



## REIMAGINING THE FUTURE

### SAP® S/4HANA Finance The next big step in enterprise applications for the finance team

Data has always been the lifeblood of the finance organization. But today, it's widely viewed as being even more important. With executive teams increasingly viewing the finance organization as a strategic asset, the focus on financial data has intensified. *How quickly can we access the most current information? When can we transform that data into insights for decision-making? What could we be doing differently with access to those types of insights?* These are only a few of the questions executives are asking of the finance function.

Meanwhile, finance leaders are often dealing with legacy systems that weren't originally designed to deliver that level of insight from data. That's where SAP® S/4HANA Finance comes in. It is designed to enable CFOs to turn the finance organization into a central hub for the business—one that actively helps business functions make smarter operational decisions.

#### SOUND FAMILIAR?

**87%** of finance leaders surveyed must analyze performance data to meet growth targets<sup>1</sup>

**91%** of finance executives surveyed say their teams need to provide forward-looking, predictive analytics<sup>2</sup>

**58%** of respondents say it is difficult for managers to understand financial data—even when it's easy to access<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Harvard Business Review report: New Technologies—Transforming the Finance Function, 2015.  
<sup>2</sup>CFO.com Research, 2014.

## SAP S/4HANA Finance

SAP S/4HANA Finance offers next-generation capabilities that use the SAP HANA® platform as the foundation for driving a single common view of data, enabling real-time processes, and using predictive analytics. It offers the potential for a range of critical capabilities, including:

**Single source of truth.** Consistent data paired with harmonized internal and external reporting

**Transparency and quality of books.** Intra-period reconciliation, soft close, and simulation capabilities

**Collaborative finance operations.** Quick response to invoice disputes, real-time receivables, and payables reconciliation

**Business partnering.** Integrated business planning, predictive forecasting, and due diligence support

#### **Cash and treasury management optimization.**

Cash management, working capital analytics, and invoice optimization

**Compliance support.** Fraud prevention, pattern-based risk prediction, and audit management

**Transformed reporting.** Flexible reporting made possible by the use of a single database

## Why now?

While it may be tempting to take a wait-and-see approach to SAP S/4HANA Finance, such an approach would miss out on one of its key benefits: the relative ease of getting it up and running, and generating results quickly. Here are some reasons many finance leaders have already starting putting SAP S/4HANA Finance to work in their organizations.

#### **Productivity**

Actionable KPIs in role-based dashboards, delivered through efficient apps and designed to increase productivity and user experience

#### **Reporting**

Flexible and extensive reporting made possible by elimination of aggregates and use of a single database

#### **One document**

One simplified accounting document across statutory and management reporting, enabling improved and efficient decision-making

#### **Time to value**

Faster integration and deployment of clients with disparate legacy systems

#### **Speed**

Performance improvements through optimization of finance programs and database structures

#### **Next-gen user experience**

Intuitive Web and mobile transactions, simplified screens, and drill-down capabilities

### Insurance

#### The Challenge

- Multiple, nonintegrated patchwork solutions
- Operational inefficiencies
- Inability to meet business demand for higher-value finance services
- Limited access to data
- Inconsistent data governance and management

#### Impact

Deloitte led the implementation of SAP S/4HANA to deliver real results for this finance organization, including:

- Near real-time access to data to enable analysis, provide insights, and support decision-making
- Ability to run what-if scenarios at speeds not possible earlier (such as expense allocation simulations)
- Single source of the truth with consistent data elements that help drive an alignment across external and internal reporting
- Dramatic improvement in reporting performance and drill-down capabilities using SAP HANA
- Better adoption through self-service reporting and ad hoc analysis capability
- A highly scalable, robust, and high-performance platform in the cloud, with a reduced total cost of ownership

### Wholesale food distributor

#### The Challenge

- Decreased levels of consumer disposable income and spending due to sluggish economy
- Increased focus on food safety
- Rising demand for healthy, organic, and local food products
- Shift toward quick-service, casual dining, lower-cost restaurants
- Rising costs of inputs due to food inflation in economy

#### Impact

Deloitte led the implementation of an integrated Suite on HANA to support a majority of business processes—and streamline operations. Here are some of the results:

- Simplified and streamlined business procedures
- Reduced inefficient and ineffective processes across the company
- Increased ability to forecast, plan, and schedule
- Reduced SKUs and resultant focus on products with the most value to customers
- Fewer out-of-stocks
- Reduced inventory on hand
- Increased collaboration among associates, customers, and suppliers

## Let's talk

If you're looking for ways to help your finance organization move more quickly to deliver deeper insights to the business, SAP S/4HANA Finance deserves a serious look. We've helped put it to work for finance organizations across industries, around the world—and we would be happy to discuss whether it would be a good match for your needs. Contact any of the people below to get the conversation started.

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