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Connected Composability:

Why Your Composable ERP Strategy Is Failing

The ERP modernization initiatives underway around the world are very different from your typical "business as usual" integration.

Instead of being driven by IT, with IT outcomes, you're now driven by business and operations leaders looking for tangible business outcomes. And because this includes shifting your traditional ERP application to the cloud, there's an added layer of complexity.

But the cloud also enables a different way of integrating data and applications that, when implemented correctly, can shorten timescales to delivery and open visibility into performance of new processes and data.

Complexity vs. Composability

If there's one buzzword on nearly everyone's lips, it's agility — the need to be more agile, to be able to flex and adjust on the fly, to make decisions and create new business models quickly to create or respond to changing market conditions.

Many companies faced with end-of-life support for their SAP or Oracle on-premises ERP suite are now looking at building agility into their organization as part of the move to a virtual or hybrid cloud infrastructure.

By deploying composable ERP, you can improve agility, drive productivity, and create efficiencies while decomposing — and simplifying — your monolith legacy ERP.

The adaptive approach of composability means you can pick up pieces of your ERP solution to deploy on the cloud or to upgrade, depending on your business needs. This gives you more flexibility to make changes to your most critical applications, like finance, HR, or customer relationship management, while keeping the rest of your ERP puttering along.

For most of you, this approach isn't new. In fact, a Boomi survey of nearly 1,700 global enterprise CTOs and architects found that a whopping 94% are already embracing composable ERP.*

But the success of your composable ERP strategy depends on how well you can integrate data across all your applications. In fact, the typical enterprise has an average of 850 applications, yet just one-third of those are connected.

This literal disconnect means complexity. Too often, organizations like yours rely on one-off integrations to bring together the disjointed data from across the enterprise. This throws up roadblocks to timely decision-making, introduces opportunities for errors, and ultimately, limits the business intelligence of leadership.

Only 30% of enterprise applications are connected*

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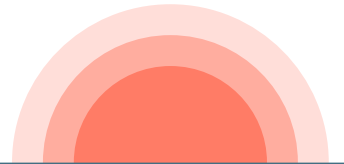Source: Boomi ERP Survey 2021

The Connectivity Challenge

One of the ERP trends experts like Joshua Greenbaum of industry analysis firm Enterprise Applications Consulting see is [the need for specific functionality](#). This move away from one-size-doesn't-fit-all ERP superstructure to a flexible, composable ERP is accelerating.

Composable ERP gives companies a flexible platform to bridge the gap between legacy and modern, cloud-based applications. Yet data remains the top challenge facing anyone trying to derive value from the move.

The holy grail of any enterprise is actually finding the value in your data with real-time visibility. But when a siloed approach keeps data separated, it is nearly impossible to provide an intelligent and managed source of master data. No source of truth, no continuity for your customer data, no insights that can transform your business.

An added wrinkle is the hybrid approach, which puts your data on applications that may be on-premises, in a private cloud, or one or more public clouds. This hinders your ability to connect to all component applications and data.

DOES YOUR COMPOSABLE ARCHITECTURE NEED TO MAKE USE OF:

- A complex data ecosystem?
- Multiple applications?
- High volumes of data and transactions?

It's Not Just About Composable ERP

Most organizations see the promise of composable ERP. And not surprisingly, nine out of 10 businesses have also deployed an integrated platform as a service (iPaaS) to support their new approach to the ERP architecture, or they're planning to do so.*

But the winning strategy will come down to not how well your architecture is executed, but how well you've deployed your integration platform.

First, your composable ERP must be integrated in such a way that will enable you to decouple and rejoin applications easily.

Second, implementing a hybrid integration platform (HIP) approach will provide the foundation for self-service integration by business units, application development teams, or even line of business users.

And third, building a Data Community of Practice (Data CoP) will help you harness data for specific business initiatives.

Conclusion

The advantages of composable and decomposable ERP architectures are clearly defined: You can adapt faster to change and improve agility, seek out and use the latest best-of-breed components specific to your business, shorten release and planning cycles, and make the best use of development and subject matter resources.

When you use the right iPaaS to maximize the success and benefits of composable architecture as part of your ERP modernization program, you'll be able to:

- Shorten implementation times with intelligent connectivity and automation;

- Support changing business needs by configuring your ERP functionality to align with outcomes; and

- Improve and streamline performance with visibility into new composed processes and data.

Ultimately, it's the data connectivity to be found via an integration platform that will determine your ability to deliver best business outcomes and defend and expand your market position.

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Boomi can help you with your ERP modernization needs.

Learn how

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