# Part 2: Planning

Planning your Windows Azure deployment of Microsoft Dynamics GP includes making decisions about which Microsoft Dynamics GP components to deploy, what configuration to use, and what the system requirements are for those components. These are decisions that must be made in all Microsoft Dynamics GP deployments. This part of the document covers the special considerations that impact these decisions when deploying on Windows Azure. This part contains the following sections.

* [Licensing](#_Licensing) provides information on licensing Microsoft Dynamics GP and the required software on Windows Azure.
* [Legal](#_Licensing) provides information on protecting Customer data deployed on Windows Azure.
* [Microsoft Dynamics GP Components](#_Microsoft_Dynamics_GP) provides information about the Microsoft Dynamics GP components that can be deployed on Windows Azure.
* [Deployment Models](#_Deployment_Models) describes the two common configurations that are used when deploying Microsoft Dynamics GP on Windows Azure.
* [System Requirements](#_Chapter_2:_System) provides sizing recommendations for the virtual machine instance sizes that are available in Windows Azure.
* [High Availability and Disaster Recovery (HADR)](#_High_Availability_and) provides information on setting up the Windows Azure environment for high availability and disaster recovery.

## Licensing

Licensing the various components of the Microsoft Dynamics GP 2013 solution is an important consideration in all deployment types. For deployments on Windows Azure, you will want to evaluate the special licensing terms specific to Windows Azure and the impact that these decisions have on the overall cost of providing the hosted solution.

All Microsoft software installed in the Windows Azure Virtual Machine environment must be properly licensed. Windows Azure Virtual Machines include by default a license for use of Windows Server in the Windows Azure environment. Certain Windows Azure Virtual Machine offerings may also include additional Microsoft software on a per-hour or evaluation basis. [Click here](http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/pricing/licensing-faq/)[[1]](#footnote-1) to view additional common FAQs regarding licensing on Windows Azure Virtual Machines.

### Microsoft License Mobility through Software Assurance

License Mobility through Software Assurance gives Microsoft Volume Licensing customers the flexibility to deploy eligible server applications with active Software Assurance on Windows Azure. With this Software Assurance benefit, there is no need to purchase new licenses and no associated mobility fees so, you can easily deploy existing licenses on the Windows Azure cloud platform.

With License Mobility through Software Assurance, you can:

* Deploy certain server application licenses purchased under your Volume Licensing agreement in Windows Azure data centers.
* Extend the value of your server application licenses by deploying them on-premises or in the cloud.
* Take advantage of the low cost computing infrastructure for changing business priorities.

More program benefit details and information can be found [here](http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/pricing/license-mobility/)[[2]](#footnote-2).

For information about Microsoft’s License Mobility program see: <http://www.microsoft.com/licensing/software-assurance/license-mobility.aspx>

### Microsoft Dynamics GP 2013

Use the Microsoft Dynamics NAV 2013 and Microsoft Dynamics GP 2013 Pricing and Licensing page on Partner Source to learn more about the Perpetual Licensing and Service Provider License agreement (SPLA) licensing programs – both of which are supported for on-Azure deployments.

Consult the [Microsoft Dynamics NAV 2013 and Microsoft Dynamics GP 2013 Licensing Guide](https://mbs.microsoft.com/partnersource/pricing/announcements/MSDNAVGP2013LicensingGuide.htm)[[3]](#footnote-3) to improve your understanding of how to license Microsoft Dynamics GP 2013.

### Remote Desktop Services (RDS)

Remote Desktop Services (RDS) Subscriber Access Licenses (SALs) purchased through the Microsoft Service Provider Licensing Agreement (SPLA) may be used to deliver graphical user interface functionality for applications on Windows Azure virtual machines. RDS Client Access Licenses (CALs) purchased through other Volume Licensing programs including the Enterprise Agreement may not be used with Windows Azure virtual machines. To read more about licensing RDS with Windows Azure Virtual Machines, see: <http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/pricing/licensing-faq/> and [Product Use Rights (PUR) document](http://www.microsoft.com/licensing/about-licensing/product-licensing.aspx)[[4]](#footnote-4).

