Enterprise Information Alignment for SAP

Increase velocity to insight

Highlights:

- Identifies data creation and maintenance process issues

- Establishes a baseline for data cleansing and data enhancement

- Provides an understanding of the scope of effort required to prepare data for an upcoming SAP implementation

For many corporations, SAP implementations offer tremendous benefits: streamlined business operations and consolidated data for strategic, commercial online transaction processing (OLTP) and business intelligence (BI) applications. However, one of the biggest sources of expense, risk and effort lies in the challenge of integrating data from different operational applications across the enterprise to an SAP platform.

Data quality and related integrated process issues are frequently not fully understood until late in the blueprint phase or during the realization phase of typical SAP implementation projects. When these issues do arise, the results are most often cost overruns, delays in go-live dates, reduced return on investment (ROI) and reduced consulting profit margins. With no upfront knowledge of potential data issues, a customer implementation engagement can be prolonged, costly and at risk.

With the Enterprise Information Alignment (EIA) for SAP from IBM, you can prepare and reduce risk - before starting the blueprint phase, by obtaining valuable information about source data quality, completeness, accuracy and reliability. EIA for SAP helps identify inadequate data, data standards, and business goals that are inconsistent with operational excellence. With early identification of gaps between client source data and SAP requirements, you can take data issues off the critical path by providing a framework for a quality data lifecycle.

The Enterprise Information Alignment for SAP approach

Our approach consists of a three phase assessment and draws upon IBM's SAP practice expertise with anatomizing, envisioning, and aligning enterprise business and information processes, organizations, and technology when aligning the current enterprise with a new SAP solution. Our recommendations are targeted at aligning the Enterprise Information Management roadmap to meet the business goals, measures, information, and analytics.

EIA for SAP alignments can help you deliver information value with the highest value opportunities and enabling consistent and accurate access to enterprise information with flexible, standardized and scalable information centric services.

The approach for these short term engagements:

- Utilizes an interview and workshop based approach to identify "As-Is" state, gaps, business goals and measures, and assess and prioritize opportunities
- Envisions solutions based on the client's capabilities, requirements, and competencies in order to achieve a state of readiness to operationally support the enterprise information and analytics based upon processes, people, and technology
- Aligns new SAP business process information requirements with the enterprise
- Improves alignment between the technology and business organizations to achieve standardized information governance processes
- Provides a roadmap with prioritized recommendations for various projects their inter-dependencies and the recommended timing of initiatives; the roadmap also presents how best to mitigate the risk associated with each of the initiatives to significantly reduce business disruption

Providing a focused path for an EIA transformation

By focusing on these key pillars, information and transactions can be made consumable and accessible to everyone, optimized for their specific purpose, at the point of impact, to deliver better decisions and actions:

- On-going governance of information and knowing how that information is defined, managed, and flows through an enterprise
- Leveraging analytics to increase the velocity to insight
- Managing information and analytics capabilities as a strategic, full-lifecycle asset
- Accessing, enhancing, and integrating data into new landscape
- Establishing master data processes to help ensure the maintaining of the data quality

Why IBM?

Enterprise Information Alignment for SAP brings together thousands of experienced strategy, analytics, and technology experts and consultants across the globe to help organizations realize their EIA potential. IBM's services, along with our advanced research group and leading portfolio of top flight analytics software, deliver comprehensive, leading edge business EIA solutions across industries and functional areas for many of the world's top organizations.