THE ONLY M365 UPDATES THAT ACTUALLY MATTERED IN 2025 AND THE ONES YOU CAN'T IGNORE IN 2026

As we are moving towards the end of year 2025, it's easy to get lost in the AI noise. So instead of giving you another "AI is the future" newsletter, here are the **six updates that genuinely impacted organizations** this year and the three shifts that you must prepare for as 2026 begins.

These insights directly align with the work we do every day at Reality-Tech:

SharePoint migrations → Power Platform automation → Purview governance.

WHAT TRULY MATTERED IN 2025

01.

SharePoint OnlineBecame the Only Real Path Forward

Microsoft's 2025 updates were almost entirely cloud-first. On-prem SharePoint received no meaningful upgrades, leaving organizations exposed, limited, and missed out to get benefit from Copilot and modern automation.

Bottom line:
If your data is still stored on SharePoint 2013/2016/2019, plan to migrate on cloud and get strongest data security with modern enhancements and automations.

02.

Power Platform Took a Huge Leap in Speed & Capability

With the launch of the new Power Apps and major 2025 release-wave improvements, building apps and automations became dramatically faster and more stable. Organizations finally moved away from spreadsheet-driven processes and outdated manual approvals.

Bottom line:
Year 2025 made low-code automation more practical, faster, and cost-efficient.

03.

Purview Shifted from Optional to Essential

Strict Regulations, Microsoft expanded Purview coverage and data governance became essential requirement rather than an afterthought. Purview now covers more workloads, including Fabric which enables organizations to discover, classify, and protect sensitive information with far better accuracy.

Bottom line:
Data Governance is a must along with Automations and Enhancements in the Cloud.

WHAT WILL SHAPE YOUR 2026

01.

Copilot Agents Will Reshape Your Work Environment

2026 will introduce more powerful Copilot agents capable of multitasking across SharePoint, Teams, Outlook, and other apps. Their reliability and effectiveness completely depends on the quality and structure of your content.

If your data is messy, Copilot will be too.

02.

Purview + Fabric Will Tighten Governance Expectations

As AI adoption will grow, data governed will become a prerequisite for most enterprise AI projects. Compliance teams will expect sensitivity labels, classification, and monitoring by default and not as a later phase.

AI readiness now depends on data readiness.

03.

Power Platform Will Bring AI Driven Automations

Microsoft is moving toward automations that think, decide, and adapt based on requirements. These next-generation workflows will require clean data, structured SharePoint architecture, and modern app foundations to provide best results.

Organizations with outdated processes will fall behind quickly.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU IN 2026

↳ Staying on-prem is no longer sustainable - Cloud migration is a strategic necessity.

↳ Manual processes must be modernized and automated to keep pace with AI-driven workflows.

↳ Data governance is no longer a compliance box - It is the foundation of current and future security and automation aspects.

At Reality-Tech, our services are built exactly for current and future requirements:

Migration → Modernization → Automation → Governance; all aligned with Microsoft's roadmap.

Best regards,
Joel Plaut
Principal Architect, Reality Tech

Reality Tech
SharePoint Excellence