### Microsoft SQL Server

There are three ways to license Microsoft SQL Server in Windows Azure Virtual Machines:

1. Install or upload your own SQL Server image using the license mobility benefits under Software Assurance.
2. Obtain the SQL Server image from the image gallery and pay the per-hour rate of SQL Server in Windows Azure Virtual Machines.
3. Hosted solution for SQL Server Standard Edition licensed as Subscriber Access Licenses (SAL) through SPLA.

Partners will want to carefully evaluate each of these options for Microsoft SQL Server as the cost models are very different. The deployment model you choose to employ and the number of users that will be supported are key factors in this decision.

### Other Licensing Considerations – Windows Azure Billing / Cost Allocation

For many Partners determining how to bill Customers for monthly, consumption-based charges from Windows Azure will represent a new challenge.

To learn what billing information is available, Partners should review the [Understand Your Bill for Windows Azure](http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/support/understand-your-bill/)[[5]](#footnote-5) section on the Windows Azure Portal. These pages provide an overview of the Windows Azure billing process, links to sample invoices and a description of the daily usage data file that can be exported and analyzed.

Windows Azure billing is done monthly at the Account level. Charges for various services are grouped and reported at the Subscription level. To simplify the cost allocation exercised, Partners supporting multiple Customer deployments may wish to segregate each Customer’s services to individual subscriptions.

Note:

Please note that this whitepaper does not supersede or replace any of the legal documentation covering use rights for Microsoft products and does not constitute a commitment of licensing program availability.  For current product use rights and licensing program availability for products licensed through Volume Licensing (including SPLA), please refer to <http://www.microsoft.com/licensing/>. For current product use rights and licensing program availability for products licensed through Order Central, please refer to <https://mbs.microsoft.com/partnersource/pricing/>.

## Legal

Together with Microsoft, Partners must work together to protect Customer data and provide guidance to Customers when it comes to security, privacy, and compliance practices.

Microsoft runs Windows Azure services with common operational practices and features across multiple geographies and jurisdictions. However, it is ultimately up to Partners and Customers to determine if Microsoft services satisfy their regulatory needs.

To help provide Partners and Customers with up to date information the Windows Azure [Trust Center](http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/support/trust-center/)[[6]](#footnote-6) provides detailed information on security, privacy, and compliance topics for Windows Azure customers.

### Security

This topic provides an overview of the provisions Microsoft is taking to provide a secure environment within geographically dispersed datacenters. Among the extensive list of Security-related resources, the [**Standard Response to Request for Information: Security and Privacy**](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=293448&clcid=0x409)**[[7]](#footnote-7)** outlines how Windows Azure meets the suggested principals and mapped them to the International Standards Organization (ISO) 27001:2005 and ISO 27002. This standardized response empowers Partners and Customers with in-depth information to evaluate different offerings in the market place today.

### Privacy

Includes links to multiple resources that describe Privacy practices of the Windows Azure environment. It includes a link to the [Windows Azure Privacy Statement](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/p/?linkid=131004&clcid=0x409)[[8]](#footnote-8) an overview of privacy terms and a discussion of the location of Customer data, E.U. Data Protection Directive.

### Compliance

This topic provides resources to help Partners and Customers comply with the specific laws and regulations applicable to their unique industry and use scenario.

1. <http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/pricing/licensing-faq/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/pricing/license-mobility/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://mbs.microsoft.com/partnersource/pricing/announcements/MSDNAVGP2013LicensingGuide.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <http://www.microsoft.com/licensing/about-licensing/product-licensing.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/support/understand-your-bill/> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/support/trust-center/> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. <http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=26647> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. <http://www.windowsazure.com/en-us/support/legal/privacy-statement/> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)