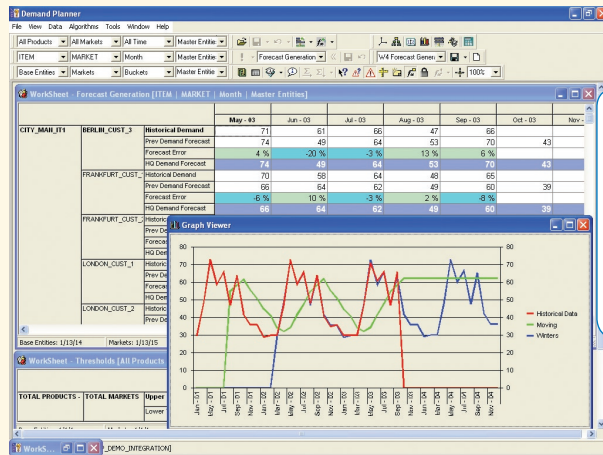


Demand Planner

Balance supply and demand effectively and gain the competitive advantage by establishing a well-defined process for demand planning—or simplifying your current process—and improving the quality of forecasts.



MICROSOFT DEMAND PLANNER combines planning and forecasting functionality with an intuitive, easy-to-learn user interface.

BENEFITS



Create forecasts that map to your business requirements

Generate reliable future demand forecasts based on your company's historical data with a library of selected forecasting algorithms that are applicable in many business contexts, such as stable or seasonal demand or increasing or decreasing sales trends.

Improve response to customer demand

Gain deep, multi-dimensional visibility into customer buying patterns by mapping your business data to the most relevant elements that drive forecasting—product, time, and markets.

Improve your forecasting accuracy

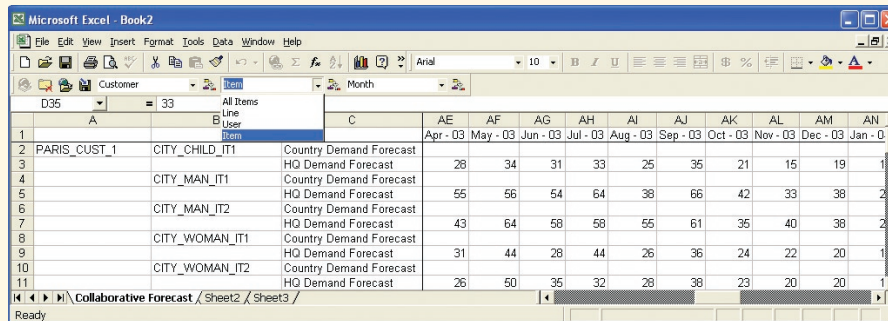
Run your forecasting processes more frequently by reducing planning cycles. Native integration between Microsoft® Business Solutions Demand Planner and Microsoft Business Solutions—Great Plains® enables information to flow freely between your systems, helping ensure that information is accurate and current across your organization.

Collaborate to build credible, realistic forecasts

Equip stakeholders to make valuable contributions with collaboration features for sharing forecasts, synchronizing modifications, and controlling process workflow to consolidate agreed plans.

Get started fast

Help ensure immediate productivity with intuitive, familiar tools. Microsoft Demand Planner offers an easy-to-learn user interface that looks and feels like Microsoft Office Excel.



SHARE FORECASTS, MANAGE CONSENSUS, and consolidate agreed-upon plans with the Excel Collaboration Plug-in.

AVAILABLE WITH:

GREAT PLAINS

GREAT PLAINS STANDARD

Demand Planner



FEATURES OVERVIEW

Multi-Dimensional Hierarchical Model	Analyze data at every level — aggregated or fully detailed — with user-defined hierarchies arranged on relevant demand axes — products, time, and markets.
Indicators	Collect data in “basic indicators” — such as historical data at a given detail level — and define aggregation modes for each indicator.
Top-down Splitting	Split down values that have been changed in an upper level, proportional to previous values or related to the values of another indicator.
Formula Editing	Create new indicators with formulas defined through simple editing by applying a set of mathematical, logic, or special operators.
Interactive Simulation Scenarios	Evaluate the effects of business scenarios that cannot be forecast with an algorithmic approach — such as the launch of a new product — by changing forecast quantities and comparing hypotheses.
Statistical Algorithms	Derive future demand forecasts from past business data with a library of forecasting algorithms.
Seasonality Index	Automatically compute the influence of seasonality on data.
Forecasting Error Calculation	Automatic calculation of statistical errors makes it easy to apply statistical algorithms and generate accurate forecasts.
“Best Fit” Functionality	Automatically search the most-indicated statistical algorithm and related parameters to match a given historical series.
Defined Warnings	Focus on critical issues in the forecasting process with user-defined warnings.
Graphical Reports	Choose from multiple formats to present forecast data as a graph.
Collaboration Features	Planners can send forecast plans to stakeholders control workflow, and consolidate input into an agreed forecast.
Collaboration Plug-in	Implement a consensus forecasting workflow with a plug-in for Microsoft Excel that helps manage collaboration processes.
Data Import/Export	Import and export Microsoft Demand Planner data to and from Microsoft Office Excel and third-party applications.
Tight Integration	Native integration with Microsoft Great Plains means information can flow back and forth between Microsoft Demand Planner and your enterprise resource planning (ERP) system.