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An Infosys company

5 Essential Tips to Avoiding the Pitfalls in SAP EHP7

SAP
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Integration with SAP NetWeaver

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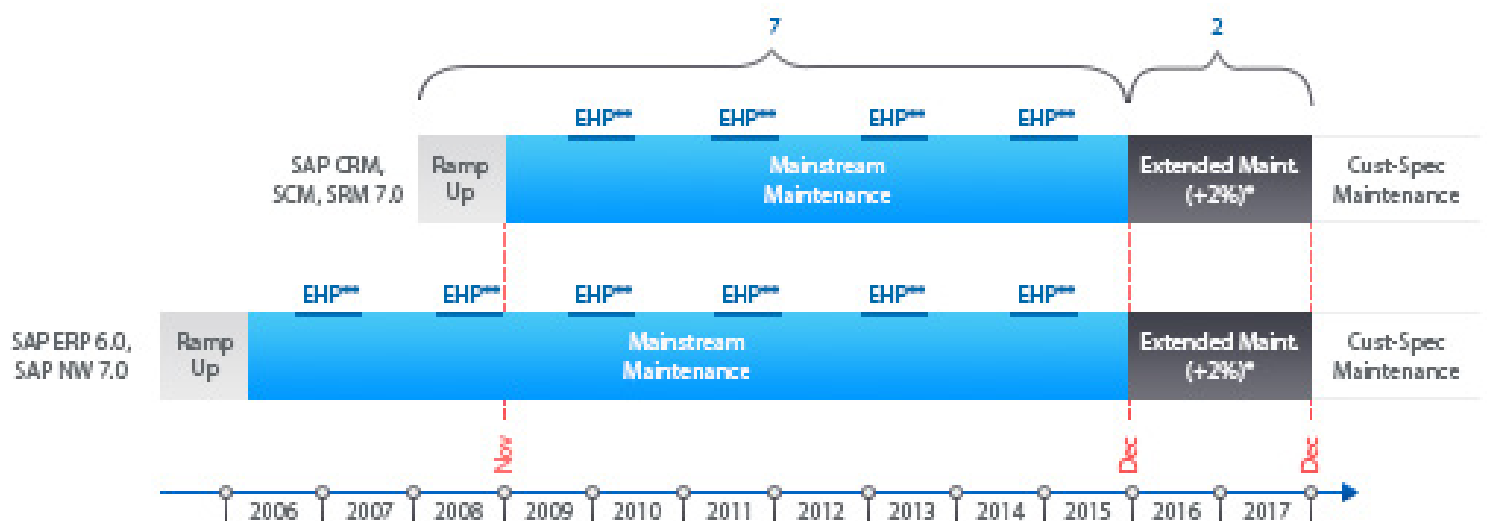
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The Urgency of the EHP7 Upgrade

Interestingly, enhancement packages have traditionally been driven by customers' maintenance strategy to stay current with SAP. These customers upgrade to the latest and greatest EHP and/or support pack stack on a regular basis - once every 9 to 18 months or so.

