# Empire Merchants North's BTP Approach

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#### **In This Session**

Empire Merchants North faced no shortage of business process automation technology platforms when selecting one to support one of its compliance-critical business processes. This session will review how Empire Merchants North tackled SAP Master Data Governance and Business Process Automation using a <u>no-code</u> Business Technology Platform with direct connectivity to SAP.

#### What We Will Cover

- About Empire Merchants North (EMN) and its Drivers for Automation
- Automation Use Case: Compliance-critical Marketing Process
- Organizational Approach and Implementation Challenges
- Business Impact and Lessons Learned
- Future use cases and plans



#### **About Empire Merchants North (EMN)**

Empire Merchants North was formed in September 2007 from the merging of Colony Liquor & Wine Distributors and Service-Universal Distributors, two companies whose roots reach back to the end of Prohibition. The result is Upstate New York's premier wine and spirits distributor, proudly building on decades of experience.

With state-of-the-art facilities and a dedicated team of over 700 knowledgeable and well-equipped employees, Empire Merchants North has become synonymous with both service and quality, earning the loyalty of more than 9,000 restaurants, bars, hotels, nightclubs and retail outlets.

SAP has been Empire Merchants North's ERP system for well over a decade.



### **Key Automation Drivers**

Process improvement and automation is key driver to IT roadmap:



Reduce errors and mistakes



Improve processing time and productivity



Strengthen compliance, visibility and oversight



Increase awareness and transparency





#### **Automation Use Case**

# Compliance-critical Marketing Process:

Product Sample Request, Management, Fulfillment, Budgeting, and Compliance

### **Sample Request**

#### Product Sampling is a Key Activity for Driving In-store Liquor and Wine Sales

- Highly manual process requiring shared spreadsheets, multiple emails, and manual sales order entry into SAP
  - $\circ$  Error-prone
  - o Labor-intensive
- Compliance is crucial and must be followed with no exceptions

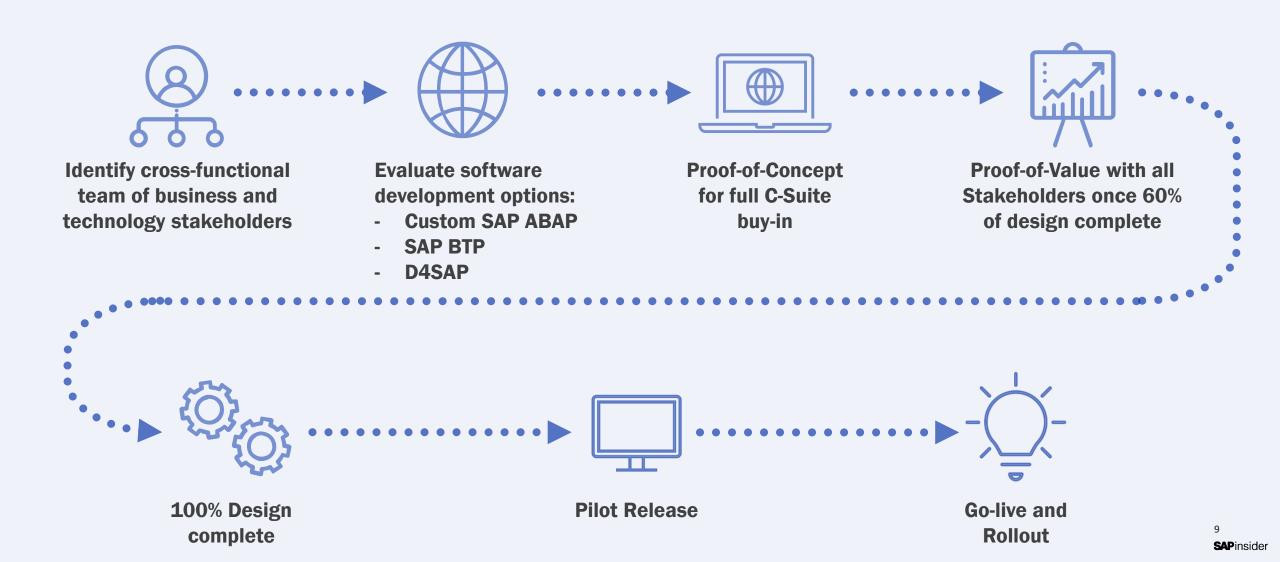




## Organizational Approach

Technology Selection and Implementation Challenges

#### **Organizational Approach**



#### **Implementation Challenges**



Change Management and User Adoption



Translating between Business User Requirements and Business Technology Platform Features and Capabilities



