Methodology to Implement SAP Process Integration

Applies to:

SAP NetWeaver, SAP Exchange Infrastructure, SAP Process Integration

Summary

When starting a SAP PI project from scratch, it is very important to set up all relevant steps to ensure overall project quality and thereby project success. This article is intended to give an overview which fields of activities are to consider when implementing the SAP PI.

Author: Manfred Lerner
Company: SAP SI AG
Created on: 18.12.2007

Author Bio

Manfred Lerner works for SAP Consulting since fall 2004. With more than 15 years experience in the Enterprise Application Integration area, Manfred Lerner has a deep knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the whole set of integration scenarios. Formerly responsible for the product management of an integration platform, he joined SAP in 2004. Since then, he has been active in several projects where his skill as a NetWeaver Solution Architect helped leveraging the benefits customers could get from the SAP NetWeaver platform. Thereby he helped setting up Technical Program Management for customers. As architectures and products get more and more versatile and comprehensive, the management of technology by the means of architecture management is one of the decisive key success factors..
Table of Contents

Why to use ASAP?..................................................................................................................3
Typical questions when starting an SAP PI project.................................................................4
Phase 1 – Project Preparation ...............................................................................................5
Phase 2 – Business Blueprint ................................................................................................6
  Purpose ................................................................................................................................6
  Integration............................................................................................................................6
Phase 3 – Realization..............................................................................................................7
  Purpose ................................................................................................................................7
  Integration............................................................................................................................7
Phase 4 – Final Preparation.....................................................................................................8
  Purpose ................................................................................................................................8
Phase 5 – Go Live and Support...............................................................................................9
  Purpose ................................................................................................................................9
Existing Methodologies for SAP Products

The best know implementation methodology of course is the AcceleratedSAP (ASAP) methodology. With the use of the ASAP methodology, lots of SAP projects could be implemented very successfully in the past.

ASAP consists of a five step or phase model:

1. Project Preparation
2. Business Blueprint
3. Realization
4. Final Preparation
5. Go-Live & Support

A set of tools is available to support the processes for implementing SAP software:

**SAP Solution Manager:** Facilitates efficient solution design, documentation, configuration, testing and operations of SAP solutions

**SAP Solution Composer:** Alignment of customer’s business requirements to SAP solutions

**SAP Road Maps:** Offers AcceleratedSAP roadmap composed to fit specific project needs

**Why to use ASAP?**

- ASAP provides a proven, comprehensive, repeatable and rich implementation methodology to streamline projects
- ASAP provides content, tools and expertise from thousands of successful implementations
- ASAP covers implementations, upgrades, strategic studies and more
- ASAP is aligned with industry standards and procedures
A Look into ASAP for SAP Process Integration

Typical questions when starting an SAP PI project

- How to best use selected solution capabilities?
- How do we have internal capabilities and capacity to staff the project?
- How and where do we start?
- Who does what in this project?
- How to manage project and business risks involved?
- How to build internal expertise?
- How expensive will this project be? How do we keep the costs low?
- How do we assure success?

These set of questions can be extended without limits. Each new SAP PI project has to face these kind of challenges when being set up from the green field.

To address these kind of questions, SAP has developed the ASAP methodology for the SAP Process Integration platform. ASAP for SAP PI can be used as a very good starting point for setting up SAP PI projects.

Of course ASAP for SAP PI is a very generic framework. This framework has to be enriched and filled with live within the work process of a project team.

ASAP for SAP PI is primarily meant to be a framework for project management aspects. Out of the expertise of many integration projects it is reasonable to enrich the ASAP methodology with special topics regarding a SAP PI implementation. In the following exemplary aspects of a SAP PI implementation are listed:

- System Setup – Operations – Support
- Landscape Integration
- Architecture Guidelines
- Development Guidelines
- Governance

These very crucial aspects have to be covered in detail by entities which have to be set up in a SAP PI project.
Phase 1 – Project Preparation

The purpose of the project preparation phase is to provide initial planning and preparation for your SAP PI project. Although each SAP PI project has its own unique objectives, scope, and priorities, the steps in phase 1 help you to identify and plan the primary focus areas that need to be considered. These include technical issues as well as project management topics.

In the colored layers the main fields of activities are identified. These nine layers are a very good example to set up the project preparation phase.

| Phase Startup | Project Charter | Business Case | Scope Statement | Project Schedule | Project Strategic Framework | Implementation Project Standards | Phase Sign Off |

| Organization Change Management and Training |

| Business Process Requirements, Design, Configuration and Testing |
| Business Scenario and Process Inventory |

| Content Management and User Interface |

| Developments |

| Security, Job Roles and System Authorizations |

| Lifecycle Data Management |
| Inventory of Legacy Systems | Strategy for Legacy Data Conversion |

| Technical Solution Management |
| Technical Requirements | Client/System Strategy and Design |

| SAP Safeguarding |
| SAP Safeguarding Deployment Plan | PM Review Service |
Phase 2 – Business Blueprint

Purpose

The purpose of this phase is to create the business blueprint, which is detailed documentation of the results gathered during requirements workshops. Furthermore, the business blueprint documents the interfacing requirements of the company. With this documentation, a very good understanding of the company’s integration relevant processes can be achieved.

Integration

During this phase, the following issues should be addressed:

- Establishing organizational change management (OCM) to mitigate risk attributable to organizational change
- Refining the original project goals and objectives
- Defining the baseline scope
- Refining the overall project schedule and implementation sequence
- Refining the technical design for the solution
- Defining the strategies for data cleansing
- Set up procedures for checking the feasibility of certain scenarios
Phase 3 – Realization

Purpose

The purpose of this Realization phase is to implement business and process requirements based on the business blueprint. The objectives are the final implementation in the system, an overall test, and the release of the system for production (live) operation. In addition, the project team receives relevant knowledge.

