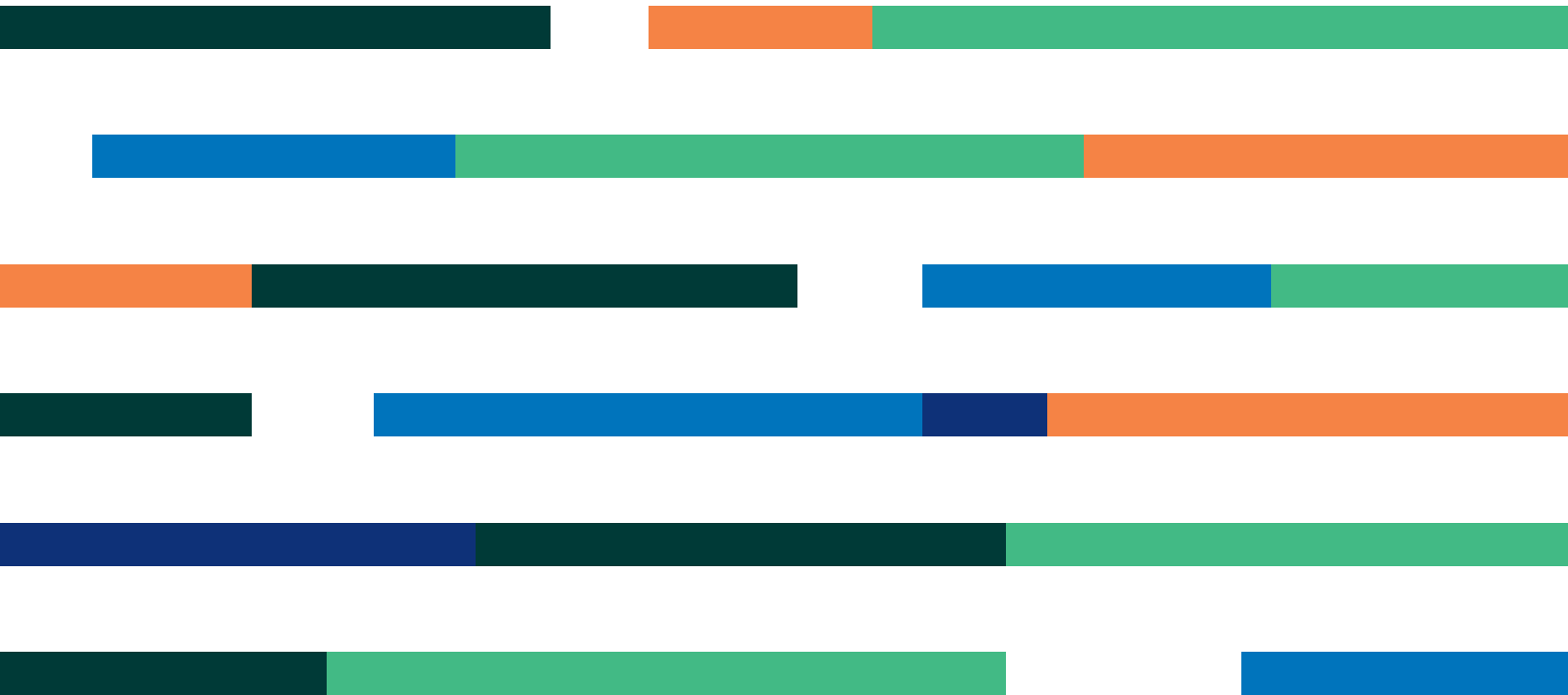
SUSE

White Paper

4-Step Roadmap: Transition to SAP S/4HANA in the Public Cloud



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Your SAP S/4HANA migration to the public cloud needs a platform. And a plan.

You are migrating SAP S/4HANA to the public cloud. That's a smart move. After all, the public cloud gives you the speed and flexibility you need, while lowering your capital costs and boosting ROI. But making the move efficiently takes a key requirement – the right platform.

Why?

Because to accelerate your cloud vision requires a platform that enables you to deploy SAP applications faster and with lower risk. It takes a platform that ensures you meet your business goals when migrating to, and then operating in the public cloud.

Getting the most out of your deployment requires a platform that delivers high availability, leverages automation, provides real scalability, and requires the least amount of administrative effort, regardless of the cloud provider you choose. Your deployment must deliver the same functionality in the public cloud as it does on-premises.

It's easy to miss many of these critical needs. So to ensure your platform delivers a robust environment, this four-step guide will help you plan your journey.

