

Demand Planner

[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 Demand Planner and Microsoft Dynamics™ GP 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

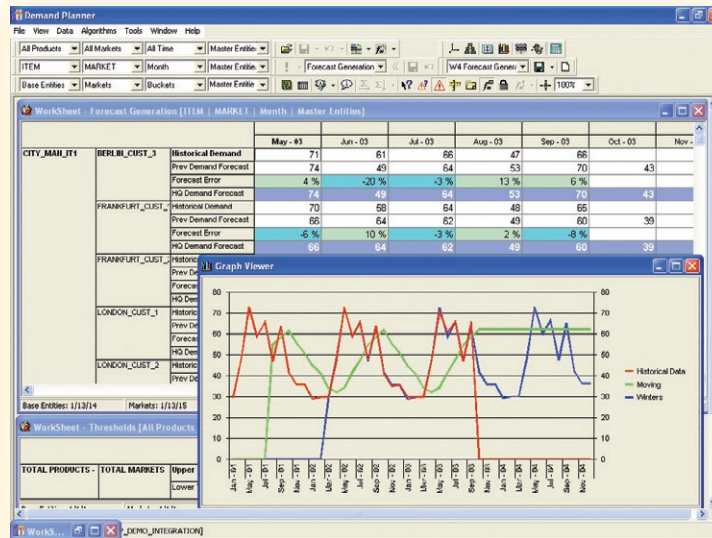
Equip stakeholders to make valuable contributions with collaboration features for sharing forecasts, synchronizing modifications, and controlling process workflow to consolidate agreed plans.

Get started fast

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

Balance supply and demand effectively and gain the competitive advantage with a well-defined process for demand planning and accurate forecasting.

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



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet with a demand forecast table. The table has columns for months from April 2003 to January 2004. The rows list various customer and item combinations, such as 'PARIS_CUST_1' and 'CITY_CHILD_IT1', along with their 'Country Demand Forecast' and 'HQ Demand Forecast' values.

Customer	Item	Country Demand Forecast	Apr - 03	May - 03	Jun - 03	Jul - 03	Aug - 03	Sep - 03	Oct - 03	Nov - 03	Dec - 03	Jan - 04
PARIS_CUST_1	CITY_CHILD_IT1	Country Demand Forecast										
		HQ Demand Forecast	28	34	31	33	25	35	21	15	19	1
	CITY_MAN_IT1	Country Demand Forecast										
		HQ Demand Forecast	55	56	54	64	38	66	42	33	38	2
	CITY_MAN_IT2	Country Demand Forecast										
		HQ Demand Forecast	43	64	58	58	55	61	35	40	38	2
	CITY_WOMAN_IT1	Country Demand Forecast										
		HQ Demand Forecast	31	44	20	44	26	36	24	22	20	1
	CITY_WOMAN_IT2	Country Demand Forecast										
		HQ Demand Forecast	26	50	35	32	28	38	23	20	20	1

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

[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 who control workflow, and consolidate input into an agreed forecast.
Collaboration Plug-in	Implement a consensus forecasting workflow with a plug-in for Microsoft Office Excel that helps manage collaboration processes.
Data Import/Export	Import and export Demand Planner data to and from Microsoft Excel and third-party applications.
Tight Integration	Native integration with Microsoft Dynamics GP means information can flow back and forth between Demand Planner and your enterprise resource planning (ERP) system.