SAP Solution Brief
SAP NetWeaver

SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management

Cut Costs and Improve Agility by Automating Common System Administration Tasks

Quick Facts

Summary

Most companies spend a great deal of time and effort configuring, deploying, monitoring, and managing SAP® systems and landscapes, which drives up costs and limits agility. But with SAP NetWeaver® Landscape Virtualization Management software, you can automate repetitive tasks and gain unprecedented visibility and control over SAP and non-SAP systems in both traditional and virtual infrastructures. As a result, you can boost efficiency and agility and lower operating costs.

Business Challenges

- Simplify management of SAP systems and landscapes (traditional and virtualized)
- Monitor application and infrastructure metrics and status in real time
- Support new business initiatives quickly and cost-effectively
- Reduce IT costs

Key Features

- **Automated system cloning, copying, and refreshing** – Streamline refreshes of existing systems; create new systems by cloning (same system ID) or copying (new system ID) a source system
- **Real-time visibility and monitoring** – Visualize, monitor, and manage SAP systems and infrastructure; create custom dashboards to visualize key performance indicators
- **Automatic capacity management** – Enable fully automatic or approval-based provisioning and deprovisioning of application servers based on service-level agreements
- **Task scheduling and mass operations** – Easily start and stop instances or systems; schedule one-time or repetitive execution of tasks

Business Benefits

- **Greater operational continuity** enabled by centralized management, visibility, and control of traditional and virtual infrastructures and applications via a single console
- **Reduced time, effort, and cost** to administer SAP systems via automation of repetitive, time-consuming tasks
- **Increased operational agility** by accelerating clone, copy, and refresh processes and responding automatically to workload fluctuations

For More Information

Contact your SAP representative, or visit us online at www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/virtualization.

The Best-Run Businesses Run SAP™

IT departments face constant pressure to go beyond their traditional role of simply managing IT systems. Your company relies on SAP® software to support critical processes that boost efficiency and differentiate your business. At the same time, you're expected to respond swiftly to support new initiatives – while controlling IT costs. The introduction of virtualization and cloud technologies has played a key role in achieving these goals – but there's still more that can be done.

For example, you still need to configure, deploy, monitor, and manage systems and landscapes in this new virtual and cloud infrastructure. You need to find ways to automate key tasks that are typically manual and time consuming and potentially error prone for many organizations. Achieving your goals isn't easy. Most companies have to rely on an excessive number of management tools to support this work – for example, to manage applications and the underlying infrastructure. This fragments and limits your view of what's happening with your applications and infrastructure, which leads to hidden inefficiencies and unexpected application downtime.

To effectively manage business-critical applications across complex, hybrid IT landscapes that blend traditional and virtual architectures, you need a single, unified view and a set of tools to monitor, manage, and control resources. For example, you need to see the real-time health, status, capacity, and performance of your applications, as well as their architecture and interdependencies, whether they are running on traditional or virtual servers. Before you start or stop applications or servers as part of your regular maintenance procedures, you need to know what other systems will be impacted. And you must plan accordingly to minimize business impact.

At the same time, to control IT costs and increase business agility, you need to lighten the workload of your staff by reducing the time and effort spent on setting up and operating your systems. Consider the resources spent on basic copy, clone, and refresh processes alone. Currently, you could be completing these repetitive processes manually, which can take days and even weeks. But does it have to be this way?

With SAP NetWeaver® Landscape Virtualization Management software, you can address these challenges by centrally configuring, deploying, monitoring, and managing your SAP systems and landscapes in both physical and virtual infrastructures. It's never been easier to reduce the time, effort, and cost of managing your SAP applications and the infrastructure they run on.

A SINGLE CONSOLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND SAP SOFTWARE

SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management software gives you full visibility into and control over SAP and non-SAP software running in both physical and virtual infrastructures. By automating and simplifying common administrative tasks, the software also helps reduce the time, effort, and cost of operating your SAP systems while improving IT agility. As a result, your IT department can be more responsive to new business needs and opportunities.

SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management complements the SAP Solution Manager application management solution by providing insight into infrastructures as well as the applications running in those infrastructures. The software works in conjunction with key infrastructure components – such as the virtualization layer, storage, operating system, and network – to deliver visibility and control of the managed applications and underlying infrastructure.

