

Every Angle for SAP APO

SAP ADVANCED PLANNING AND OPTIMIZATION



SAP Advanced Planning and Optimization (APO) was not designed with analytics in mind – over the years several reporting solutions have been developed but they are all bespoke, cumbersome and potentially inaccurate or incomplete. Every Angle combines SAP APO data with existing Supply Chain analytics, turning the combination into a powerful tool for planning, execution and performance management.

SAP APO is at the planning heart of SAP SCM. The longer-term strategy for SAP is to migrate its customers to the new HANA based technologies such as IBP and S/4HANA which include improved analytics. While SAP customers are adapting their roadmaps they are commonly faced with long-term transition plans, so the need for powerful SAP reporting insight continues to be a critical business requirement. Most customers therefore will need to improve upon their existing capability in order to remain competitive.

Challenges around SAP APO and reporting are all too familiar:

- S&OP processes increasingly require flexible reporting both for demand and supply - planners are required to evaluate multiple scenarios and produce reports that feed into a monthly rhythm of analytics.
- Businesses increasingly want to view a financialized plan as part of their S&OP / IBP cycles.
- When businesses have invested in BI, it is often lacking in the flexibility required to manage a modern supply chain.
- To create management dashboards, users often have to manually consolidate information from various BI reports and manipulate using other tools such as Excel or PowerPoint.
- Comparison of plans (different creation date or different version) is difficult.
- APO and BI tend to have power users who create reporting rather than individuals being able to self-serve.

Benefits of the EA4APO solution include:

- Forward looking analytics - EA4APO allows master data from ECC to enrich the plans held within APO e.g. financial projections.
- Flexibility - With EA4APO, users can rapidly create their own reports based on APO or ECC attributes, without having to ask the IT department to write a BI report.
- Visibility – Dashboard reports quickly highlight current as well as projected performance.
- Comparative analytics – Lag reporting functionality allows easy comparison of different plans or scenarios.
- Easy to use – Intuitive interface targeted at providing meaningful information to a wider audience.

Key Differentiators:

• Financialize the Planning Projections

As Every Angle is already connected into SAP ECC, financial data is used to financialize different planning scenarios to allow easy comparison. Cost, revenue and profitability calculations help in the management decision making. Historic data can be combined with projections to create view of year to date and year to go.

• Lag Reporting

By taking snapshots of the planning output at specified time periods, it is possible to take these snapshots and make comparisons over time.

Examples:

- Forecast accuracy can be tracked to understand the value added over time by your demand processes.
- Changes to the plan are visible and can be compared over time.
- Stability of demand and supply planning can be evaluated.

Interactive Dashboards

Through a series of pre-configured dashboards, customers can readily access the information they need for all areas of planning. The dashboards can easily be tailored to suite a customer's individual needs. Examples include:

- **EA4APO Inventory Performance Dashboard**

Includes powerful metrics such as Aggregated Days Supply, Stock above max, Stock below zero, Stock above target, Stock below safety, (Projected) Inventory Turn Ratios and many more common inventory health metrics.

- **EA4APO Forecast Accuracy Dashboard**

Provides indicators on the accuracy, quality and reliability of the forecast on all possible levels of aggregation, tracked over time.

- **EA4APO Supply Performance Dashboard**

Using Supply projections, Stock coverage and Capacity analysis, EA4APO can help identify bottlenecks and constraints in the supply chain.

- **EA4APO Master Data Dashboard**

Use the built-in links between ECC and APO master data to highlight inconsistencies. Rules can be applied to detect potential issues and bottlenecks.

- **SNP Optimizer Scenario Planning Dashboard**

By extracting Optimizer Logs you can consider multiple levels of data to assess Plan Quality Metrics and Plan Quality Trend Analysis.



Inventory Projection

Avg inventory turn over per plant



Every Angle has developed the EA4APO functionality in cooperation with our partner Olivehorse

As the only UK SAP partner focused entirely on supply chain planning and management, Olivehorse's depth of supply chain management and SAP expertise enables them to address the most complex supply chain issues in the world's fastest moving supply chains. By combining Olivehorse's in depth knowledge of SAP APO and Every Angles powerful SAP business analytical tool, we will continue to expand upon this functionality in future software releases.