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UNLEASHING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION WITH SAP RISE

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ABSTRACT

Organizations are traversing extraordinary encounters and breaks driven by technological evolutions in dynamic business ecosystem. To stay aggressive and irrepressible, businesses must embark on a holistic digital transformation journey. SAP RISE, a state-of-the-art offering from SAP, stands at the forefront of empowering organizations to realize their digital potential. This white paper explores SAP RISE as a catalyst for driving transformative change, uncovering its key features, benefits, and considerations for organizations seeking to leverage this solution.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, SAP Analytics, Data Governance, SAP ERP, SAP RISE, Cloud Offering.

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1. INTRODUCTION

SAP RISE represents a comprehensive and integrated approach towards digital transformation. It combines all the major offerings like cutting-edge technologies, cloud infrastructure, and business expertise to enable organizations to reimagine their processes, enhance agility, and leads pathway towards foster innovation. This white paper research into the various aspects of SAP RISE, shedding light on why organizations choose this transformative solution, its system considerations, and the competitive landscape.

SAP RISE encourages the integration of advanced technologies, such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, analytics, and the Internet of Things (IoT). This enables organizations to leverage data-driven insights and innovation for better decision-making. With SAP RISE, organizations can simplify the management and operations of their SAP landscapes. This includes managed services, automated updates, and support, allowing IT teams to focus on strategic initiatives rather than routine maintenance tasks.

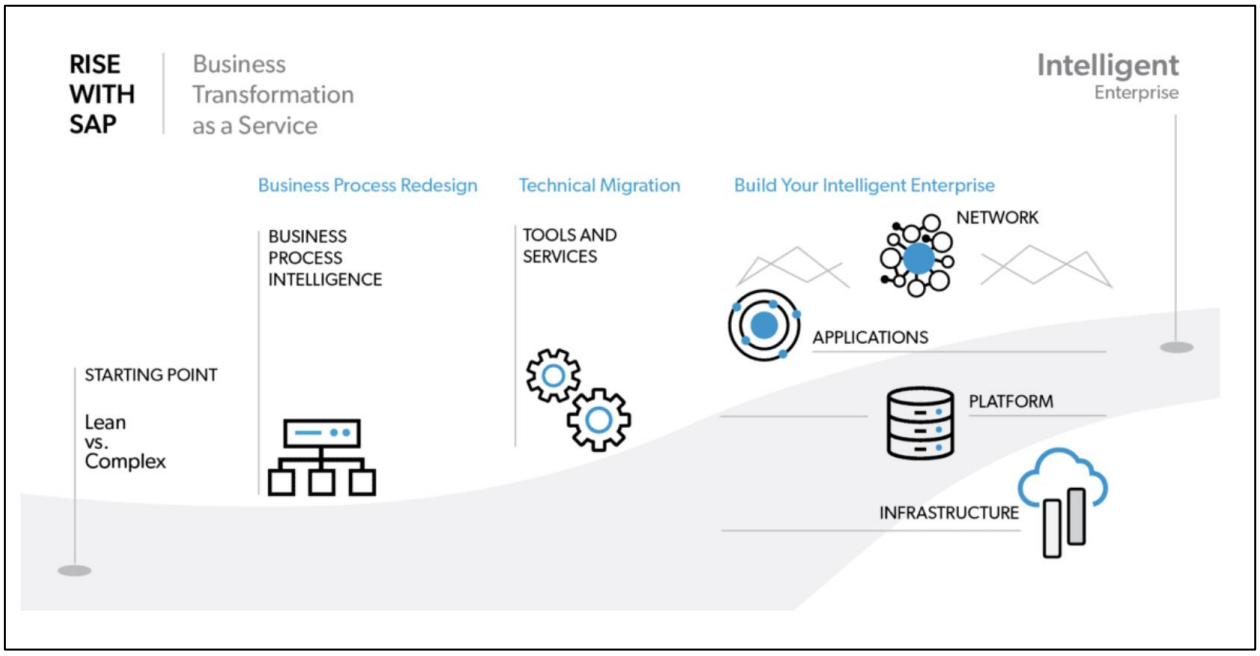

Fig.1 SAP RISE Lifecycle

2. UNDERSTANDING SAP RISE

2.1. Key Components and Features

2.1.1. Business Process Redesign

SAP RISE emphasizes the redesign and optimization of core business processes to enhance efficiency and responsiveness. This is an opportunity for organizations to reconsider and reevaluate the relevance and impact of the business process designed historically. A system would be as efficient as its business processes are and its impact can be seen then it follows a standard design with minimum customization.

