

# **Unlock maximum value from SAP S/4HANA migrations**

Put information at the center  
of people and processes to gain an  
operational and competitive advantage



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**“Minimal disruption to operations is the number one requirement for organizations as they migrate to SAP S/4HANA.”**

– SAPInsider <sup>1</sup>

## Industry backdrop

As SAP® looks to sunset their on-premises ECC ERP environment, many companies have plans to migrate away. They have been left with a choice of staying with SAP and migrating to SAP S/4HANA® or partnering with another cloud ERP vendor. In either scenario, companies need to consider the broader aspects of how to re-integrate their cloud ERP solution into the existing information management environment. This includes re-establishing integration with both internal enterprise applications and external trading partner communities.

For those migrating to SAP S/4HANA, this move will represent the cornerstone of their overall digital transformation initiatives, with ERP migration representing the top CIO budget item across many industries. Given the business disruption inherent to such a migration, it could also be the perfect time to reconsider information management and B2B integration strategies. After all, ERP is at the heart of today's business environment and needs to support future innovation while meeting stringent cost and efficiency requirements.

This paper highlights how companies can leverage an SAP S/4HANA migration project as an opportunity to become a more intelligent and digitally connected enterprise.

## Rethinking integrations to keep innovation moving

Achieving the best S/4 transformation outcome requires rethinking a company's information management strategy and addressing three critical questions:

1. How can legacy data from decommissioned SAP systems be retained and securely moved to the cloud?
2. What is the best strategy to consolidate various document-related systems and archives into one cloud solution?

3. How can the complex grid of business and application integrations be unwoven?

Here's how OpenText can address each question:

### Decommissioning and data load challenges

To reap the efficiency benefits and full potential of the cloud, a simple lift and shift will not suffice. Harmonizing and consolidating applications and systems as part of a digital transformation initiative can lead to three challenges:

- Critical information is siloed and trapped within unstructured data, document-centric applications, complex business partner connections, and application APIs.
- The transition will result in decommissioned applications and the need to reduce the data load on the new environment. Business users must retain the ability to access archived data for legal holds and compliance purposes.
- Evolving compliance and information security risks need to be identified and managed.

### Holistic information management

Companies need to bridge the gap between transactional systems and document-centric systems, leveraging an information management platform to unify structured and unstructured data.

By extending this approach across the enterprise, companies can create fast and effective ways to deliver new levels of process excellence, user satisfaction, and cost reduction across all contributing applications, not just SAP solutions.

<sup>1</sup> SAPInsider, SAP S/4HANA Migration, 2022



**“A pool flow of information across the organization results in process inefficiencies and higher costs and risks. The impact today is greater than ever, with hybrid work patterns quickly becoming the norm across organizations.”**

– Gartner <sup>2</sup>

For example, the organization could further leverage the use of Microsoft 365®, bringing together and managing content across Microsoft®, SAP and Salesforce® business processes. This will allow a company to improve information insight, reduce operating costs, and adapt data compliance and sovereignty rules across the global organization.

### **Business and application integration**

Successfully moving to SAP S/4HANA requires rethinking the integration strategy to address a company's complex grid of integration platforms and connections—across applications, suppliers, and partners. With a cloud-based integration platform, companies can unweave integration complexity and lower TCO by reducing hardware, software, and employee costs.

OpenText equips organizations to leverage a single digital backbone across business systems and a pre-connected network of more than one million B2B partners and suppliers. They can benefit from frictionless information exchange, vast collaboration, and the ability to select businesses based on partner-specific attributes, such as ethical practices.