Clone, Copy, and Refresh

SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management reduces the manual effort and overall time to complete the processes of cloning, copying, and refreshing systems. Using automated workflow, you can:

- **Clone** – You can make an exact image of a source application, such as a storage-level clone or a virtual machine (VM) clone of the SAP ERP application. The software creates an exact image of the source application – including the system name and ID. This is useful when, for example, you need to test a business-critical production system to address a problem, but you can't shut it down without business impact.
- **Copy** – You can make a copy of an existing application and save it as a new system. The software enables you to make a clone of the source application and then change the system name and ID so that it operates as a new, stand-alone system.
- **Refresh** – Sometimes you need to refresh business data in a nonproduction system from the production application. With SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management, all of the critical information about the target

system (such as the system name and ID, user information, and connections) is exported, an automated system copy operation is performed by the software, and the exported system configuration information is restored. The target system is returned to the configuration as it was prior to the start of the refresh process – just with updated business data.

Centrally View and Monitor Applications and Infrastructure

Do you find that your IT department uses an excessive number of tools to monitor SAP applications, third-party applications, and IT infrastructure? Does this fragment visibility into application and server performance and other key performance indicators (KPIs)? To address these issues, SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management delivers centralized visualization and monitoring tools and dashboards, dependency analysis, and automated management reporting. Data about infrastructure and applications is collected in real time and then analyzed and published through a "single pane of glass" you can use to know exactly what's happening with both the managed systems and their associated infrastructure.

For example, the software provides a real-time, hierarchical, and graphical view of all your SAP systems and the architecture of the infrastructure they run on. At any time, you can drill into your IT landscape and see the resources and networks they are running on. Visualizations are always up-to-date, accurate, and instantly accessible. You can also see the dependencies between systems, so you know exactly what will be impacted if you start or stop a particular application.

In addition, prebuilt dashboards give you a visual summary status of all activities, services, systems, resources, diagnostic messages, and more. These Adobe Flash–based visualizations are dynamic, configurable, and asynchronous. The software comes with preconfigured "pods" that include monitoring functionality for different metrics. You simply select the pods you want for a custom view of metrics. You can move these pods in and out of dashboards with ease and select pods specific to a chosen entity – for example, an application or a component of an application (such as the database), a virtual machine, or a physical or virtual host.

The software goes beyond visualizations and dashboards by delivering end-to-end health and performance monitoring of all traditional and virtual infrastructures and applications. For example, you can see response times, CPU usage, and the number of users for each application. And it's all centralized for a single, integrated view of everything in your landscape – down to the lowest level of detail or component.

