

LOW CODE DEVELOPMENT



The Low Code Revolution and PDF

What does Low Code mean for PDF Developers and PDF Technology Companies?

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Session Overview



Gartner predicts that by 2025:

70% of new applications developed by enterprises will use low-code or no-code technologies.





Session Overview



What is Low Code Development?

...and what are the implications for PDF Developers and PDF Technology Companies?





Agenda



Background:

- What is Low Code / No Code?
- Low Code Platforms and Common Use Cases
- Examples of PDF in Low Code Platforms

Technical Implementation :

Building PDF Technologies into Low Code Platforms







Where are we today?



Surging digital demand

500m

more apps

Not enough developers

1M

developer shortfall



What is the solution?

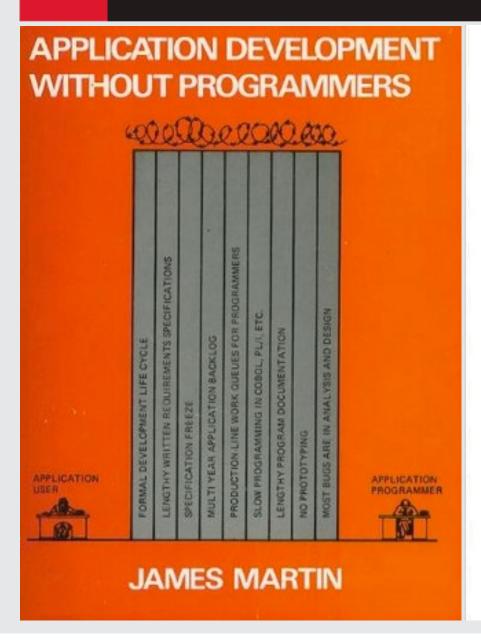






Have we been here before?





New Scientist 13 August 1981

TECHNOLO

A terminal case for programmers?

A COMPUTER program designed to create other programs finally emerged last week after months of the sort of promotional brouhaha usually reserved for cars or film stars.

The program, grandly titled The Last One, can generate computer code in BASIC from English language instructions and its developers describe it as being able to produce "all the programs you'll ever need for £260" (Technology, 22 January, p 214).

In fact for the moment The Last One is really confined to producing programs concerned with handling files—the commonest job for computers. Selecting actions from menus displayed on a screen, computer operators can create programs that will set up files, perform simple calculations and display the results.

The Last One also helps to modify programs that have been produced in this way. The Last One's owner—DJ AI Systems—claims that it can cut the time taken to program a microcomputer from weeks to a matter of hours by doing away with the need to write and "debug" computer code manually.

Although The Last One, which will run on Tandy, Apple, Pet, Ohio Scientific and Sharp computers, is supposed to be for people with little knowledge of programming, it seems likely that dealers in microcomputers will adopt it to produce cheap business programs tailored to professional users' needs.

Seven years in the making, The Last One has suffered a series of delays and even now will not be available for another



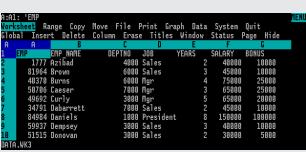
three weeks. Its creator is David James, a bankrupt, former millionaire with only a week's formal training in computers. In partnership with Scotty Bambury, a Somerset tyre dealer, James and a team of programmers have been wrestling with The Last One for 18 months.

One of DJ AI's frustrated customers meanwhile announced a spoof product called PT double O (Pull The Other One), which would not only do away with programming, but systems analysis too. To date, DJ AI Systems has spent over \$1 million on advertising. This has generated \$6 million worth of advance orders, and some less than friendly interest from the Advertising Standards Authority.

The Last One is certainly not the only program generator around. Products like Genasys, Pearl and Filetab do similar things and as long ago as 1969, a program generator called Dataflow was supposed to do the same job for main-

frame computers. I portance is that it h on the need to ma accessible to people skills. Program gene systems analysts, whout of a job but they the business of cod much easier. System accounts for 40 per takes to write a pro and correcting mistal of the time.

The Last One, ho unproven Not a sing as yet, has tried it runs the National microsystems centre demonstrations of a grams commented: "fic, but I would rath seen The Last One of different machine any conclusions about



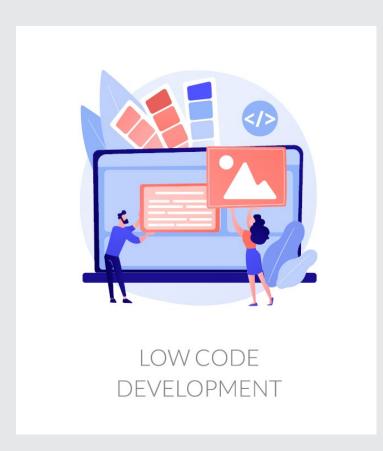






Background





- This trend is disrupting traditional patterns of software development
- Shifting development towards cloud-based low-code platforms.
- Adoption of Low-Code application development by IT teams and "Citizen IT".



What is Low Code / No Code?



- Low-code development is a way for developers to design applications quickly and with minimum hand-coding.
- With the use of drag-and-drop features, lego-like intuitive components and business process maps, everyone can create custom digital solutions for their needs.
- Low Code allows businesses to rapidly address their challenges by coming up with quick digital solutions that require no deep coding knowledge.



No Code vs Low Code



- No Code
 - Citizen developers require little training
 - Limited control
 - Tactical Apps, Point Solutions
 - Shadow IT

- Low Code
 - Professional developers or "advanced"
 Citizen developers
 - More control and flexibility
 - Part of core systems
 - Extension of IT team's capabilities



"Citizen Developers"





Pros

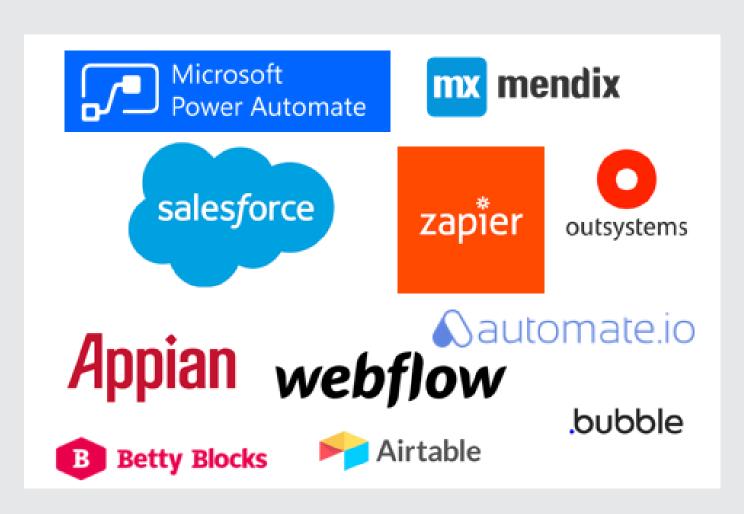
- Less IT Investment
- Speed
- Tap into staff knowledge
- Customize
- Cons
 - Training
 - Governance
 - IT Sprawl
 - Security Issues



