

**VIEW POINT** 

# INTELLIGENT BUSINESS SYSTEMS Made Possible with the powerful Infosys + google partnership for Sap on google cloud





## Digital transformation and SAP systems

A common priority across enterprises today is digital transformation. Organizations need to be responsive to market changes, nimbly pivot to new business models, and securely integrate with a wide variety of systems and partners. The COVID-19 pandemic has only hastened this agenda. The digital transformation market is expected to hit USD 3.3 trillion by 2025 at a CAGR of 23% from 2019<sup>1</sup>.

However, the path to digital transformation is challenging as organizations must contend with non-standard processes, disparate systems that act in isolation, and inconsistent data. For example, consider a business-critical function such as ERP, which plays a significant role in a company's digital transformation. ERP systems have typically been heavily customized to cater to the specific industry and business needs of an enterprise. This approach mandates heavy maintenance and costs with each release of the ERP system, especially in an on-premises situation. Moreover, the rigidity of the systems discourages innovation. In essence, although CIOs invest considerably in ERP systems, they are often unable to maximize value from them.

Moving SAP workloads to the cloud can alleviate many of these challenges and help enterprises unlock value from their investments. This paper examines the benefits of moving SAP to Google Cloud and the role of Infosys Cobalt in bringing this offering to life for enterprises. Specifically, the move to Google Cloud with Infosys can enable customers to:

- 1. Keep pace with dramatically changing business conditions
- 2. Adapt to new business models, often with employees no longer working from the office
- 3. Maintain availability, security, and performance for mission-critical workloads
- 4. Derive value from SAP data in the form of operational improvements, increased customer connections and new revenue streams
- 5. Define and measure sustainability goals
- 6. Find skilled IT staff

<sup>1</sup>Digital Transformation Market by Technology (IoT, Cloud, Big Data, AI), Process Transformation (Customer, Operation, Product, Workforce), End-use Industry (Retail, Healthcare, Manufacturing, Insurance), Industry Size - Global Forecast to 2025 (researchandmarkets.com)

#### Scenarios for migrating SAP to the cloud

So, when and in what scenarios do enterprises migrate their SAP systems to the cloud? In a typical enterprise, there are five scenarios:

- 1. The need to transition to SAP S/4HANA to use the latest technology platform. This is a large-scale transformation that can involve significant retooling of processes and systems for the promise of larger gains.
- 2. The need to migrate to Suite on HANA when the customer switches from a non-SAP platform to HANA. Similar to scenario #1, it has the added complexity of moving from a

non-SAP environment requiring additional tweaking to ensure a good fit and prevent business disruption.

- 3. Concerns over the reliability, security and sustainability of third-party data centers or suppliers. Customers with large scale platforms may elect for the safety of the public cloud to dispel questions on the viability and reliability of external data centers.
- 4. The need for disaster recovery (DR) strategy. The customer chooses the public cloud as their DR site. This scenario amounts to a liftand-shift operation and is low-risk.
- 5. The need to adopt point solutions to scale while avoiding the disruption caused by full-fledged transformation initiatives. Again, this presents a low-risk option because it does not entail a large-scale transformation.

When enterprises opt for scenarios 1 - 3, they can expect higher returns, whereas scenarios 4 – 5 are lower risk and lower value in comparison.

The SAP on Google Cloud partnership, with Infosys anchoring the migration, is powerful and well-equipped to handle all five scenarios.



#### **Benefits of moving SAP to Google Cloud**

Google Cloud provides the applications and innovation that SAP customers need to unleash agility, efficiency and innovation across the organization.

#### Decrease time-to-insights and datawarehouse costs with SAP data in

BigQuery - Google Cloud offers the platform to build, deploy, and manage models that streamline SAP-based analytics outcomes. A premier global market intelligence firm found that customers utilizing BigQuery for SAP saw a significant decrease in the time to drive insights and reports while also substantially reducing data warehousing costs.

Adopt innovation as a practice - Customers can maximize the insights they derive

from their SAP data with Google's AI, ML and advanced analytics. Customers can integrate AI/ML building blocks such as vision, translation and text-to-speech while employing agile decision-making to automate processes, make intelligent predictions and streamline operations.

#### Reduce risk with granular security and

high availability - Customers can increase security and performance with Google's premium global network, where their data isn't transferred over public networks and is encrypted by default both at rest and in transit. In addition, customers can enjoy significantly reduced downtime due to live migration allowing configuration changes without delay and continuous hardware maintenance without forced outage windows.