2.1.2. Cloud Adoption and Flexibility

Leveraging cloud technologies, SAP RISE offers organizations the flexibility to scale resources and optimize costs according to their business needs. It promotes dynamic solution and infrastructure design on cloud. The systems can be sized for memory and disk size and various tiers per project requirement and there is flexibility to increase or decrease during the contract.

2.1.3. Advanced Technologies Integration

The integration of advanced technologies such as AI, ML, analytics, and IoT positions SAP RISE as a platform for innovation and data-driven decision-making. The advance technologies are part of the Business Technology Platform (BTP) like SAP Analytics Cloud with extended Planning & Predictive Analytics, Business Data Fabric Architecture, Datasphere, AI based code development, Joule Copilot, Integration Platform(iPaaS), Pre-built integrations and connectors, advance APIs.

2.1.4. Scalability and Performance

SAP RISE ensures scalability to accommodate evolving workloads and optimal performance for enhanced user experiences. Cloud-based SAP RISE solutions allow organizations to easily scale their infrastructure up or down based on business needs. This flexibility ensures that resources can be adjusted to accommodate varying workloads.

2.1.5. Cost Efficiency

Cloud deployments often follow a pay-as-you-go model, allowing organizations to optimize costs by paying only for the resources they consume. This can result in cost savings compared to traditional on-premises infrastructure.

2.1.6. Faster Time to Value

SAP RISE accelerates the adoption of cloud technologies, enabling organizations to realize the benefits of digital transformation more quickly. This faster time to value is critical in today's rapidly evolving business landscape.

2.1.7. Innovation and Advanced Technologies

Cloud platforms provide a foundation for adopting advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, and analytics. SAP RISE encourages the integration of these technologies to drive innovation within organizations.

2.1.8. Flexibility and Agility

Cloud-based SAP RISE solutions offer greater flexibility and agility in managing and adapting to changes. This is especially important for businesses that need to respond quickly to market dynamics and evolving customer demands.

2.1.9. Global Accessibility

Cloud deployments enable global accessibility to SAP applications and data. This is particularly beneficial for organizations with a distributed workforce or those operating in multiple geographic locations.

2.1.10. Security and Compliance

Cloud providers invest heavily in security measures and compliance certifications. SAP RISE leverages these security features to help organizations meet regulatory requirements and ensure data protection.

2.1.11. Reduced Infrastructure Management Burden

With a cloud-based SAP RISE solution, organizations can offload the burden of infrastructure management to the cloud provider. This allows IT teams to focus more on strategic initiatives rather than routine maintenance tasks.

2.1.12. Automatic Updates and Patching

Cloud providers handle routine updates and patching of infrastructure, ensuring that organizations benefit from the latest features and security enhancements without the need for manual intervention.

2.1.13. Collaboration and Integration

Cloud platforms facilitate seamless collaboration and integration with other cloud services and applications. SAP RISE leverages this connectivity to enhance interoperability and streamline business processes. It's important for organizations considering SAP RISE with a cloud deployment to carefully assess their specific requirements, security considerations, and long-term goals. A well-planned cloud migration strategy can unlock significant benefits and position the organization for future success.

2.2. Business Benefits

2.2.1. Accelerated Time to Value

SAP RISE accelerates the realization of value from digital transformation initiatives, ensuring organizations stay ahead in a rapidly changing environment.

2.2.2. Cost Efficiency

The pay-as-you-go model of cloud deployments and optimized resource management contribute to cost savings for organizations.

2.2.3. Global Accessibility

Cloud-based SAP RISE solutions facilitate global accessibility, fostering collaboration among geographically dispersed teams.

2.2.4. Security and Compliance

SAP RISE leverages robust security measures and compliance certifications, ensuring data protection and regulatory adherence.

2.3. RISE includes

2.3.1. Business Process Redesign

SAP RISE focuses on reimagining and optimizing business processes to enhance efficiency and agility.

