

Executive Guide: Reimagining SAP Landscapes for the Cloud Era

A CFO, CIO & Procurement
Playbook for Modernization



Executive Summary

SAP landscapes are at a turning point. Investments in cloud systems and increasing business demands have influenced organizations to rethink their business processes. They have decided to change their previous IT infrastructure. Instead, cloud migration is now a matter discussed at top management owing to its relation to cost effectiveness and global competitiveness.

This guide prepares company executives on the future. Please find the main sections below;

- The cloud investment vs. on-premise SAP investments
- Trade-offs and the business approaches to Pathways Migration
- The savings that come with a lower infrastructure investment
- Focus dimensions for the CFO, CEO, and the Purchasing management
- Challenges in Large Industry and their Counter Adoptions

Deliverable: SAP investment strategy and shift in the transformation change are new approaches to improve operational strength, reduce risks, and drive strategic value to the organization.



The Business Case for SAP Cloud Migration

The Pressures on On-Premise SAP

- 1. Increasing Expenses** - Data centers, hardware refresh cycles, software licenses, and staff overhead all add meaningfully to TCO each year.
- 2. Limited Agility** - On-prem systems create constraints to develop and integrate modern applications or scale as needed.
- 3. Resilience Attachments** - Guaranteeing disaster recovery, compliance, and availability service level agreements (SLAs) is more difficult when compared to cloud-native infrastructure.

Leadership Perspectives

- CFOs appreciate predictability of OpEx, a payback period of less than twelve months, and defended ROI. CIOs desire flexibility, scalability, future-proof capability for innovation.
- Procurement Leaders look for flexibility in contract terms and negotiation power.

Insight: According to Gartner, 80% of enterprises cite cost optimization as the #1 driver for SAP cloud migration.



Migration Pathways: Choosing the Right Road

Not all journeys to the cloud look the same. Enterprises can choose from three primary pathways:

Approach	Benefits	Risks / Considerations	Best Fit For
Lift & Shift	Fast execution, minimal disruption	Modest savings, legacy inefficiencies carried forward	Time-sensitive, cost-conscious firms
Refactor / Selective Modernization	Optimized ROI, better integration with modern apps	Requires phased planning, some process redesign	Balanced cost-agility objectives
RISE with SAP	Vendor-led, holistic modernization with long-term benefits	Vendor lock-in risk, complex transition planning	Enterprises seeking clean-core transformation



Quantifying the ROI Beyond IT Savings

Many cloud initiatives fall short of C-suite buy-in because ROI solely focuses on **“infra cost reduction.”** A more realistic approach would account for three dimensions:

1. Infrastructure Savings

- Reduced data center footprint
- No more expensive hardware refresh cycles
- Lower maintenance and licensing costs

