

## TechCon365 Session: **Simplify Reporting: Automating Document Generation with Power Apps and Power Automate**

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- 1 Turn on the **Developer tab** (File > Options > Customize Ribbon > Check Developer) in Word's ribbon menu to access content controls that can be populated with data directly from SharePoint Online and a variety of other data sources.

*Note: A known limitation of the Microsoft Word (Business) connector is that it does not support the Rich Text Content Control.*

- 2 Utilize Power Apps galleries connected to SharePoint lists for dynamic navigation menus and display text for app maintenance that is easily updated by non-technical clients.

- 3 To ensure entries are separated by a line break, use the **Initialize variable action** to create a string variable **varLineBreak** and set its initial value to three blank lines (enter key x2).

*Note: This variable can then be used in the **Join action or function** as the **Join With** parameter.*

- 4 Power Automate has a range of functions to calculate and format dates. Below is a cheat sheet of the ones used in the document generation flow:

**a. utcNow()** – returns the timestamp at the time of the flow's run as a string

**b. formatDateTime()** – returns a string in date format

```
formatDateTime(body('Get_file_properties')?['DueDate'],  
'MM/dd/yyyy')
```

This calculation formats the value of the DueDate field in the SharePoint list in a 2 Integer Month/2 Integer Day/4 Integer Year format (01/01/2024)

- Another format used was 'MMMM dd, yyyy' (January 01, 2024)


**c. addDays()** – adds an integer number of days to a string timestamp

```
addDays(utcNow(),4)
```

- This calculation adds 4 days to today's date

# MEET OUR POWER TEAM

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