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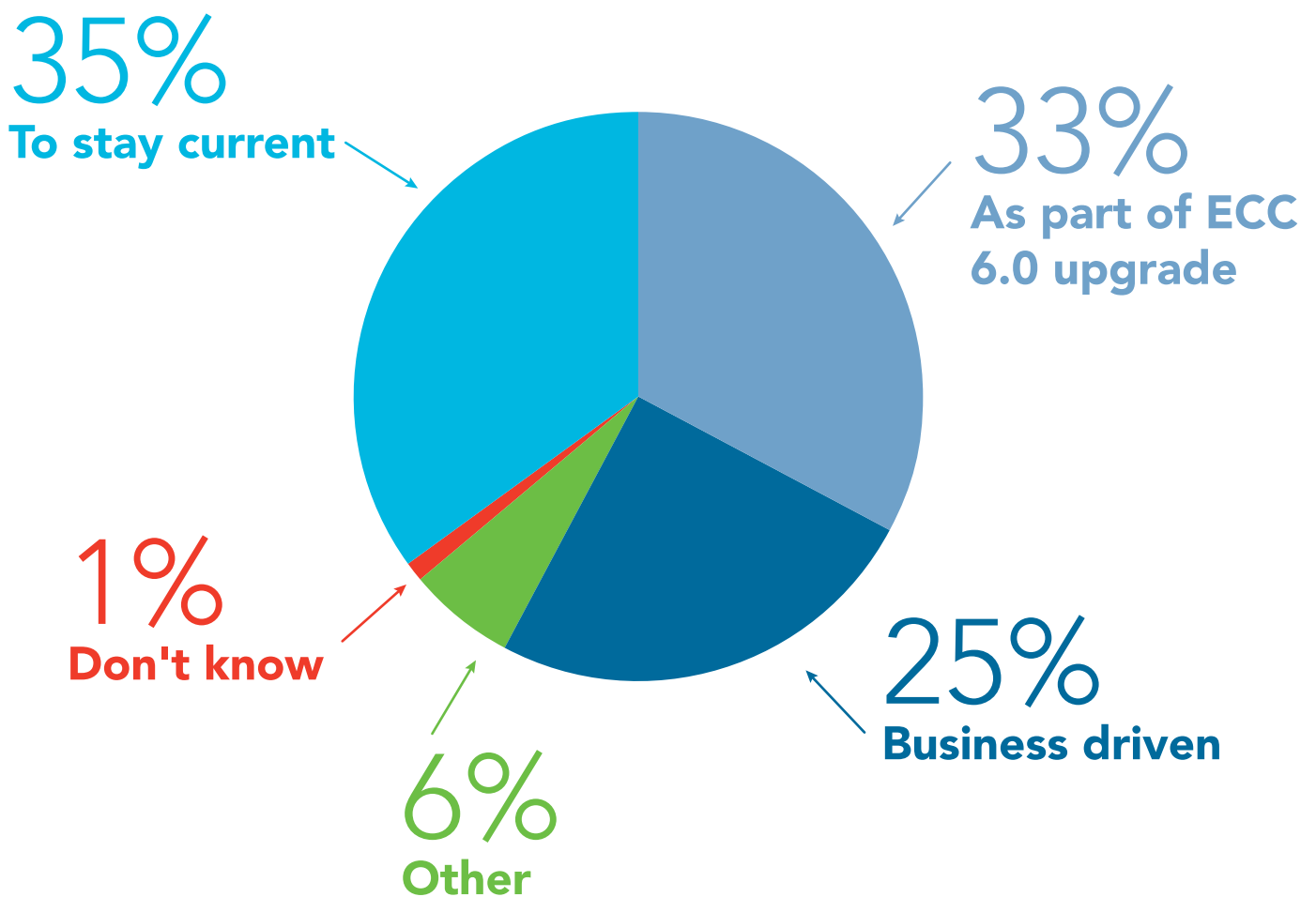# Turn your EHP7 upgrade into a game changer that empowers the business side

IT – What Are You Waiting For?

One in Four companies using SAP perform perform an EHP upgrade due to a business driver such as supporting new business functionality, rollouts, and regulations.

And this statistic is further supported when we take a look at the rate of adoption of EHP business functions.

Why upgrade to EHP7?

In numbers:

35%
To stay current

33%
As part of ECC 6.0 upgrade

1%
Don't know

25%
Business driven

6%
Other

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EHP Upgrades Are a Very Big Deal

EHP7 introduces 1 million new ABAP programs containing 70 million(!!) lines of new code – a 50% increase in new code! SAP also releases SUPPORT PACK STACKS on a regular basis. A SPS contains about 20,000 Notes. This means that if you are jumping a number of SPS's, that is tens of thousands of notes to introduce at the same time. And our experience shows that typically only 2-4% of these notes will be relevant to you, but that they will impact about 10-20% of your implementation.

EHP upgrades are major projects

They are costly, risky and disruptive in a negative way.

The million dollar question is -

which are these notes, and what impact will they have on your system?

