SAP Business Suite
Important Information for SAP R/3 Customers

SAP® ERP 6.0 – THE PATH TO SAP BUSINESS SUITE 7

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO UPGRADE

UPGRADING TO SAP® ERP 6.0 – THE PATH TO SAP BUSINESS SUITE 7

The SAP® ERP 6.0 application (with enhancement package 4) is part of the SAP Business Suite 7 software. An upgrade to SAP ERP 6.0 is often the natural first step to create the foundation for leveraging the benefits of SAP Business Suite. In particular, your business can benefit from the concept of enhancement packages, the support for end-to-end business processes, and service-oriented architecture (SOA) enablement with enterprise services.

Business Benefits of Upgrading to SAP ERP 6.0

An upgrade to SAP ERP 6.0 provides stable and proven core functionality while supporting new business requirements, offering new and enhanced functionality and the flexibility of a service-oriented architecture. When you upgrade to SAP ERP 6.0, you benefit from continuous innovation with minimal disruption delivered through SAP enhancement packages. Upgrading also allows you to build on and leverage your existing investment, including the SAP skills, support for best practices, and expertise developed over the years.

Upgrade Paths and Upgrade Options

Current Situation

If you already run SAP ERP 6.0, you can always directly install the latest available SAP enhancement package for SAP ERP. This enables you to update specific processes instead of doing traditional upgrades, and it allows you to continue to increase your footprint in SAP Business Suite software.

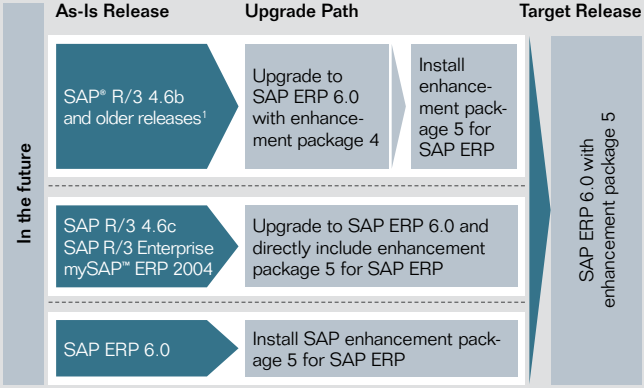
Customers running releases between SAP R/3® 4.0B software and the mySAP™ ERP 2004 application can directly upgrade to SAP ERP 6.0 and include the current available enhancement package 4 in the upgrade process.

In the Future

There will be no changes for customers already running SAP ERP 6.0 – also in the future they can directly install the latest available enhancement package. Also for customers running SAP R/3 4.6c, SAP R/3 Enterprise, or mySAP ERP 2004 software, the upgrade path will be unchanged. They can directly upgrade to SAP ERP 6.0 and include enhancement package 5* in the upgrade process.

Important Note

Customers running systems below SAP R/3 4.6c will face changed upgrade options with enhancement package 5* for SAP ERP. They will need to perform a two-step upgrade to SAP ERP 6.0 with enhancement package 5, because the upgrade can no longer be combined with the installation of the latest enhancement package. SAP recommends that these customers upgrade to SAP ERP 6.0 with enhancement package 4 now. Upgrading now means being able to do the one-step upgrade with minimized efforts and maximized benefits.



1. SAP R/3 4.5b and SAP R/3 4.0b

Figure: Upgrade Paths to SAP ERP 6.0 with Enhancement Package 5*

* The release to customer (ramp-up) for SAP enhancement package 5 for SAP ERP 6.0 is planned for December 2010. This reflects the current planning status. All planned availability dates are subject to change.

Identify Functional Enhancements and Business Benefits

The solution browser tool for SAP ERP can help you discover new functionality across different SAP ERP releases and SAP enhancement packages for SAP ERP. You can also use the tool to assess the value of upgrading by comparing functional enhancements between your existing SAP R/3 release and SAP ERP 6.0, including its enhancement packages. Access the solution browser tool at erp.fmpmedia.com.

SAP Enhancement Packages – Business-Driven Enhancements by Choice

With SAP enhancement packages for SAP ERP, customers can keep their core processes stable and still add new, innovative business processes and features to their software systems without having to run an upgrade.

Additionally, you get only the functionality your business needs; you can pick and choose which parts of an enhancement package you want to install and which parts of that new functionality you want to switch on. The installation and activation of new functionality are completely separate.

SAP enhancement packages are cumulative: when you implement an enhancement package, you get all the innovations delivered with the previous enhancement packages. For example, if you implement SAP enhancement package 5* for SAP ERP 6.0 you will also get and can activate all the innovations that were delivered with enhancement packages 1 through 4 for SAP ERP.

Recommendations

When upgrading to SAP ERP 6.0, you should always include the latest available SAP enhancement package in your upgrade project to minimize effort and maximize benefits. You should install SAP enhancement packages when applying a regular support package stack. This combined approach reduces the downtime and manual effort for the whole installation procedure and for the testing efforts.

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Contact Information and Resources: Upgrade Competency Centers

The upgrade competency centers in each region can assist with a quick start on an SAP ERP 6.0 upgrade and with any topic related to SAP Business Suite and SAP enhancement packages. They can:

- Assist with developing upgrade plans – from planning to building to going live
- Act as your single point of contact to identify resources (SAP and partners) and help streamline the sales cycle
- Provide support for upgrade best practices and strategies as well as access to key upgrade assets, collateral, and Webinars

Contact the upgrade competency center closest to you:

- Asia Pacific Japan: upgradeccapj@sap.com
- Europe, Middle East, and Africa: upgradecc@sap.com
- Latin America: upgradeccla@sap.com
- North America: upgradeccna@sap.com

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