### **Delivering an information advantage**

- Through a cloud-based information layer, OpenText will facilitate secure and compliant, end-to-end information flows across company business processes, spanning multiple IT systems both inside and outside the organization.
- This will deliver a single source of truth for all business-relevant content, increasing productivity and reducing costs. Introducing end-to-end efficiency will enhance information access and value, including self-service document creation and collaboration by sharing, signing, and storing documents internally and externally. Automating the capture and classification of incoming information and securing digital assets in a central repository boosts efficiency and reduces breach risks.
- Enabling compliant system decommissioning and archiving relevant data from all sources and systems will reduce IT costs while maintaining compliant access to data for business users. This centralization and modernization streamlines IT infrastructure operations, eliminating the need to support legacy applications.
- The OpenText™ Business Network Cloud will accelerate business integration, connecting components across the entire application ecosystem using reliable, flexible, and configurable technology. This includes enterprise application integration, access to a global partner directory, and fully automated, legally compliant global e-Invoicing with partner and trading communities.

<sup>2</sup> Gartner®, Optimize your content services portfolio by measuring your organization's content flow. (August 2021)

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## Driving innovation across lines of business

With an intelligent, connected enterprise information platform, companies can obtain measurable business results across multiple business areas:

### Manufacturing and supply chain

Ensure employees have necessary documents and information in a timely and accurate manner, shortening repair cycles, standardizing and automating supply chain information flows, and managing the global supply chain based on real-time data.

### Finance

Streamline procure-to-pay and order-to-cash processes, automate document processing, store content in a compliant manner, and better integrate financial partners.

### Sales

Increase salesforce efficiency, enable zero-touch automation of processes, and automate information and document creation for personalized communication, be it in SAP, Salesforce, or other related environments.

### Marketing and business development

Better manage and distribute digital assets, facilitate collaboration with digital media agencies, control all available digital assets centrally, and create compliant templates for customer/partner communication.

### Human resources

Support a digitalized HR organization, manage and store all digital employee and applicant records, go paperless on all HR forms, and provide secure collaboration and digital signature on HR documents.

## Business outcomes

Together, we can outline a vision and identify capabilities that will:

- Fully digitize information management (from capture to compliant archiving) to increase user efficiency across all business functions and applications.
- Enable easy and secure information access anytime, anywhere and from any device, no matter the source, including decommissioned or active business information.
- Provide out-of-the-box integration of information management with enterprise systems, such as SAP ECC, SAP S/4HANA, Salesforce.com, Microsoft® SharePoint® and Microsoft 365.
- Leverage a global cloud platform for required business partner and application integrations.



## Why OpenText?

- Establish a future-proof information management strategy that embraces all business applications.
- Partner with a single information management vendor that can support your digital transformation requirements.
- Ensure that your business is getting the most from your new SAP S/4HANA environment.
- Introduce a secure, identity-driven digital backbone to connect your users to their information and business applications.
- Ensure that external transaction flows are accurate and can enter SAP with no rework required.
- Foster improved collaboration across the extended business ecosystem.
- Accelerate your overall cloud migration strategy and ensure all information flowing across the business ecosystem is effectively managed.

## Proposed next steps

Together, we can outline a vision and identify opportunities to improve operational excellence key performance indicators quickly and successfully. Below are suggested next steps to ensure your SAP S/4HANA journey is in lock step with your information management journey.

### • Initial introductory meeting

Bring together your OpenText Global Account Director or Senior Account Representative with your company's Account Business Unit President, COO, CTO, or decision maker on IT infrastructure investments.

### • Joint roadmap exchange

Hold a day-long information exchange between operational leaders (Directors and above) and OpenText to gain insight about your business and supply chain operations and data flow initiatives and provide details on information management technologies and best practices that support those initiatives.

### • Business Value Consulting workshop

Learn about the business benefits and ROI of integrating SAP S/4HANA with other enterprise applications and external trading partners in your extended ecosystem. Define a vision and roadmap for how you can seamlessly migrate to SAP S/4HANA while ensuring the continuity of your existing business operations.



**Mark Morley**

**Head of Global Industry Marketing**

**LinkedIn: Mark Morley**

**Email: [mmorley@opentext.com](mailto:mmorley@opentext.com)**