



ABAP Add-on Certification Guidelines

SAP Integration & Certification Center

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Applies to

ABAP Add-on Certification

Summary

Outline the pre-requisites and criteria of the ABAP Add-on certification for Independent Software Vendors to consider before applying for it.

Author(s):

Author Bio



MaiAnh Chu-Nguyen joined SAP in late 1999 and currently works for the Integration and Certification Center in Palo Alto, California. She is responsible for most of the certification programs related to SAP NetWeaver integration technologies, such as Composite Application, SAP Exchange Infrastructure, SAP Web Application Server, Enterprise Portal, and J2EE Deployment.

Some software solution providers who integrate their products with SAP solutions decide to write an ABAP Add-on for more seamless integration or to add functionality or interfaces to the SAP solutions. This article describes the ABAP certification guidelines, so that if your company has built ABAP Add-ons, you can well prepare, if you decide to apply for an [ABAP Add-on certification](#) for your product.

When to develop ABAP code vs. using standard SAP functionality?

SAP highly recommends Independent Software Vendors (ISV) to integrate to SAP solutions using [SAP endorsed integration technologies](#); mainly calling released BAPIs, released IDocs, and released RFC-enabled Function Modules (RFMs). These APIs are developed and maintained by SAP. They do not change often and will usually work across several major releases of SAP solutions. You should consider developing custom ABAP programs only when there are no SAP standard APIs available to support your required functionality. And you are responsible to make sure your own ABAP programs will work properly in future SAP product releases.

Obtain an ABAP Development license

Many third party software vendors confuse Test & Demo license and ABAP Development license. Only the ABAP development license grants you to register your own namespace, to receive the Add-on Assembly Kit (AAK), and most importantly to re-sell your ABAP code. It's one of the prerequisites for your ABAP add-on component to be certified.

Reserve Namespace

Anyone developing their own ABAP code should register a [namespace](#) with SAP. All your objects and development classes must be part of this namespace. This will guarantee that the development objects are unique and avoid the risk of name clashes when delivering to the external systems.

System Landscape for Developing Add-on

To develop your Add-on, you need to have 2 systems for each add-on release and each supported SAP release:

- A development system for developing software and documentation
- A consolidation system for translating and delivery

You also need a temporary extra test system to test the import of your completed add-on package and carry out the function tests.

Database

Do not use UPDATE/INSERT/DELETE access directly to SAP tables in the database. With direct SQL statements to SAP tables, it may cause data integrity in the system. Read access to SAP tables is acceptable. To update SAP data, you should use the SAP endorsed standard integration technologies such as BAPIs, RFMs, and IDocs.

Build Generic Queries with Dynamic Open SQL

The ABAP Add-on certification prohibits the vendors to dynamically generated ABAP programs that contain OPEN SQL statement to extract SAP data. This method does 'INSERT/DELETE' report which it doesn't allowed for the certification. Instead, you should use Dynamic Open SQL to build generic queries. You only need to develop one program using your own namespace which responds variously to different actions from the user by using Dynamic Open SQL.

Add-on Assembly Kit (AAK) software



Once you contact the SAP Integration and Certification Center to sign the ABAP Service Package agreement and obtain the ABAP development license, SAP will ship the AAK tool to you. If you do not have a productive SAP license, this is currently the easiest and best way (and only one I am aware of) to get access to the AAK software. You must use the AAK for checking and delivering your ABAP software.

I hope that it would give some helpful information for you to plan for the ABAP Add-on certification. You should also checkout [here](#) for the most FAQ on ABAP certification. If you still cannot find the answer, you are welcome to post your question on [ICC ABAP certification forum](#).



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