2. Operational Efficiency

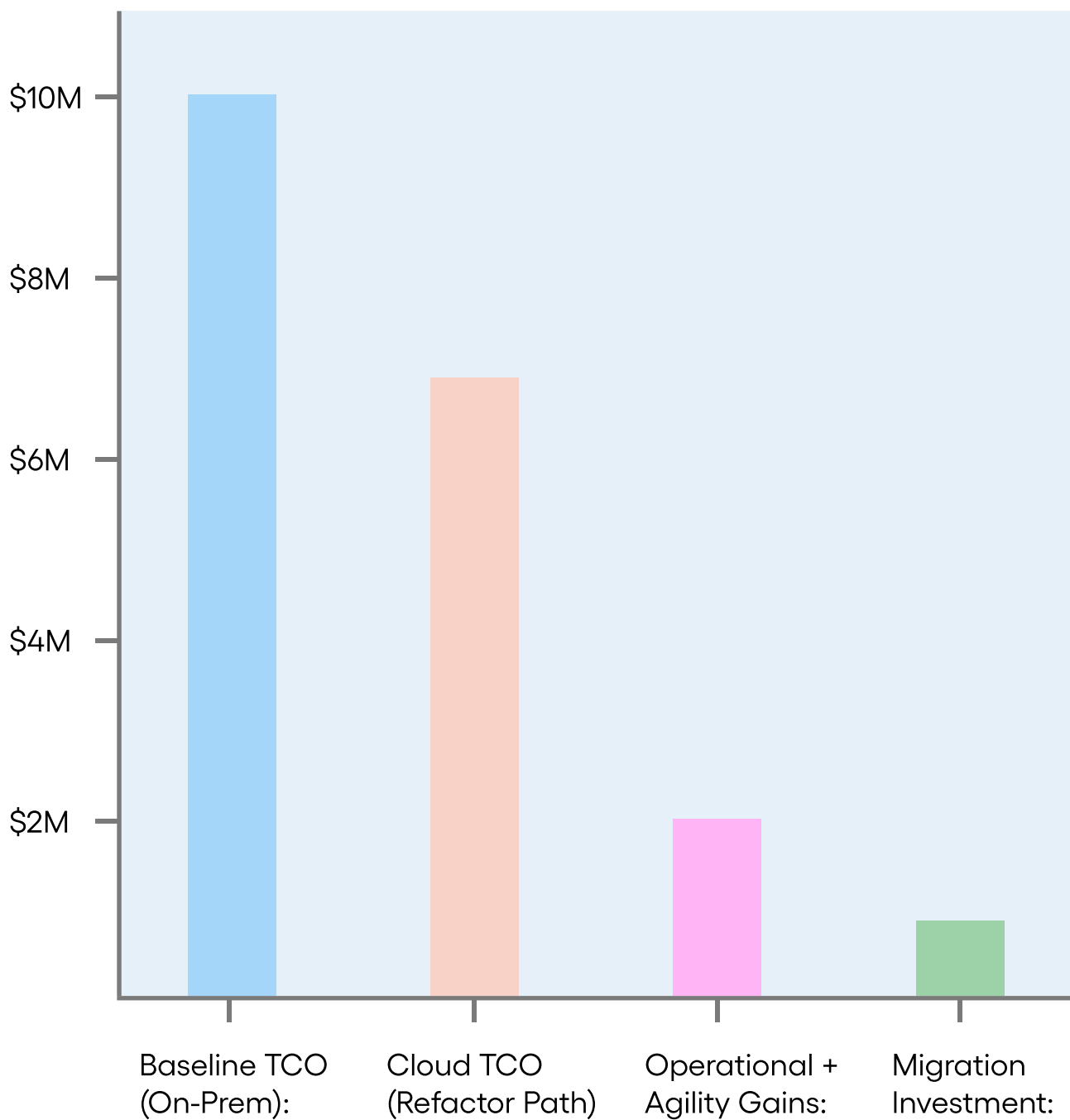
- Smaller IT staff costs
- Faster provisioning and upgrades
- Better monitoring and security

3. Business Agility

- Faster innovation cycles
- Faster M&A integrations
- Less downtime → better customer experience



ROI Model Example



$$\text{ROI \%} = ((10 - 7) + 2) \div 1 \times 100 = 500\%$$



Frequently Faced Challenges & Remediation Options

1. Cost Visibility

- **Challenge:** Infrastructure + licensing costs are often hidden
- **Remediation:** ROI projection tools and transparent baselining

2. Change Management

- **Challenge:** Reskilling IT teams and mindset changes
- **Remediation:** Structured training and phased adoption processes

3. Vendor Complexity

- **Challenge:** Should we go with AWS, Azure, GCP or RISE with SAP?
- **Remediation:** Procurement-led evaluation frameworks with exit options