Low Code Platforms & Use Cases

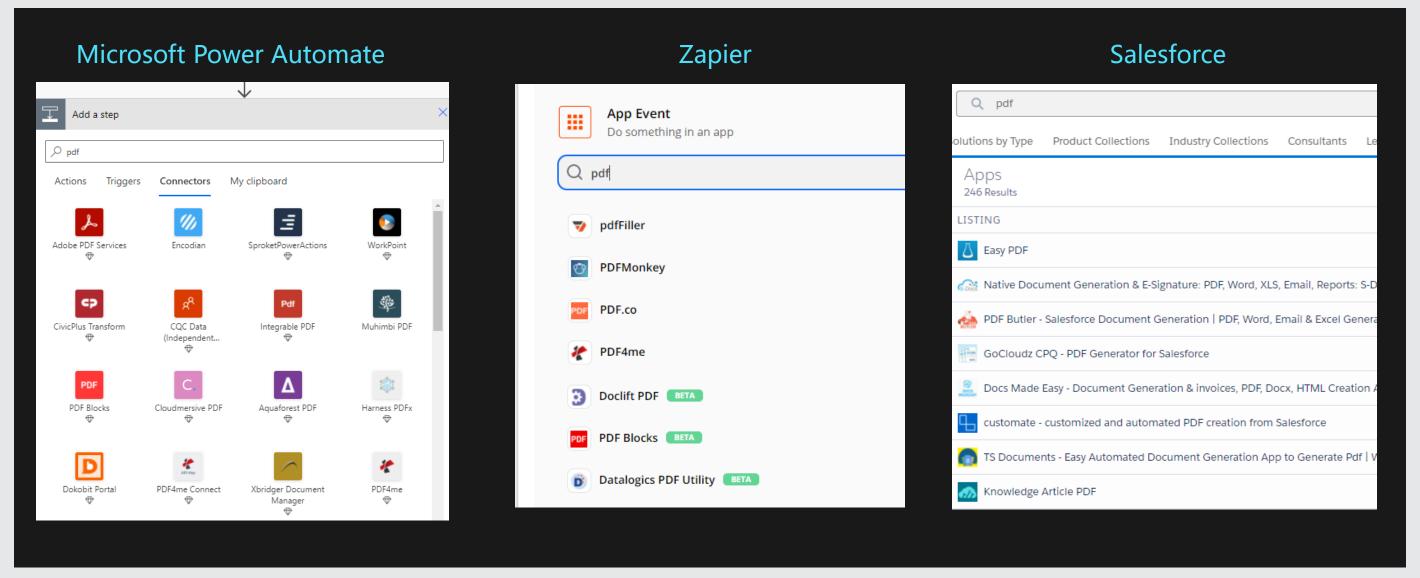


- Web Applications
- Process Automation
- Document Processing
 - PDF Generation
 - PDF Data Extraction
 - PDF Manipulation and Conversion



LCNC Extensions and PDF







Examples: PDF in Low Code Platforms



- Zapier Example :
 - PDF Compression
- Salesforce Example :
 - PDF Generation
- Power Automate Example :
 - PDF Data Extraction

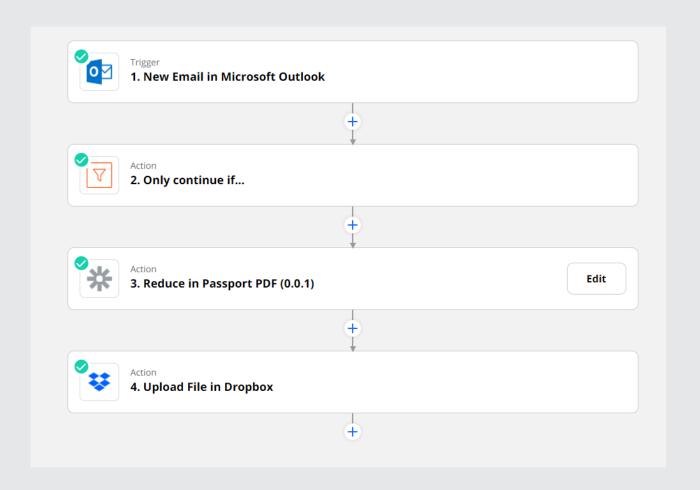


Zapier and PDF Example



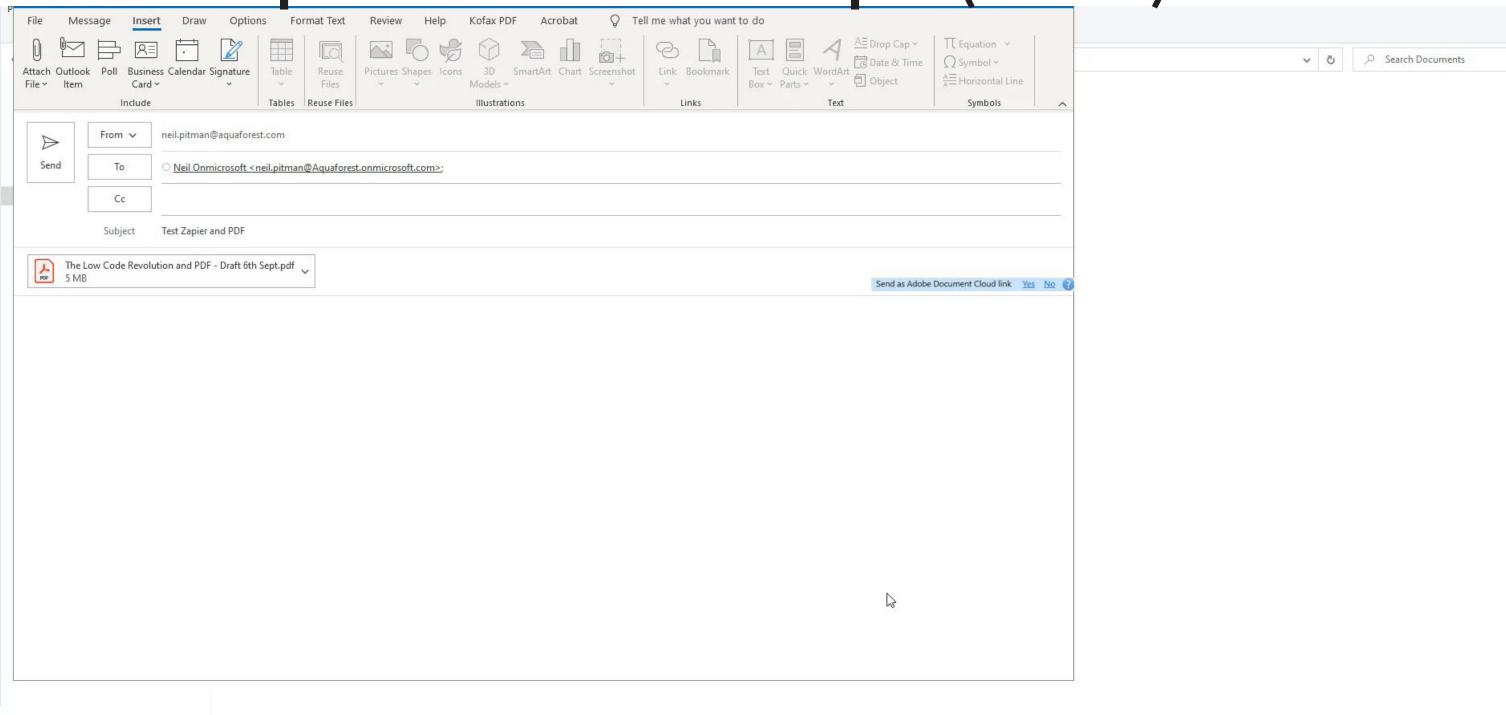
When a new email is received:

