



# Integration Tools for Microsoft Dynamics GP

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Assurance ■ Tax ■ Consulting

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# Presenter



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# Overview

- An introduction to the different tools available
- Recommendations based on integration requirements
- Pros and cons of each tool

# Dynamics GP Integration Tools Overview

- Integration Manager
  - Easiest To Learn and Use
  - Most Robust Visual Mapping Tool
- eConnect
  - Hardest to Learn and Use
  - Most Powerful but requires a programmer
- SmartConnect
  - Best of Both Worlds
  - eConnect with a User Friendly Interface
  - Has its own scheduler for automation
  - Mapping Tool is somewhat limited
  - Is a Third Party Product

# Integration Manager - PROS

- No Programming Required
- User Friendly Mapping
- Built-in Error Log
- Fast with eConnect Destinations
- Handles Updates and Inserts
- Multiple Data Sources
- Values can default from the Class

# Integration Manager - **CONS**

- Manually Kick Off (not automated)
- No Scheduling Feature
- Slow Performance with regular destination
- Very Limited Destination Nodes
- Scripting Language is Proprietary
- Need to keep GP Open and Logged In
- Options Tab Can Be Confusing

# eConnect - PROS

- Many Destination Nodes Available
- Can be Fully Automated
- Fastest Performance
- Robust Error Messages Go To Event Viewer
- Can Default Values from Class
- No Need to keep GP Open or Logged In
- Can be called via Web Services
- Other Import Tools use eConnect



## eConnect - **CONS**

- Requires Programming
- Only Reads XML as input
- No User Interface
- Requires SSIS or some other development environment or language to use it
- Despite many nodes, does not cover all GP Objects
- Syntax for programming is very confusing

# SmartConnect - PROS

- Many Destination Nodes Available
- Can be Fully Automated (Has Scheduler)
- Fast Performance (uses eConnect)
- Built-in Logging
- Works with Extender (User Defined Fields)
- Has Nodes for CRM, Binary Stream, etc.
- Excel Add-In Functionality
- Does NOT require Programming
- User Friendly Mapping

# SmartConnect - CONS

- Is a Third Party Product
- Mapping Tool is Minimal (compared to IM)
- Lacks the pinpoint control of eConnect
- Error Messages can be misleading
- Adds another layer of proprietary software on top of eConnect (same problem as with Scribe)

# SmartConnect- Features

- **Destinations** SmartConnect will create data in the correct format for any of its destination connectors. Microsoft Dynamics GP, Microsoft Dynamics CRM, Salesforce.com, XML, Excel, TXT, SQL table, SQL Stored Procedure.
- **Sources of Data** SmartConnect can use data from any data source including specific source connectors for Dynamics GP, Dynamics CRM, Salesforce.com, XML, InfoPath, SmartList, Network Folders, eXtender, ODBC, OLEDB, Excel and TXT.
- **Real Time DataSources** Trigger instant integration as data is created or updated within Dynamics GP, Dynamics CRM, Salesforce.com or any SQL table
- **Mapping** Drag and drop mapping between any source and destination. This means you can take data from anywhere and map it to any destination. Think of the possibilities to transform your data by combining various sources and destinations.
- **Data Transformation** SmartConnect provides many ways to modify, update, translate and improve the source data during the data creation process. These tools include: Calculated fields (including 90 wizard functions), data restrictions, defined translation tables, SQL lookups, entity lookups, date calculations, SQL validations

# SmartConnect- Features (cont'd)

- **Pre and Post Routines** Incorporate pre map and post map .net code to complete the most complex integration process.
- **Scheduler** Use the Scheduler to automate your integration based upon your defined schedule whether that be monthly, daily, hourly or every 2 minutes.
- **Excel Add-in** Push data to any destination directly from Excel using the Excel Add-in from any location.
- **Automation** Get creative and Automate all rule based transactions in your system. For Example - Use Dynamics GP as your source of data and Dynamics GP as your destination. When one event happens that meets your criteria - automatically have SmartConnect create the second step.
- **Speed** Not only is it fast to build a map you can generate Hundreds of thousands of records in just minutes. SmartConect for Export The File destinations of Excel, Text and XML mean that SmartConnect is now your way to get data out of GP. We accept that you need to push data form GP to other systems and using the Real Time, Scheduled or Change Tracking Maps you can now push data out when and how you need.

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