



Mastering SAP Clean Core Strategy A Guide to Modernizing your Integration Landscape

Unlock agility, reduce TCO, and future-proof your SAP environment. Your journey to a clean core starts here.

Introduction - The Modernization Imperative

The race to digital leadership is accelerating. As SAP shifts its core systems and pushes for cloud adoption, maintaining a "clean core" is no longer optional, it's essential for success and growth.

This strategy involves keeping your SAP S/4HANA system as close to standard as possible, moving customizations and extensions to the Business Technology Platform (BTP).

The result? A more agile, scalable, and future-ready enterprise.

What is the SAP Clean Core Strategy?

The SAP Clean Core strategy is a modern approach to managing your ERP system. It focuses on keeping the digital core of your SAP S/4HANA system as close to the standard version as possible, with minimal or no modifications.

Core Principles:

- Minimize Customizations: Avoid custom code within the core ERP system.
- Leverage Standard Capabilities: Maximize the use of built-in SAP functionalities.
- Extend, Don't Modify: Build extensions and new features side-by-side on the SAP Business Technology Platform (BTP).
- Stay Future-Ready: Simplify upgrades, reduce costs, and accelerate cloud adoption.

This approach ensures your system remains agile, scalable, and aligned with SAP's innovation roadmap.

Why Is a Clean Core Essential?

Adopting a Clean Core strategy is crucial for unlocking the full potential of your SAP investment. By keeping your digital core standard, you gain significant competitive advantages.

The Key Benefits:

- Faster Innovation: Simplify upgrades and adopt new SAP features quickly without the burden of complex, custom code.
- Lower Total Cost of Ownership (TCO): Reduce maintenance costs, minimize technical debt, and free up resources for value-added activities.
- Improved Performance & Agility: Enhance system stability and performance, allowing your business to adapt rapidly to changing market demands.
- Future-Proof Your Landscape: Align with SAP's long-term roadmap and ensure your system is ready for future innovations, including AI and event-driven architectures.

The Engine of Extensibility: SAP BTP

SAP Business Technology Platform (BTP) is the key to achieving a Clean Core. Instead of customizing your core ERP, you build extensions and innovations on BTP, keeping your S/4HANA system clean and stable.

BTP Enables Clean Core Through:

- Side-by-Side Extensibility: Build custom applications and processes outside the core system using APIs and event-driven architectures, ensuring they don't interfere with upgrades.
- Seamless Integration: Connect SAP and non-SAP applications with pre-built content and adapters, to create a unified landscape.
- Low-Code/No-Code Tools: Empower business users to create apps and automate processes with intuitive tools, accelerating development and reducing reliance on IT.
- Event-Driven Architecture (EDA): Decouple applications and enable real-time data flow across your enterprise, creating a more responsive and agile business.