If it has a PDF attachment, compress the PDF and upload it to Dropbox





Zapier and PDF Example (Video)



0 items























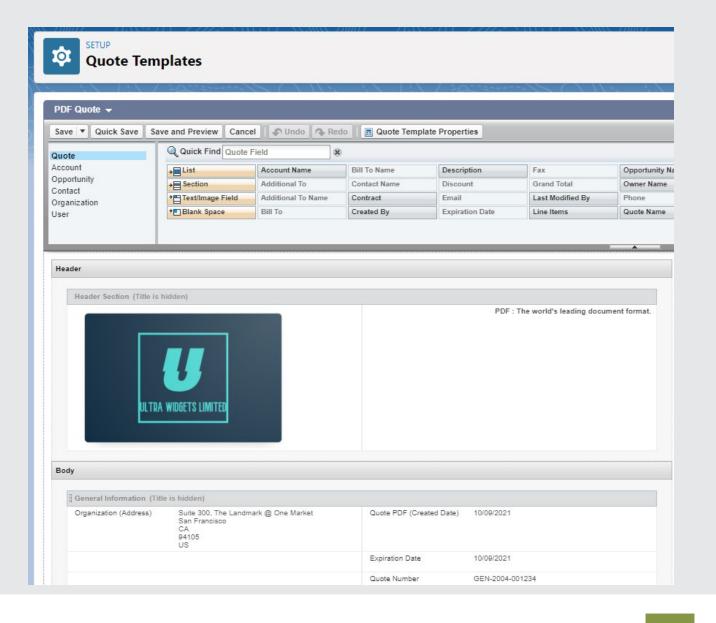


Salesforce and PDF Example



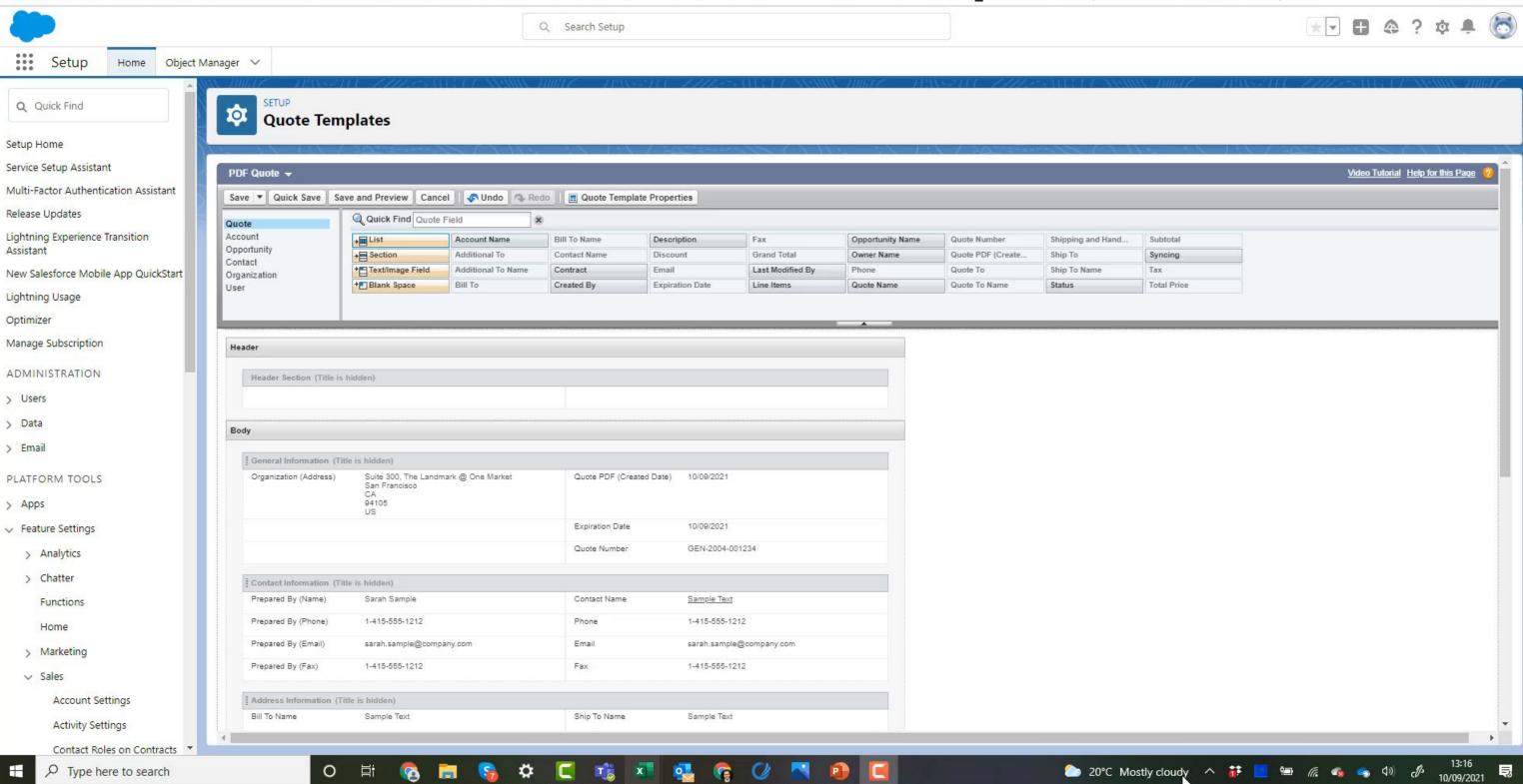
Generate a PDF:

Using a custom document template and dynamic data





Salesforce and PDF Example (Video)



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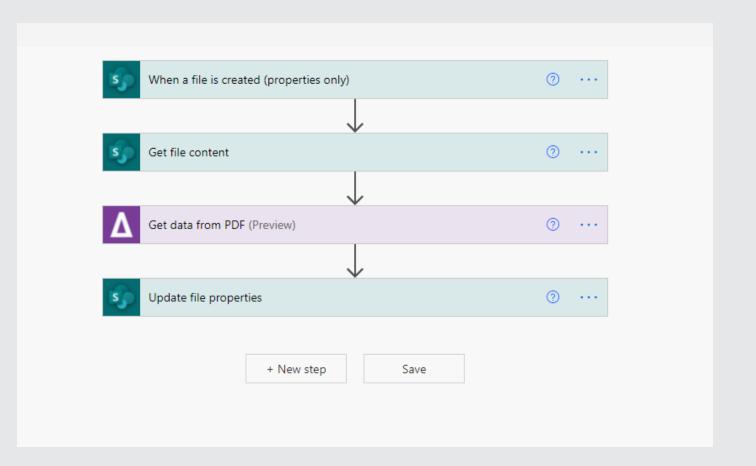
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Power Automate and PDF Example