Determining which of these changes will impact your system, and what the impact will be are two major challenges that you have to deal with.
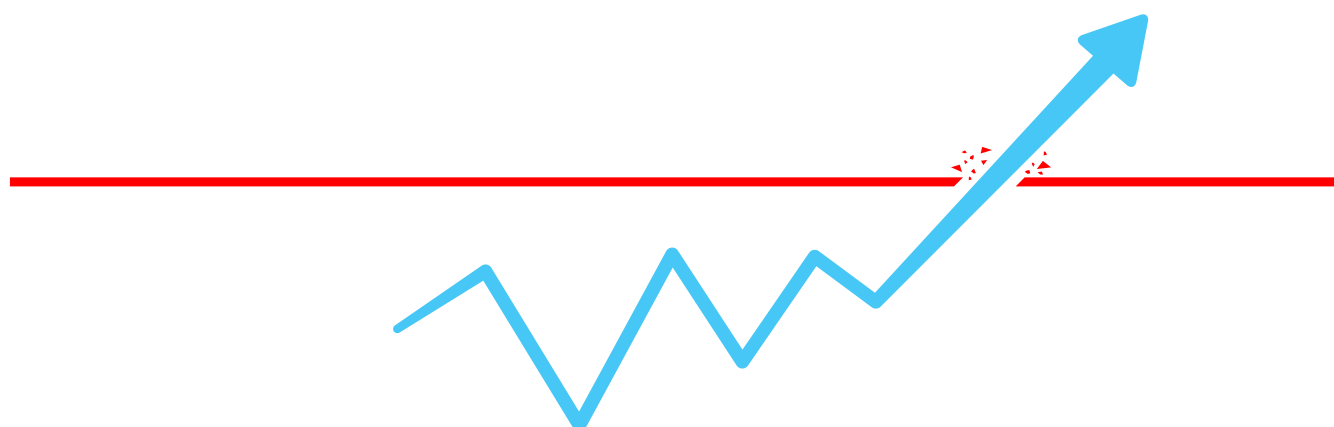
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EHP7 – What's in it For You?

750 business functions – about 650 accumulated from previous EHPs and 100 are new business functions

EHP7 is packed with serious new functions. This is what you get: 750 business functions – about 650 accumulated from previous EHPs and 100 or so new business functions covering financial accounting, logistics, HR, QM and HANA.

The top 3 new functions are:

- SAP Fiori productivity apps
- High-speed MRP
- Real-time access to ERP data

As you may know, EHP7 contains all the previously delivered enhancements as well as the new ones. This adds up to a grand total of more than 750 functions. Of these, approximately 100 are new in this EHP. EHP7 includes numerous new functions for financial accounting, logistics, human resources, and quality management, as well as cross-application functions and improvements for SAP Master Data Governance and manager self-service (MSS).

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EHP7

EHP7 is the first SAP enhancement package to be optimized for both the SAP HANA database

and

traditional certified databases.

EHP7 ## reduces the effort required for customers who subsequently migrate their SAP Business Suite to the SAP HANA in-memory platform.

EHP7 includes **many** functional enhancements, perhaps the most exciting of which are Fiori, high-speed MRP, and real-time access to ERP data.

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Fiori Improvements

EHP7 introduces a collection of 25 rolebased productivity apps in SAP Fiori, enabling end users to perform recurring daily tasks with greater speed and efficiency across devices – whether they're working on a desktop PC, smartphone, tablet, or notebook. These easy-to-use apps offer role-based processes that are personalized for specific user groups in the organization. This means that users can complete all their tasks simply and conveniently in a single user interface – no matter how many different SAP applications they work with.

HANA is Better Too

Another important innovation in SAP enhancement package 7 is the option to use SAP HANA Live to check on material availability and inventory days of supply in real time at explodedview level. There is also an option to perform adhoc simulations.

Leveraging these options makes it possible to speed up complex MRP runs and capacity planning dramatically, thereby gaining obvious business benefits.

ERP Data at the Speed of Light

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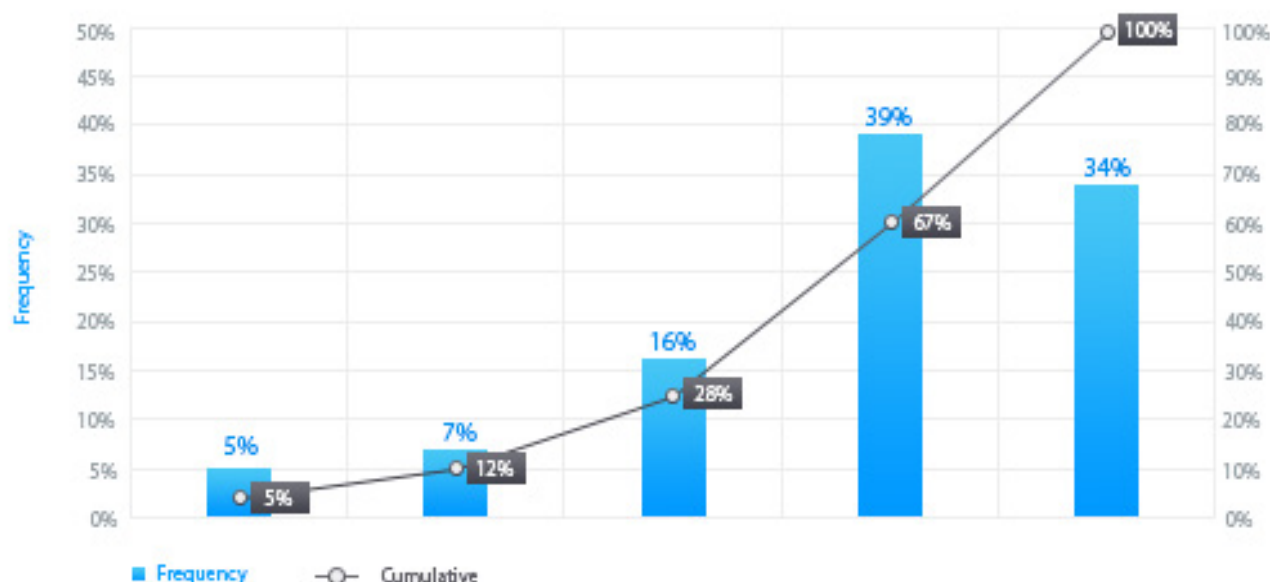
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EHP Impact on Your Satellite Systems