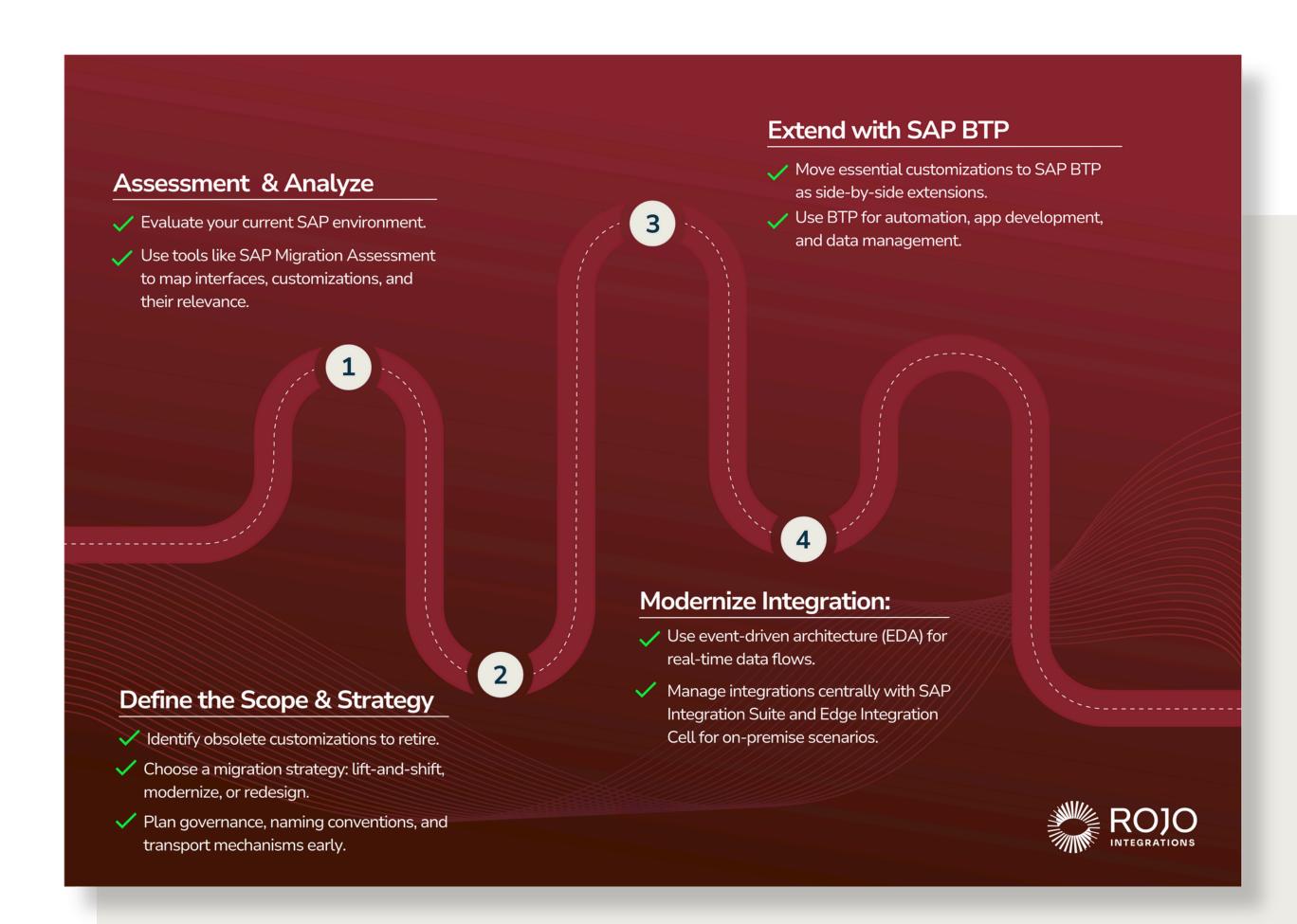
Your Roadmap to a Clean Core

Implementing a Clean Core strategy is a structured journey, not a single event.

Follow these key steps to modernize your SAP landscape effectively.

Take Action

Rojo Integrations helps you implementing a clean core strategy



Navigating Clean Core Challenges

Transitioning to a Clean Core comes with challenges, but with the right strategy, they're manageable. Understanding these hurdles is the first step to overcoming them.



Challenge: Technical Complexity & Migration Risk

• Legacy systems with heavy customizations make migration tricky. Moving from SAP PO to Integration Suite requires careful planning for interfaces, mappings, and redesigns.

Solution: Use automated assessment tools and expert guidance. A phased approach, starting with simpler scenarios and tackling complex ones systematically, reduces risk.



Challenge: Resistance to Change & Lack of Governance

• Teams accustomed to old practices can cause inconsistent implementations and technical debt.

Solution: Set clear development guidelines, naming conventions, and a governance framework early to ensure consistency and quality across teams.



Challenge: Managing On-Premise & Hybrid Scenarios

• Some data must stay on-premise due to compliance, security, or latency needs.

Solution: Use a hybrid integration strategy with tools like SAP's Edge Integration Cell. This enables on-premise integrations with centralized cloud management for seamless control.

Business Case: Clean Core in Action

Keeping your SAP core clean unlocks true agility and reduces friction for ongoing business change. The following example illustrates how shifting workflows, like sales order approvals, outside the S/4HANA core using SAP BTP can deliver immediate, tangible benefits.

Use Case Example: Agile Sales Order Approvals with SAP Clean Core

- By running event-driven approval workflows on SAP BTP, businesses accelerate approvals without customizing their S/4HANA core.
- Process steps and approvers can adapt quickly to shifting business requirements. making upgrades and future changes smoother.
- Demonstrated during our webinars, this approach showcases how rapid innovation and system integrity can go hand in hand.

The result?

- Increased agility
- Streamlined upgrades
- System integrity preserved

Facing SAP Integration Challenges?

Are you struggling with complex processes, slow approvals, or costly upgrades due to custom code in your SAP core? A Clean Core modernizes workflows outside SAP, simplifies future updates, and ensures system resilience.

Ready to transform your SAP landscape? Get in touch with our Rojo Integration Experts to start your Clean Core journey today.

Dive Deeper into SAP Clean Core

Continue your learning journey with our expert-led resources. Explore practical insights, interactive demonstrations, and strategic perspectives from our team and partners.

On-demand Webinar in partnership with SUSE

Accelerate Your SAP Clean Core Journey with Hybrid Integration:

Watch this exclusive session by Rojo Integrations and SUSE to learn how to adopt clean core principles, without sacrificing flexibility or security.

View the webinar



On-demand Webinar in partnership with Solace

Modernizing SAP Landscapes with Clean Core & EDA:

View our webinar with Solace to explore how Clean Core and Event-Driven Architecture are shaping cloud-ready, agile SAP modernization strategies.

View the webinar



SAP PO to CI Migration: A Smarter Path Forward

Read our article about PO to CI migration to see how Rojo's automation accelerates migration, minimizes risk, and ensures a secure move to SAP Cloud Integration.

Click to read the full blogpost



Start Your Clean Core Journey Today

Ready to transform your SAP landscape? Don't navigate the complexities of modernization alone.

Our Rojo experts are here to help you build a robust, agile, and future-proof enterprise with a Clean Core strategy tailored to your business.

From assessment and governance to implementation and support, we are your trusted partner every step of the way.



Schedule a free discovery call with our SAP integration experts and explore how Rojo can help modernize your current architecture.

Book your discovery call!

