

Automic[®]
by Broadcom



Optimize to Modernize
Orchestrated ERP Performance

Introduction

The third wave of computing has begun. Welcome to the Internet of Things: 50 billion connected devices and applications powering the global economy.

It's a world where applications are king. They are changing the way we live, work and play. Today, applications support the business. Tomorrow, they will be the business.

Modern business leaders are more technology-aware than ever before. They are now steering the CIO agenda, and if their expectations are not met, they turn to shadow IT. Information technology has become business technology.

Existing enterprise resource planning (ERP) applications are on the front line. They were built for a different age—the on-premises age. They are unable to cope with the pace of change that's currently demanded.

Although most ERP systems are now available on the cloud, businesses cannot afford the cost or risk to rip and replace these systems. But they need flexible ERPs that can adapt to changing business models and ensure the business capitalizes on new opportunities. Speed to market delivers competitive advantage.

CIOs and application and operations teams must consider new ways to meet demand. They need to maximize the return on investment they get from their ERP and ensure they are flexible enough to enable modern business practices. They need to look beyond their application silos and change their working practices to facilitate growth and agility and maintain compliance.



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Change is Difficult

ERP applications have become the systems of record for many businesses. Leveraging the information within them is critical to achieving success today and into the future. But they have become a bottleneck to business agility; to compete in the digital age, businesses need to instantly adapt to changing business models and customer demands.

CIOs need to ensure they can:

- Extend ERP processes beyond their line-of-business silo—often to cloud-based solutions
- Implement new functionality to satisfy customer demand quickly without impacting business-as-usual operations
- Connect ERP information to data warehouse and big data initiatives to facilitate timely analysis and reporting
- Minimize human intervention to reduce errors and decrease processing times

With frustration rising, 66% of businesses indicate that they are likely to switch to alternative solutions if their expectations are not met. Entire departments are bypassing on-premises applications for more nimble SaaS solutions.



“66% of customers likely to switch if expectations not met”

CIOs and IT leaders across the globe are striving for faster processes, more agile operations and transactional scale. They know that in order to stay relevant and remain competitive in this new world, they must act now to improve quality of service and meet rising expectations. But as they strive to meet increasing demands, the reality is that too often business customers are left waiting for business processes to complete.

A recent EMA Research survey revealed that 85% of respondents plan to consolidate automation tools because of the business and operational ramifications of using multiple automation tools.

For businesses to truly take advantage of the investments they have made in their ERP applications, they need to ensure that they are connected to the overall business processes they were designed to support. ERPs rarely exist in isolation; they cannot be treated as silos.

Take the financial close process: This is a critical business process that runs weekly, monthly and yearly, but it is not limited to the ERP application. Information needs to be pulled from around the business before it reaches the ERP. This information can be held in multiple applications or databases. The information needs to be reconciled before it can be safely processed.

Once in the ERP, this data needs to be driven through multiple modules with critical dependencies that must be executed in the correct sequence. Once completed, the resulting data needs to be pushed into data warehouses or analytics platforms for business reporting. If functional changes are required, these need to be implemented quickly, but carefully, so as not to impact the business.

The coordination of this process is essential to eliminate delays or errors and provide businesses with the visibility and governance they require.



**“85% plan to
consolidate
automation tools”**

Most CIOs have looked to implement some form of opportunistic, point automation solution, such as deployment tools or an ERP-specific scheduler, to help support core processes within their ERPs. These point solutions have delivered some benefits by reducing manual effort but have also created silos of knowledge, as they lack a holistic approach.

For CIOs to compete at the pace of the digital age, they need to rethink their approach to automation, and transition from opportunistic, point solutions to an enterprise-wide, systematic approach. This provides a cohesive platform for process automation across the entire enterprise, supporting reuse, agility, visibility, and compliance.