- Cross-functional Resource Availability:
- C-Suite
- IT
- Business Stakeholders

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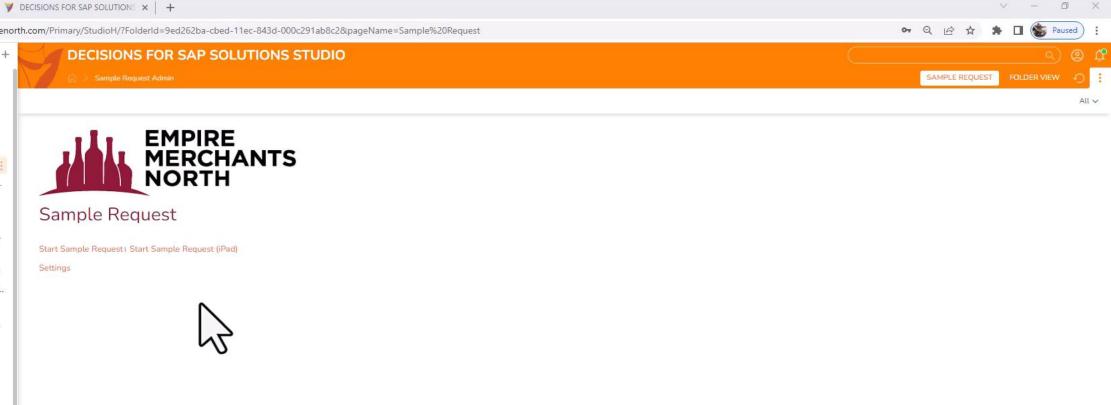
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# **The Outcome**

Business Impact & Lessons Learned



### **Business Impact of Automation**

#### Rapid Development Enabled by:

- Native Business Technology Platform integrated with SAP, DocuSign, and Active Directory
- Business Rules Engine for implementation of complex business logic
- Flexible assignment and task management where user input is required

# Assured 100% Compliance:

- Business Rules govern elements of process, including:
  - Cost Limit by Beverage Type
  - Marketing Permitting Requirements
  - Budget by Division
  - Budget by Supplier
- Task notifications by email ensure the right person brought in for approvals at right times

#### Easy Technology Administration

- Active Directory synchronization
- Business logic exposable to those closest to it: Business Users

#### **Business Impact: Organizational Visibility**



#### **Lessons Learned**

No-code enabled entire organization to rapidly progress along technology learning curve.

No-code enabled a lean development team (no small army of developers required!).

Rapid development and deployment is a realistic expectation.





# Going Forward with our Business Technology Platform

Future Use Cases and Plans



#### **Future Initiatives**

**ERP Master Data Governance and Harmonization** 





Automation beyond ERP and Accounting Systems



# Wrap-up

Where to find more information, key points and questions.

# Where to Find More Information

Overview of the platform: <a href="https://cfg-mgt.com/products/decisions-for-sap-solutions/">https://cfg-mgt.com/products/decisions-for-sap-solutions/</a> Case studies: <a href="https://cfg-mgt.com/case-studies/">https://cfg-mgt.com/case-studies/</a> Whitepapers: <a href="https://cfg-mgt.com/resources/white-papers/">https://cfg-mgt.com/case-studies/</a> Request a demo: <a href="https://cfg-mgt.com/contact-us/">https://cfg-mgt.com/resources/white-papers/</a>

Don't forget to visit Booth 805 for demonstrations and Q&A

#### **Key Points to Take Home**

- Build a solid business case
- Ensure successful user adoption by assembling a cross-functional team
- Use no-code to increase cohesiveness between technologists and business users on the team
- Choose a robust technology that integrates seamlessly with SAP and works beyond it.
- Identify quick wins start there!



#### **Thank you! Any Questions?**

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Please remember to complete your session evaluation.