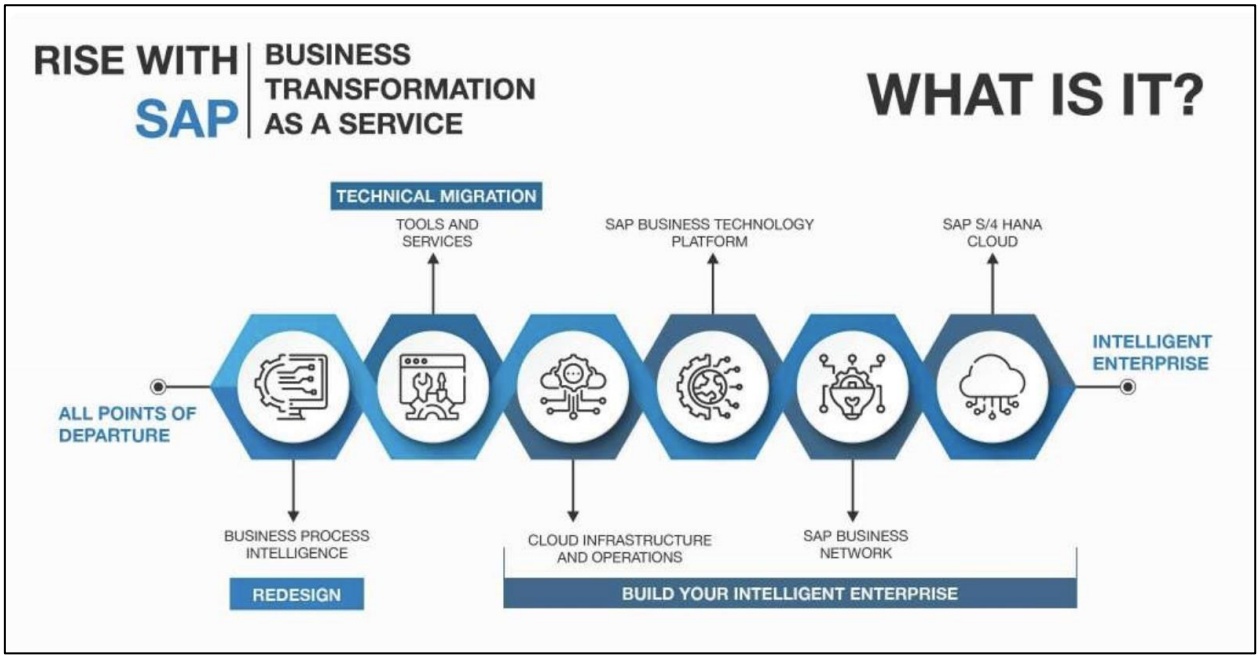

Fig.2 SAP RISE business transformation as a service

2.3.2. Advanced Technology Adoption

It enables businesses to leverage advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, and analytics to drive innovation and competitiveness.

2.3.3. Cloud Migration

SAP RISE encourages the adoption of cloud technologies to enable scalability, flexibility, and cost-effectiveness. It often involves migrating SAP applications to the cloud.

2.3.4. Integration and Interoperability

Ensuring seamless integration between different systems and applications is a critical aspect of SAP RISE. This promotes data consistency and collaboration across the organization.

2.3.5. Industry-Specific Solutions

SAP RISE offers industry-specific solutions to address the unique challenges and requirements of various sectors.

2.3.6. Managed Services

It includes managed services to support ongoing operations, maintenance, and optimization of the implemented solutions.

SAP Business Technology Platform (BTP): SAP BTP is a key part of SAP RISE, providing a set of integrated technologies that support the development and extension of business applications. The goal of SAP RISE is to provide a comprehensive and unified approach to digital transformation, enabling businesses to adapt to changing market conditions and stay competitive. It's important for organizations considering SAP RISE to carefully assess their specific needs and goals to determine the most suitable transformation strategy.

3. SAP RISE CONSIDERATIONS FOR A PROJECT

3.1. Strategic Alignment

3.1.1. Business Objectives

Align SAP RISE initiatives with overarching business objectives and strategies to drive meaningful outcomes.

