

5 Ways to Step Up Your SAP® Game with Control-M



As a leading enterprise resource planning (ERP) and business software solution for more than four decades, SAP continues to have a major presence in business sectors such as manufacturing, retail, financial services, human resources, consumer products, and energy. In that time, SAP's offerings have evolved as it acquires and integrates new products to meet the needs of its customers. However, the expansive capabilities for which SAP products are known can come with challenges for the businesses in which they operate.

Here's a look at five key operating challenges SAP administrators face and how Control-M and BMC Helix Control-M can help solve them by optimizing and modernizing common SAP processes and related application and data workflows.

5 SAP Operations Made Simple with Control-M



Enterprise visibility



Effective control and measurement



Efficient management



Performance and system availability



Compliance, security, and cloud modernization

Enterprise visibility

While SAP can be used to run multiple business functions, complexity grows quickly as more and more SAP systems are implemented and integrated with each other, with third-party technologies, and with mainframe applications. Unfortunately, these tools often don't provide the enterprise-scale visibility companies need to proactively monitor and manage the complex and highly integrated workflows that make up their critical business services. With no way to know job status, production systems can be halted, and processes can be slowed or lost completely, resulting in significant business risk and teams spending valuable hours assessing where the issue occurred and how to bring the services back online.

Control-M delivers 360-degree visibility, giving users the ability to know where a workflow is running, on which system, and in which department. It improves management of critical service level agreements (SLAs) while helping you resolve cross-application, cross-platform workflow challenges and proactively identify business-impacting issues before they occur.

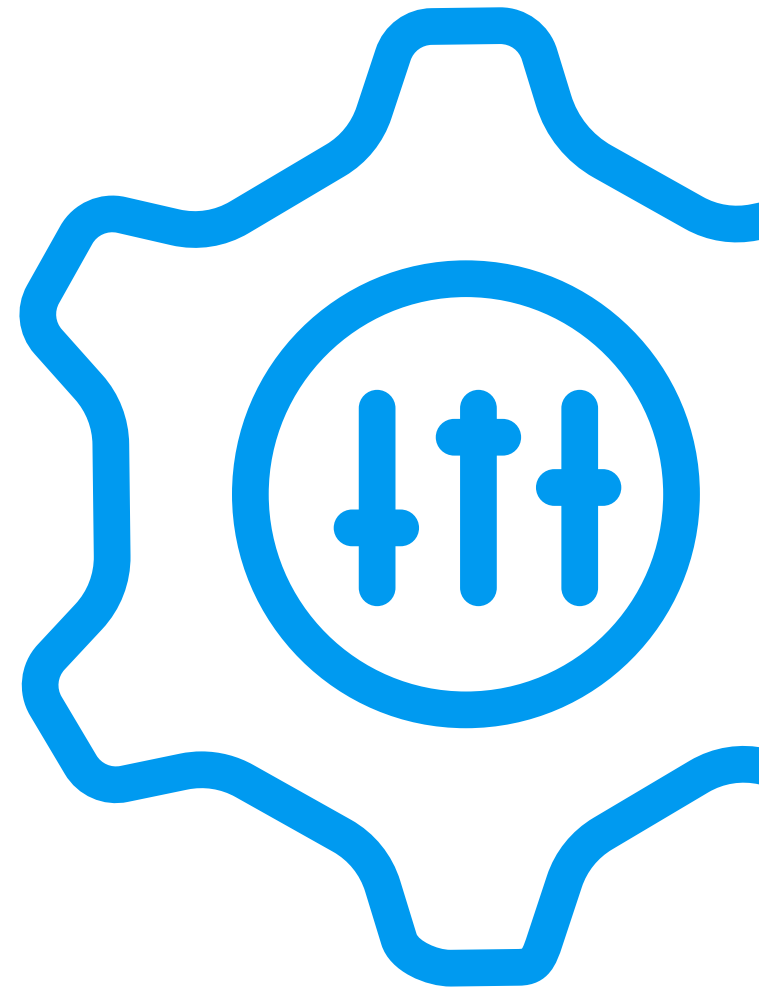


Effective control and measurement

Compounding the issue of visibility is the lack of effective operational controls, which can lead to failures or delays. Without a central framework to manage and control workflows, you can't stop, pause, or run them effectively.

System maintenance can also impact the workflows that underpin critical business services. SAP system upgrades and support pack enhancements are a fact of life, but they require a complete halt of every workflow running in that system. Without a central framework, it can be extremely difficult to ensure they are restarted.

Control-M provides a single point of control, allowing you to monitor, control, and schedule all your workflows from a single view. In addition, Control-M's dynamic workload management capabilities help you understand when to halt a workflow, and/or restart it from the point that it failed, which helps you keep your SAP environment running smoothly.



Efficient management

When an SAP workflow fails, there are no built-in alerts to inform stakeholders that there is a problem. While notifications can be implemented using custom ABAP® enhancements, the process is time-consuming. This lack of quick awareness can have ramifications across the business, including business upheaval and a flood of IT tickets for delayed or failed workflows.

Control-M provides more efficient management, control, and notification. When a failure or delay occurs, Control-M sends a notification so issues can be resolved quickly. In addition, Control-M supports automatic job restarts when needed. So, it's possible that before a failure occurs, the system could detect the issue, restart the workflow, and the failure could be avoided altogether before individuals are aware or any business services are impacted.





Performance and system availability

As SAP systems run more and more workflows, internal and external dependencies such as excessive heap memory utilization, bad code, ABAP dumps, SAP configuration, or clogged network traffic can cause system-wide issues. Business processes can be slowed, system performance can be degraded, and process and job SLAs can be missed due to lengthening completion times.

Control-M quickly and easily identifies workflows in a yellow hanging state. Process owners are notified immediately if batch dialog processes are consumed and there is no available backend process to run new jobs. Additionally, Control-M will suggest a path to resolution.

Compliance, security, and cloud modernization

The more SAP systems and workflows that a company runs, the more the complexity grows. It can quickly become difficult to keep track of who is responsible for what, whether they have the correct authorization, and whether the correct authorization is being implemented. An increase in hacking, malware, ransomware, and spyware that can compromise sensitive company, customer, and employee data and lead to compliance concerns and audits make security breaches one of the biggest threats companies face.

Control-M allows you to define roles and authorizations, ensuring that the right business users and administrators can execute the workflows specific to their role. It provides a robust framework to monitor workflows, maintaining security and compliance by producing easily accessible audit logs for reporting-on demand.



Learn more

Regardless of industry, if your business runs on SAP, then you understand its expansive capabilities—and its limitations. Overcome common SAP challenges with application and data workflow orchestration from Control-M. From end-to-end visibility and performance optimization to control and compliance, Control-M can help you deliver true business value.

Learn more about what Control-M can do to simplify running your SAP environment:



Control-M (self-hosted)



BMC Helix Control-M (SaaS)





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BMC—Run and Reinvent

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