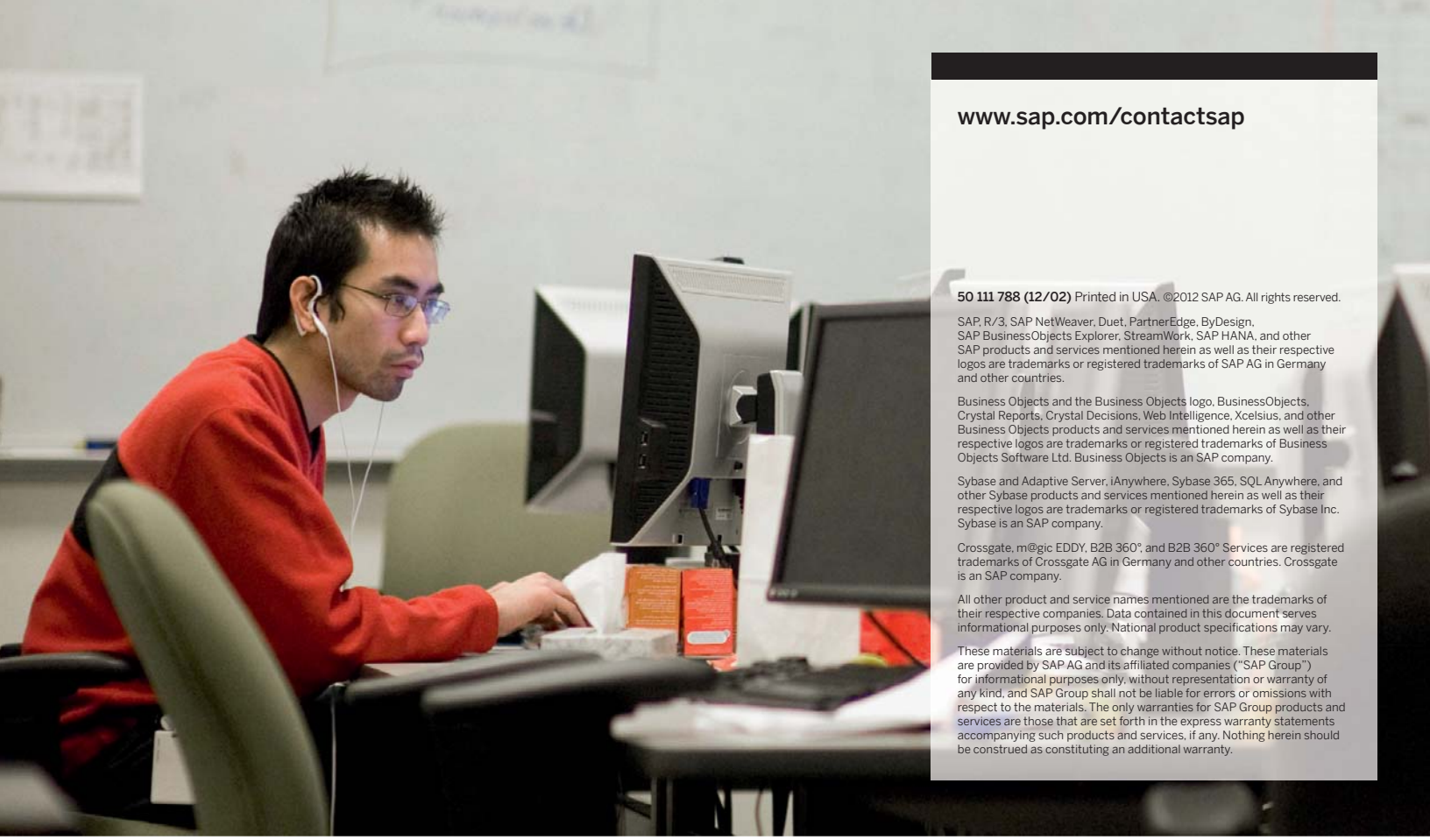
SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management supports classic management reporting. At any time, you can instantly see how many systems are managed, their peak load usage, and how many systems IT has copied or refreshed. The software includes eight predefined reports, each with filters that allow you to target the data that you want to see.

Automate Administrative Tasks

Is your IT department spending too much time on manual, repetitive administrative tasks required to manage your infrastructure and applications? SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management gives you a framework for automating a wide range of tasks required to monitor and manage your SAP applications.

For example, using automatic capacity management, you can specify application response times based on service-level agreements (SLAs), and the software will automatically add or remove application servers from systems as needed to help ensure you meet SLAs. With two modes of operation (automatic or approval based), you have complete control over how and when you respond to fluctuating demand for applications and databases. Automation reduces the risk of human error, speeds response times, and lowers infrastructure costs by eliminating costly overcapacity.

Use SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management to configure, deploy, monitor, and manage your SAP systems and landscapes, reducing the time, effort, and cost of managing your SAP applications and the infrastructure they run on.



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SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management also includes a task planner for scheduling tasks related to the operation and management of the SAP systems. For example, you can schedule system shutdown to occur at night without the need for human oversight. Moreover, the software proactively alerts you when dependencies between applications necessitate that you turn systems off in a particular order. The software's built-in intersystem dependency framework captures the dependencies between SAP applications, which helps minimize business and IT risk when performing system operations.

KEY BENEFITS

With SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management, you gain a single, unified view of your traditional and virtualized landscape – and the monitoring and management tools to keep everything running optimally and responsively for the business. You benefit from:

- Reduced time and effort to transition to virtual and cloud environments
- The ability to respond to and support new business needs
- Radically simplified management of SAP landscapes
- Reduced capital investment and operational costs for your SAP systems

LEARN MORE

To learn more about SAP NetWeaver Landscape Virtualization Management, contact your SAP representative or visit us online at www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/virtualization.