Approx 40% SAP shops have 20-50 systems interfacing to their ERP. Of these, less than 10 are SAP systems. 20%-30% of interfaces are impacted in an EHP upgrade (i.e. 5-15 on avg)

of Satellite Systems/Landscape

In this chart, you can see that close to 40% of SAP shops have between 20 and 50 systems interfacing to their ERP. Each of these systems has dozens of interfaces to the ERP system. This means hundreds of integration points! Of these systems less than 10 are SAP-based systems (such as Portal, CRM and SRM). And based on our experience of running over 2,000 EHP upgrades, you should expect 20-30% of them to break as a result of the technical EHP upgrade. Certainly a significant risk that must be carefully addressed.

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Don't Test Everything
Don't analyze what is not being used

Europe vs. US-based systems:

25% | more code corrections in Europe

15% | more cloned programs in Europe

40% | more functional tests in Europe

Based on Entire SAP ERP System Based on Used SAP ERP Transactions Only Code Corrections for 750 Programs Code Corrections for 400 Programs 280 Cloned Programs to Fix 130 Cloned Programs to Fix 1,500 Functional Tests 1,100 Functional Tests

When performing an EHP upgrade project, the average-sized SAP shop will need to perform the following activities. On the left hand-side you can see estimations based on analyzing the full code base of the ERP system and custom code. On the right hand side, the rules of thumb to use if you only factor in the used transactions in your ERP, which is a best practice to adopt.

If you're working on an SAP system in Europe, chances are you'll need to invest more time and resources in your EHP upgrade project than your American peers! This is because Europeans have customized their SAP ERP systems a lot more extensively than their American counterparts.

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The Top 5 EHP Pitfalls to Avoid

1 | **Little visibility into what will break prior to upgrade**
The first relates to gaining visibility into exactly what functionality will break ahead of the project. Don't assume that because this is a technical upgrade that your Standard transactions won't be impacted by the EHP upgrade. Remember that there are thousands of notes released, many of which alter the behavior of standard transactions.

2 | **Lack of consideration for impacted satellite systems**
Assess the impact of the upgrade on the interfaces to your SAP. Chances are that you have many dozens, if not hundreds of integration points to your ERP. Are you familiar with them all? Did you consider which may break?

3 | **Lack of business key user involvement & commitment**
Get your business key users involved. Especially in the test planning and test execution. Without cooperation and collaboration with the business, your project risks multiple!

4 | **Inadequate monitoring of test progress & coverage**
Ensure that you have the means to monitor the test progress and coverage at all times, across your IT testers and your business key users. So you can take quick action if bottlenecks arise or if you uncover risks in a specific area of the ERP.

5 | **Redundant (unused) custom code**
And lastly, keep only the custom code that you use. Redundant unused custom code inflates the efforts in unneeded code corrections, and introduces undue risks.

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Thank you

About Panaya | Panaya CloudQuality™ Suite disrupts the risk, time and costs required to deliver all types of SAP®, Oracle® EBS, and Salesforce changes. We are passionate about the need to make your ERP more agile and align it with your business. Powered by big data analytics and aggregating since 2008, Panaya CloudQuality™ Suite delivers insights that tell you what will break, how to fix it and what to test. It is constantly improving and finding smarter ways to perform everything from day-to-day maintenance to major projects. 1,220 companies in 62 countries, including a third of the Fortune 500, use the Panaya CloudQuality™ Suite to enhance and maintain their enterprise apps without skipping a beat.