

# Elevate Your Enterprise With SAP on Microsoft Azure

## Running SAP on Azure enhances agility and accelerates innovation

### Get Ready for Your Future

Moving your SAP workloads to the cloud is important for gaining a holistic view of your organization and real-time insights to drive innovation, elasticity and growth. By moving your SAP workloads to Microsoft Azure, SAP's preferred public cloud, you can build a more agile and customer-centric business. And, with help from the experienced team at Hitachi Consulting, you can move your SAP workloads to the cloud seamlessly, cost-effectively and on a timeline that works for your business.

For organizations that are running SAP ERP Central Component (SAP ECC), support will end on December 31, 2025. This might seem like the distant future but moving SAP ECC to SAP S/4HANA is a significant effort, so now is a good time to get started. Organizations that move ahead of the curve can start reaping the benefits of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), automation, machine learning and the internet of things (IoT) – and start leaving their competitors behind.

### Advantages of SAP on Azure

Compared to on-premises or hosted environments, cloud-based SAP deployments offer several well-established benefits, including greater agility, support for the latest apps and analytics, and the ability to scale at will. When you run SAP on Azure, you can enjoy the following advantages:

- **A deep and trusted partnership.** SAP runs its own business-critical systems on Azure, and Microsoft and SAP have partnered for over 25 years. With SAP on Azure, you can take advantage of unified best practices, co-located engineering resources and a proven reference architecture.
- **Global support and flexibility.** Azure has a footprint of more than 50 regions worldwide, enabling single-architecture support for global businesses. Azure also offers the only consistent hybrid cloud, so you can develop and deploy where you want, with native services to help extend SAP into business apps, data lakes and Microsoft Power BI reporting.
- **An environment built for digital transformation.** Go quickly from concept to release with Azure solutions for data services, AI, machine learning, blockchain, IoT and other emerging technologies, all powered by Hitachi Consulting's deep experience and longstanding relationship with both SAP and Microsoft.
- **A cloud ready for SAP S/4HANA.** Azure is a powerful and scalable cloud for the SAP HANA platform; it is one of the major cloud providers supporting the largest enterprise workloads. With advanced automation supported by Azure, you can quickly provision and configure any of your SAP workloads.
- **A secure and trusted provider.** More than 95% of Fortune 500 organizations trust Microsoft Azure for security, privacy, transparency, and the most compliance coverage of any cloud provider.<sup>1</sup>

### Migrate Strategically with Hitachi Consulting

The SAP-to-Azure migration is a complex undertaking that requires deep understanding of and experience with both Azure and SAP, including SAP's full range of analytics, cloud, mobile and business applications. Hitachi Consulting offers that unique combination, as well as a wide array of SAP and Microsoft Azure services, tools and offerings to help you optimize your SAP experience on Azure. Whether your path is to move SAP ECC to the cloud, implement SAP S/4HANA as part of your migration, or build and leverage SAP Cloud Platform and SAP Leonardo solutions running in Azure, Hitachi Consulting can help.

### Why Hitachi Consulting?

Using a combination of senior people, frameworks and intellectual property developed from numerous successful projects, our approach and engagement model is adapted to meet the requirements of every individual client. We're committed to building long-term relationships — in fact, 80% of our business comes from existing customers.

<sup>1</sup> Microsoft Azure, "Azure vs. AWS," Microsoft, 2019, accessed October 29, 2019, <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/overview/azure-vs-aws/>

- Relationships with SAP and Microsoft. Hitachi Consulting is both a long-standing SAP global partner and a Microsoft partner with a specialization in Azure.
- End-to-end SAP experience. We are one of the few global companies to offer an end-to-end SAP experience, including licenses, maintenance, functional design and implementation services, cloud services, infrastructure, support and managed services.
- Customized support. Whether you want to optimize your current SAP solution, implement SAP S/4HANA or integrate IoT solutions, our team works with you to address your unique requirements while mitigating risk and reducing your total cost of ownership (TCO).
- One vendor, one monthly price. We deliver everything as a service to simplify management, reduce costs and drive innovation with SAP offerings to meet your business needs. You pay a predictable monthly price that includes all SAP, Azure and Hitachi Consulting services.

## Specialized Tools Accelerate Transformation

Hitachi Consulting offers specialized capabilities to accelerate your SAP migration to Azure. Using these tools to streamline and automate your move to the cloud can avoid potential costly outages.

- **The Hitachi Cloud Advisory Tool** helps us map an overall cloud migration strategy for you in less time, including applications and infrastructure.
- **Our Hitachi methodology** enables us to quickly work toward providing rapid return on investment (ROI) for your migration using SAP design thinking, Hitachi Consulting industry and IoT experience, and SAP capabilities.

- **Hitachi Optimized Factory** for SAP increases supply chain process transparency; improves planning, scheduling and quality management; and streamlines maintenance and shop floor activities.
- **Hitachi Managed Services for SAP Environments** on Azure provides all-inclusive technical service-level agreements (SLAs) to run and manage your SAP environment on Azure.

## The Hitachi Consulting Difference

As part of Hitachi, Ltd., Hitachi Consulting brings extraordinary depth and breadth of SAP technology and innovation experience. We leverage our position as one of the leading industrial groups in the world to not only offer consulting services but also to deploy and implement solutions to your specifications.

We deliver industry-centric solutions across key public and private-sector industries, and we have the ingredients you need to power your SAP environment. That includes the skilled resources necessary to migrate, design, run and manage every element in your SAP environment – and the strength to deliver everything as a service with a predictable monthly fee.

If your business is relying on a legacy version of SAP, contact Hitachi Consulting to find out how we can help you migrate to Azure in a smart, cost-effective manner. We'll help you reduce risk and take full advantage of the flexibility, intelligence and security of Azure to create new customer experiences, accelerate business innovation and scale to meet global demand.

## About Hitachi Consulting

Hitachi Consulting is the global solutions and professional services organization within Hitachi Ltd., a global innovation leader in industrial and information technology solutions and an early pioneer of the Internet of Things. Hitachi Consulting is a business integrator for the IoT era and a catalyst for digital transformation. Using our deep domain knowledge, we strategically collaborate with our clients to help them innovate faster, maximize operational efficiency and realize measurable, sustainable business and societal value. As a consulting-led solutions company, we can help you leverage data as a strategic asset to drive competitive differentiation, customer loyalty and growth. To learn more, visit [www.hitachiconsulting.com](http://www.hitachiconsulting.com).