



Cube Xpress



Flexible, self-service Excel reporting for Microsoft Dynamics NAV

Zap CubeXpress enables fast, flexible, self-service reporting for Microsoft Dynamics® NAV. Your NAV data is prepared for multi-dimensional analysis, while you choose the reporting tool that suits your needs, such as Excel® or Zap Business Intelligence.

Better reporting



Accurate

Stop the use of unsecured spreadsheets that are out of date the minute they are created, by ensuring Excel users stay connected to the corporate NAV data source.



Fast

Reduce reporting cycles and the over-reliance on IT by giving business users the power to create their own reports.



Familiar

Let your users create reports in tools they already know, such as Excel, and minimize training.

Advanced analysis

Better insight and analysis from your NAV data with full flexibility to create the reports you really need. For example:

Financial Statement Analysis

Using your Chart of Accounts, analyze by region, location, division

Cash Flow Analysis

In-depth analysis on payment patterns of both accounts payables and receivables

Inventory Analysis

Determine inventory on hand, turnover ratios, and days of supply

technology highlights

Zap CubeXpress for Microsoft Dynamics NAV is a tool that fast tracks building a NAV data warehouse – without the typical complexity and drain on resources. It includes Dynamics customizations and security, to produce an optimized OLAP cube ready for immediate use. Technology advantages include:

Support for multiple versions

Zap CubeXpress supports multiple versions of Microsoft Dynamics NAV, including NAV 4.0, 5.0 and 2009.

Quick deployment

Zap CubeXpress recognizes customizations, data usage, and relationships in NAV, and provides a wizard-driven process to guide the user through the cube creation process. The base cube is initially created in an average of 30 minutes, depending on database size. This can then be enhanced to produce a cube that's fully customized to an organization's requirements.

NAV security replication

Zap CubeXpress automatically detects and imports NAV security, eliminating security access errors and significantly reducing security application maintenance.

Rapid import of NAV customizations

Running Zap CubeXpress enables you to detect all NAV customizations, and bring them through for analysis.

Multiple company reporting

You can load multiple companies into a single reporting environment.

Microsoft SQL Server made easy

Zap CubeXpress provides a business-friendly interface to leverage the power of Analysis Services and SQL Server®, while removing the typical complexities of creating a cube.

Easy Excel access to data

Zap CubeXpress can be used with a familiar front end such as Excel, which means there is no need for re-training and your users can make an immediate start.

Fast data updates

Schedule automatic updates as regularly as you like. Because updates are incremental, the process can take as little as 15-30 minutes.

Low total cost of ownership (TCO)

The user-friendly interface, rapid deployment, easy maintenance, and the ability to use Excel as the front end all ensure a low total cost of ownership for Zap CubeXpress.

1



Initiate Zap CubeXpress

Select cube destination.

2



Select Source Database Location

3



Select Destination Database Location

For staging database

4



Select Companies/Organizations

Select companies/organizations to include in cube.

5



Select Analysis Dimensions

Select financial dimensions to include in the cube.

6



Select Time Structure

Define time structure and start date.

7



Data Discovery

Profile & filter data, add calculations, include additional columns and tables and detect relationships.

8



Confirm Cube Structure

Confirm recommendations for dimensions, attributes, hierarchies, measures & relationships

9



Process Cube

Migrate data, update & process cube.

