SAP HANA Native Data Warehouse – an alternative to other modern BWSes?

What is the SAP HANA Native DWH?

The SAP HANA Native Data Warehouse (referred to as SAP HANA Native DWH below) is an attractive solution, one that stands out among other alternatives such as the widely used SAP BW on HANA or the new SAP BW/4HANA. It's based on the idea of using existing tools from the HANA platform to build a data warehouse. Since all editors and tools generate SQL code, communication is done only in SQL. That's why people sometimes talk about a HANA SQL DWH. In the era of Big Data and NoSQL, it represents a more traditional data warehousing approach.

For whom is the SQL-based approach suitable?

Because development is based on tools from the HANA platform and the SQL database language, this solution is aimed primarily at companies whose IT department has expertise in this area.

Smaller companies can also benefit from it, because up to a defined volume limit when setting up an SAP HANA Express Edition, there are no additional license costs for construction of the DWH.

SAP HANA tools

There are various tools for building the data warehouse: **SAP HANA SDA** and **SDI** tools can be used to integrate data into the DWH. SDA offers various connectors and allows the use of virtual tables, while SDI enables data integration and transformation.

The integrated application server **SAP XSA** provides the structural prerequisites for other tool functions and is an important component of the SAP HANA system in addition to the SAP HANA database.

The browser-based development environment SAP Web IDE is a central tool for developing artifacts and applications. Applications can be developed with drag and drop or SQL. Elements relevant to developers and admins are provided via the **SAP HANA Database Explorer**, while the administration tool is still the **SAP HANA Cockpit**.

Benefits of the SAP HANA Native

Structural flexibility

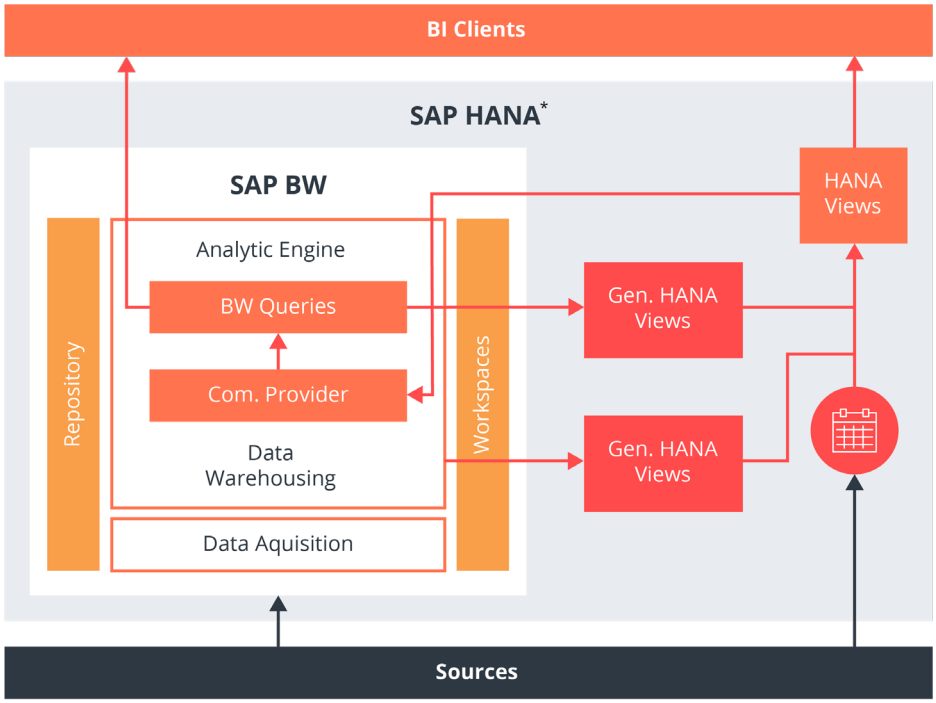
Open system

Very high performance thanks to in-memory technology

Full cloud support

Version management with Git

Mixed scenario between HANA Native views and BW queries



*Required: HANA Full Use License

Features

Data management: Almost every data source can be addressed via SAP HANA SDA and SDI. The data in the source systems can then be accessed from SAP HANA via virtual tables.

Advanced analytics: Simple data evaluations can be started via the SAP Web IDE using the integrated Analytics Engine. In addition to text and geodata analyses, predictive analytics are also possible. Application development:
Based on the predefined structure of the SAP XSA, it's easy to build your own applications via the SAP Web IDE or to adapt them to users' needs.

Cloud and on-premise approaches: Operation is possible both on-premise and in the cloud. This provides complete flexibility in development, as new extensions can be developed on-premise or in the cloud and then moved.

Benefits of SAP HANA Native DWH

The most important benefit is the great flexibility of the system. You only develop what you really need, and you design the system according to your ideas. SAP HANA helps you with its open system, high performance, and structural flexibility.

Companies with many different cloud and on-premise systems in particular can benefit from this data warehouse approach.

The hybrid approach, in which features from both BW/4HANA and native HANA modeling can be used and combined, offers other possibilities. The diagram above provides an overview of the scenarios for this hybrid modeling.

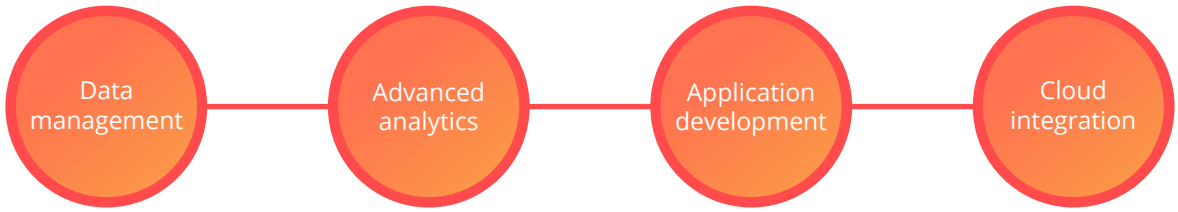
Conclusion

The SAP HANA Native DWH is an agile solution for companies that already have SQL development expertise and want to take advantage of the benefits of the HANA platform. For example, because up to a defined volume limit with SAP HANA Express there are no additional costs to set up the data warehouse, it is also suitable for small businesses looking for a way into the world of DWHs.

What we can offer you

We are experts in SQL-based application development. From supposedly simple queries to the complex construction of applications. We coach, consult on SQL DWH projects, and assist you, from your first contact to the start-up of your new system. We will be glad to answer all of your questions and advise you on your start with SAP HANA Native DWH.

Features of SAP HANA Native DWH



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