How to manage the resource cost of S/4HANA
Understand the cost

S/4HANA was once a set of pre-packaged business processes, but is now so much more. And it requires so much more of you, too. Not just CIOs and IT decision makers. But, as with any digital transformation project, your entire C-suite and every line of business.

Evaluating the S/4HANA solution and making it work alongside your existing IT takes everyone. And a lot of time, effort, and work.

Of course, you’ll already know that staying where you are could cost you a lot more. Gartner predicts that, between 2021 and 2023, the sudden rush to adopt could drive up the cost of implementation. The fastest businesses will snap up the best resources. And by next year alone, Gartner expects cloud ERP enterprise application implementation labor will cost 60% more.1

The technical upgrade to S/4HANA could be three months. Business process changes, customization, and quality assurance could take another 15 to do properly. Add a looming deadline and the threat of inflated prices, and the faster you get going, the better.

But with several paths to take – including migration, implementation, and greenfield – IT teams that go it alone are looking at 12- and even 18-month projects. That’s enough to make plenty of business leaders think twice.

1 What Customers Need to Know When Considering a Move to S/4HANA – 2018 Update; Gartner
Whose job is managing the migration?

Technology now underpins so many of your business activities. As the IDC points out, it makes the migration to S/4HANA a job not just for your IT department, but the breadth of the C-suite.

The Intelligent Core, IDC says, is a critical IT responsibility. But making it work for every process, model, and structure is the responsibility of every department and every employee. So, when you put together your migration team, make sure to include a mix of experienced employees from across your lines of business and new and established skill sets like brand strategy, ethics compliance, data science, workplace technology management, and user experience.
See what you’re up against

Be among the first organizations to transform with S/4HANA and you could be leading your industry with real time data, lower inventory costs, shorter billing processes, and reduced TCO.

You’re probably reading this e-book because you already know that. But proving that value to the other stakeholders in your business might not be so simple. What’s holding them back?

» Migrating is more than just a technical project.«

The benefits are hard to overlook. What might be a little harder to see is how much work it’d take to get to them. What will it cost to re-implement your processes? How long will it take to get all your data over in one piece? And what makes a migration to S/4HANA different from the usual platform-change projects?

» The benefits of S/4HANA don’t seem worth the cost of migration.«

It could be legacy and homegrown apps and systems. Complex HR and finance processes. Even multiple data centers. Every stakeholder will have something costly and time-consuming niggling away in the back of their mind. What they need is a plan.
To overcome the objections, you’ll need to build your business case for S/4HANA on a clear breakdown of assessment, planning, and migration.

Your organization will have been through something similar before. Of course, many of your employees who recall and understand the SAP ERP implementation are likely approaching retirement – if they haven’t retired already. Your migration to S/4HANA is a brand new journey for a brand new team.

So, make a brand new plan. Here are four steps to help your organization more accurately gauge what you can do with the resources you have.

**Choose your roles**

Know your responsibilities – and make sure your partners know theirs.

Your organization, your SAP system integrator, and any third parties should all have clearly-defined roles. And know how much time and budget their tasks will take.

**Find the gaps**

What’s missing?

Take stock of the people and skills you have available in your business.

Then, you’ll know where you’ll need help. Consider whether to train internally to save money or hire externally to save time.

**Stay on top**

Adjust your plan as you go.

Budgets get spent. New skills get developed. Don’t be afraid to adapt as your requirements (and your resources) change.

**Pick your partner**

You’ll only need to migrate to S/4HANA once. But, here at Fujitsu, we’ve already helped thousands of organizations like yours make the move. So, choose your roles. Find the gaps. And stay on top of your migration with Fujitsu.

**Get the support**

With the gaps defined, you can bring in the help you need to fill them. Hire the internal and external resources you need to support your team. The ideal partner will stick around, too. So for every SAP release, every test phase, and every new user, you’ll have the expertise you need to succeed.
Your SAP technology.
Our expertise.

The right partner is crucial to your transformation. You need an expert who understands your digital journey is unique. And that the right approach comes when you co-create.

We work with you and your SAP technology to make every part of your business perform at its best. You become more agile, more flexible and more efficient. So, you can speed your path to growth.

And then go further. With emerging technologies like AI, IoT and blockchain at your disposal, you’re ready to innovate. And stand out from the competition.

From a single provider, you get a solution that brings together infrastructure, services, licensing and consulting. So, you have everything you need to put intelligence at the heart of your business.