

Message from 4most

Welcome to the **March 2019** Newsletter.

In this month's newsletter we focus on **digital transformation**. This begs the question; what is digital transformation?

According to SAP, "Digital transformation is a fundamental rethinking of customer experience, business models, and operations. It's about finding new ways to deliver value, generate revenue, and improve efficiency – and companies are using innovative technologies to do it."

The Forbes Magazine article; Digitization, Digitalization, And Digital Transformation: Confuse Them At Your Peril by Jason Bloomberg; further explores the term digital transformation by adding digitization and digitalization to the discussion.

And if we apply Bloomberg's explanation of these terms to **SAP Business One**, it becomes apparent that the solution encompasses all three.

On a daily basis, when engaging with decision- makers of various companies, we encounter the perception that SAP is **only** for larger enterprises. In fact, of SAP's 300 000 customers, over 250 000 of these are small and midsize enterprises.

4most has been on a drive to overturn this misconception and as many of you are aware SAP has a powerful ERP designed specifically for small to medium enterprises - SAP Business One. And as decision- makers within these companies begin to embrace digitization, digitalization and digital transformation, SAP Business One becomes the solution of choice to meet their needs.

What's in store for you in this month's newsletter:

1. Digitization, Digitalization, And Digital Transformation: Confuse Them At Your Peril.
2. New Study: Finance Is Set To Gain Digital Transformation Momentum.
3. How Are Industrial Manufacturers Looking At Digitalization?
4. Why Growing Companies View Cutting-Edge Technologies As Necessity And Enabler.
5. To Infinity and Beyond With SAP.
6. 4most's Client Care Centre, Custom Development and Hosting.

Digitization, Digitalization, And Digital Transformation: Confuse Them At Your Peril

As the hype around digital transformation continues to persist, the terms 'digitization' and 'digitalization' join the fray, increasing the level of hype while adding confusion.

In reality, these three terms have distinct meanings – or at least, we can make them distinct depending on which authority we're listening to.

By Jason Bloomberg. Courtesy of Forbes Magazine.

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New Study: Finance Is Set To Gain Digital Transformation Momentum



"Finance organizations have been slower to show progress in digital transformation and realize its benefits compared to digital top performers across business services functions. That may sound bleak, but we have every indication that finance is gathering momentum. It's poised to bolster its execution gap and more quickly develop a holistic strategy that is aligned with the enterprise's overall digital transformation vision. Our research reveals substantial projected increases in the adoption rate of smart technologies like robotic process automation, cognitive computing, and next-generation enterprise resource planning solutions. Finance can catch up. And it must.

By Nilly Essaides. Courtesy of SAP Digitalist Magazine.

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How Are Industrial Manufacturers Looking At Digitalization?

Digitalization is an ongoing journey. As innovative technologies become more mainstream, the pace of innovation and transformation continues to increase. This is a journey that all companies are embracing in one way or another.

Take it from Georg Kube, global vice president of Industrial Machinery and Components (IM&C) at SAP:

“Companies are looking for new ways to deliver value to their customers using digital channels and creating personalized, digitally enabled products across all sectors, from consumer products to heavy equipment and machinery.”

This is fundamental for industrial machinery and components companies, as they need to not only innovate their business processes but also provide intelligent machines and equipment to help their customers innovate their businesses.

By Judy Cubiss. Courtesy of SAP Digitalist Magazine.



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Why Growing Companies View Cutting-Edge Technologies As Necessity And Enabler



Within the next two years, artificial intelligence (AI) will touch every business process, every employee, and every customer in some way. Without a doubt, this new reality will make our world easier and faster through process automation. But more transformational is the opportunity to elevate our ability to make decisions, deliver outcomes, and complete tasks in a more human way.

By Stefanie Hager. Courtesy of SAP Digitalist Magazine.

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To Infinity and Beyond With SAP

Now here we are on the threshold of another epoch in space travel – the journey to Mars. After a period of disinvestment by national aerospace programs, partly due to some serious setbacks like the Challenger disaster, private agencies suddenly cropped up and unleashed a downright race to Mars. And they might be just in time, as the threat of our world’s resources being exhausted leaves us in dire need of alternatives and efficient ways of utilizing what is left. Doing research on Mars and exploring new technologies in this context might give humankind a new lease on life.

What might sound a bit overdramatic to most is actually already evidence for many scientists, like Adriana Marais, who is head of Innovations at SAP South Africa, holds a PhD in Theoretical Physics and deals with such lighthearted topics as quantum cryptography and quantum biology. Her mission is no less than to change the world by treading new scientific ground, which is why she applied for Mars One.

By Carmen Peter. Courtesy of SAP News.



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Custom Development

4most offers a wide range of Custom Development Services. We aim to optimally tailor and increase the business value of your SAP ERP solution. We are able to achieve this by using the latest software development platforms and tools, complemented by standardised project management techniques and software engineering practices. We have outstanding experience in custom database development, desktop and distributed application design, system integration and business automation tools as well as various custom software components and web-project programming.

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Hosting with 4most

We offer the option of hosting your SAP Business One Solution in our Data Centre. This means that essentially your software solution would be hosted off premise and accessed through a public or private internet connection. In addition, we right size the infrastructure for the real business requirements, while aligning with existing data centre standards in terms of infrastructure, tools, operational processes and existing skillsets. It's all about achieving a standardisation of IT principles.

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4most Systems provides world-class, individually tailored and innovative business solutions for small, medium and large enterprises across industries and sectors. Established as an SAP Partner in 2004, we deliver ERP solutions utilising SAP Business One at the core. With offices in South Africa, Botswana and Namibia as well as a growing economic footprint in the DRC, Kenya, Zambia, Malawi and Tanzania, the company has a strong base, being the first and only partner to establish all-round SAP competency, offering over 30 years of experience and skills.

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