Data and analytics | SAP Business Data Cloud

Unleash transformative insights with SAP Business Data Cloud

SAP

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Closing the data divide

Today's businesses face a critical challenge: the data divide. Technology experts and decision-makers rely on data daily, but disconnected contexts delay the critical signals necessary to steer organizations toward becoming data driven. Without an integrated approach, billions are spent on incremental gains instead of delivering real innovation.

To close the data divide, business users need data insights delivered in real time with business context intact. This requires holistic integration between data platforms and business applications, with data products based on a harmonized business data model. Connecting insights and business decisions is critical in the age of AI.

Introducing SAP Business Data Cloud

The SAP Business Data Cloud solution enables this level of integration—giving your business leaders the context and insights that can help them make actionable decisions quickly. The managed software-as-a-service (SaaS) solution leverages semantically rich data from key business processes within your essential applications. It also automates critical decisions in areas such as working capital management, sales and distribution, and people analytics (see Figure 1).
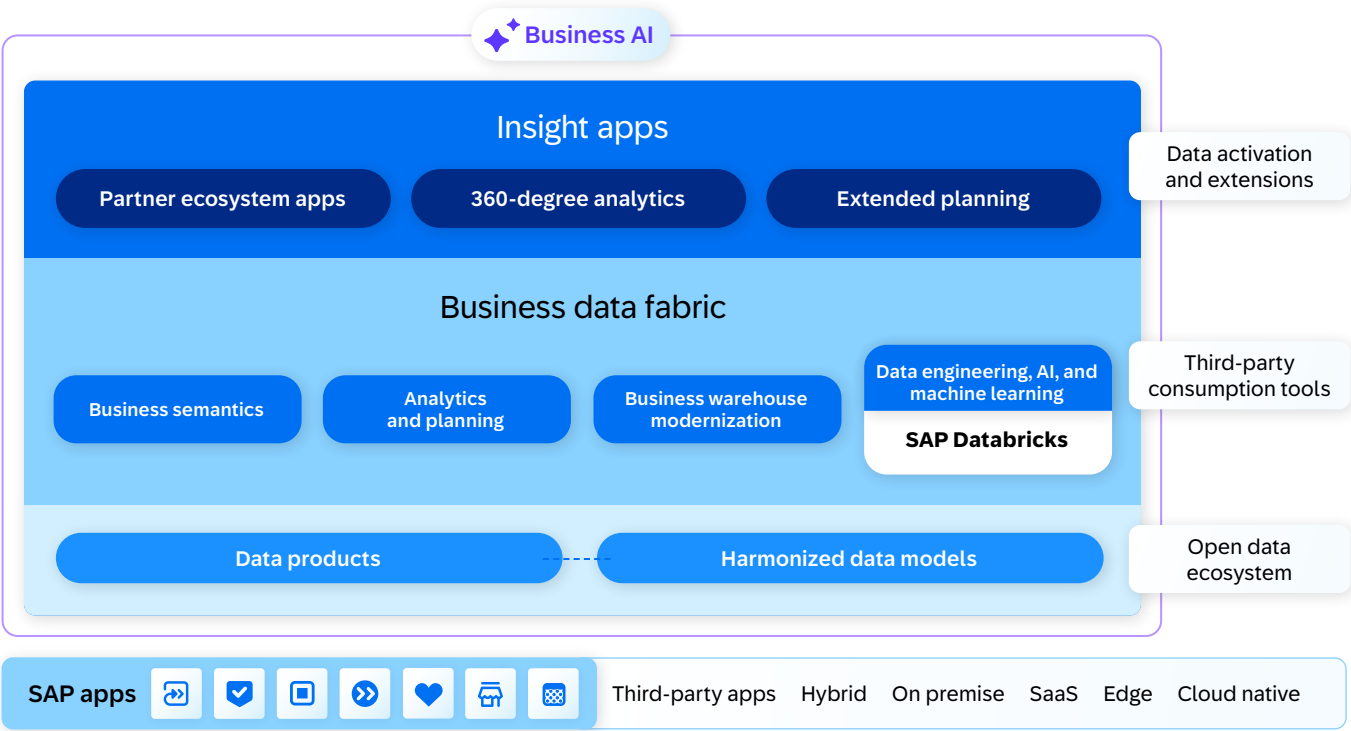

Figure 1: Architecture of SAP Business Data Cloud

Bridging the gap between IT experts and decision-makers

Discover how SAP Business Data Cloud fuels every part of your organization with harmonized data.