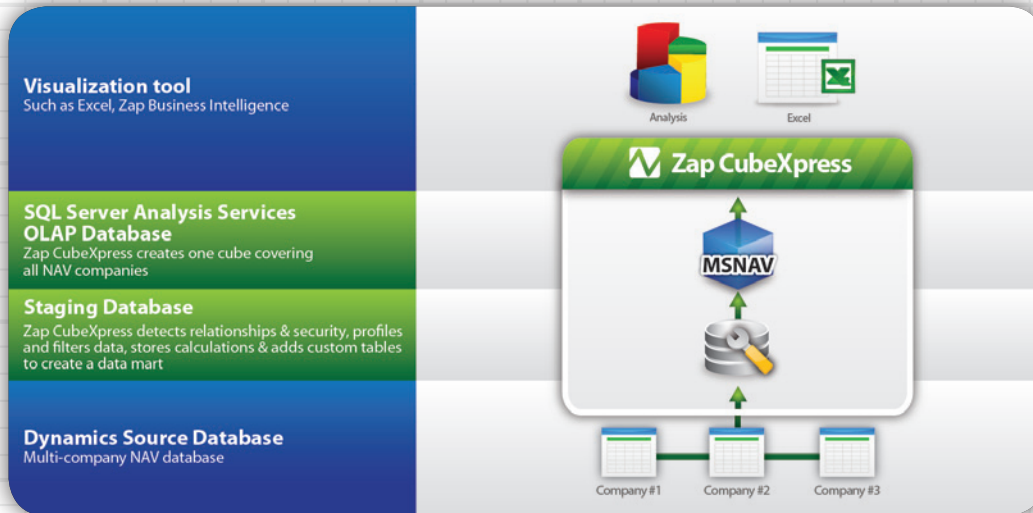
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Ready for Analysis

With a customized BI solution that fits your business needs.

Technical specifications



Support for Microsoft Dynamics NAV

Zap CubeXpress supports Microsoft Dynamics NAV 4.0, 5.0 and 2009.

Software Requirements

Zap CubeXpress requires administrative privileges to install. The .NET Framework 3.5 SP1 will be deployed if it's not already installed.

Zap CubeXpress can be run on Windows XP®, Windows Vista®, Windows 7®, Windows Server 2003® or 2008 Server. However, the OLAP cube should be deployed to a server of your choice with Analysis Services Server.

Microsoft SQL Server - Database Engine (for the Staging database)	
SQL Server Version	SQL Server 2005 SP3/ 2008 SP1 / 2008 R2
Server Operating System	Windows Server 2003 ¹ / 2008 ¹ / 2008 R2 ¹
Microsoft SQL Server - Analysis Services (for the cube)	
SQL Server Version	SQL Server 2005 SP3/ 2008 SP1 / 2008 R2
Server Operating System	Windows Server 2003 ¹ / 2008 ¹ / 2008 R2 ¹

¹ If clustering is used, an appropriate Windows version to support clustering is required.

Hardware Requirements

Zap CubeXpress consumes hardware resources only when you wish to import new Microsoft Dynamics NAV customizations and modify or update the cube. Typically Zap CubeXpress is run on the Analysis Services Server, which houses the Zap CubeXpress Staging Database.

Recommended Hardware Specification

For Zap CubeXpress, the server can be broken down into two core server roles. These server roles can be placed on the same server or across multiple servers. Below is the recommended hardware required for each of the server roles.

Microsoft SQL Server - Database Engine (for the Staging database)			
Source Data	Small: < 50Gb	Medium: 50-150Gb	Large: >150Gb
Processor	1x2Ghz Xeon Quad Core	2x2Ghz Xeon Quad Core	4x2Ghz Xeon Quad Core
Memory	>=4GB	>=8GB	>=10GB
Storage ^{1,2,3}	500MB + Staging Database	500MB + Staging Database	500MB + Staging Database

Microsoft SQL Server - Analysis Services (for the cube)			
Source Data	Small: < 50Gb	Medium: 50-150Gb	Large: >150Gb
Processor	1x2Ghz Xeon Quad Core	2x2Ghz Xeon Quad Core	4x2Ghz Xeon Quad Core
Memory	>=4GB ⁵	>=8GB ⁵	>=10GB ⁵
Storage ^{1,2,3}	Varies ⁴	Varies ⁴	Varies ⁴

¹ Disk configuration must be in accordance with SQL Server performance guidelines for RAM and disk I/O specification.

² SQL Server staging database created by Zap CubeXpress can be up to 60% of the size of the source system.

