

ESG SHOWCASE

NetApp: Secret Sauce to SAP HANA Success

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ABSTRACT: Vital to modern enterprise operations, SAP is always on and mission-critical. But modernization activities such as migrating to SAP HANA, while powerful, can be fraught with risk. Leveraging a partner such as NetApp—with its advanced technologies for both the data center and the cloud and its established expertise in SAP HANA migrations—is paramount to maximizing success.

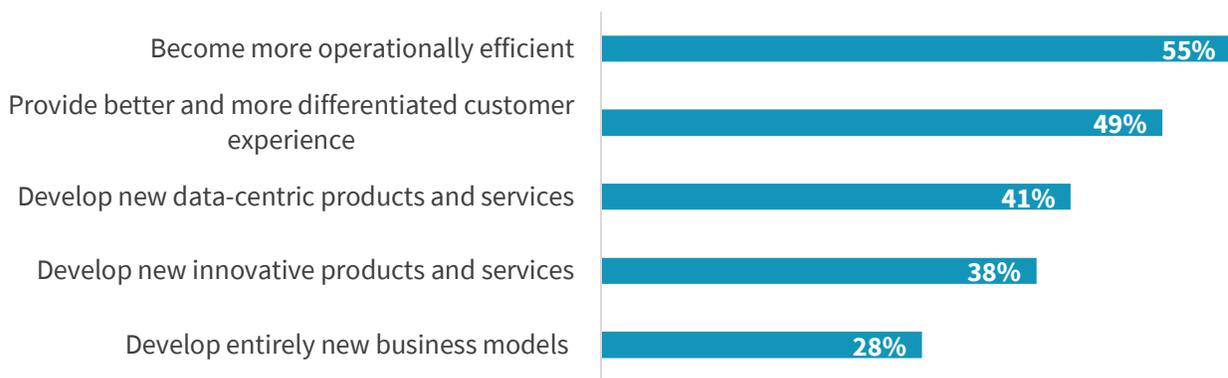
The Rise of Digital Initiatives Necessitates Modernization

In the digital era of business, the IT organization and the digital services it provides play a massive role in determining positive business outcomes and overall market competitiveness. Understanding this reality, businesses are prioritizing their digital initiatives. Consider that in a recent ESG research study, 94% of surveyed IT organizations said they are in some phase of digital transformation.¹

SAP is one workload that aligns directly with today’s top goals for digital transformation (see Figure 1). Key to optimizing multiple internal business-critical workflows, SAP also influences the customer experience, equating to a substantial impact on revenue. With real-time insights from data now often determining business competitiveness, the capabilities offered by SAP HANA and S/4HANA have become essential to business survival.

Figure 1. Top Objectives for Digital Business Initiatives

What are your organization’s most important objectives for its digital transformation initiatives? (Percent of respondents, N=619, three responses accepted)



Source: Enterprise Strategy Group

And in recent months, the need to utilize data has become even more pronounced, with 60% of surveyed IT executives reporting that they expect COVID-19 to make their business even more reliant on technology.²

¹ Source: ESG Research Report, [2020 Technology Spending Intentions Survey](#), February 2020. All ESG research references and charts in this showcase have been taken from this research report unless otherwise noted.

² Source: ESG Master Survey Results, [Technology Impact of COVID-19: IT Decision Maker \(ITDM\) View](#), May 2020.

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The Secret Sauce to SAP HANA Success

For enterprises, SAP HANA migrations can be a challenge. Businesses often need to accommodate multiple, complex landscapes that feature high levels of virtualization and mixed workloads. However, these migrations are not only essential; they also present an incredible opportunity to rethink how digital information and data-derived insights are collected and used. Of course, the right level of planning upfront is essential to start on the right path. IT decision makers should:

- Work with line-of-business leaders to define goals and objectives, with an emphasis on unlocking greater business success moving forward.
- Seek to modernize the infrastructure environment, often by leveraging public cloud resources, with the goal of achieving flexibility for future demands while meeting core requirements for performance, security, and reliability.

Finding the Right Partner

A successful SAP HANA journey also starts with the right partner. Characteristics to look for include:

1. **Trust and Credibility**—Demand to see claims and testimonials from successful SAP HANA migrations. Ask how long those migrations took, not just the migrations from existing vendors or integrators, but also those from multiple tech leaders. For example, NetApp offers a wealth of case studies on migration projects, some of which were completed in just three months.
2. **Flexible Infrastructure**—Find a partner that is willing to work across multiple infrastructure deployments, spanning both the data center and the public cloud, to meet your immediate needs and offer flexibility to hit your long-term goals. NetApp, for example, offers a consistent storage foundation that can span both on- and off-premises environments with multiple solution options such as Azure NetApp Files.
3. **Simple Data Protection and Easy Data Usage**—Verify the data protection, backup, and recovery options. NetApp offers 99.9999% availability on premises³ and 99.99% availability in the cloud⁴ with the ability to back up SAP HANA data in minutes rather than hours. Also, seek out technologies that can accelerate how your business teams can utilize SAP HANA insights. For example, NetApp's SnapCenter simplifies the creation and management of copies to support intelligence and development initiatives.

The Bigger Truth

SAP HANA is too important to be left to chance. Finding a partner with a proven, documented history of success must be a top priority. NetApp has the technology, experience, and vision necessary to be on the short list of partners to consider for your SAP HANA migration. SAP HANA is vital to your business, so find the best. To learn more, check out [SAP runs on NetApp: Accelerate your SAP journey](#).

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³ Source: NetApp White Paper, [Evolving Availability Requirements Demand More Than Just a Resilient Storage Infrastructure](#), February 2020.

⁴ Source: NetApp website, [Optimize SAP on Cloud with Proven NetApp Capabilities](#).