

Supply Chain Planning Reimagined

# Reinventing planning for a new era of supply chain

Shape the future of intelligent decision-making with supply chain planning



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## Balancing planning amidst disruption and growth

We're in an era of continuous volatility. Enterprise organizations are expected to redesign their supply chains, launch new business models, and enter new channels—all while managing daily operational disruptions.

Organizations that lack integrated planning, execution, and insight capabilities start a domino effect that results in excess inventory, rising non-standard COGS, customer service disruptions, missed revenue, and lost productivity.

To lead in this environment, companies must connect the dots between planning, execution, and enterprise decision-making. That means rethinking how planning and decisioning happens—and where it fits in the business. This e-book will show you which capabilities will help you stay agile, grow, and win in the age of continuous volatility.





## Why the time to reinvent is now

The pressure to deliver fast, flexible, customer-centric supply chains has never been higher. Now, having the ability to plan seamlessly across all time horizons makes it even more critical as it improves the speed of making optimal decisions. To stay ahead, planning and decision-making systems need to provide comprehensive breadth and depth and rapidly add and extend new capabilities.

Organizations that continue to rely on legacy systems face real risks:

- Missed demand signals
- Overreliance on static data
- Inefficient and ineffective responses to market changes
- Inability to use real-time insights for competitive advantage
- Fragmented processes that hinder enterprise-wide aligned decisions

The value of synchronized planning and decision-making, reduced latency, and improved outcomes can reach tens or hundreds of millions of dollars depending on a company's size, industry dynamics, and maturity.

We've made it our mission to remove the anxiety around transformation by enabling AI-first, resilient, and growth-ready planning and decision-making solutions.



## Rethinking decision-making in the age of uncertainty

Planning is no longer about balancing supply and demand. It needs to transform data from all sources into strategic insights that empower your teams to make confident, real-time decisions.

SAP supply chain planning and decisioning solutions redefine this paradigm and enable a living, learning supply chain through predictive insights and seamless cross-functional collaboration, delivering:

- Integrated decision-centric planning enabled by cross-functional collaboration that breaks down silos, especially on the mid to long-term horizons
- Autonomous planning and decisioning that balances integrated optimization with accelerated responses across different decision types by collapsing planning workflows and shortening cycles, especially for the operational horizon
- Data-driven post-planning intelligence and actioning ('playback your decisions')

Underpinned by various core capabilities:

- Real-time forecasting and planning with embedded narrow AI/ML and agentic AI

- Scenario modeling and simulations to evaluate options—either by human or agent—before acting
- End-to-end visibility and impact analysis across the value chain
- A rich set of domain-specific algorithms, solvers, and optimizers
- Extensible future-proof data and development platform with fast innovation cycles

With our AI-driven planning platform, supply chain planning and decision-making evolves into a continuous, adaptive process that integrates seamlessly across the extended supply chain—including finance, sales, and operations. It empowers your team with AI-driven insights, automation, and advanced scenario modeling. These capabilities enable organizations to transition from a reactive planning approach to a proactive, strategic orchestration of their extended enterprise inclusive of upstream and downstream business partners and customers.



## Future-proof platforms are built on proven foundations

Winning today and in the future requires having the proper foundation of data, applications, and AI.

Our AI-driven planning platform is designed to meet the demands of modern planning while drawing strength from SAP's broader ecosystem—providing customers with a highly extensible, secure, and enterprise-grade planning environment.

The best-of-suite advantage provides organizations with connected and intelligent enterprise data that helps unify operations and receive unparalleled insight. SAP Business Data Cloud brings together information from SAP and non-SAP sources—including outside ERP systems, SAP Business Network commercial data, and external indices such as social sentiment—to provide planners and decision-makers with a holistic view of their business.

Unlike point solutions that struggle with consistency or integration, SAP retains the semantic layer of the data. This ensures we collect, understand, and preserve the relationships, hierarchies, and logical connections for accurate and deeply contextualized planning models. This is crucial for running AI at scale—whether that involves machine learning, agentic processes, or inclusive scenarios that span across systems and SAP applications.

Our AI-driven planning engines consume the data sets to allow companies to generate faster and better plans. Forecasts, simulations, and decisions are based on a single version of truth (master and transactional data) that is technically sound and operationally relevant to drive confidence across the enterprise and minimize decision-making latency.

Planning alone isn't enough—organizations must be able to communicate and execute those plans seamlessly. Our tight orchestration between planning and execution enables companies to plan based on the latest execution data while also ensuring that once decisions are made, they can be actioned instantly. This synchronization increases agility and lays the foundation for more autonomous, data-driven supply chain operations.

As business needs evolve, the suite adapts. Through SAP's built-in Business Data Cloud and Business Technology Platform, as well as its integration with Databricks, customers can build and expand use cases at scale. Whether it's extending planning logic, integrating machine learning models, or customizing workflows, the enterprise-grade foundation is there to support it under the governance of a single architecture.





## Win in a world of continuous change with supply chain planning and decision-making

A strong foundation matters—but in a world of constant change, performance under pressure is what sets leaders apart. Integrated business planning transforms supply chain planning into a strategic engine—delivering the speed, intelligence, and coordination that modern supply chains demand.