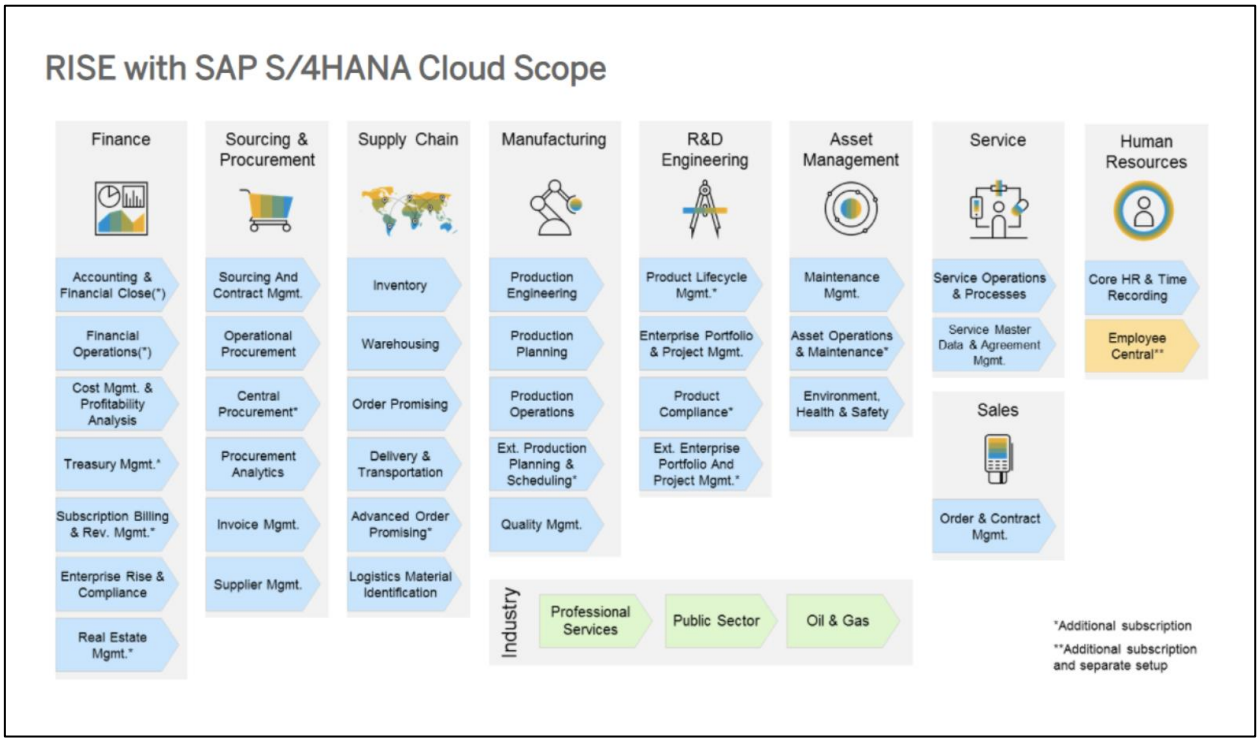

Fig. 3 Project scoping based on the functional areas

3.1.2. Current System Landscape Assessment

Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the existing SAP landscape to identify areas for improvement and optimization.

3.2. Deployment Considerations

3.2.1. Cloud or On-Premises

Decide on the deployment model (cloud, on-premises, or hybrid) based on organizational needs, scalability, and cost considerations.

3.2.2. Integration Requirements

Evaluate integration needs with other systems to ensure seamless interoperability and data consistency.

3.3. Security and Compliance

3.3.1. Regulatory Compliance

Consider regulatory requirements and industry-specific compliance standards to ensure adherence throughout the transformation journey.

3.3.2. Security and Data Protection

Prioritize security measures and collaborate with cloud providers to implement robust controls for data protection.

4.1 User Training and Change Management

4.1.1. User Training

Develop a comprehensive user training plan to facilitate a smooth transition and minimize disruption to operations.

4.1.2. Change Management

Implement a change management strategy to communicate upcoming changes effectively and gain user acceptance.

5.1. Data Migration

Data migration is a crucial aspect of any SAP RISE transformation, especially when organizations are moving their SAP applications to the cloud or upgrading their systems. Here are key considerations and steps involved in SAP RISE data migration.

5.1.1. Data Assessment and Planning

5.1.1.1. Data Inventory

Identify and categorize all the data that needs to be migrated.

5.1.1.2. Data Quality Assessment

Assess the quality and consistency of the existing data to ensure accuracy in the new environment.

5.1.1.3. Mapping and Transformation

Define mappings between source and target systems, and plan for any necessary data transformations.

5.1.2. Data Extraction

Extract data from legacy systems or existing SAP environments in preparation for migration.

5.1.2.1. Data Cleansing and Transformation

Cleanse and transform data as per the defined rules and requirements. Convert data formats, handle data discrepancies, and ensure data integrity.

5.1.2.2. Data Loading

Load the cleansed and transformed data into the target SAP environment, which could be on-premises or in the cloud. Use SAP tools and utilities for efficient and secure data loading.

