

SAP Solution Brief

SAP BusinessObjects Analytics Portfolio
SAP BusinessObjects Enterprise
Performance Management Solutions

Objectives

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Benefits

Quick Facts



**Reimagine Business Performance
with SAP® BusinessObjects™
EPM Solutions**



The Best-Run Businesses Run SAP

Improve business performance

Improve business performance

As part of digital transformation initiatives, CFOs are driving business model innovation in many organizations. By enabling your finance teams to better strategize, plan, analyze, optimize, and close and disclose results, SAP® BusinessObjects™ enterprise performance management (EPM) solutions help you [increase revenue and profitability](#).

Along with financial planning, reporting, compliance, and governance activities, CFOs and financial managers must assume more strategic responsibilities, such as partnering with the business to facilitate and improve decision making. Finance teams often relied on time-consuming tasks such as aggregating spreadsheets and integrating disparate tools from multiple vendors. Lengthy planning, budgeting, and closing cycles, compounded with often-

inaccurate data, sometimes resulted in restatements and delayed, uninformed, and questionable decisions. With increasing competition and a laser focus on the customer as part of the new digital economy, the old way of doing things simply won't do any longer.

SAP helps you to meet obligations today while laying the foundation for digital transformation and a modern finance function.



Adopt simple, integrated, and safe EPM solutions

Adopt simple, integrated, and safe EPM solutions

Strategize and plan

Analyze and optimize

Close and disclose

Finance teams are leading business model innovation as part of digital transformation initiatives within their organizations. As a strategic partner to the business, finance must provide live insight into the business to support better, fact-based decisions and seize new opportunities. At the same time, it must simplify and automate anything it can for maximum efficiency.

SAP BusinessObjects EPM solutions can be deployed in a modular fashion to address specific needs, such as replacing stand-alone spreadsheets for budgeting and planning, or as an integrated, comprehensive solution that meets all your EPM requirements. Choose how you want to deploy – on premise or in the cloud – and improve operability and reduce cost of ownership with unique integration into SAP S/4HANA®, the SAP Business Warehouse application, the SAP HANA® platform, and other SAP BusinessObjects Analytics solutions.

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**Adopt simple, integrated,
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SAP BusinessObjects EPM solutions include:

- SAP BusinessObjects Strategy Management application – Communicate objectives and initiatives, align business units, monitor and report progress, and proactively take action when issues arise
- SAP BusinessObjects Planning and Consolidation application – Leverage planning, budgeting, and forecasting functionality with management and legal consolidations to improve planning accuracy, quickly explore different scenarios, shorten budget cycle time, close the books more quickly, and enable regulatory compliance

- SAP BusinessObjects Cloud solution – Discover, visualize, plan, and predict, all in one place versus having to use separate point solutions
- SAP BusinessObjects Profitability and Cost Management application – Accurately measure product, customer, and channel profitability, and optimize to improve the bottom line
- SAP BusinessObjects Financial Consolidation application – Provide faster, more reliable consolidations, and move beyond mere reporting to analyze the why and how of your financial events

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- SAP BusinessObjects Intercompany application – Enable business units to reconcile intercompany balances at the invoice and transactional level via the Web throughout the period to eliminate a corporate bottleneck during close
- SAP BusinessObjects Disclosure Management application – Reduce the time, risk, and cost associated with the production

and approval of management reporting and both financial and nonfinancial regulatory statements and disclosures

See the [figure](#) on the next page for an overview of the performance management processes enabled by SAP BusinessObjects EPM solutions.



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Strategize and plan

- SAP® BusinessObjects™ Strategy Management application
- SAP BusinessObjects Planning and Consolidation application
- SAP BusinessObjects Cloud solution



Analyze and optimize

- SAP BusinessObjects Cloud
- SAP BusinessObjects Profitability and Cost Management application
- SAP BusinessObjects Planning and Consolidation



Close and disclose

- SAP BusinessObjects Planning and Consolidation
- SAP BusinessObjects Financial Consolidation application
- SAP BusinessObjects Disclosure Management application

Figure: SAP BusinessObjects EPM solutions – performance management processes



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SAP BusinessObjects Strategy Management helps line managers and corporate executives develop and execute strategic plans. By linking strategic goals to initiatives, key performance indicators, and people, you can set clear priorities with measurability and accountability. Use the software to transform written plans into documents that help you define, discuss, and update goals with employees. Rich contextual visualizations help drive adoption of key objectives across the organization. Plus, you can intelligently manage resources and exceptions to focus on initiatives that have the most impact.

SAP® BusinessObjects™ enterprise performance management (EPM) solutions span the performance management lifecycle – from strategizing and planning to analyzing and optimizing for better performance outcomes, and closing and disclosing to enable efficient, timely management and statutory reporting and compliance.