Insight apps that know your business

Fast-track decision-making with SAP Business Data Cloud Insight Apps—a collection of tailored, pre-built apps on a unified semantic model curated by SAP, featuring:

- Predefined, ready-to-run insights leveraging industry and line-of-business expertise infused with trusted AI
- Combined planning and analysis, driving agile decision-making
- Predictive analysis and simulation that deliver better business outcomes

Trusted data products

Gain a 360-degree view of your most critical business processes across your SAP application investments by using prebuilt data products, including:

- Deep expertise in application data and industry best practices
- SAP-managed datasets and semantics designed to maintain consistency and business context
- Data product discovery, use, and extension through the data catalog

Smooth integration of business semantics

Discover hidden insights and patterns with deeply integrated capabilities across the SAP Datasphere and SAP Analytics Cloud solutions, the SAP Business Warehouse application, and the SAP Databricks solution in SAP Business Data Cloud. This enables:

- Data integration between SAP and third-party cloud and on-premise solutions
- Data modeling, transformation, and enrichment to keep business context intact
- Self-service analytical modeling for business users
- A data fabric architecture to modernize your instance of SAP Business Warehouse

Balancing innovation and complexity in the cloud

Unified data platform

Connect SAP and third-party data in an SaaS solution managed by SAP and Databricks, providing:

- A knowledge graph of your data with business data fabric capabilities, preserving metadata and semantics to make information searchable and actionable
- Delta sharing and data federation that eliminate costly duplication and extraction through data connection with zero copies
- AI acceleration enabled by tools in SAP Databricks, creating AI models and generative AI applications trained with your business data

AI-enriched decision-making

Create a trusted data foundation for readily available AI tools that are reliable, responsible, and relevant by leveraging key capabilities such as:

- A knowledge graph that connects data, metadata, and processes to enable AI and insight apps to understand relationships in the context of your data's relationships

- The Joule copilot, which boosts productivity by automating the completion of cross-functional tasks, uncovering insights, and summarizing critical business information
- AI for complex enterprise planning and analytics, such as risk assessments, forecasting, and advanced simulations
- AI-enabled Monte Carlo simulation capabilities that automate risk analysis, along with time-series prediction

Supporting SAP Business Suite

As shown in Figure 2, SAP Business Data Cloud is the data foundation of SAP Business Suite. The suite is a comprehensive set of integrated solutions that combine core applications to smoothly connect and enhance your business functions. Fueled by powerful business data and meaningful AI, it empowers your business to scale, innovate, and deliver exceptional value—with greater speed and ease.
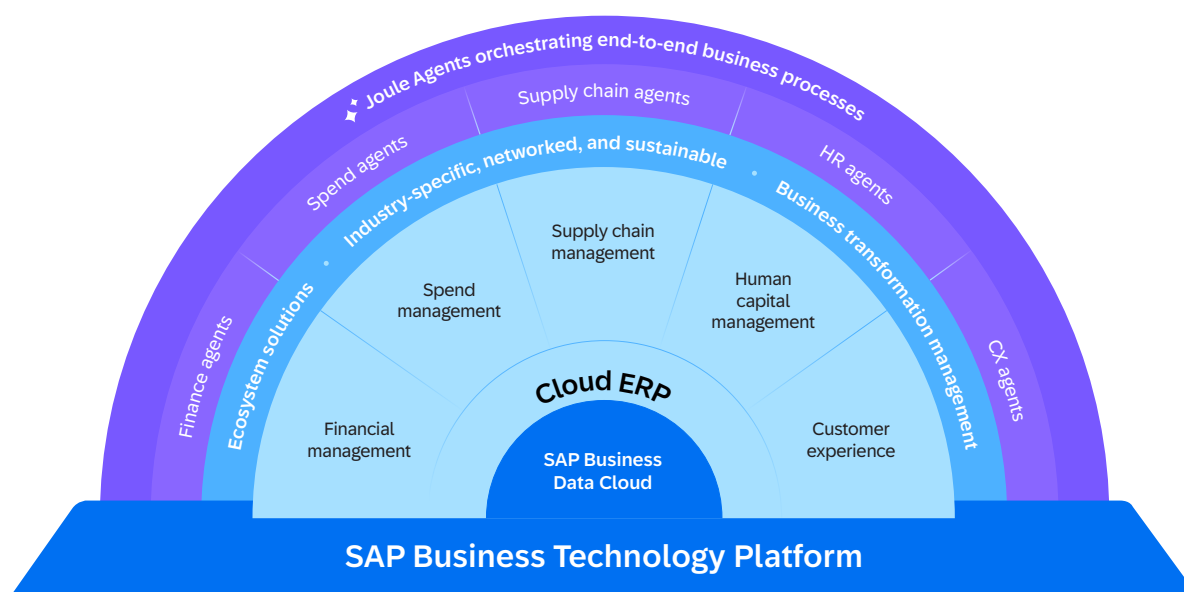