5.1.2.3. Data Verification and Validation

Verify the completeness and accuracy of the migrated data.

Conduct validation checks to ensure that data in the new environment aligns with the expected results.

6.1. Testing

Perform thorough testing, including unit testing, integration testing, and user acceptance testing, to validate the success of the data migration.

7.1. Cutover Planning

Plan the cutover process, which involves transitioning from the old system to the new SAP environment. Ensure minimal downtime and impact on business operations during the cutover.

7.1.2. Post-Migration Validation

Conduct post-migration checks to confirm that all data is accurately and completely migrated. Address any issues or discrepancies identified during the post-migration validation.

8.1. Data Governance and Monitoring

Establish data governance practices for ongoing data quality and management. Implement monitoring tools to track and manage data changes and updates in the new environment. It's important for organizations undergoing SAP RISE data migration to collaborate closely with SAP experts, data specialists, and project stakeholders. Thorough planning, testing, and validation are key to ensuring a smooth and successful data migration process.

4. THE COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

SAP RISE faces competition from various enterprise software and cloud service providers offering similar solutions. Key competitors include Oracle Cloud, Microsoft Dynamics 365, AWS, Google Cloud Platform, and others. Organizations should evaluate their specific requirements and industry focus when choosing a solution.

With the cutoff date in January 2022, SAP RISE faces competition from various other enterprise software and cloud service providers that offer solutions for business transformation, ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning), and cloud-based services. It's important to note that the

competitive landscape may evolve, and new competitors may emerge. Here are some of the key competitors to SAP RISE.

4.1. Oracle Cloud

Oracle provides a comprehensive suite of cloud services, including ERP and business applications, to support digital transformation initiatives. Oracle Cloud offers solutions for finance, human resources, supply chain, and more.

4.2. Microsoft Dynamics 365

Microsoft's Dynamics 365 is an integrated suite of business applications that includes ERP and CRM (Customer Relationship Management). It aims to help organizations streamline operations, improve customer engagement, and drive growth.

4.3. AWS (Amazon Web Services)

AWS is a leading cloud services provider that offers a wide range of infrastructure and application services. Organizations may choose AWS for hosting SAP applications and other workloads in the cloud.

4.4. Google Cloud Platform (GCP)

Google Cloud provides cloud computing services, and organizations may consider GCP for hosting SAP workloads, data analytics, and machine learning applications.

4.5. IBM Cloud

IBM offers cloud solutions that include infrastructure, AI (Artificial Intelligence), and enterprise applications. IBM Cloud may be considered for SAP hosting and various digital transformation initiatives.

4.6. Workday

Workday specializes in cloud-based applications for finance and human resources. It competes with SAP in areas such as HCM (Human Capital Management) and financial management.

4.7. Salesforce

Salesforce is known for its CRM platform but has expanded its offerings to include various business applications. It may compete with SAP in areas related to customer experience and engagement.

4.8. Infor

Infor provides industry-specific ERP solutions and cloud-based applications to help organizations optimize their business processes. It competes with SAP in the ERP space.

4.9. Epicor

Epicor offers industry-specific ERP solutions, including manufacturing, distribution, retail, and services. It competes with SAP in the mid-market ERP segment.

4.10. ServiceNow

ServiceNow focuses on IT service management, workflow automation, and digital workflows. While not directly competing with SAP in all areas, it may be considered for specific service management needs.

It's essential for organizations to evaluate their specific requirements, industry focus, and digital transformation goals when choosing a solution. The competitive landscape may have changed since my last update, so it's advisable to check for the latest information and emerging competitors in the enterprise software and cloud services space.

5. CONCLUSION

SAP RISE emerges as a formidable force in the digital transformation space, providing organizations with a roadmap to reimagine their processes, leverage advanced technologies, and achieve sustainable growth. As organizations embark on their digital journeys, SAP RISE stands as a strategic partner, driving innovation, scalability, and business agility.

In a world where change is constant, SAP RISE empowers organizations not only to adapt but to thrive in the face of evolving challenges. As businesses navigate the complexities of digital transformation, SAP RISE is a beacon guiding them toward a future of endless possibilities.

SAP RISE is a business transformation as a service offering from SAP (Systems, Applications, and Products in Data Processing). It aims to help businesses accelerate their transformation journeys by providing a holistic approach to digital transformation.

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