

# THE INSIGHTS

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## Welcome to your May update

We know it's difficult to keep up with the number of changes and releases that come from Microsoft.

That's why every month, we highlight the latest updates that are important to your business.



### Copilot updates

- Azure WAF and Azure Firewall integrations in Copilot for Security
- Interact with Copilot directly in Outlook



### 365 updates

- Changes to M365, O365 and Teams licencing
- Classic Teams goes end of life this year



### Security updates

- Granular access controls now live in Endpoint Privilege Management



### Azure updates

- Public preview for Microsoft Graph in Azure Bicep now available

# MICROSOFT COPILOT



## Azure WAF and Azure Firewall integrations in Copilot for Security

Azure WAF and Azure Firewall are critical security services that many Microsoft Azure customers use to protect their network and applications from threats and attacks. Organisations can empower their analysts to triage and investigate hyperscale data sets to find actionable insights and solutions at machine speeds, using a natural language interface and with no additional training.

This is the first step Microsoft is taking toward bringing interactive, generative AI-powered capabilities to Azure network security. Copilot can also easily translate threat insights and investigations into natural language summaries to quickly inform colleagues or leadership.

The organisational efficiency gained by Copilot in summarising vast data signals to generate key insights into the threat landscape enables analysts to outpace adversaries in a matter of minutes, instead of hours or days.

A [recent study](#) shows that:

- Experienced security analysts were 22% faster with Copilot
- They were 7% more accurate across all tasks when using Copilot
- And, most notably, 97% said they want to use Copilot the next time they do the same task

### What does this mean for me?

Copilot automates manual tasks and helps upskill Tier 1 and Tier 2 analysts to perform tasks that would otherwise be reserved for more experienced Tier 3 or Tier 4 professionals, redirecting expert staff to the hardest challenges, thus elevating the proficiency of the entire team.

Copilot can summarise WAF and FW detections, and enables analysts to ask natural language questions to quickly gain insights to the nature attacks, such as “most frequently offending IP addresses”, “identify top malicious bot attacks”.



Ensuring your employees get the most out of Copilot for their role without compromising security ensures careful adoption planning. speak to one of our Microsoft experts about our adoption services today. [book a free consultation with our team today.](#)

## Interact with Copilot directly in Outlook

In addition to drafting and summarising email messages, you can now find a specific email, summarise your meetings, or outline emails in your inbox that may contain an action item for you. You can even use it to go through your inbox in minutes by asking questions like, “What is the latest email from my manager?” or “Show me the emails where I’ve been @mentioned.”.

### What does this mean for me?

Instead of keyword searches that are often bring back insufficient results, Copilot users can now use natural language to find the information they need quickly, within Outlook.

# MICROSOFT & OFFICE 365



## Changes to M365, O365 and Teams licencing

In April 2024, Microsoft announced it was looking to standardise its licencing model for Teams to align with the changes made in October 2023 for the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland.

For Microsoft customers that have Teams bundled into their existing licences your renewal won't be affected. But for new customers, Teams will now need to be purchased as a separate licence.

While more licence options gives customers more flexibility and freedom, it also introduces more confusion for decision-makers looking to keep down costs while providing users with the right tools to remain productive. Especially as more applications and functionality is brought into Teams, keeping it instrumental in keeping employees efficient.

### What does this mean for me?

While bundled options will continue for existing customers, we recommend auditing your Microsoft licence estate to ensure you're not overpaying or underutilising on your existing investment.



You can use Focus Groups Effective Licence Position audit to ensure your licence estate is optimised before renewing or changing licences. [Book a free consultation with our team today.](#)

## Classic Teams goes end of life this year

Classic Teams will be unsupported as of July 2024 and goes end of availability in October. After which, employees will be pushed to download the new version of Teams.

The new Teams experience makes more applications accessible within Teams, allowing employees to work and collaborate in the one app. While this update aims to increase productivity, it will only do so if employees are aware of the change.

End of availability details can be found here: [End of availability for classic Teams client.](#)

### What does this mean for me?

For employees unaware of the upcoming change, this update might inadvertently interrupt their productivity. Make sure you communicate the upcoming change directly to your employees, highlighting the new functionalities and reassuring any employees uneasy about how the changes might affect the user experience.

# MICROSOFT SECURITY



## Granular access controls now live in Endpoint Privilege Management

Enhanced Zero Trust controls continue to be a priority for Microsoft, with their latest update coming to [Endpoint Privilege Management](#) (EPM).

Organisations are using EPM to ensure end users remain productive while maintaining least privilege access. Previously, this meant end users needed to raise a support ticket to get permissions approved, however this latest update makes approvals easier by allowing employees to request elevated privileges within the app itself. If granted by an admin, the end-user will have 24 hours to proceed with the task before those privileges are revoked.

### What does this mean for me?

This new feature not only streamlines the access process and keeps users productive, but also reduces support tickets while maintaining a strong security posture.

# MICROSOFT AZURE



## Public preview for Microsoft Graph in Azure Bicep now available

Now, with the Microsoft Graph Bicep release, you can declare the Microsoft Entra ID resources in the same Bicep files as your Azure resources, making configurations easier to define, and deployments more reliable and repeatable.

With Bicep templates for Microsoft Graph resources, declaring Microsoft Graph and Microsoft Azure resources together in the same Bicep files, enables new and simplifies existing deployment scenarios, bringing reliable and repeatable deployments.

### What does this mean for me?

If you're Cloud Platforms Team is using these tools, this is a great update for your team's efficiency. This update will most likely only affect a small number of organisations already using these tools, if these services are new to your teams, get in touch with our Microsoft experts to talk about our Infrastructure as Code (IaC) and automation services.



Want to know more about our IaC services? [Book a free consultation with our team today.](#)