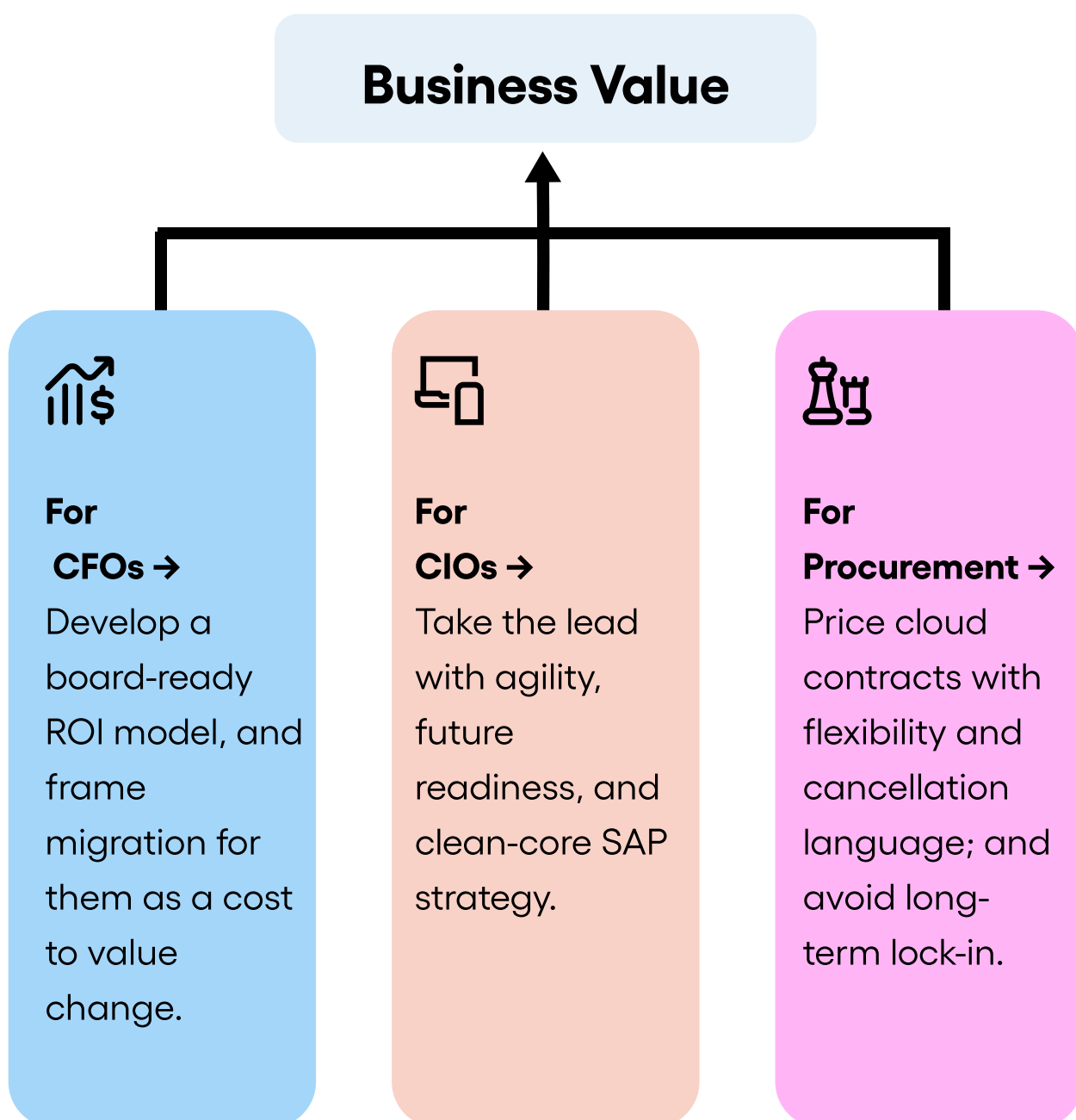
4. Governance & Compliance

- **Challenge:** Data residency, regulatory exposure, security in cloud
- **Remediation:** Cloud-native controls, automated monitoring, audits



Leadership Playbook: CFO, CIO & Procurement Alignment

Cloud migration is successful when it is a shared leadership expectation.





2027 and Beyond: A Strategic Deadline

- ECC support stops December 31, 2027 → that is a definitive deadline and decision point.
- But a compliance milestone is not exclusively about compliance. It's a reset moment for IT as a value creator.
- Organizations who delay will have the higher cost, lose talent, and be forced to change too quickly.
- Organizations that do plan ahead can leverage the deadline to their advantage.

From Insight to Action: A Practical Next Step

The debate is no longer whether enterprises should migrate, but how and when.

An organized assessment can provide:

- A current SAP TCO snapshot
- Modeled migration scenarios (Lift & Shift, Refactor, RISE)
- An ROI report ready for the board.



About CCS Technologies

For over four decades, CCS Technologies has helped enterprises modernize IT landscapes, optimize SAP systems, and navigate cloud transformations with confidence.

- **Expertise:** SAP, Cloud, Application Modernization
- **Partnerships:** AWS, Azure, SAP ecosystems
- **Approach:** Business-first, outcome-driven

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2027: A Deadline or a Strategic Reset?

The choice is not only about where SAP runs—but about how enterprises will define **resilience, cost efficiency, and growth** for the next decade.