Supply chain planning and decision-making solutions include an embedded AI suite and advanced analytics capabilities that enable autonomous, exception-based planning in a performant manner. Whether it's real-time demand sensing, predictive forecasting, or fast scenario modeling, our solutions free planners and decision-makers from manual tasks and enable smarter and faster decisions at scale.

The solution is also designed for process orchestration across the enterprise. It doesn't just connect functions within the supply chain; it bridges planning with commercial, financial, and operational systems to close the gap between planning and action.

### **Accelerate operational response and supply network planning**

Today's supply chains must operate at the speed of change. SAP enables real-time responsiveness by bringing together demand shifts, supply constraints, and supplier collaboration on a single platform. Businesses can model supply chain disruptions and adapt plans instantly with embedded narrow and

agentic AI, fast heuristics, and rules-based automation that continuously optimize outcomes.

Our platform enables organizations to stay agile and competitive by facilitating intelligent decision-making at scale across both finite and infinite planning scenarios—powered by real-time supply, demand signals, and collaboration with our direct procurement supplier network.

### **Data-driven post-planning intelligence and actioning**

Post-planning intelligence capabilities allow organizations to monitor performance against KPIs and deploy timely corrective actions through intelligence agents. SAP enables continuous tracking from plan to execution to help teams measure, learn, and optimize over time and implement 'playback' decisions. With enterprise-wide benchmarking and automated learning loops powered by historical data and outcome-based insights, businesses can continuously refine and improve their decision-making.

This creates a powerful feedback engine that transforms every plan, decision, and result into an opportunity to improve performance—driving higher levels of automation, increasing agility, and driving strategic advantage via sustained adoption.



### **A unified supply chain leader and planner experience**

SAP provides a centralized, role-based experience that brings together planning, analysis, decisioning, and execution workflows into a single workspace. Designed for both supply chain leaders and decision-makers, this one-stop shop experience enhances collaboration and visibility—enabling faster, more confident decision-making.

This benefits organizations since it provides a unified view to plan, analyze, and resolve supply chain challenges from one place and helps organizations stay aligned, responsive, and agile in today's dynamic environment.

We deliver a holistic supply chain planning and decision-making experience that adapts as business needs evolve. Through a continuous innovation cycle, we introduce new capabilities—whether it's industry-specific features or AI-driven decision workflows—to meet growing complexity head-on. While many organizations grapple with fragmented tech stacks, SAP supply chain solutions offer a unified experience backed by enterprise-grade integration, robust performance, and a growing ecosystem of intelligent planning applications.





## Bridging the gap between legacy and enduring leadership

We acknowledge that many organizations worry about the leap from legacy planning tools—especially when change feels risky. Our approach is designed to eliminate that friction and make transformations manageable and meaningful with a focus on time to value.

We enable hybrid deployment options, migration templates, and support real-time integration in addition to SAP Cloud Integration to maximize performance.

Throughout the journey, we readily provide organizations with the capabilities to succeed and support phased transitions that protect existing investments. Thanks to features like digital blueprinting, low-code setup, and integrated support from Joule, organizations can confidently navigate their transformations and drive sustained and high levels of adoption.

### **People at the center: unlocking value through expertise and innovation**

Transformation isn't just about technology—it's about people. Our global partner network, expert internal consulting, and AI-enabled supply chain planning applications work together to help organizations realize value quickly and sustain long-term success.

Built on an open platform designed for scale and performance, our approach enables real-time, cross-functional decision-making grounded in clean, secure, enterprise-grade data. Teams are empowered with instant insights, greater efficiency, and the tools to innovate confidently—all while meeting the highest standards for security and compliance.

By leveraging our AI-driven platform, expert partner network, internal consulting, and AI-enabled supply chain planning and decision-making applications, your business can unlock immediate value, drive adoption, and fuel long-term growth with continuous innovation.



## Activate your supply chain strategy

Modern supply chains can no longer afford to operate in silos or rely on outdated planning cycles. SAP empowers you to break through barriers, connect strategy to execution, and create an intelligent, resilient supply chain that's ready for whatever comes next.

Our supply chain planning and decision-making solutions give you the tools to plan ahead and adapt. They're powered by AI, backed by real-time data, and integrated across your enterprise. But it doesn't stop at planning. When combined with SAP's broader supply chain management portfolio and business suite, you can orchestrate every part of your extended value chain—from manufacturing to logistics to procurement. The system's extensibility further strengthens these capabilities.

Whether you're just beginning your journey or scaling a transformation, SAP helps you:

- Unify planning across business units to improve alignment and speed
- Empower teams with real-time intelligence to reduce delays and disruptions
- Respond confidently to volatility and continuously optimize for growth



### Take the next step

See SAP Integrated Business Planning in action by [taking a product tour](#).

**Disclaimer:** Some capabilities and features described in this eBook represent SAP's strategic vision for the future of supply chain planning. While many are available today, others are forward-looking statements reflecting ongoing innovation and development efforts. As such, not all functionality is currently available, and any availability or timelines are subject to change at SAP's sole discretion without notice. SAP has no obligation to pursue any course of business or to develop, release, or deliver any product, feature, or code mentioned. This material is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute a commitment, specification, or legal obligation. It should not be relied upon for purchasing decisions. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and involve risks and uncertainties; actual results may differ materially, and SAP undertakes no obligation to update them.



**Bring out your best.**