A systematic automation platform supports multiple forms of automation from one central environment. It connects the ERP applications with the business processes they support, other applications and data sources in the ecosystem, and the underlying infrastructure. It also provides the service level management of business processing that moves from a reactive state of acting on users reporting issues to a proactive mode where time exists to resolve issues before the business is impacted. This greatly improves visibility across the entire process and ensures that ERP investments are fully realized into the future.



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From Opportunistic to New Opportunities

The Internet of Things means that businesses and consumers are connected more than ever before. Business leaders must continue to build and run the business while simultaneously transforming it to meet the demands of the digital age.

The ERP applications that help execute the core business processes must be extensible enough to incorporate new applications and flexible enough to adapt to the changing business demands that come with hyper-connectivity.

Opportunistic, point automation tools or scripts have delivered some benefits, but they lack the end-to-end process automation, release automation, extensibility or auditing capabilities required for the future.

A systematic approach to automation needs to be adopted to ensure maximum return on investment is gained from existing ERP applications and that they are optimized for the digital age. This approach needs to tie “build the business” activities, namely application release automation, and “run the business” processes—end-to-end process automation—into a single, cohesive platform to enable business transformation.

ERP applications are the systems of record for many businesses. To ensure they are sustainable and relevant for the future, they need to be optimized to meet the requirements of the digital age. Automation is a key enabler to this, but a systematic approach, rather than an opportunistic one, needs to be adopted.

Any systematic automation platform needs to support an incremental adoption methodology in order to maximize return on investment and facilitate learning. By solving a specific challenge first, the automation platform can then be extended to tackle others.

How Automic Helps

As the Internet of Things accelerates, businesses are under increasing pressure to leverage existing investments and ensure they are agile and extensible enough to meet the pace of change driven by the digital age. This will put additional pressure on existing ERP applications such as SAP and Oracle. By adopting a systematic automation platform, enterprises can extend the life of their ERP investments and ensure they have the agility needed for the future.

Automic provides a systematic business automation platform. It executes core business, application and infrastructure processes across on-premises, cloud, and hybrid environments. It delivers a unified, flexible approach to automation that can be adopted incrementally, providing end-to-end visibility across the entire business.

Automic supports use cases to help business leaders run, build, and transform their businesses for the digital age.



Automic® Automation

Automic® Automation is a market-leading enterprise automation solution benefitting from over 25 years of evolution with the scale, agility, speed, and reliability required by the most demanding Fortune 100 organizations. From a single unified platform and a large catalog of integrations for cloud services, data pipeline tools, ERP solutions, and more, Automic Automation unifies automation from mainframe to microservices, simplifies workload orchestration, and boosts visibility across hybrid cloud environments.

Automic for SAP

Automic Automation for SAP offers a seamlessly integrated automation platform that enhances the value of your SAP investments. It features a unified automation engine coupled with a comprehensive range of adapters, facilitating the creation of business processes that incorporate tasks from both SAP and non-SAP systems. This integration fosters a completely automated flow of business processes across various applications. With multiple certifications by the SAP Integration & Certification Center, including “integration with RISE with SAP 4/HANA Cloud”, Automic Automation for SAP empowers organizations to refine SAP operations safely, boost efficiency, and improve visibility over complete processes. It ensures that businesses can fully leverage their SAP investments well into the future.

Automic for Oracle

Automic Automation stands as a top-tier automation platform, enabling organizations to shift from isolated, ad-hoc solutions to a cohesive, enterprise-wide strategy. This strategy consolidates various automation tools into a single, comprehensive platform. Automic Automation enhances the efficiency of Oracle ERP applications and facilitates their integration with other critical enterprise systems, aligning them closely with supported business processes. This not only boosts processing performance but also provides comprehensive process visibility, ensuring that the full value of Oracle ERP investments is realized in the long term. Through its compatibility with a wide array of critical business applications via specialized agents, APIs, and web services, Automic Automation creates an interconnected workflow ecosystem. This ecosystem offers businesses a holistic view of their operations.

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