SAP ECC on SAP HANA Database!

WHAT'S NEW: SAP HANA DB IN CONTEXT TO SAP ECC & SAP BW

In January, 2013 SAP announced the availability of SAP HANA DB for the SAP ECC applications platform with support to Cloud based solutions architecture. This makes SAP HANA as a new destination for mid-sized & large corporations who need a real-time SAP ECC business platform with built-in reporting and analytics using SAP ECC data without data replication to external BI systems.

A – SAP ECC MODULES SUPPORTED ON HANA DB: Presently, SAP ERP (core FICO, SD, etc..), SAP CRM, SAP SCM, SAP PLM and SAP SRM ECC instances are only supported to run on the SAP HANA DB with support to real-time applications that enable state of the art planning applications, reporting and analytics applications. As always, these modules will support an internal instance of SAP BW to leverage on existing SAP BW extractors within SAP ECC HANA data models as needed. SAP will shortly support other SAP ECC modules and offerings to run on SAP HANA DB as well. The SAP ECC environment has to be on <u>SAP ECC</u> 6.0 EhP6 or higher to support migration to SAP HANA database. The migration of SAP ECC to SAP HANA DB can be done within few weeks using the RDS (rapid deployment) methodology.

B – BENEFITS OF RUNNING SAP ECC ON HANA DB: 1 –Supercharged SAP ECC performance – upto 10K times better performance when modeled right, real-time data analytics and reporting directly within SAP ECC without interruption to daily operations. 2 – Can "Think Big" while designing and deploying complex SAP HANA models to solve complex business problems that were deemed unsolvable ("Making Impossible – Now Possible with SAP HANA DB!) in the past due to SAP ECC performance constraints (data replication, batch jobs and landscape performance limitations) . 3 – As per business needs, we <u>can pick and choose tables and programs to be loaded to in-memory</u> and optimize memory usage for SAP HANA. 4 - Self-service reporting and mobile operational capability to business users within SAP ECC using tools such as Web Dynpro (with BAPIs) with BO tools. 4 – Phased elimination of complex SAP BW applications that require long running batch programs. 6 – More functionality with less code and customization by leveraging existing models delivered by SAP SHAF (Hana Analytical Foundation– content for ECC tables) and RDS solutions on an on-going basis

C - WILL SAP BW BECOME OBSOLETE WHEN SAP ECC IS MIGRATED TO SAP HANA DB? There are 2 facets to this question. 1 - Short-term (<= 3 years): Existing SAP BW investments in the production environments will run AS-IS even after the SAP ECC HANA DB migration. Migrating all of the SAP BW analytical applications is not needed immediately and even if needed is a time consuming set of activities that will need separate project initiatives. Note: not all SAP BW applications will need real-time data anyway. If IT budgets permits, a quick solution to boost your existing SAP BW performance would be to also migrate your underlying SAP BW DB (from Oracle / DB2,etc.) to run on an SAP HANA DB. So, SAP BW will not become obsolete in the short-term. 2 - Long-term (Predictions for >3 years): With SAP's enhanced ASV (Application Software Value) software licensing model, there is good chance that existing SAP BW customers will slowly migrate all their critical SAP BW applications to SAP HANA BI models in a phased approach to SAP HANA instance that is hosting SAP ECC. However, organization freshly implementing SAP ECC will directly implement SAP ECC on SAP HANA DB which will not require a separate SAP BW instance. So, long-term depending on the customer embracement of SAP HANA DB for ECC, SAP BW may become obsolete.

WHAT'S NEW & COOL! FOR DEVELOPERS & ADMINS

1- SAP BO BI DESIGN STUDIO- Is an advanced next generation web self-service power user / developer tool with built-in support to mobile devices (incl. Apple Devices - iPad, etc.) and all mobile devices that support HTML5) in WYSIWIG mode. This tool includes advanced URL opening with mobile device scan code/s (aka QR Code). This tool also supports direct connectivity to SAP BW BEx queries, SAP BW info providers and SAP HANA BI models (attribute / analytical / calculation views). Advanced SAP BI features such as currency conversion, timedependent hierarchies and master data are supported

2 - SAP BO-BI SP5: a) Enhanced support for RestFUL API and JSON to build and deploy state of the art web services BI4x applications. b) Enhanced SP4 BI workspace features to enable power users to arrange BI4 dashboards and reports by themselves. c) Enhanced upgrade management tool for smoother upgrades and default CMS database and more..

3 - SAP HANA JOB SCHEDULING:

Customers can now schedule SAP HANA jobs using the HDBC utility and more...

Rama Shankar
SAP CERTIFIED BI CONSULTANT

Rama Shankar is an SAP BW, SAP BOBJ (incl. BO Design Studio, BO Explorer & Visual Intelligence) and SAP HANA consultant with extensive experience with SAP ECC (incl. APO-SCM, Sales, Finance, FSCM, HR-WFM, Project Systems, SAP Retail, etc.) full lifecycle BI implementations. Rama has worked on several end-to-end implementations of SAP BOBJ for SAP BW (incl. v7.3), SAP HANA, MS BI and Oracle DB environments in the utilities, retail, pharma, state agencies and beverages industries.