

(EN) SAP Modernization Reimagined

What are the benefits of open source? SAP modernizations and migrations are complex; taking a different approach based on open source principles can help you avoid several problems and stumbling blocks from the start.

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Linux is a platform for SAP ERP, from R/3 to ECC 6.0, and the sole operating system for Hana. Linux is at the forefront of open source innovation at SAP. This opinion piece primarily focuses on Linux/Hana architectures.

Check out the Partners section—page 77





Real-time visibility for all internal and external stakeholders, adaptability, and collaboration throughout a project lifecycle; these all form the foundation for an ecosystem community toolchain for S/4 and Rise modernizations currently emerging in German-speaking countries.

Open source solutions and Linux are increasingly becoming the standard in most companies. This is also true for SAP modernization strategies on the way to intelligent, integrated enterprise. Apparently, not only are open source technologies particularly suitable for this purpose, but open source principles such as transparency, adaptability, and collaboration are also crucial for implementing highly complex projects at a rapid pace and with high scalability.

Linux distribution as an example

To illustrate, let us examine how a typical Linux distribution is created. It consists of thousands of different open source components in various degrees of maturity, provided by a variety of contributors. Only by agreeing on different aspects, such as open interfaces, handover points, interoperating services, data sharing, the structured orchestration of all modules, comprehensive testing, and agile and automated go-live processes, can a stable and certified overall solution be created that meets even the highest requirements for productive use.

So how can these open source principles be used to achieve successful SAP modernization journey especially in view of the similarly high level of complexity? The answer to the question lies on a higher level of complexity: namely, in an integrated SAP ecosystem community toolchain that also aims at improving sharing and collaboration.

On the one hand, an end-to-end technology platform for all aspects of modernization on an open source basis provides the foundation for addressing topics such as process adaptations, change management, interfaces, API management, legacy code, proprietary developments, data lakes, historization, hybrid cloud scenarios, or non-SAP integration.

On the other hand, so many synergies result from this uniform technology foundation that business departments, IT departments, partner companies, and many other stakeholders who previously worked in complete isolation can now communicate and coordinate with each other. The central characteristic of an integrated ecosystem toolchain, services and solutions is thus the exchange of information, facts, and findings in a concrete modernization project. Staff can exchange analysis results and project parameters; everyone can access results and quick wins; and stakeholders can receive target platform specifications automatically.

The toolchain approach supports the transparency analysis of the SAP landscape, which has grown and is often highly customized. Today, modern analysis tools can provide relevant information in minutes instead of months. In addition, there is complete transparency for all parties involved regarding the project's progress throughout the entire modernization process.

Open Source Quick Wins

(EN) SAP Modernization Reimagined The benefits of an SAP modernization process based on open source principles and methodologies are far-reaching. By working in parallel, quick wins can be realized even more quickly for companies after an analysis phase through the identification of innovation potential and without extended project lead times.

The SAP Ecosystem is forming a community, an integrated open source-based approach to join forces, tools and services along the modernization journey—and for good reason. After all, it can significantly simplify and accelerate SAP modernizations and migrations to the benefit of SAP customers. SAP partners should not ignore this trend if they wish to remain at the forefront of innovation.