



Analytics First

Leading with data-driven insights
that can accelerate business results

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Major advances in data and analytics technologies in recent years have helped rewrite the modernization playbook. Gone are the days when a new ERP solution had to be fully implemented before an organization could activate comprehensive data-driven analytics capabilities and get actionable insights for decision-making.

“Today, enterprise leaders can embark on an “analytics first” path for modernizing systems and deploying new digital capabilities”

Today, enterprise leaders can embark on an “analytics first” path for modernizing systems and deploying new digital capabilities—helping them accelerate business transformation strategies and gain an insight-driven advantage sooner. For organizations considering an SAP S/4HANA® journey, especially, the approach can help get data in order and expedite efforts as they move forward—as a precursor to an SAP S/4HANA project or as an integral part of its first phase.



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The old way

Historically, many organizations have taken an “ERP first” approach when transforming their businesses, addressing information and/or reporting needs afterward. In some cases, information capabilities for a function such as finance, for example, could take several months to deploy following an ERP implementation or upgrade.

In today’s hotly competitive business environment, insights matter. Moving fast matters. The current speed of business means many organizations cannot wait months or years to get answers that can help them operate more efficiently, identify growth opportunities, serve their customers more effectively, and mitigate supply chain risks.



A new way forward

Analytics and reporting no longer have to be an afterthought—even for organizations that still depend heavily on heterogeneous legacy systems. Offerings such as the SAP HANA® in-memory database have helped enable a new “analytics first” model, allowing organizations to transform data into real-time insights without first having to transform their systems landscape.

For organizations planning to move forward with modern digital core ERP offerings such as SAP S/4HANA an “analytics first” approach can especially make sense—generating rapid value from analytics while also helping to validate the information architecture of a new SAP S/4HANA environment.

With an “analytics first” approach, organizations no longer have to build potentially overwrought data warehouses or data lakes, burning precious time and attempting to pre-guess the questions that the business might ask of enterprise data. Instead, they can put their initial focus on empowering workers with analytic tools that allow them to leverage existing and emerging data—and to flexibly generate needed insights. And for an organization planning to deploy SAP S/4HANA, putting analytics first ultimately can help improve the overall quality of the SAP S/4HANA data model the enterprise will leverage.



How we can help

Taking an “analytics first” approach allows your organization to lead with insights and accelerate the transformation of your business. Standing up new capabilities, however, requires a diverse mix of business and technology skills—from strategic to tactical. Deloitte—a leader in analytics, business transformation, and SAP technology enablement—can assist in many areas. We can help you:

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- Develop an “analytics first” strategy and implementation roadmap for the enterprise
- Build the business case for adopting SAP HANA as an “analytics first” engine
- Align business processes with new technologies
- Design and model an SAP®-driven “analytics first” environment and user experience
- Identify opportunities for new efficiencies, cost savings, and business growth
- Define the questions, insights, and metrics that are critical to the future needs of your business—to develop enterprise goals based on industry-specific benchmarks
- Determine specific methods and end-user tools you will need to consume data and insights
- Develop a new master data model that can help you get the most out of “analytics first”
- Migrate and cleanse data to get it into a format that can help your business excel
- Address business-specific analytics needs that span back-office and customer-facing functions
- Integrate systems, including legacy systems and cloud applications such as SAP® Ariba® offerings and SAP® Integrated Business Planning, to deliver an end-to-end environment that can sustain your “analytics first” approach
- Establish an enterprise analytics platform several months or even a year ahead of an SAP S/4HANA deployment—as a foundation for traditional analytics solutions as well as more advanced analytics-based capabilities



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Potential bottom-line benefits

What kind of results can you expect from working with Deloitte to deploy “analytics first” capabilities based on SAP HANA? Here are a few examples of the benefits you might see.



Build a foundation for predictive analytics and machine intelligence capabilities that can drive additional benefits for your business



Lay the groundwork for a broader SAP S/4HANA transformation while identifying potential challenges and pain points ahead of a full deployment



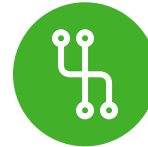
Improve the quality of your overall data model, and avoid building duplicate models



Save costs on potentially unnecessary IT infrastructure development and eliminate downstream databases and data marts that may reside on employee laptops or local servers



Give the workforce modern analytic tools, including self-service capabilities, that can boost productivity sooner rather than later



Enable flexibility and faster data consumption that can help you respond to rapidly changing business needs



Accelerate insights that can generate efficiencies, cost savings, and growth while mitigating risks

The Deloitte “analytics first” approach also can help show executive stakeholders of your SAP S/4HANA transformation program how the organization can deliver value sooner. We can help you build a strategic roadmap and delivery plan that the business can readily understand, adopt, and act on. And we can help you reap the benefits of analytics and insights all along your journey, helping to make the impact and outcomes of transformation efforts tangible and real—sooner rather than later.



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Let's talk

If building an insight-driven advantage is a priority for your organization, we should talk. Deloitte brings extensive skills, knowledge, and industry-specific experience that can help you enable an “analytics first” approach to accelerate business results.

We are widely recognized for our leadership in supply chain and finance transformation, as well as cloud and analytics capabilities. And our SAP relationship dates back decades, with a global team of more than 18,000 business and technology professionals focused on SAP solutions. As a value-added reseller of SAP solutions, we have received numerous SAP awards—including back-to-back SAP® Pinnacle Awards for our SAP S/4HANA achievements in 2016 and 2017.

Ready to reimagine analytics, the future of your business, and the value you can get? Ready to reimagine everything—an entire universe of possibilities with SAP solutions? We're ready to help. Contact us to get the conversation started.

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