



Finding the Answers Faster with Modernized Business Intelligence

How In-memory Visual Analytics
adds value in an SAP environment

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Data is prolific — and it is in demand. From the back-office to the C-suite, users want to understand what makes their businesses tick. With powerful information-processing platforms such as SAP HANA, companies have more opportunities than ever to gain that understanding. Nonetheless, many organizations are still trying to figure out how to harness the power of such platforms to meet reporting and analytical needs. Companies are also struggling to keep up with the demand for data, especially since the needs of different user groups are distinct and seemingly endless - not to mention that the data they are asking for frequently resides within multiple SAP and non-SAP systems, often reaching far into the extended enterprise. To address these challenges, companies are increasingly discovering the value of using in-memory data visualization tools in conjunction with in-memory SAP HANA. Importantly, the goal isn't to replace existing enterprise business intelligence (BI) solutions, but instead to enhance them.

Why buy in-memory visual analytics, when I have in-memory SAP HANA?

At first glance, it might seem superfluous to buy two sets of in-memory technologies; however, this approach can be effective because each adds value to the enterprise in vastly different ways. On the one hand, SAP HANA has tremendous ability to distill and aggregate data to accelerate database queries, and to make business applications work faster and more effectively. On the other hand, in-memory visual analytics tools focus on the end-user experience,

with the most effective ones using in-memory to present data in an associative architecture. In essence, these tools put a highly searchable and manipulable layer on top of the distilled and aggregated data produced by SAP HANA, thus creating a powerful hybrid solution for exploring both recognized and otherwise unknown relationships. When designed and implemented well, this hybrid solution can enable business users not only to find answers to their specific inquiries quickly, but also to get answers to questions they didn't even know they should have asked.

Cost and risk are two other reasons a company may wish to integrate an in-memory visual analytics tool into its SAP environment. A vast array of information, extending beyond the mission-critical data typically contained within SAP HANA, is often required for reporting. Some of this additional data can be voluminous (i.e., logs, SAP Portal Usage, etc.), and it is rarely worth the time and expense to store it within the SAP HANA system. Nevertheless, users should still be able to access it and report against it. Leading in-memory tools can help resolve this problem by providing cost-effective access to data residing in heterogeneous systems beyond core SAP. Similarly, in-memory tools can give an organization's most creative users the power to explore data freely, without placing a drag upon existing computing resources in terms of memory or time. That's the power of in-memory: it can boost the productivity of specific user groups affordably, without impeding others from doing their jobs.



Ease of Implementation

In-memory applications should be easy to implement. In selecting one, you should look for a provider that offers SAP-certified integrations, especially regarding the connection to SAP HANA. Having the right connectors and tools available from the outset can help you reduce total cost of ownership, while decreasing deployment risk.



Any User. Any Data Source

An in-memory tool should be able to meet the needs of specific user groups by giving them the power to explore both known and unknown relationships. To do this, the tool must be able to associate data from both SAP and non-SAP systems. It should also provide simple solutions for cleansing or combining “like” data elements for reporting purposes without modifying the source.



Overall Functionality

In considering in-memory options, you should be able to visualize the value. In other words, the tool should allow users to explore data intuitively and help bring the discoveries to life through capabilities such as built-in geo-spatial capabilities, date dimensions, and charts and graphs that resonate with business leaders. It should also offer the flexibility and the building blocks to construct focused dashboards and reports for distinct user groups.



Governance

With the growing emphasis on cyber-risk management, a substantive governance and controls framework is a “must have.” However, the key is balance. A visual analytics platform should provide trust and scale for IT as well as agility for the business user.



Cost

Some users need analytic power while others need reports. In order to manage costs effectively, you’ll need to identify who the true users are, meaning who would benefit from having the tool itself on their desktops (i.e., being able to explore and analyze data) versus who just needs to see the output of the tool (i.e., reviewing reports).



Who has done this before?

Beyond the aforementioned considerations, the technology provider, as well as the systems integrator, should obviously have substantial qualifications. In addition to delivering numerous in-memory solutions for its clients, Deloitte has had first-hand experience in integrating an in-memory visual analytics platform—specifically the Qlik suite of products—into its own SAP environment. Through doing so, it has pioneered methodologies for unlocking value through SAP HANA-powered visualization. By leveraging the functionality of the in-memory tool set to build dashboards and reports for specific user groups, business users within Deloitte now have greater visibility into resource allocation and business performance, which enables them to routinely spot opportunities to improve efficiency, productivity and service quality. Examples of these value-enhancing visualizations include:

- **Resources Management Dashboard** Tracks consulting staff as resources in the firm, including what they are working on and what they're slated to be working on.
- **MyClients Dashboard** Conveniently shows the financials of all lines of business, provides a holistic view of clients, and allows business users to visually compare actuals vs. budget and to assess performance.
- **Audit Quality Dashboard** Unifies SAP and non-SAP data to track the efficiency and effectiveness of audits being performed, including how much specialist time is spent on each engagement.



Contact us:

For a deeper discussion about what it takes to effectively deploy an in-memory visual analytics platform and to realize business value from it, please contact:

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About Deloitte and Qlik

Through a strategic alliance, Deloitte and Qlik collaborate in helping organizations to improve the way they access, visualize, and interact with their data. Together, Deloitte and Qlik offer powerful solutions for analytics and data discovery, leveraging Deloitte's knowledge of leading practices in data management and Qlik's business intelligence and visual analytics platform, featuring SAP-certified integrations.

Industries served include life sciences & healthcare, financial services, and supply chain & logistics, among others. As a result of its significant experience with Qlik delivery projects, Deloitte has received several Qlik Partner of the Year and Developer awards, including 2015 Systems Integrator Partner of the Year.

About Deloitte and SAP

Deloitte can help you get the most out of your SAP investments and position your business for the evolving digital economy. Deloitte has developed 50+ preconfigured SAP-based solutions targeting a range of industry- and issue-specific challenges. And Deloitte's analytics innovations have translated into results for our customers. We know the importance of SAP HANA in analytics and we are delivering results with our clients every day, helping them make sense of big data, develop predictive analytics, and unlock instant insights.

Deloitte has won numerous SAP awards over the past few years—including the SAP Pinnacle Award for Quality Partner of the Year and SAP Partner Excellence Award for SAP HANA and Database & Technology.

Making data discovery several times more effective Using in-memory visual analytics tools in conjunction with SAP HANA can multiply the demonstrated benefits of data discovery.

Here's how:

- SAP HANA speeds and empowers business applications through its **ability to quickly distill and aggregate data**.
- In-memory visualization provides a **highly searchable and manipulable layer** on top of the distilled and aggregated data produced by SAP HANA.
- Can allow **data to be loaded into the in-memory product** many times faster than through traditional databases and ERP systems.
- Pre-built, SAP-certified integrations help **expedite time to value**.