

Deliver business agility and reduced time to market with Continuous Delivery for **SAP**

Background

Today's business landscape is as complex as ever. Customers demand better services and products through a myriad of distribution channels, such as social media, web, mobile, and IoT. The dependency on IT organizations to deliver faster and with better quality is crucial to satisfy such a high pace of business innovation. Innovation is no longer optional as those businesses that are unable to innovate are quickly surpassed by their more agile competitors.

SAP systems support many of the world's largest organisations and therefore any time spent to maintain and build these systems directly impacts their businesses.

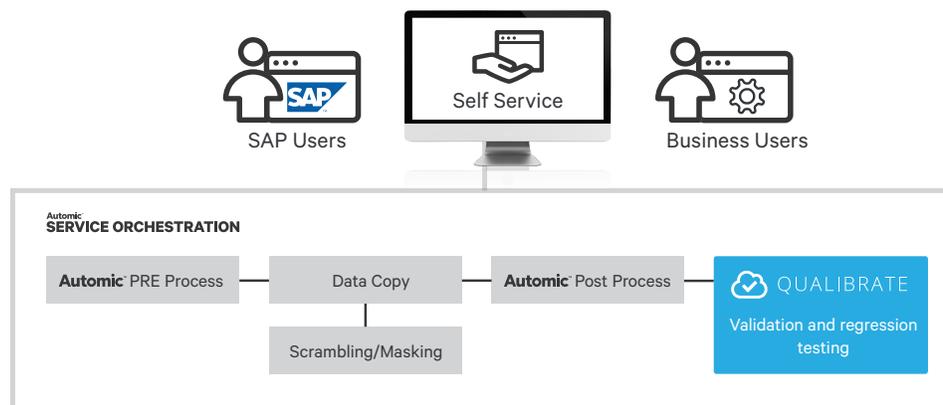
Customer Challenges

SAP implementations run the core business process, if not ALL of the core business processes, which means any downtime or disruption can have far-reaching repercussions. If the right quality measures are not implemented during the change process, this can result in severe impact on ongoing business operations. Keeping systems and applications fully running, validated and up-to-date is paramount to avoid unexpected cost overruns, and in some cases high legal and compliance penalties.

The challenges companies face around having refreshed, up-to-date data in SAP systems are also quite huge. Over time, customer data increases in size exponentially, leaving behind the technology created to maintain it. Now more than ever, customers need to have valid data that can be copied quickly and effectively across a variety of platforms. They need to provide instant sand-boxes to let developers create and test new and innovative software and applications. Many companies face a backlog of development as developers fight for limited test resources. The cost of setting up databases for testing is prohibitive and time consuming. The time and effort it takes to perform a regression test is also expensive. On top of that, data compliance is not just a hot topic but also a legal one. Customers demand to be able to immediately mask or scramble critical and confidential data to ensure all privacy laws are being met.

The Solution

We bring together the environment build and refresh automation of Automic and the quality assurance and business enablement of Qualibrate. The solution we provide to our customers is an entire SAP system landscape copy initiated by one-click, via a fully customisable and secure web-based self-service portal. This allows even the non-technical user the ability to refresh and build sap system landscapes on demand.



SAP® Certified
Integration with SAP Applications

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Automic's application then orchestrates the solution for the SAP Landscape or single path copy end-to-end (from pre-processing through the final trigger of Qualibrate's automated regression test suite). Automic delivers automated "pre" and "post processing" task templates for the SAP landscape copy. These templates are repeatable, making implementation of the automated process efficient but also meaning the solution is highly scalable. Automic orchestrates the pre-processing; on successful completion, the orchestration engine will automatically (and with no latency) execute the data copy process. By utilizing our modern technology customers can cut data copy times down significantly. Once the data has been successfully copied the Automic application then executes its scrambling or masking process. This process is fully configurable for any SAP system and intelligently ensures data consistency.

Once the scrambling has been successfully completed the Automic application then executes the post process tasks for the SAP system copy. These include automatically running the BDLS report and updating the refreshed system with the correct System ID. When this step is completed we now have our refreshed copy.

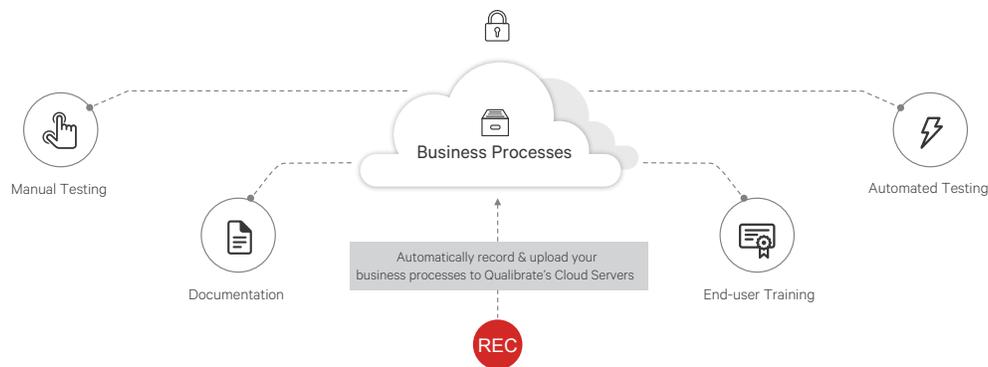
- Single view monitoring and live dashboard of the SAP Landscape System copy.
- Automated Scrambling and Masking for SAP system copy and matched scrambling/ dynamic masking for SAP Landscape refresh.
- Secure access to System Copy – inbuilt approval process or use a service hub like ServiceNow.
- Significant time reduction – often from weeks to hours!

Before users can start using the new system, a full or core regression test needs to be performed. At present this is done manually and can take several days or weeks and puts a burden on the business or project resources. As part of the end-to-end system copy process, Automic partners with Qualibrate to offer customers an opportunity to Automate the regression testing step as well.

Qualibrate delivers a platform that embraces the new continuous delivery approach which meets the business's testing requirements;

1. Speed while maintaining high quality
2. Improved collaboration between business and IT teams
3. Bring the power of test automation to the business
4. Always up to date business process documents, training, and testing

Qualibrate addresses these requirements by offering test automation capabilities at the core of the solution. This allows teams to validate applications continuously, repeatedly, predictably, and at a very low cost. Additionally, seamless collaboration between Business and IT teams is the new norm, by delivering centralized collaboration work spaces using business processes documentation as the common language. IT Services delivery can now become more agile and more efficient, and still provide assurance to the organization that high-quality is never compromised.



Summary

A fully automated SAP landscape copy, build, or refresh is delivered and validated from a self-service portal on-demand, along with an unattended process so customers can choose the optimum time to execute. Sophisticated reporting allows users to see how long the copy will take but also ensures that the refreshed copy is ready to go. As a final step, Qualibrate automates the regression testing and validation of the refreshed copy, based on pre-defined acceptance criteria. All of these activities can take place with one click.

Business users and technical staff now have a single pane of glass visualisation of the process delivered to them in a view that makes sense, which allows for predictable outcomes, and most importantly, it's fast – allowing you to make more copies and ensure your SAP development opportunities are as agile as the other areas of your business.