Integration

During this phase, the following activities are important:
- Accomplish organizational change management
- Define the cutover strategy and handover of the solution to operation
- Set up enterprise-wide user roles and authorizations for SAP PI operations
- Set up QA environment
- Set up test environment, especially for system and performance tests

Configure the system in two work packages:
- Baseline (major scope)
- Final (remaining scope)

This allows you to work on the other work packages after baseline confirmation.
Phase 4 – Final Preparation

Purpose
The purpose of the Final Preparation phase is to complete the final preparation (including system tests, end-user training, system management, and cutover activities) to finalize the organization’s readiness to go live. The Final Preparation phase also serves to resolve all crucial open issues. On successful completion of this phase, the organization is ready to run the SAP PI in a live environment.

During this phase, the following activities should be carried out:
- Ensure proper organizational change management (OCM) results
- Ensure functional and technical support for the production system is established
- Safeguarding the set up by performing a GoLive check and a Technical Integration Check
- Get the approval for all steps in the nine layers like performance conformance, conformance to the process setup for operations etc.
Phase 5 – Go Live and Support

Purpose

The purpose of the Go Live and Support phase is to cut over to live productive operation and to continuously support and improve live operations. There are two distinct periods of this phase:

During the time when the system is first live, all issues and problems are resolved, transition to the production support team is finalized, knowledge transfer is completed, and the project is signed off. The project has reached its end.

Now that the project is over, the production support team monitors the system and resolves live business process issues. Proper change management procedures are established, and ongoing end-user training is conducted. Plans are made to continuously review and improve business processes.

During this phase, the following activities are important:

- Proper set up of monitoring and support infrastructures finished
- Operations is fully working
- Achieve final customer acceptance
- Perform project closeout
Disclaimer and Liability Notice

This document may discuss sample coding or other information that does not include SAP official interfaces and therefore is not supported by SAP. Changes made based on this information are not supported and can be overwritten during an upgrade.

SAP will not be held liable for any damages caused by using or misusing the information, code or methods suggested in this document, and anyone using these methods does so at his/her own risk.

SAP offers no guarantees and assumes no responsibility or liability of any type with respect to the content of this technical article or code sample, including any liability resulting from incompatibility between the content within this document and the materials and services offered by SAP. You agree that you will not hold, or seek to hold, SAP responsible or liable with respect to the content of this document.
Methodology to Implement SAP Process Integration

Copyright

© Copyright 2007 SAP AG. All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or for any purpose without the express permission of SAP AG. The information contained herein may be changed without prior notice.

Some software products marketed by SAP AG and its distributors contain proprietary software components of other software vendors.

Microsoft, Windows, Outlook, and PowerPoint are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation.

IBM, DB2 Universal Database, OS/2, Parallel Sysplex, MVS/ESA, AIX, S/390, AS/400, OS/390, OS/400, iSeries, pSeries, xSeries, zSeries, System i, System i5, System p, System p5, System x, System z, System z9, z/OS, AFP, Intelligent Miner, WebSphere, Netfinity, Tivoli, Informix, i5/OS, POWER, POWER5, POWER5+, OpenPower and PowerPC are trademarks or registered trademarks of IBM Corporation.

Adobe, the Adobe logo, Acrobat, PostScript, and Reader are either trademarks or registered trademarks of Adobe Systems Incorporated in the United States and/or other countries.

Oracle is a registered trademark of Oracle Corporation.

UNIX, X/Open, OSI, and Motif are registered trademarks of the Open Group.

Citrix, ICA, Program Neighborhood, MetaFrame, WinFrame, VideoFrame, and MultiWin are trademarks or registered trademarks of Citrix Systems, Inc.

HTML, XML, XHTML and W3C are trademarks or registered trademarks of W3C®, World Wide Web Consortium, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Java is a registered trademark of Sun Microsystems, Inc.

JavaScript is a registered trademark of Sun Microsystems, Inc., used under license for technology invented and implemented by Netscape.

MaxDB is a trademark of MySQL AB, Sweden.

SAP, R/3, mySAP, mySAP.com, xApps, xApp, SAP NetWeaver, and other SAP products and services mentioned herein as well as their respective logos are trademarks or registered trademarks of SAP AG in Germany and in several other countries all over the world. All other product and service names mentioned are the trademarks of their respective companies. Data contained in this document serves informational purposes only. National product specifications may vary.

These materials are subject to change without notice. These materials are provided by SAP AG and its affiliated companies ("SAP Group") for informational purposes only, without representation or warranty of any kind, and SAP Group shall not be liable for errors or omissions with respect to the materials. The only warranties for SAP Group products and services are those that are set forth in the express warranty statements accompanying such products and services, if any. Nothing herein should be construed as constituting an additional warranty.

These materials are provided “as is” without a warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or non-infringement.

SAP shall not be liable for damages of any kind including without limitation direct, special, indirect, or consequential damages that may result from the use of these materials.

SAP does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the information, text, graphics, links or other items contained within these materials. SAP has no control over the information that you may access through the use of hot links contained in these materials and does not endorse your use of third party web pages nor provide any warranty whatsoever relating to third party web pages.

Any software coding and/or code lines/strings (“Code”) included in this documentation are only examples and are not intended to be used in a productive system environment. The Code is only intended better explain and visualize the syntax and phrasing rules of certain coding. SAP does not warrant the correctness and completeness of the Code given herein, and SAP shall not be liable for errors or damages caused by the usage of the Code, except if such damages were caused by SAP intentionally or grossly negligent.