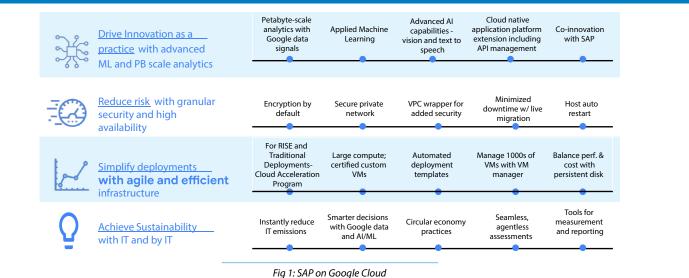
Simplify deployments with agile and efficient infrastructure - Customers can

take advantage of migration assistance for traditional and SAP RISE deployment, defraying infrastructure costs and minimizing duplicate infrastructure costs during a migration. Customers can deploy OLTP and OLAP environments with the largest VM sizes in the industry also certified for custom VM configurations. Additionally, customers can manage thousands of VMs effortlessly with VM Manager and balance storage cost and performance with Persistent Disk.

#### Achieve sustainability with IT and by IT -

Customers can reduce their IT emissions by moving SAP applications to smart, efficient data centers. Customers can also take advantage of data-driven innovation by combining their data with Google data to drive sustainability goals.

#### These benefits are summarized here:



### How Infosys adds value to SAP on Google Cloud

The Infosys and Google partnership adds value on several fronts. Simply put, Google's cloud platform and Infosys' experience and expertise with SAP migration to the cloud is the surest way for enterprises to simplify and modernize their SAP workloads.

The key features of this partnership include -

Industry focus – Fully aware that a onesize-fits-all approach no longer works, the Infosys-Google partnership stresses industry-specific solutions that aim to maximize benefits. As a result, Infosys has a portfolio of industry reference architectures and transformation blueprints that can effectively be applied to specific customer contexts. Armed with this industry knowledge, the partnership can recommend the optimal migration strategy for the customer based on their specific industry context. Further, the industry focus is a huge value enhancer during the migration, ensuring the maximum benefit and minimal business disruption for the customer.

These reference architectures are a judicious mix of Infosys, Google and SAP's capabilities. For example, figure 1 shows the reference architecture for the industrial manufacturing industry. The base cloud layer of this architecture comprises several Google Cloud components, while the business layer utilizes many Google services. Finally, SAP S/4HANA combined with IP from Infosys constitutes the topmost layer.

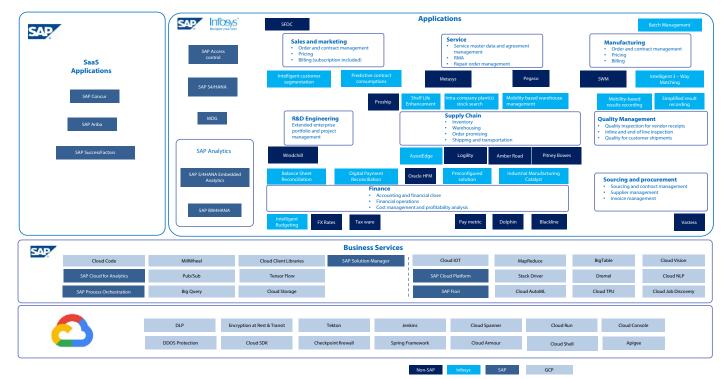


Figure 2: Industry Reference Architecture for industrial manufacturing

Innovation at the forefront – Infosys and Google Cloud devised an innovation roadmap to help companies digitally transform. A standout example is Infosys's platform for CPG firms that makes demand planning more intelligent enabling delivery of goods on time and at capacity. The platform uses SAP and extensively harnesses Google Cloud components. Further, the platform embeds intelligence across the value chain using Infosys AI Apps on Google Cloud and Infosys Catalyst, a pre-configured solution for the CPG industry built exclusively for the SAP S/4HANA platform (Figure 2).

Enterprises that may have opted for migration scenarios 1 - 3 will gain from these innovations.

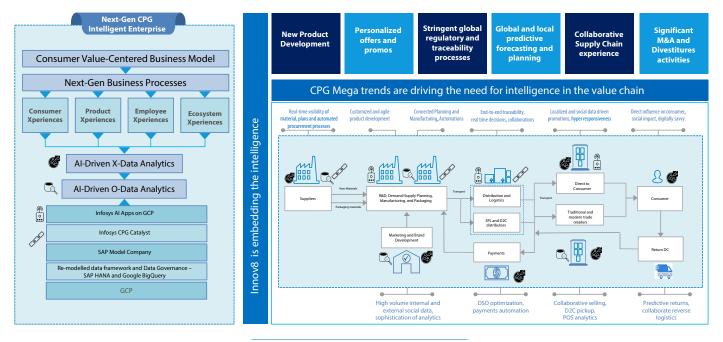


Figure 3: Next-gen CPG Enterprise – with embedded intelligence

Lowered infrastructure costs – With enterprises constantly looking for avenues to reduce costs, moving SAP workloads to Google Cloud under the expert guidance of Infosys can yield up to a 30% drop in infrastructure costs.