Key Goals for Migrating SAP S/4HANA to the Public Cloud

Do you need to realize the promise of SAP S/4HANA in the public cloud? You need a platform that helps meet your business goals while migrating to, and operating in, the public cloud — regardless of the cloud provider you choose. Your platform must:

- Meet business requirements for faster deployment
- Scale your infrastructure quickly and easily
- Ensure high availability to keep your services running
- Minimize administrative time and effort

Step 1

Meet Business Requirements for Faster Deployment

One of the important goals when migrating SAP S/4HANA to the public cloud is speed – a fast deployment. In today's competitive business environment, no organization has the luxury of long procurement cycles and slow implementations.

To deploy SAP S/4HANA to the public cloud rapidly, ensure your platform enables you to deliver mission-critical SAP applications on your choice of hyperscaler, whether Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud, Microsoft Azure or other cloud service providers.

The platform you use during your migration should offer pre-built templates that work seamlessly with all the major hyperscalers. These templates should be optimized to provide automated installation of the SAP software stack, with automated system fail-over and recovery to minimize downtime.

A quick word about automation

It's a must to remove time-consuming, complex, manual effort from your SAP S/4HANA migration to the public cloud. A platform that delivers extensive automation will speed your deployment for faster time to value. And importantly, automation also removes human error from the equation.

Automate Your Deployment. A truly efficient platform can automate deployment of the full infrastructure and SAP software stack, with high availability and system monitoring – for on-premises and cloud implementations.

Step 2

Scale Your Infrastructure Quickly and Easily

One of the promises of the public cloud is scalability. Migrating SAP S/4HANA results in easier, less-costly scalability than you've become accustomed to when implementing applications on-premises.

Public cloud scalability, of course, means you scale up and scale down as needed, paying only for the resources you need, and only when you need them.

Scalability comes down to flexibility. You may be looking to deploy and test a stack on SAP HANA. Or you might be looking to build public-cloud-native applications that leverage SAP HANA's in-memory database. Either way, you need to get up and running quickly and consistently with your hyperscaler in a production environment. The right platform supports and facilitates fast SAP service delivery.

The Platform – Things to Consider

The platform you choose to migrate SAP S/4HANA to the public cloud — and keep you up and running once there — should meet a number of important criteria:

- **SAP-validated:** Validated by SAP to work with SAP S/4HANA
- **Public cloud-validated:** Validated by your chosen hyperscaler to host SAP S/4HANA.
- **Cloud service provider agnostic:** Designed to work equally well regardless of the public cloud service provider you use.
- **Open source:** Built on technologies that keep your infrastructure from being locked-in to one vendor's implementation.
- **Proven vendor:** Created by a software firm with proven expertise in the space and a large base of satisfied customers.

Step 3

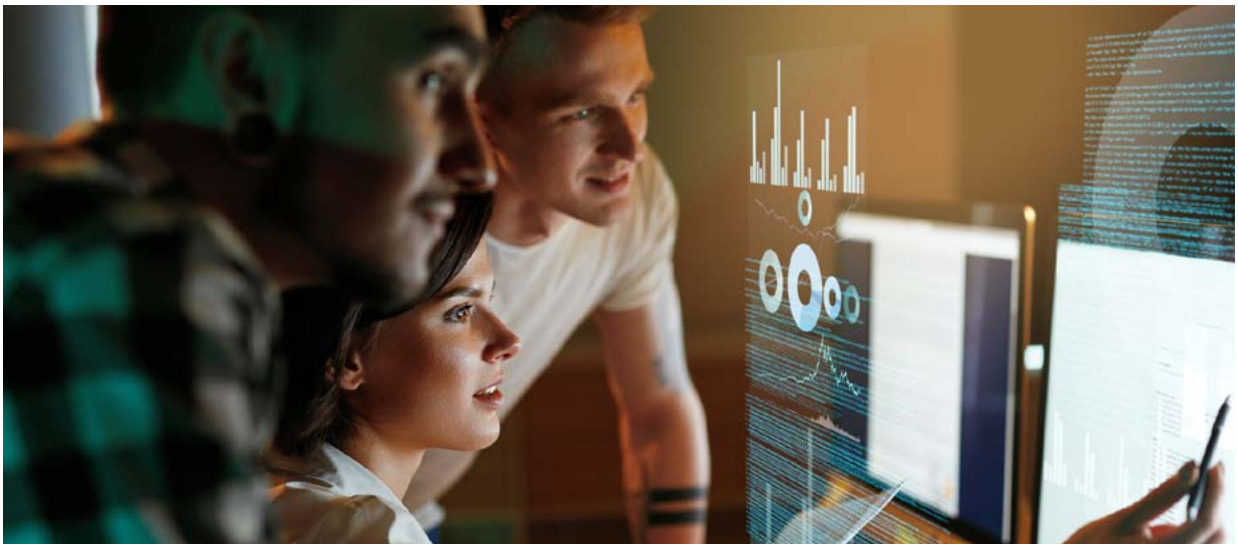
Ensure High Availability to Keep Your Services Running

