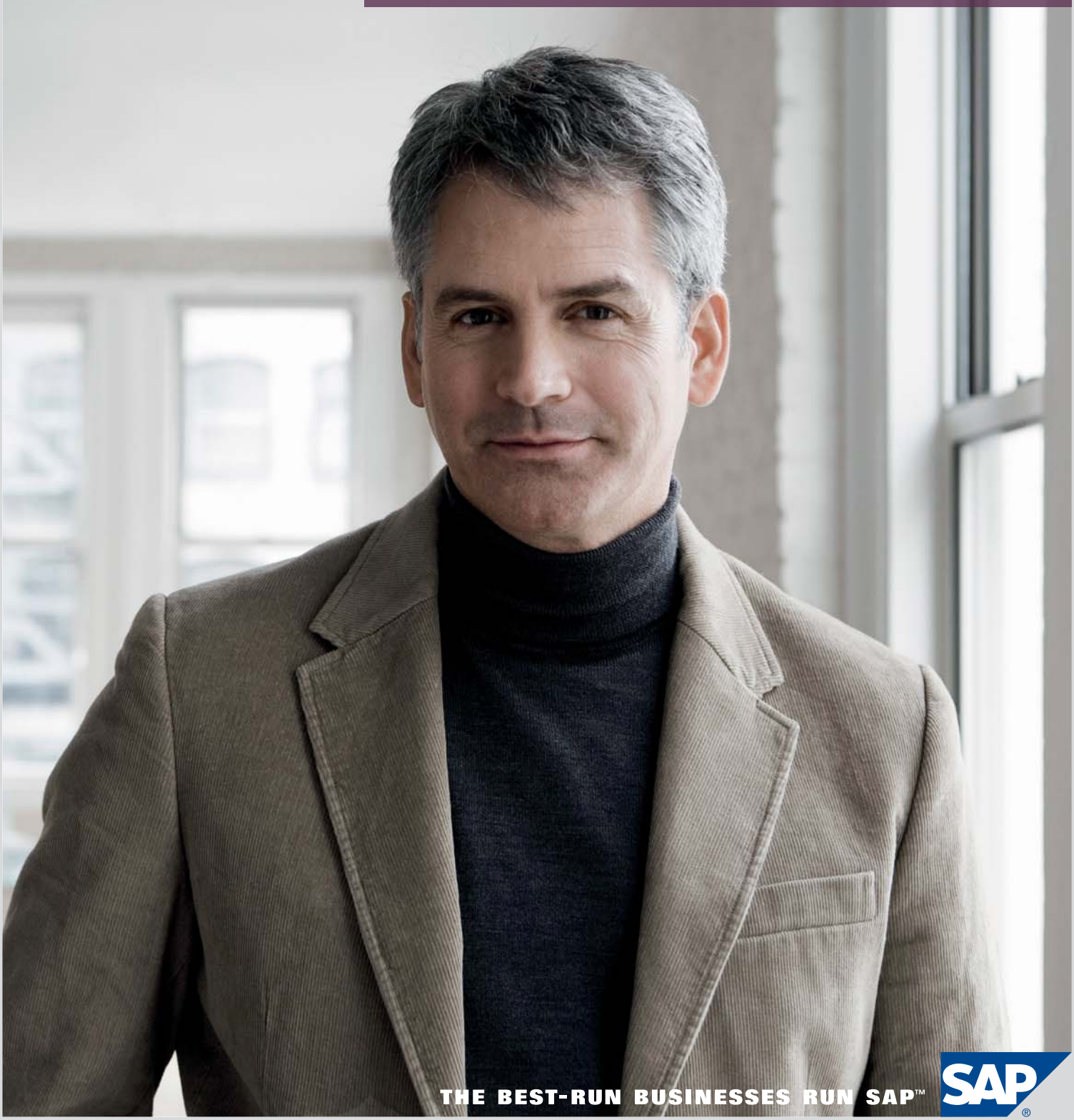
SAP Services

ASAP: PROVEN METHODOLOGY FOR FAST, SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION

CONTENT, TOOLS, AND EXPERTISE TO HELP REDUCE PROJECT RISK



THE BEST-RUN BUSINESSES RUN SAP™

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

USING THE ASAP METHODOLOGY

In a survey of software implementation effectiveness, more than 30% of projects were perceived to have failed because of a lack of effective project planning, while less than 10% were perceived to have failed because of technology-driven causes. When implementing SAP® software, you need to be sure that projects are completed on schedule, within budget, and with a minimum of technical and business risk. That's why SAP offers the ASAP methodology, giving you a comprehensive way to streamline the implementation, upgrade, and enhancement of SAP software.

LEVERAGE THE EXPERIENCE OF SAP CONSULTANTS

USING ASAP TO ENSURE IMPLEMENTATION SUCCESS

ASAP is a knowledge-intensive methodology for solution implementation from SAP. It leverages the insight that SAP and its partners have gained through years of hands-on experience on projects in many different customer environments and industries. ASAP provides content, tools, and expertise based on thousands of successful implementations. This repeatable and successful approach to implementing SAP software reduces project time, cost, and risk.