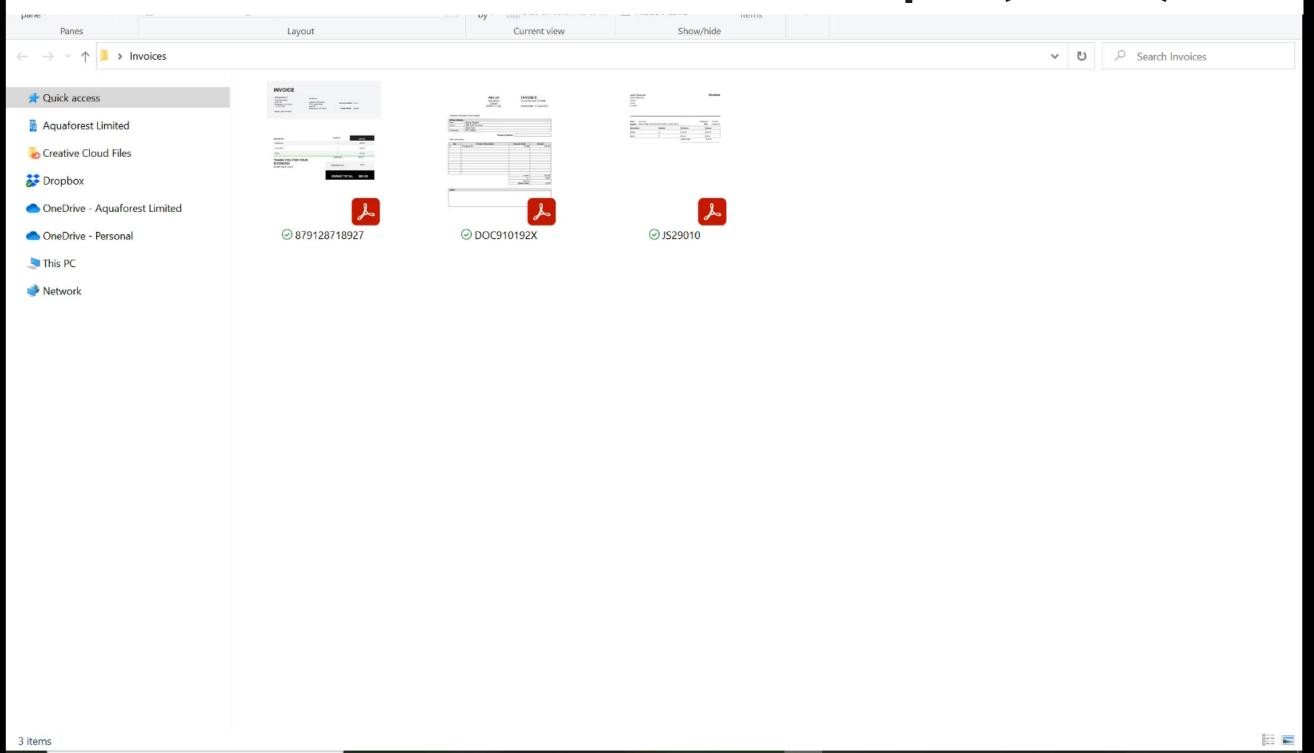
When a new invoice PDF is added to a SharePoint library:

Extract the invoice number and amount from the PDF to update the SharePoint metadata





Power Automate and PDF Example (Video)



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Technical Implementation



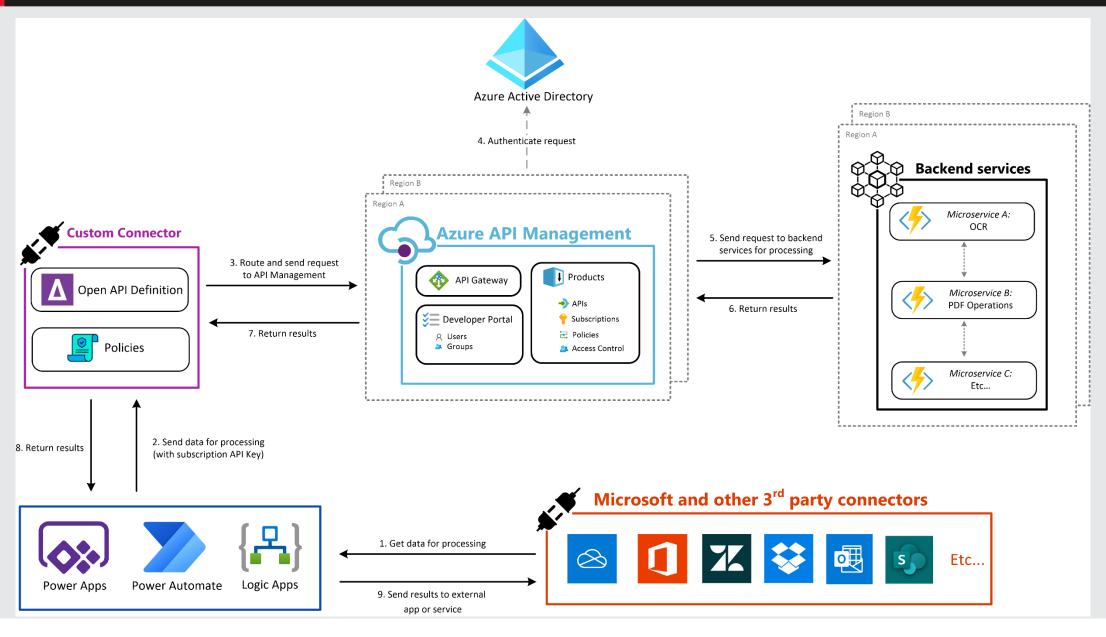
- Building PDF Technologies into Low Code Platforms
 - Example implementation in Microsoft Power Automate
- What does this involve?
 - Cloud Service Architecture
 - API and Backend
 - Interface
 - Scale Up/Out
 - Geography