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SAP BusinessObjects Planning and Consolidation lets you streamline bottom-up and top-down financial and operational planning processes using one application. Licensed separately, the planning and consolidation application works as an integral part of SAP S/4HANA. The application is available as a version for the SAP NetWeaver® technology platform, powered by SAP HANA, and also as a version for the Microsoft platform.

Familiar applications – such as Microsoft Excel and a modern Web client – serve as native interfaces to the software, minimize training, and foster adoption for improved budget cycle times and better results. Business process flows and real-time access to data permit processes such as annual budgeting or the closing of the books to be carried out according to corporate guidelines.

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Combining planning with data discovery, visualization, and predictive analysis capabilities, SAP BusinessObjects Cloud is built on SAP HANA Cloud Platform and delivered as SaaS. Create and modify planning models on the fly and plan and simulate at any level of detail, with any number of users in real time –

all without the need to install software. Embedded social collaboration lets you discuss plans in context, and native integration with SAP BusinessObjects Planning and Consolidation allows you to align plans across finance and business units.



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SAP BusinessObjects Profitability and Cost Management gives visibility and insight into drivers that impact the bottom line and helps identify profit-boosting opportunities. By linking operational activities and financial perspectives, you gain a deep understanding of the levers affecting organizational costs and profitability of key business dimensions – customers, products, and channels – both current and future.

Use the application to identify the causes of underperformance, test your assumptions, and take incisive action. You can measure and understand how changes in resources and business activities impact business performance and derive true cost to serve to optimize resources for the most favorable business outcome. You also can weigh the cost of providing shared services such as IT and HR to users within the enterprise. Rapid modeling and minimal maintenance enable fast time to value and low total cost of operation.

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SAP BusinessObjects Cloud brings analytics directly within your planning application, versus having to use a separate tool. In just a few clicks, you can allocate costs to different targets, create compelling data visualizations, run ad hoc reports, collaborate directly within the context of your plans, and answer complicated questions. You no longer need to jump between different analytics products to get the answers you seek.

In addition to inherent reporting and analysis functions within each SAP BusinessObjects EPM solution, the SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence (BI) suite natively integrates directly with your EPM solutions for more reporting, analysis, and dashboard functionalities.



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SAP BusinessObjects EPM solutions for consolidations include the SAP BusinessObjects Planning and Consolidation application, available as a version for SAP NetWeaver and also as a version for the Microsoft platform, and the SAP BusinessObjects Financial Consolidation application. These solutions allow you to produce financial statements for both internal and external stakeholders more quickly and accurately.

For example, our financial consolidation applications support automated consolidation processes that meet management and statutory reporting requirements, including those for local GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. The software also supports multiple currencies, currency translation adjustments, minority interest and equity calculations, and intercompany reconciliation.

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Organize and automate the creation and versioning of financial and nonfinancial reporting for external and internal purposes with the SAP BusinessObjects Disclosure Management application. By generating a full audit trail and publication-ready reports, it helps you lower external audit costs, close the books more quickly, and streamline “the last mile of finance” while providing digital accountability and workflow throughout the process.

SAP BusinessObjects EPM solutions support the move toward continuous accounting. Instead of being limited by period-end closes to analyze results, you can transform your reporting processes to analyze financial data live during the period to make more timely decisions.



Deliver a better top and bottom line

Deliver a better top and bottom line

SAP BusinessObjects EPM solutions help finance teams deliver better results. Explore strategic alternatives, dynamically update plans to seize new opportunities, get live insight into what's happening for better decisions, and automate consolidation and reporting to close more swiftly with fewer errors.

And, if using SAP S/4HANA, you can take advantage of unique integration that provides real-time planning capabilities without having to replicate your data. Whether you are in the midst of digital transformation or simply modernizing your finance function, you can:

- Improve financial planning and analysis and escape spreadsheet proliferation
- Drive profitability with fact-based decisions
- Deliver a faster, more reliable close to disclose
- Reduce cost and risk





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Summary

SAP® BusinessObjects™ enterprise performance management (EPM) solutions help increase revenue and profitability by allowing you to better strategize and plan, analyze and optimize, and close and disclose results.

Objectives

- Explore new business models and better ways to serve customers
- Align objectives, initiatives, and plans for better execution
- Eliminate lengthy, spreadsheet-driven financial planning and close cycles
- Reduce costs and optimize profitability for improved margins
- Empower finance teams to do more with less

Solution

- Strategic management and streamlined planning, budgeting, and forecasting for transparency, agility, and alignment
- Profitability and cost management to see cost and profitability drivers across business dimensions
- Automated financial consolidation and disclosure management for faster, more reliable closing and reporting cycles

Benefits

- Make better decisions and seize new revenue opportunities
- Increase organizational agility and accelerate planning cycles
- Improve profitability across the business
- Reduce time, errors, and cost of regulatory filings and disclosures

Learn more

For more information, visit www.sap.com/sapbusinessobjects/epm.



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