


**WHY NOW IS THE  
RIGHT TIME  
FOR SAP ON MICROSOFT AZURE**



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## Only in the last couple of years have businesses started to think about migrating core business systems to the public cloud.

Most have, until recently, restricted their use to web applications or smaller production systems. But a 2016 report by JP Morgan<sup>1</sup> shows that while 16.2% of workloads are running in the public cloud today, CIOs expect that to reach 41.3% by 2020. Moving to the cloud means taking advantage of the investments, innovations and developments that others have already put in place. The cloud enables businesses to ‘stand on the shoulders of giants,’ avoiding the need to commit capital investment and considerable time and energy to developing standalone, on-premises solutions.

The questions that businesses are asking now are no longer if the cloud is a part of their future enterprise strategy. Today, they’re asking when and how: how much of their technology stack should they migrate?

How quickly should they do it? And what’s the best path for migration? And that’s particularly the case for organizations running SAP Application as their core ERP system.

Enterprises are already running parts of SAP in the cloud, with software-as-a-service (SaaS) solutions such as SAP® SuccessFactors® for human resources and Ariba for procurement. And SAP® S/4HANA’s capabilities and suitability for cloud platforms as a ‘next generation’ ERP solution are accelerating the need to migrate to the cloud in order to gain the flexibility and agility that are the hallmarks of a successful business in the digital age.

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<sup>1</sup> JP Morgan North America Equity: "CIO Survey Foreshadows Changing of the Guard—Cloud Platform Wars Enter a New Phase, Causing CIOs to Reconsider Their List of Most Critical Vendors," April 14, 2017.

# **THE COST ARGUMENT IS OVER. BUSINESS BENEFITS ARE THE REAL CLOUD DRIVER**

Cost is no longer the main driver of the migration to cloud. Rather it's the flexibility, scalability and productivity that the cloud offers. An array of cloud-based capabilities for SAP, from faster transaction processes and advanced analytics to the Internet of Things (IoT), sophisticated identity management capabilities and industry-specific solutions, can help businesses achieve the agility and flexibility from SAP systems and applications that they need to operate in the digital era.

When businesses are considering whether to move to a private or public cloud platform, it's becoming increasingly clear that the public route offers the greatest business benefits. And in determining which public cloud provider to select, we believe that for SAP workloads, Microsoft Azure is the leading choice.

## **SAP APPLICATION ON AZURE INFRASTRUCTURE OFFERS FLEXIBILITY, SCALABILITY, PRODUCTIVITY**

Microsoft Azure is a flexible, integrated platform that can operate as a fully public or a hybrid cloud solution. Used by 90 percent of Fortune 500 companies, Azure's scalability is enormous. For example, it handles more than five trillion storage transactions every month and supports more than 60 billion hits to websites run on Azure App Service Web Apps.

Azure also offers access to a broad array of business-critical capabilities that drive ROI in ways that other public cloud providers are unable to match. Azure can support productivity

gains from integrating the SAP user experience with a stack of SaaS solutions including Microsoft Office 365 and access to advanced technologies like Microsoft Cortana Intelligence and Microsoft Power BI. Microsoft's commitment to developing security standards and regulatory compliance—including working with specific industry regulators—also sets Azure apart. As enterprise-wide analytics and supporting new digital capabilities such as IoT from SAP and Microsoft become essential, Azure provides the broad platform approach that can accelerate their adoption.

Businesses deciding on their strategy for running SAP Application in the public cloud need to assess where they are in their current SAP lifecycle and what they believe the future for their SAP platform will be. As they do, they need to understand which public provider offers the flexibility and scalability they need, as well as the commitment to developing the capabilities that will support future innovation and development of the SAP platform. And we believe that Azure currently best meets those requirements.

With the announcement of the Microsoft and SAP Strategic Partnership<sup>2</sup> in May of 2016, Azure is providing platform capabilities for a much wider range of SAP applications. It's an advantage that's being embraced by a global leader in engineering services, which will implement SAP for Microsoft Azure's suite of services utilizing SAP HANA®, when it migrates to a new ERP solution run in the public cloud environment.

SAP HANA on Azure is the most powerful SAP certified public cloud infrastructure able to handle the largest SAP HANA workloads. It's the largest certified public cloud for SAP, with the ability to handle large HANA instances with scale-up to 4TB and scale-out to 32 TB today. Microsoft and SAP are actively working together on a roadmap to certify even larger HANA instances for OLTP workloads that will scale-up to 12TB.

SAP HANA® platform deployed on Microsoft Azure will simplify work through new integrations between Microsoft Office 365 and cloud solutions from SAP, and provide enhanced management and security for custom SAP Fiori® apps.

In addition, Microsoft and SAP's engineers work closely together to innovate and develop new solutions and products that solve specific business problems and address new opportunities.




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<sup>2</sup> <https://news.sap.com/sap-microsoft-usher-in-new-era-of-partnership-to-accelerate-digital-transformation-in-the-cloud/>.