Architecture

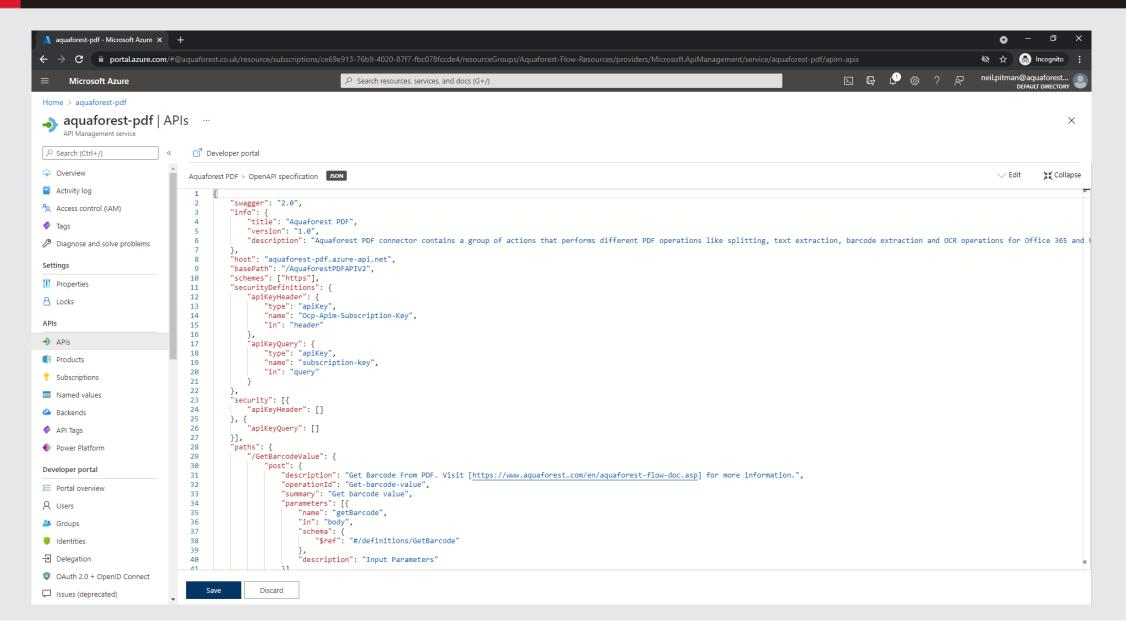






OpenAPI Definition

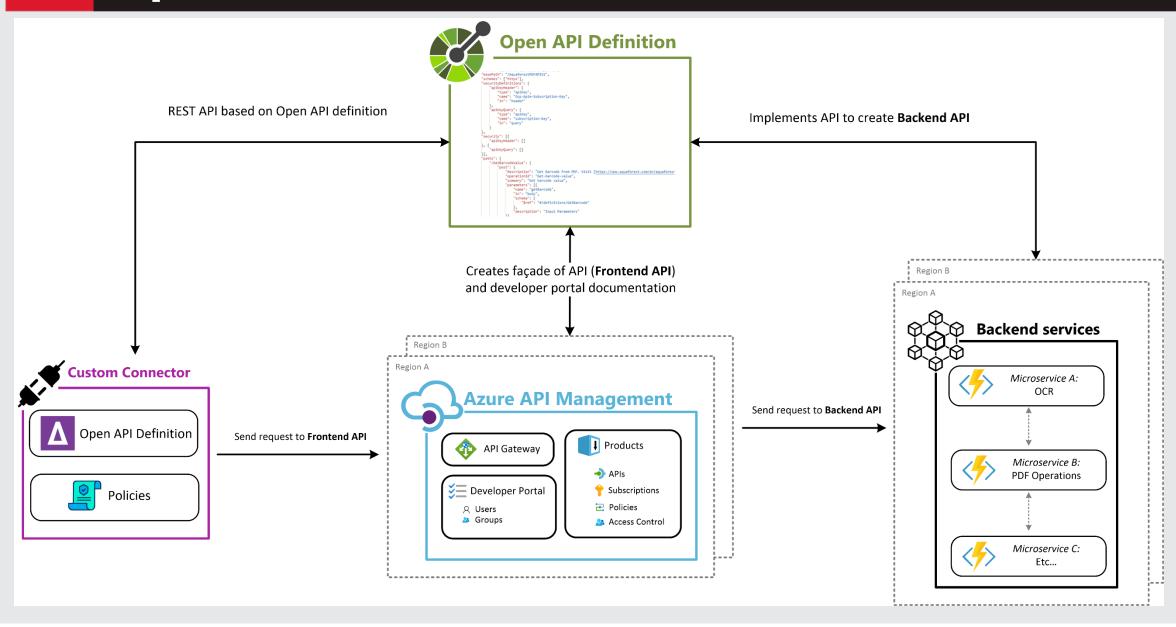






OpenAPI Definition







Interface

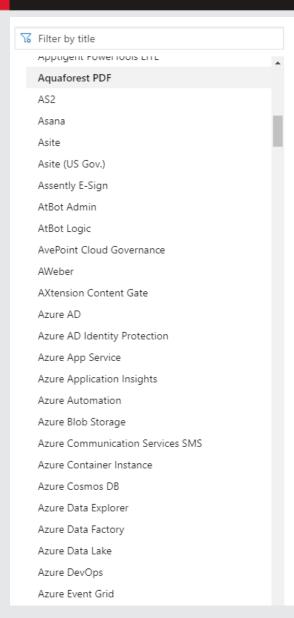


		_				
Get file content ?						
+						
Get data from PDF (Preview)						
File Content	File Content ×					
Expected Keys	invoice no					
	grand total					
Page Range	A string representation of the page numbers you want to process. E.g 1,3-4					
Advanced Settings						
Advanced Settings Name - 1 Enter the name of the setting here						
Advanced Settings						
Value - 1 Enter the value of the	e setting here.					
+ Add new item						
Confidence Score	Set a higher confidence score to filter out values with lower confidence. You can					
Date Conversion	ISO conversion (DMY input assumed)					
Page Limit	Maximum number of pages to be processed					
Strip Currency Symbol	Yes					
Match Synonym	Yes					
Synonym Dictionary	You can provide a JSON array of "entry" objects, where each object contains a I					
Trim Symbols	Yes					
Hide advanced options	^					



Documentation from Open API





Get data from PDF

Operation ID: Get-data-from-pdf

This action will extract important data from PDF files in the form of Key/Value pairs.