Industry analyst NelsonHall has recognized Infosys' prowess in SAP cloud migration services and named as a 'Leader' in it NEAT report on SAP ERP Cloud Migration.



## Methodology and assessments

The partnership conducts a careful study of the customer's application landscape, of Google Cloud's applicable strengths and maps these with use cases built by Infosys. Infosys performs the assessment using proprietary tools and processes. The assessment is completed rapidly in 6 - 8weeks and without disrupting the customer's operations. The next step is to arrive at a migration approach that will include a reference architecture tailored to the customer's industry. Infosys' Live Enterprise Suite, a group of platforms, services and a new digital operating model designed to accelerate the digital transformation journey, and Infosys Cobalt, a suite of relevant assets to quicken the cloud journey, play an important part in the migration.

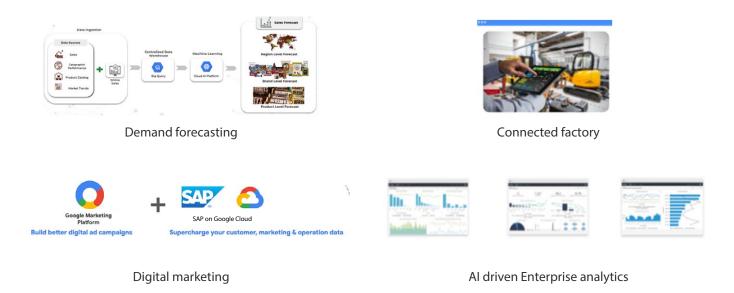


Figure 4: Examples of Infosys and Google innovative solutions



### Take the next step

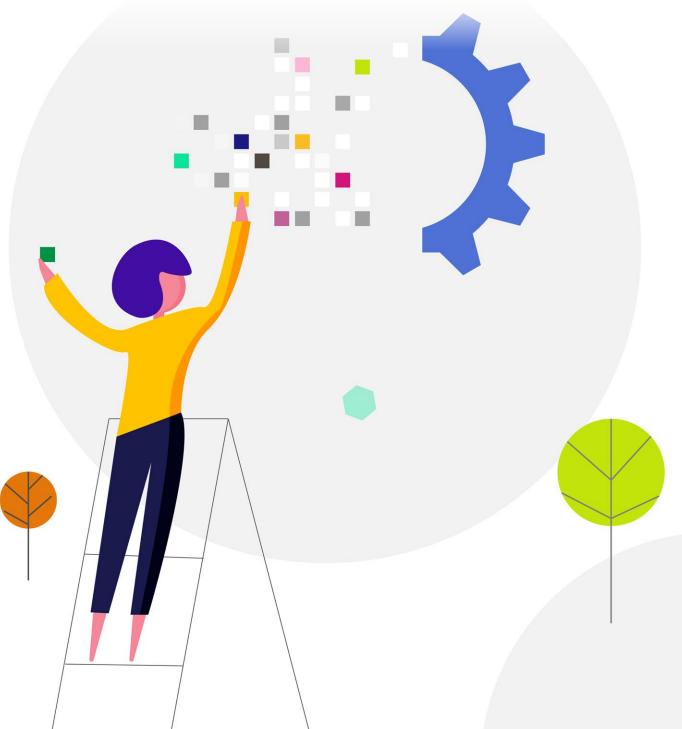
SAP systems are often the lifeline of a business. It's therefore crucial for these systems to support the business meaningfully. Moving SAP systems to Google Cloud can maximize the value of these assets and unlock new business opportunities. As the migration partner, Infosys brings amplified value thanks to its expertise, experience and assets.

To explore how Google Cloud and Infosys can help you be prepared for the future with intelligent insights, reduced risk, agile deployments, and sustainable operations:

1. Click to learn more about SAP solutions on

Google Cloud, Infosys SAP offerings and Infosys Cobalt

- 2. Contact Infosys at SAP\_MKTG@infosys.com to discuss conducting an assessment of your landscape
- 3. Listen to an engaging webinar for more information on the Google Cloud and Infosys partnership for SAP



Infosys Cobalt is a set of services, solutions and platforms for enterprises to accelerate their cloud journey. It offers over 14,000 cloud assets, over 200 industry cloud solution blueprints and a thriving community of cloud business and technology practitioners to drive increased business value. With Infosys Cobalt, regulatory and security compliance, along with technical and financial governance comes baked into every solution delivered.



For more information, contact askus@infosys.com

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