

Meet the latest member of the team

Learn how the Skype for Business move benefits you

A new era for intelligent communications



Collaboration relies on frequent, clear and constructive communication. With this in mind, Microsoft has announced their vision for intelligent communications - integrating Skype for Business Online with its communication focus, into the more collaboration centric Microsoft Teams.

If you have invested in Skype for Business, or are thinking of doing so, you might be wondering about what this means for your investment?



Depending on whether your Skype for Business environment is on-premises or in the cloud with Office 365, Microsoft is pursuing two different strategies:






Skype for Business Online will transition into Teams as part of Office 365.






Skype for Business on-premise will stay the same, with a new Skype for Business Server coming in 2018

Combining their qualities

How the two online platforms will merge



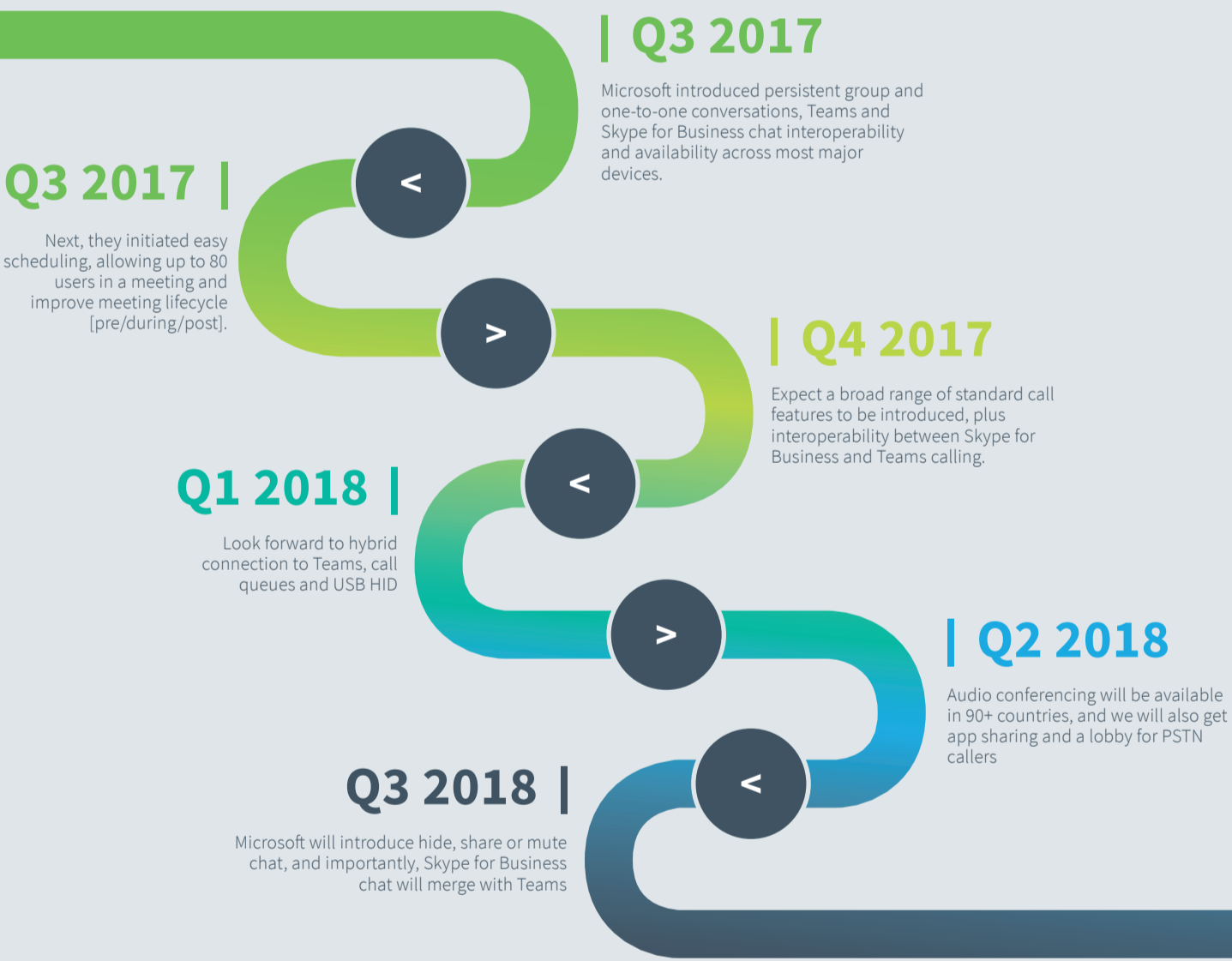
-  Customisable workplace to fit the working style of every team
-  One-on-one chat and team chat
-  Easy document sharing and collaboration
-  Tight integration with all other Office 365 apps
-  Teams calling

-  Integration with Outlook to schedule meetings with ease
-  Video and mobile calls and conference call functionality
-  Instant Message and presence
-  Online meetings
-  Screen share

Meet the new team. Ultimately, Microsoft's decision to integrate Skype for Business Online into Teams is aimed at enabling ongoing improvements to boost collaboration and productivity in your business and with social collaboration platforms such as LinkedIn in the future.

Skype for Business to Microsoft Teams capabilities roadmap

The new Microsoft Teams will incorporate all of the above features – and more! Users will benefit from the following.



Evaluate your needs relative to timing and capabilities on the Microsoft Teams roadmap <http://product.office.com/en-US/business/office-365-roadmap>

The new Microsoft Teams has huge potential

Where could it take you on your journey?

Wherever you currently are on your Digital Workplace journey, Dimension Data can help you transform your environment to meet today's needs and support future requirements with consulting, professional services and outcome based managed services



Marrying Microsoft Teams and Skype for Business

Microsoft Teams is not replacing the Skype for Business service, rather it will integrate the functionality into the new client. The aim is that the Teams client will include all the features of Skype for Business before the end of 2018

1
You currently use Skype for Business on premises or in hybrid

Microsoft is not planning on changing the on-premises version of the tool at all. They will continue to offer support for Skype for Business Server 'for the foreseeable future'. A new version of Skype for Business Server is planned for release in the second half of 2018 for those that don't yet wish to move their communications to the cloud.

If you have a hybrid set up, you can continue using Skype for Business on premises, while also using Teams online with some configuration.

Plan your transition to Teams
<http://aka.ms/skypeandteams>

2
You use Skype for Business as part of O365

Microsoft will provide extensive support for users during the transition to Teams, and it's suggested that all Skype for Business customers should start evaluating Teams. Organisations should already be considering how to approach change management and ease user adoption as well as preparing application validation for any line-of-business integrations.

Learn about Teams
<http://aka.ms/successwithteams>

3
Planning ahead: you are thinking of investing in Skype for Business

Evaluate the Teams roadmap to determine if capabilities will meet business needs and timing requirements. If so, consider adjusting your strategy to deploy teams – and take advantage of the rich ecosystem of intelligent communication.

Try Teams
<http://product.office.com/en-us/microsoftteams>

Contact Dimension Data today for more information.

www2.dimensiondata.com/skype-for-business