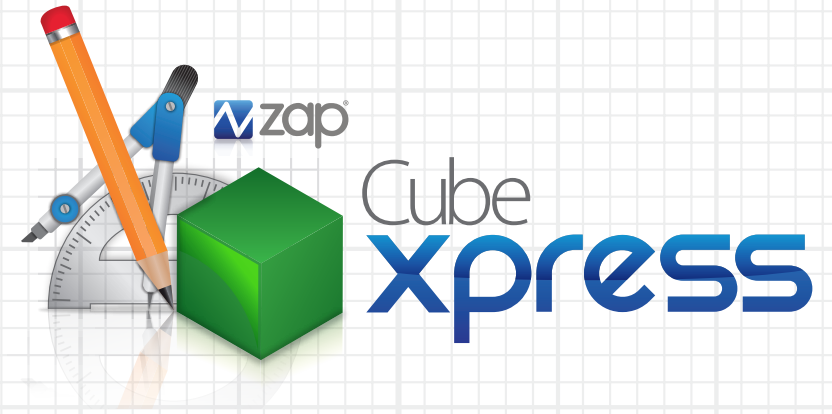
³ For large data volumes, please refer to Microsoft Analysis Services performance guidelines for RAM specification.

⁴ A SQL Server Analysis Services cube's size is generally proportional to the size of its source database.

⁵ Memory usage will be directly affected by the amount of data that you select for migration into the OLAP cube and the resultant cubes structure.

how long does it take?

To create a standard cube for the first time from a Microsoft Dynamics NAV database takes an average of*:



SMALL

< 50 GB NAV database
30 mins – 1 hour



MEDIUM

50-150 GB NAV database
1 hour – 2 hours



LARGE

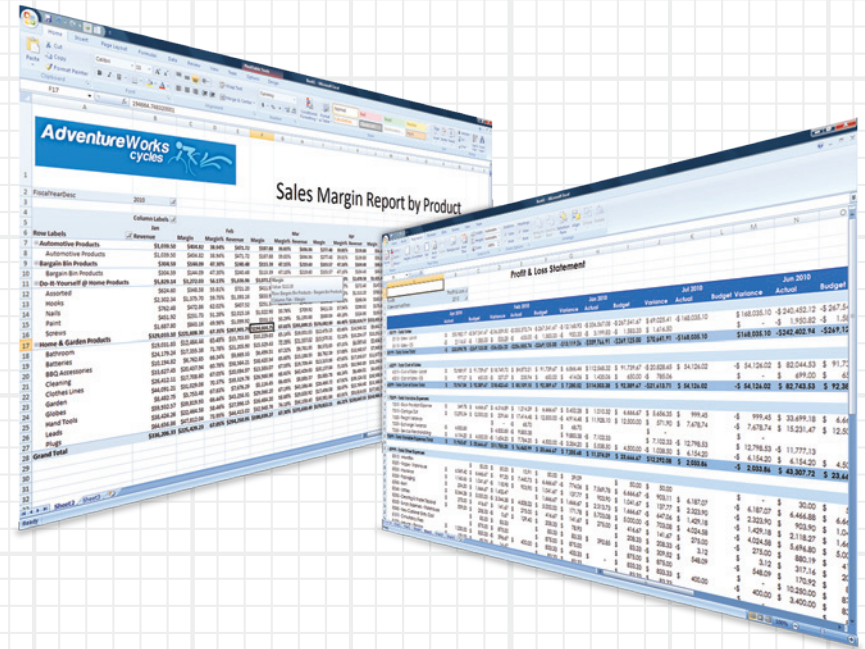
> 150 GB NAV database
2 hours – 5 hours

This includes:

- Replication of Dynamics security
- Optimization to include only the Dynamics modules (such as sales, inventory) you actually use
- Companies and financial dimensions

Note these time estimates are for the first load; subsequent loads use incremental updates and will be substantially faster.

*These averages are based on processing times achieved by Zap's technical team. Results will vary depending upon individual system configuration and performance.



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