



SAP HANA

SAP HANA is an in-memory computing platform that has completely transformed the relational database industry. It combines database, application processing, and integration services on a single platform. The same architecture also provides libraries for predictive, planning, text processing, spatial, and business analytics.

Benefits of SAP HANA

Solutions powered by the SAP HANA platform support real-time operations, smarter decision making, and better business results.

Below are the benefits of SAP HANA:

- Reporting and Analytics
- Big Data
- Data Management
- Data Warehousing

Platform features:

Below are the platform features of SAP HANA:

- Data services
- Processing capabilities
- Application services
- Integration services
- Development Tools

- Administration and Security
- Data center Readiness

What makes SAP HANA Different?

SAP HANA has a comprehensive feature set that allows you to simultaneously handle real-time transactions and analytic workloads with extreme speed.

Below are the SAP HANA features and how and why SAP HANA is so different

- Massive speed
- Radical efficiency
- Extreme scale
- Lower cost
- Flexibility
- Choice
- An open platform

What is SAP BPC on HANA?

As we know, SAP BPC 10.* NW sits on top of SAP BW 7.3. SAP BW 7.3 can run on HANA, SAP's in-memory database.



In simple terms, rather than running BW on a regular database, clients can use SAP HANA as its database. It's logical therefore that SAP BPC 10.* moves onto HANA as well, since the underlying BW 7.3 system moves onto HANA.

SAP HANA is an in-memory database developed by SAP. By using SAP BW on HANA as the underlying architecture for SAP BPC, it is now possible to take advantage of the benefits of SAP HANA when designing a SAP BPC solution. Specifically, the elements of BPC that are pushed down into the HANA database include:

- Reading and aggregating data from the database for the purposes of reporting.
- Transforming data to be reported using dimension member formulas.
- Writing back data (e.g. user input plan values, or the results of calculations) to the database.
- Certain business functions and calculations, such as allocations.
- Certain logic script MDX commands now run embedded HANA MDX functions.

The important part to note is that there is no need to re-implement BPC; the application and front-end layers stay the same, and therefore the SAP BPC environments, script logic, ABAP code, Business Process Flows, reports etc. stay intact.

How does SAP HANA helps?

In theory, the transition from a conventional database to an in-memory database should provide a myriad of performance improvements for BPC users.

Performance is a big topic for users and slow response times lead to unproductive users who quickly tire of using SAP BPC and find workarounds to expedite the submission process. The impact of performance becomes even greater with the exponential growth in data volumes, and it becomes necessary to be on a platform built to handle 'big data'.

Another compelling argument is that SAP HANA is considered the platform of the future. The response times of SAP BPC on HANA would allow users to enable scenarios that are simply not possible on conventional databases. It is evident that BPC functions will be enabled in HANA, leading to further performance improvements.

Running BPC on a SAP BW on HANA platform removes the constraints and comprises associated with traditional SAP BPC solutions. Reporting on greater volumes of data is possible, leading to the ability to budget and forecast at a more granular level. With the latest version of BPC, calculations are pushed down into the database layer, enabling more complex planning model calculations to be performed in real-time which unleashes a whole host of opportunities.

What are the use cases for SAP BPC on HANA?

Here are just a few of the many use cases now made possible with the advent of SAP BPC on HANA:

- Operational planning – operational planning requires greater volumes of data than traditional financial planning. For example, a Consumer Business organization is now able to plan margin by product and customer.
- Scenario planning – key to scenario planning is the ability to perform complex calculations across large data volumes within seconds. For example, a Manufacturing company is now able to analyze the impact of raw material price and currency exchange rate fluctuations on the profitability of thousands of bills of materials.
- Integrated driver based planning – again this involves complex calculations on large volumes of data. For example, an Oil and Gas company is now able to adjust the projected cost of oil and immediately see the impact on cash flow five years hence.