**Used by 90 percent of Fortune 500 companies, Azure's scalability is enormous. It handles more than five trillion storage transactions every month and supports more than 60 billion hits to websites run on Azure's WebApp service.**

# SAP on Azure Benefits

 <b>Development and test</b> Quick provisioning of development and test environments with the ability to stop the environments any time	 <b>Production environments</b> Production environments for new customers	 <b>Disaster recovery</b> Keep environments for recovery purposes without additional cost	 <b>Archiving</b> Archive data and the corresponding SAP systems audit-proof without running costs and always available
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 <b>40-70%</b> TCO cost savings	 <b>MINUTES instead of days</b> Faster provisioning	 <b>60%</b> Less storage costs	
<b>HIGHER AGILITY</b>	<b>LOWER COSTS</b>	<b>LESS COMPLEXITY</b>	<b>HIGHER INNOVATION</b>

## DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

- Speed: Provision environments in minutes to start development processes
- Create or clone SAP environments for sandboxing or testing
- Stop Dev & Test environments when not in use, pay as you go. Potential savings of 40-75% in hosting costs

## OPERATIONS AND MANAGED SERVICES

- Increase datacenter capacity to serve new SAP projects and free on-premises capacity. Flexibility to shift from capital to operation expenses
- Avoid the need to invest in hardware/co-location/hosting
- Provision training environments and delete when complete. Consistent training environment at lower costs
- Archive historical system for auditing and governance. Savings of up to 60% due to cheaper storage and the ability to quickly spin up systems based on need

# SUPPORTING THE SAP JOURNEY TO AZURE

If Azure is the optimal public cloud platform for SAP, then making the journey successful requires unrivalled expertise and experience across SAP and Azure.

Accenture has developed a number of assets and accelerators that can support an effective and rapid migration of SAP to Azure. These include: **CLOUDSHAPER** that enables solution architects to size and shape SAP design prior to deployment; **ACCELERATE** tooling that offers the end-to-end control, governance and visibility over all the manual and automated activities that complex SAP migrations require; and **CLOUDBUILDER** that supports automated, configuration-driven deployments of SAP to Azure, as well as the migration of the surrounding ecosystem to the cloud. And via the Accenture Cloud Platform (ACP), businesses have access to an 'as-a-service' solution providing comprehensive management of cloud solutions and support, available 24/7.

Accenture is the leading provider of SAP services in the market, with more than 47,000 practitioners working with clients around the globe. And together with Microsoft, we created a joint venture, Avanade, that is the leading provider of Microsoft services.

Together, we take a broad approach to supporting businesses' journeys to the cloud, including:

- Cloud Advisory/Strategy services
- Cloud Infrastructure and Application Transformation offerings
- Cloud Operations managed services

Accenture was named a leader in the IDC MarketScape: Worldwide Industry Cloud Professional Services 2016 Vendor Assessment<sup>3</sup> and recognized by independent analyst firm Gartner, Inc. as a leader in public cloud infrastructure managed services<sup>4</sup>. Accenture's Cloud services include more than 35,000 cloud professionals working on projects with 75 percent of the Global Fortune 1000. To date we have migrated more than 1.6 million workloads to private and public clouds. Our services range from devising and implementing cloud strategies and journeys to developing cloud applications and building entire industry ecosystems in the cloud.

Our aim is to help businesses get the most from migrating SAP to Azure, working with them to bring the best of Accenture, Avanade, Microsoft and SAP to deliver an end-to-end solution that supports tangible business outcomes. We combine extensive automation and highly skilled resources to achieve transformational goals, enabling businesses to become the agile and responsive enterprises they must be to succeed in the digital age.

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<sup>3</sup> IDC MarketScape: Worldwide Industry Cloud Professional Services 2016 Vendor Assessment, by Eric Newmark, June 2016, IDC Doc # CA40525216.

<sup>4</sup> Magic Quadrant for Public Cloud Infrastructure Managed Service Providers, Worldwide.

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## **ABOUT ACCENTURE**

Accenture is a leading global professional services company, providing a broad range of services and solutions in strategy, consulting, digital, technology and operations. Combining unmatched experience and specialized skills across more than 40 industries and all business functions—underpinned by the world’s largest delivery network—Accenture works at the intersection of business and technology to help clients improve their performance and create sustainable value for their stakeholders. With approximately 401,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries, Accenture drives innovation to improve the way the world works and lives. Visit us at [www.accenture.com](http://www.accenture.com).

## **ABOUT AVANADE**

Avanade is the leading provider of innovative digital and cloud services, business solutions and design-led experiences delivered through the power of people and the Microsoft ecosystem. Our professionals bring bold, fresh thinking combined with technology, business and industry expertise to help fuel transformation and growth for our clients and their customers. Avanade has 30,000 digitally connected people across 24 countries, bringing clients the best thinking through a collaborative culture that honors diversity and reflects the communities in which we operate. Majority owned by Accenture, Avanade was founded in 2000 by Accenture LLP and Microsoft Corporation. Learn more at [www.avanade.com](http://www.avanade.com).

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