The platform you use to migrate SAP S/4HANA to the public cloud must keep your services running optimally once you get there. Plus, it must support a broad set of high-availability (HA) scenarios to avoid downtime and achieve non-stop IT for your SAP S/4HANA services.

Look for a platform that's built on a cost-effective, open-source solution stack – one that is optimized for performance. In particular, look for resilience features that increase security while limiting downtime.

Ideally, the platform has HA best practices baked right into the code. These best practices should have been co-developed by the platform vendor and the major hyperscalers to deliver optimized performance for each of those cloud providers. After all, each of the hyperscalers has a unique approach to implementing and maintaining cloud instances.

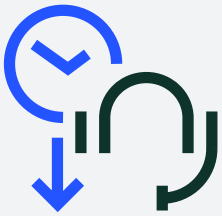
Of course, it's critical to maintain security to keep your services running, so it's ideal to have a platform that enhances security and compliance by applying live kernel patches to protect against vulnerabilities, with zero interruption to your running workloads.



Your platform must support a broad set of HA scenarios for the SAP HANA database and applications to avoid downtime and achieve non-stop IT with your SAP S/4HANA services.

Step 4

Minimize Administrative Time and Effort



One of the advantages of the public cloud is that it outsources much of the heavy lifting your IT department has been used to handling when managing on-premises infrastructure, systems, and applications. Automating public cloud infrastructure configuration and administration frees your IT staff to work on strategic initiatives that add value.

It lets them spend less time on mundane, repetitive, and time-consuming tasks.

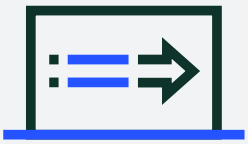
To minimize your administrative time and effort, choose a platform that's built to leverage features like automation to administer and manage SAP S/4HANA in the public cloud.

Infrastructure Agility

Manages complex infrastructures, including public cloud and hybrid cloud

Automated Maintenance

Automated maintenance tools, or wizards, guide system administrators



Automated Configuration

Automation takes manual effort and error out of configuration management

Extensive Monitoring

Monitors SAP HANA, SAP NetWeaver, HA clusters, and the Linux OS

These 4 steps will help you make an efficient transition.

Your transition to SAP S/4HANA in the public cloud is a vehicle to foster growth and innovation. Whichever of the hyperscalers you choose – Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud, or Microsoft Azure – you'll need a consistent, reliable, and secure operation for your business-critical workloads in the cloud. You need to minimize risk as you ensure you can meet your business goals while moving to and operating in the public cloud.

You need a platform that helps you:

1. Meet business requirements for faster deployment
2. Scale your infrastructure quickly and easily
3. Ensure high availability to keep your services running
4. Reduce administrative time and effort

Choose a platform that meets these 4 criteria, and you'll be on your way to realizing the promise of SAP S/4HANA in the public cloud.

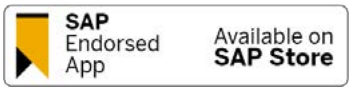
About SUSE

SUSE is a global leader in innovative, reliable, enterprise-grade open-source solutions, relied upon by more than 60% of the Fortune 500 to power their mission-critical workloads.

We help you accelerate your cloud vision by efficiently transitioning to SAP S/4HANA in the public cloud. With SUSE, you rapidly deploy and scale mission-critical SAP applications on your choice of hyperscalers, with high availability and reduced complexity.

The SUSE platform helps you achieve your cloud strategy faster and with lower risk. Confidently deploy your SAP systems with reduced time and effort thanks to built-in best practices, co-developed with major hyperscalers to deliver optimized performance. Maximize efficient operations with SAP-validated templates, SUSE deployment automation, monitoring to proactively prevent issues, and automation that eliminates complex manual processes.

Learn more at www.suse.com/cloud-for-sap



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Thank You