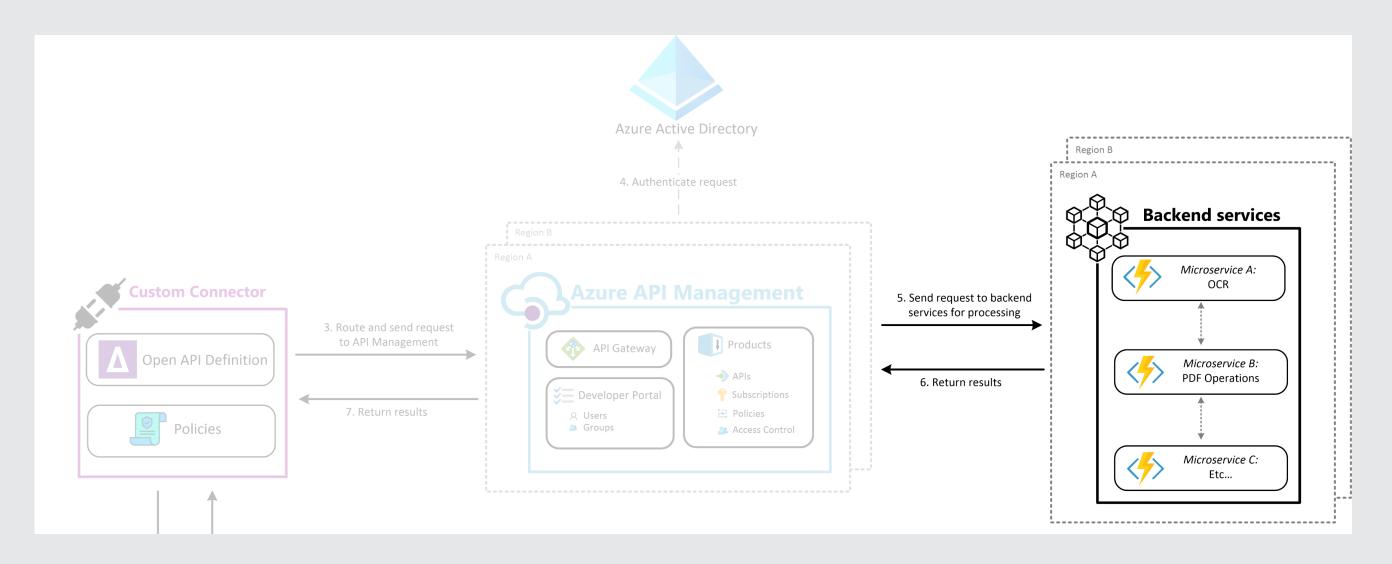
Parameters

Name	Key	Required	Type	Description
Name	settingName	True	string	Enter the name of the setting here
Value	setting Value	True	string	Enter the value of the setting here.
Confidence Score	confidenceScore		number	Set a higher confidence score to filter out values with lower confidence. You can set any value between 0 and 1. We recommend starting from 0.5
Date Conversion	dateAsISO		string	Select which format to return date value as
Expected Keys	expectedKeys		string	Provide one key name per line to make values available to later actions without parsing JSON.
File Content	fileContent	True	byte	The content of the source file
Page Limit	pageLimit		integer	Maximum number of pages to be processed
Page Range	pageRange		string	A string representation of the page numbers you want to process. E.g 1,3-4
Strip Currency	stripCurrencySymbol		boolean	Set this to true if you want the symbols and strings to be removed before we return currency values



