User Group Communication Assets – SAP's Integration Strategy

A : Executive Summary: What every User Group member should know about SAP's Integration Strategy

One of SAP's unique selling propositions has always been the fact that SAP is able to run business processes integrated end-to-end. With the acquisitions in recent years, integration has become a challenge for our customers. In February 2020, Christian Klein therefore published an [article](#)providing a comprehensive overview of [SAP's Integration Plan in the Cloud.](#)

This integration plan includes commitments for so-called "Suite Qualities". For each of these Suite Qualities, the four leading Intelligent Enterprise end-to-end business processes (Lead to Cash, Source to Pay, Recruit to Retire, and Design to Operate) have announced delivery dates. SAP consequently not only continues to deepen SAP-to-SAP integrations along its organizational key processes that span across all Line of Business applications (like SAP SuccessFactors, SAP Fieldglass, SAP Ariba, SAP S/4HANA, etc.), but the new integration plan most importantly communicates a clear action plan and roadmap.

The integration efforts are based on a holistic integration strategy that also covers aspects like seamless user experience, one workflow inbox, end-to-end process blueprints, aligned data models, consistent security & identity management, coordinated lifecycle management and embedded & cross-product analytics – all of which will contribute to simplified integrations at customer side. Fully acknowledging the fact that customers' landscapes are typically hybrid, SAP's integration strategy also offers integration options for non-SAP application integrations and cloud to on-premise integrations.

For additional information, please feel free to check out this [on-demand webinar](#) for SAP User Groups.

B: Answers to Strategic Questions by SUGEN

1. With the recent announcements regarding Business Suite support extension, will more SAP efforts be focused on integration? Knowing integration has been one of the largest hurdles for companies to overcome, "doubling down" in this area could accelerate migrations.

Simplifying integrations for our customers ranks high on the SAP agenda. Besides the efforts described above that are currently underway to simplify cloud-to-cloud integrations, SAP will also further broaden its footprint in the area of hybrid cloud to on-premise integration options. Already today SAP offers a large number of pre-packaged integration templates also for cloud to on-premise integrations on the [SAP API Business Hub](#).

With this two-pronged strategy – an optimized SAP-to-SAP cloud integration experience while at the same time strengthening our offerings for hybrid on-premise integration use cases – SAP customers will have the full flexibility and freedom of choice in their move to the cloud at their own pace.

Learn about the benefits of your Move to SAP S/4HANA and get integration guidance on the *Transition Path to S/4HANA and Cloud Integration* in SAP's CIO Guide for Process and Data Integration in Hybrid Landscapes (see pp. 80 ff.).

2. User Groups understand that integration is now a priority for SAP. It has traditionally been a core value proposition. Can SAP give a clear road map for how integration problems will be addressed?

- SAP's Integration Plan in the Cloud includes availability dates for cloud services.
- SAP Road Maps lists planned innovations for the seven Suite Qualities and the four leading Intelligent Enterprise end-to-end business processes.

3. Which are the alternatives for integration between SAP S4/HANA and SAP Cloud products? (through cloud integration? Through on-premise integrators? Something hybrid?)

SAP's Cloud Platform Integration Suite product offering gives SAP customers the full flexibility to adopt the integration strategy that best fits their landscape (including cloud-to-cloud and hybrid integration options). More than 1300+ pre-packaged integration templates (including integrations between SAP S/4HANA and SAP Cloud products) are published on the SAP API Business Hub and can be used to jump-start integration projects with the help of the SAP Cloud Platform Integration Suite tooling.

4. What is the plan to communicate progress on integration strategy and what is the plan to enable locally on the subject?

Updates will be shared at upcoming SAP Events (like SAPPHIRE, SAP TechEd, etc.).

5. Can we get a view on how to integrate third-party solutions to SAP?

[SAP's Cloud Platform Integration Suite](#) also provides rich integration offerings for third-party integrations, e.g. by making use of the pre-packaged integration templates for integrations into non-SAP solutions that are published on the [SAP API Business Hub](#) and by providing more than 160 open connectors to connect to non-SAP applications via the SAP Cloud Platform Integration Suite tooling.

This is complemented by the [SAP's Integration Solution Advisory Methodology (ISA-M)](#), which supports the enterprise architects in their decision on how to tackle integration challenges in hybrid landscapes and which integration technology to use, also for integration use cases into non-SAP applications. It includes a collection of typical integration use case patterns in a hybrid landscape that are technology-agnostic and can be mapped to integration services/technologies in a specific customer context. Being technology agnostic, ISA-M is open and allows to include non-SAP integration services/technologies into the overall integration strategy of an organization. ISA-M has been successfully adopted in multiple global organizations and learnings have been incorporated into the methodology.