Reduce Project Time, Cost, and Risk

Aligned with formal project management standards and procedures (including the Project Management Institute [PMI] *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge*), ASAP provides project management expertise that is particular to SAP software and critical to a successful implementation. By using the ASAP methodology and tools during an implementation project, a typical project team can simplify and streamline efforts in the following ways:

- Faster implementations with time savings of up to 50%
- More reliable projects thanks to proven tools and best practices
- Lower risk
- More-efficient use of resources
- Reduced costs
- More-effective project management based on tools and templates aligned with best practices from PMI

Figure: ASAP Methodology Support from Project Preparation Through Going Live

Every project that employs the ASAP methodology is comprised of five steps covering the entire project life cycle from preparation through going live. From the outset, SAP consultants and services partners work hand in hand with you on a variety of key tasks, including the following;

- Defining roles and responsibilities
- Creating a business blueprint
- Configuring, testing, and rolling out SAP applications

ASAP EMPLOYS THE RIGHT TOOLS

GETTING CORE TOOLS TO DELIVER RAPID, RELIABLE RESULTS

ASAP employs three core tools designed to deliver rapid, reliable results and help you get the most from your solutions. These are the Solution Composer tool, ASAP road maps (content the project team follows to implement SAP software efficiently), and the SAP Solution Manager application management solution.

Solution Composer

Streamlined business processes are key to staying competitive in the market, capitalizing on new opportunities, and driving innovation throughout your organization. These processes must be supported by technology and designed to integrate customers, suppliers, and business partners. Sometimes the evaluation, visualization, planning, and further communication of these business processes can pose a real challenge. To enable you to design the right business solution quickly, SAP offers the Solution Composer tool for visualizing, planning, and implementing a coherent, integrated, and comprehensive IT solution.

Solution Composer helps you to develop an initial understanding of business requirements. It provides an overview of the industry value chain, the functionality to articulate key opportunities, and a tool for aligning these to the SAP application via business maps and engagement tools for SAP software.

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Solution Composer is also ideal for tailoring standard business maps quickly and easily to target your customer's challenges and core processes with relevant solutions. By planning collaborative business processes up front, you will be able to improve business process efficiency, increase revenue, reduce costs, and facilitate internal decision-making processes.

ASAP Road Maps

ASAP road maps outline the activities involved in implementing, upgrading, or enhancing SAP software. They are enriched with a set of deliverables, accelerators, role descriptions, and additional guides. SAP Consulting and SAP services partners assist your project teams in composing project-specific road maps that are then used as guidelines throughout the entire implementation project.

SAP delivers ASAP road maps in HTML format on the SAP Service Marketplace extranet at service.sap.com/roadmaps and in SAP Solution Manager. The road maps can be tailored to your customer's specific project requirements. ASAP road maps cover aspects of project management, business process requirements, configuration, testing, and technical solution management. They are accompanied by accelerators, samples, and best practices information.

That means you can easily chart the fastest route from A to B – with no unscheduled detours.

SAP Solution Manager

Implementing and managing your entire SAP solution landscape are challenging tasks, but SAP has the answer: SAP Solution Manager. SAP Solution Manager is a platform that provides the integrated content, tools, and methodologies that you need to implement, support, operate, and monitor your SAP enterprise applications. With SAP Solution Manager, you can minimize risk and increase the reliability of your IT solutions. SAP Solution Manager helps reduce total cost of ownership throughout the solution life cycle, manage your core business processes, and link business processes to the underlying IT infrastructure. Because it supports both SAP and non-SAP software, SAP Solution Manager helps you get more from your existing IT investments.

The ASAP methodology has evolved along with SAP software offerings to provide the right methodology for the right results.

ASAP Stays in Step with SAP® Software

The ASAP methodology has evolved along with SAP® software offerings to provide the right methodology for the right results. By continually investing resources in the ASAP methodology and tools, SAP has kept ASAP up-to-date with developments in its solution technologies to help ensure a smooth implementation every time.

Key updates include the following:

- Broad support for business scenarios in Solution Composer
- Updated road map content, including project management information based on industry standards, new solution content for the SAP NetWeaver® Portal and SAP NetWeaver Exchange Infrastructure components, and an evolved road map structure supporting projects based on deliverables
- Updated SAP Solution Manager content supporting the SAP Business All-in-One solution, the SAP Customer Relationship Management application, and other offerings
- Updated SAP Solution Manager to include change-request functionality and better support for upgrades

Help Your Project Team Really Work as a Team

ASAP is a transparent, proven approach that helps your project team really work as a team to reduce implementation time, costs, and risks. Because it is based on lessons learned from other successful implementations, ASAP will help you achieve better results.

SAP: Delivering IT-Powered Business Innovation

As the world's leading provider of business software, SAP delivers products and services that help accelerate business innovation for our customers. We believe that doing so will unleash growth and create significant new value – for our customers, SAP, and ultimately, entire industries and the economy at large. Today, more than 46,100 customers in more than 120 countries run SAP applications – from distinct solutions addressing the needs of small businesses and midsize companies to suite offerings for global organizations.

Find Out More

To learn more about how ASAP methodology can help you to reduce project time, cost, and risk, call your SAP representative or visit www.sap.com.

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