Figure 2: Key capabilities of SAP Business Data Cloud used with SAP Business Suite

Three use cases for future-ready data

Explore these use cases to see how SAP Business Data Cloud enables you to unleash transformative insights, connect your data, and foster reliable AI across your organization.

Core enterprise analytics

Monitor financial health, refine cash flow, and improve payment terms for agile decision-making.

People analytics

Evaluate workforce trends, track talent flows, and align HR and business strategies to boost engagement and productivity.

Spend analytics

Gain visibility into spending, mitigate risks, and optimize procurement for maximum value.

Core enterprise analytics

Financial agility is only achievable with real-time and forward-looking insights into asset utilization, cash flow optimization, and short-term obligations.

SAP Business Data Cloud enables you to effectively make use of your current assets and maintain sufficient cash flow to meet short-term goals and obligations.

With insight apps, finance teams can answer critical questions, such as:

- How has the working capital trended over the past few periods?
- What is the average payment period for accounts payable?
- Are there opportunities to negotiate better payment terms with suppliers?
- What is my days sales outstanding figure?

These tailored insights delivered directly into your workflows can help you improve liquidity and support strategic planning.

Take **control of your finances** and drive **measurable results** with a comprehensive view of financial performance.

People analytics

The better your understanding of workforce composition and organizational structure, the more informed your team is when making decisions that impact business growth and agility.

SAP Business Data Cloud enables you to better understand your workforce composition and organizational structure, so you can answer:

- What does my workforce look like by role, location, demographic, and organizational structure?
- What is the talent flow in the organization, and how many are hired, leaving, and being promoted?
- How many management layers are in my organization, and what's the average span of control?
- How does the workforce composition in organizational unit A compare to the composition in organizational unit B?

The real-time, contextualized answers delivered directly into your workflows through insight apps enable HR leaders to make proactive, data-driven decisions. As a result, employee engagement is enhanced and workforce planning is aligned with long-term objectives.

Build a **stronger workforce** that's ready for whatever comes next by gaining a **deeper understanding** of your operations.

Spend analytics

Managing enterprise-wide spending is critical to improving cost efficiency, mitigating risks, and driving sustainability. Spend analytics—available within SAP Business Data Cloud and enabled by the SAP Spend Control Tower solution—provide next-generation insights that allow your business to make smarter decisions faster.

Tapping into the insight apps, you can answer key questions such as:

- How can I get a comprehensive overview of my spend when it's spread across multiple applications?
- What are the hidden links between suppliers? Can we leverage better volume deals and maximize discount opportunities?

- How can I identify sourcing vulnerabilities, such as single-source suppliers, that could leave us open to supply chain disruptions?
- How can I track spending related to diversity and sustainability initiatives?

SAP Business Data Cloud transforms complex spend data into actionable insights, empowering businesses to optimize procurement processes and maintain a competitive edge. With real-time analytics and contextualized recommendations, you can achieve cost savings while supporting strategic goals.

Gain a **comprehensive view of your spend**—even when it's spread across multiple applications.

Unlocking the power of business data with SAP Business Data Cloud

It's time to move beyond fragmented systems and incomplete insights. Businesses must close the gap between data and decision-making to act with confidence and agility.

Now, you can—with SAP Business Data Cloud. By unifying data across SAP and third-party systems, embedding tailored analytics, and enabling AI-driven intelligence, you can transform raw data into meaningful impact, make smarter decisions, and achieve measurable results.

SAP Business Data Cloud is much more than a solution for better reporting. It helps you create a future-ready organization where insights drive innovation and strategic growth. The solution's openness, integration, and AI capabilities help ensure that your data transforms as well as informs.

Learn more
For more information on
SAP Business Data Cloud,
visit us online.