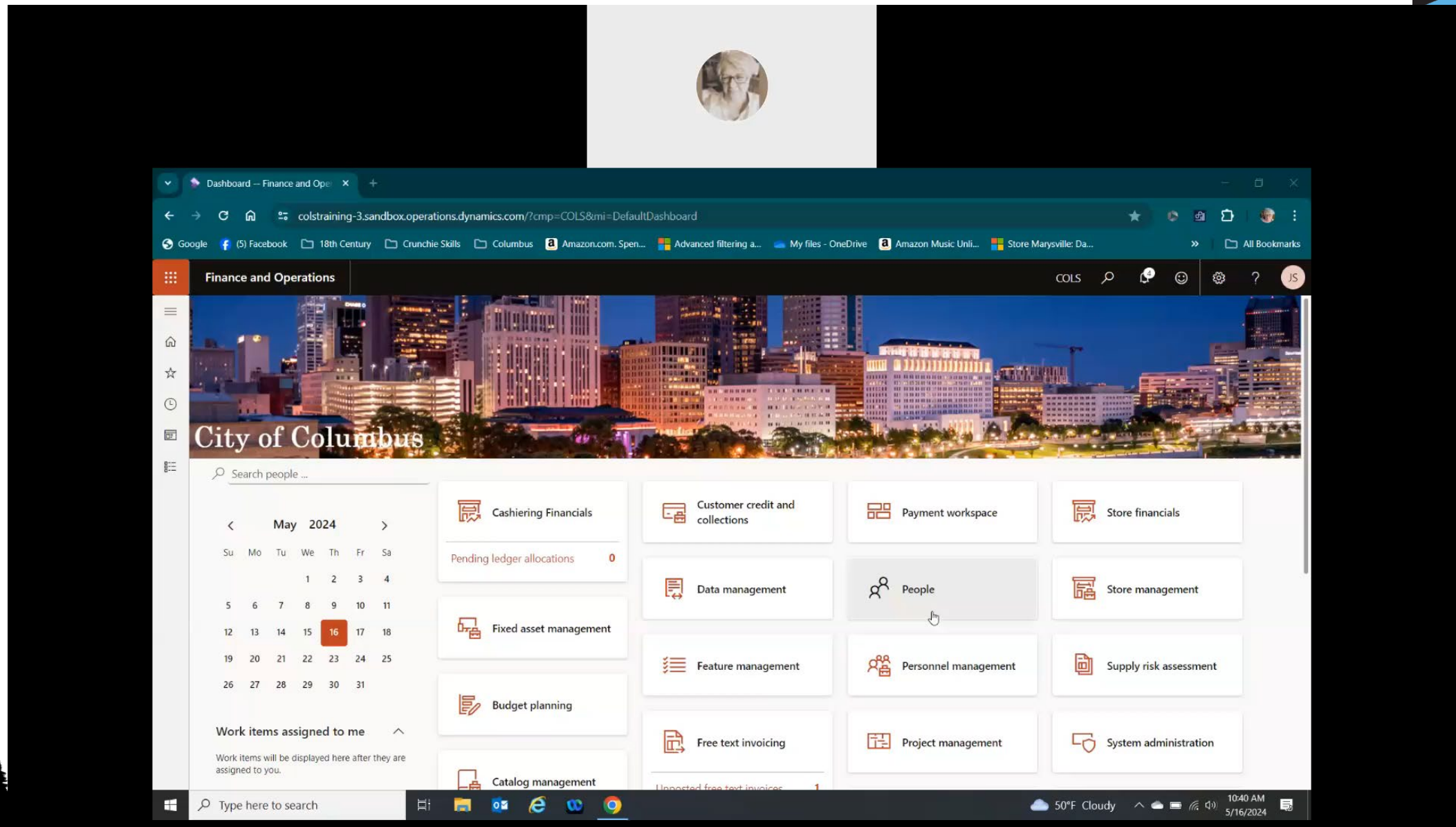
Demo


Dashboard -- Finance and Ope
colstraining-3.sandbox.operations.dynamics.com/?cmp=COLS&mi=DefaultDashboard
Google
(5) Facebook
18th Century
Crunchie Skills
Columbus
Amazon.com. Spen...
Advanced filtering a...
My files - OneDrive
Amazon Music Unli...
Store Marysville: Da...
All Bookmarks
Finance and Operations
COLS
City of Columbus
Search people ...
May 2024
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30 31
Work items assigned to me
Work items will be displayed here after they are assigned to you.
Cashiering Financials
Pending ledger allocations 0
Fixed asset management
Budget planning
Catalog management
Customer credit and collections
Payment workspace
Store financials
Data management
People
Store management
Feature management
Personnel management
Supply risk assessment
Free text invoicing
Project management
System administration
Type here to search
50°F Cloudy
10:40 AM
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Questions

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References

- learn.microsoft.com/en-us/dynamics365/fin-ops-core/dev-itpro/data-entities
- Dynamics365musings.com/d365-data-entity