Architecture – Backend Services

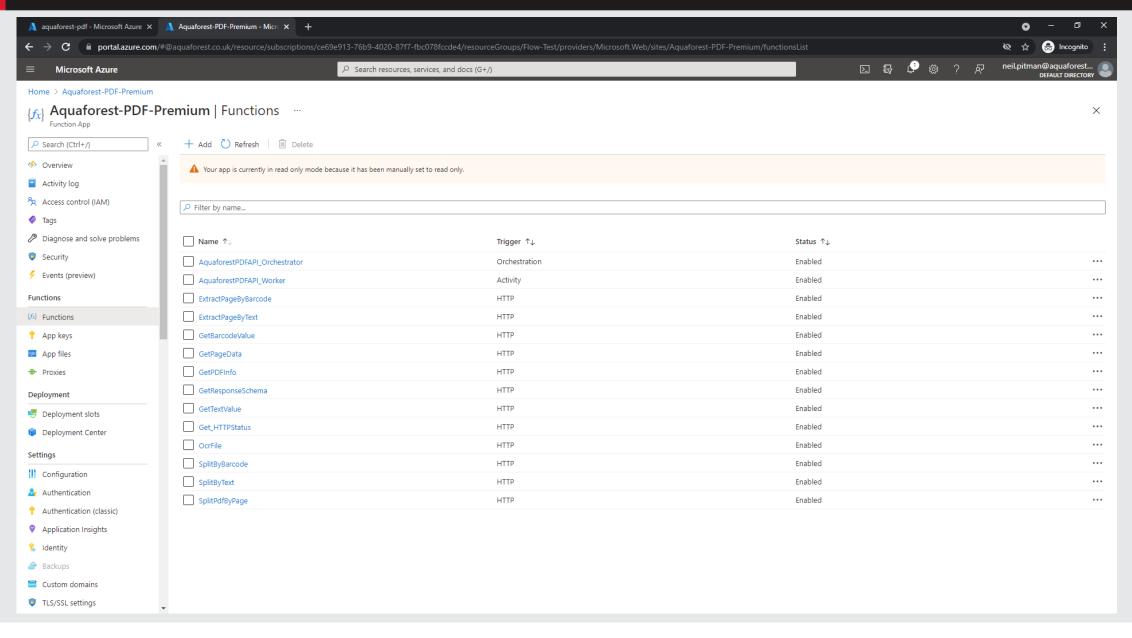






Backend Services - Azure Functions

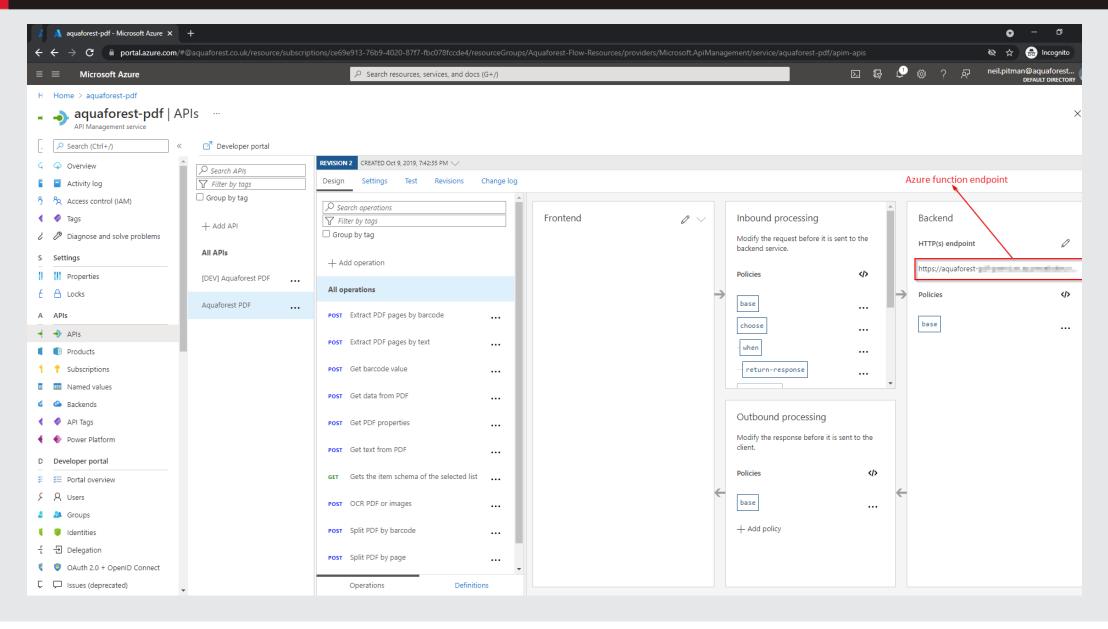






Backend API endpoint

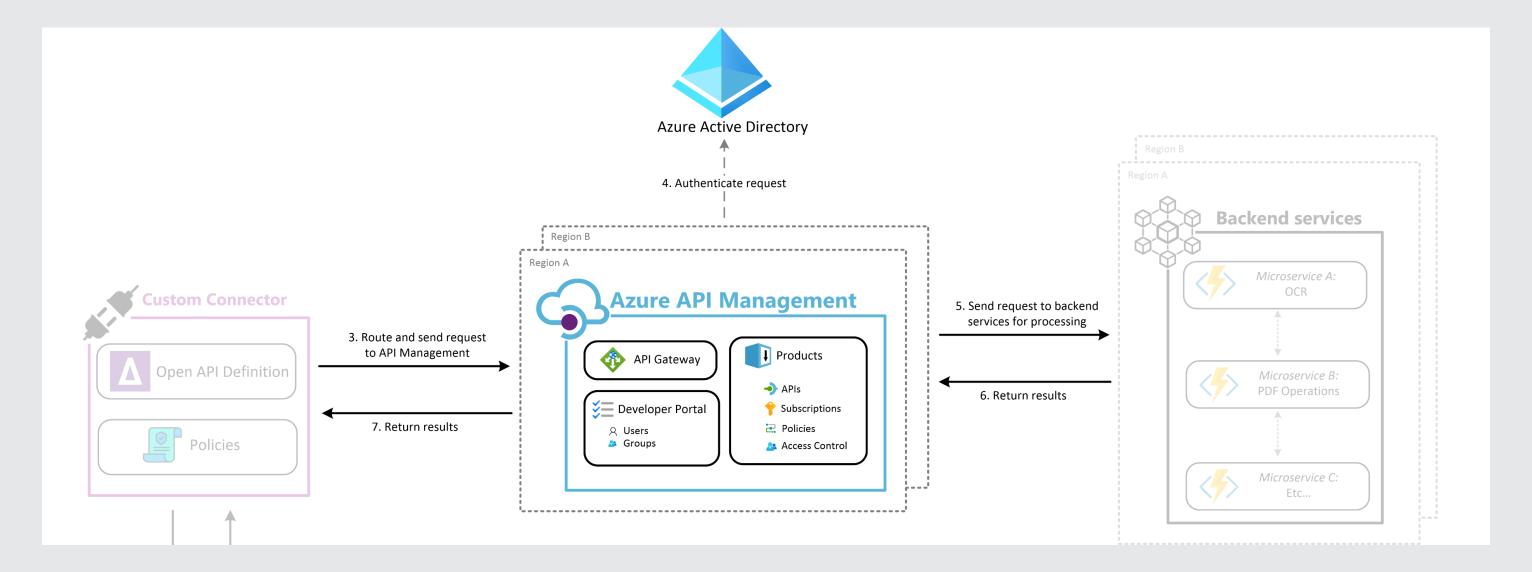






Architecture – Azure API Management

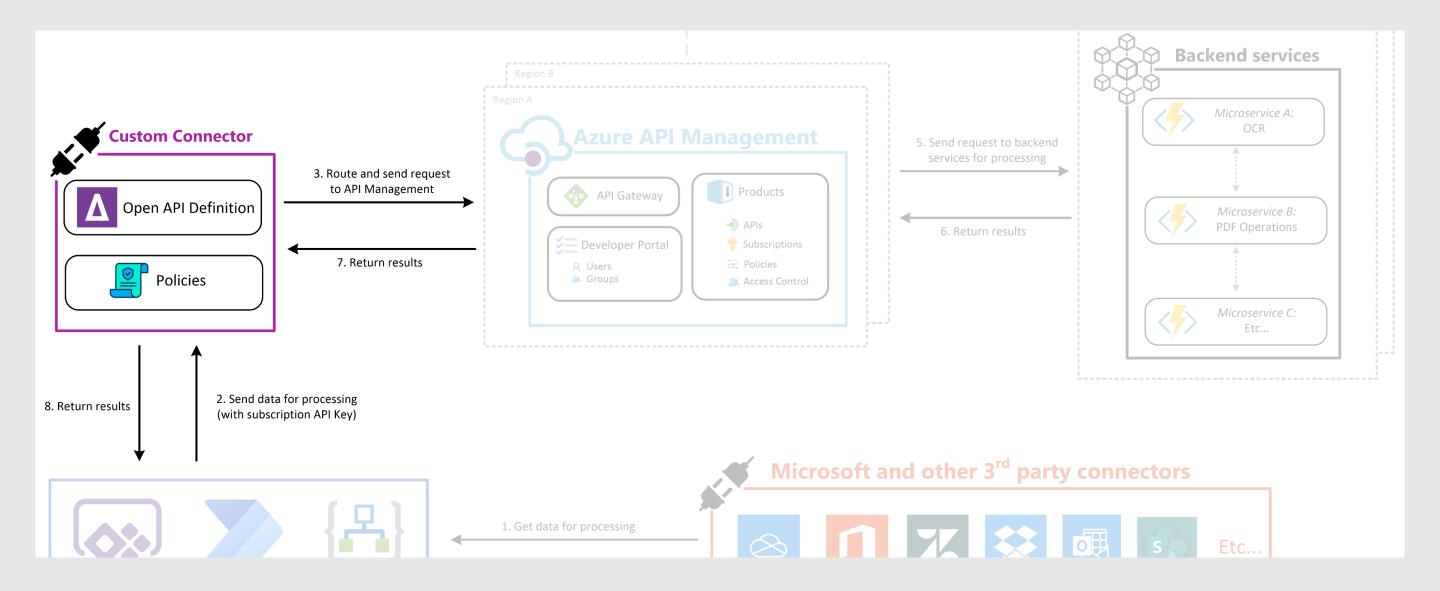






Architecture – Custom Connector

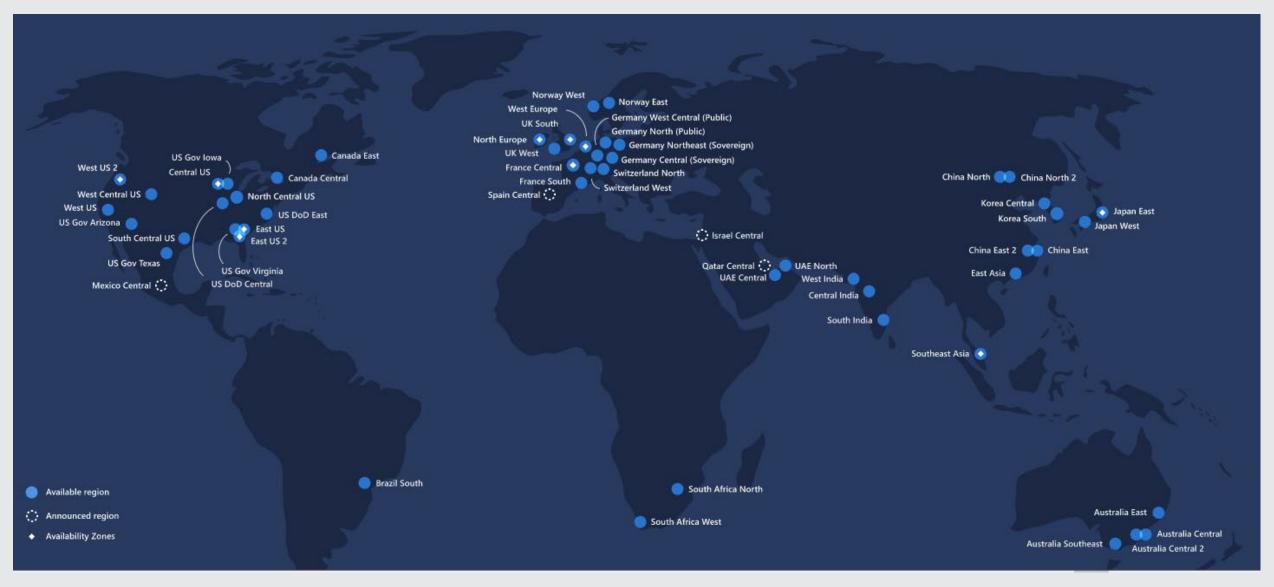






Regions

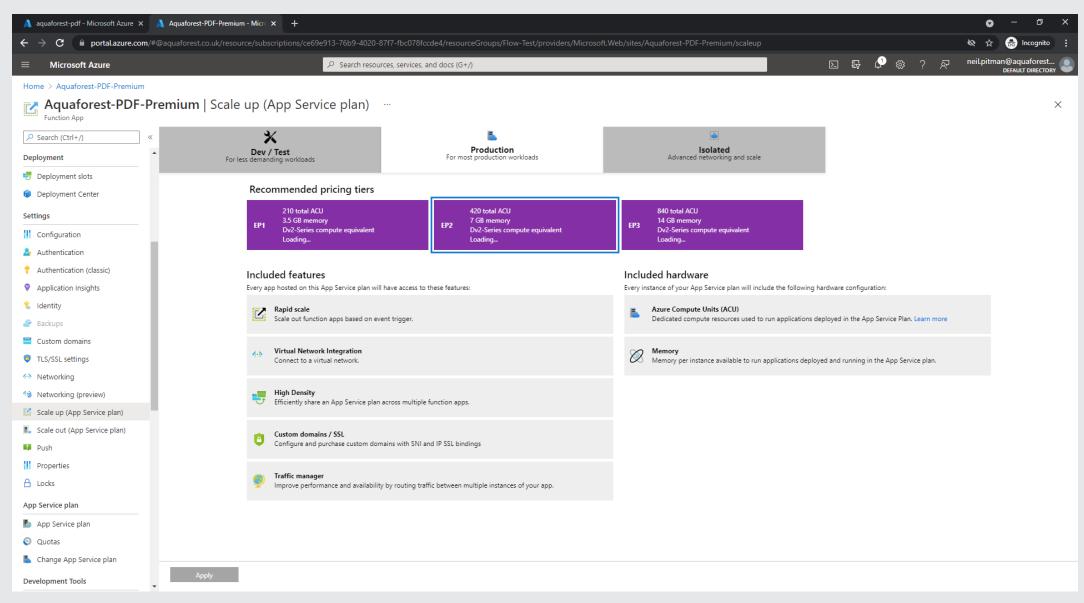






Scale Up







Scale Out

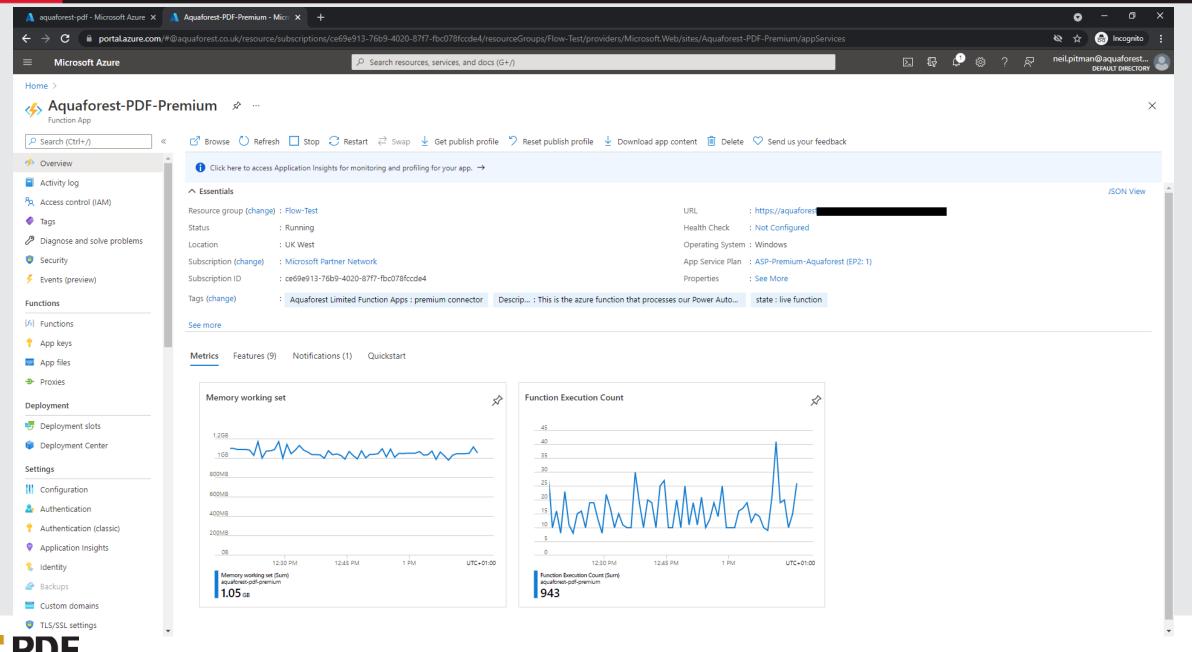


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■ Microsoft Azure	∠ Search resources, services, and docs (G+/)							
Home > Aquaforest-PDF-Premium								
Aquaforest-PDF-Premium Scale out (App Service plan)								
∠ Search (Ctrl+/) ≪	☐ Save X Discard C Refres	sh						
Deployment								
Ueployment slots	Elastic Scale out This allows you to control the bounds that your Premium plan can scale within, Learn more							
Deployment Center								
Settings								
Configuration	Plan Scale out							
Authentication ■	Maximum Burst 🛈							
Authentication (classic)	Minimum Instances (i)	01						
Application Insights		Explicitly configuring the number of instances for your plan is only recommended for advanced scenarios, and the configured value will only be honored if it is greater than the						
% Identity		always ready instance maximum for apps in your plan. Learn more						
Backups	App Scale out							
Custom domains	Always Ready Instances (i)	0						
TLS/SSL settings	Enforce Scale Out Limit (i)	No Yes						
↔ Networking								
♦ Networking (preview)								
Scale up (App Service plan)								
Scale out (App Service plan)								



Support and Management





Summary - Technical Implementation



- Building PDF Technologies into Low Code Platforms
 - Example implementation in Microsoft Power Automate
- What does this involve?
 - Cloud Service Architecture
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 - Scale Up/Out
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The Future of Low Code and PDF



PDF: Built in or Marketplace?

Hyper automation

Al everywhere

Enterprise Trust

Fusion Teams



Summary



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- Examples of PDF in Low Code Platforms
- Technical Implementation :
 - Building PDF Technologies into Low Code Platforms









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