Critical Success Factors In Implementing SAP ERP Software

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Abstract
This project gives an overview of the Systems Applications and Products in Data Processing (SAP) Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) implementation roadmap and tools that make up a complete implementation method to allow any organization to plan and execute the implementation of SAP ERP software. The ASAP (Accelerated SAP) implementation methodology is used as the SAP implementation reference model in this study as most of the companies implementing SAP use ASAP methodology.

In a survey of software implementation effectiveness, more than 30% of projects were perceived to have failed because of a lack of effective project planning, while 10% were perceived to have failed because of technology-driven causes1. Critical success factors and reasons for SAP ERP implementation success and failures are discussed in this project. Content analysis of articles reporting SAP implementations in twenty companies from all over the world have been done. Ten of these companies had a successful SAP ERP implementation and the other ten were failures. Common critical success factors have been identified for successful SAP ERP implementations based on the content analysis. Sustained executive management support and their ownership of the implementation, project team composition and good project management especially pertaining to process design, testing and training of the end users are the most important factors contributing to the success of SAP implementations in most organizations. The lack of sustained management support / contribution and user involvement / training and testing seems to be the most important factors contributing to the failure of SAP implementations in most organizations.

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The implementation phase involves configuring and implementing the software and is highly disruptive for organisations and performance drops accordingly. Critical success factors have been defined as “those few critical areas where things must go right for the business to flourish” [6]. They have been applied to many aspects of information systems including project management, manufacturing systems implementation, reengineering, and, more recently, ERP systems implementation [1, 2, 7]. Critical success factors are particularly useful to practitioners as they provide clear guidance on where. SAP was the largest ERP vendor in China and the world. We thought that SAP was the ultimate system for our needs.” A staged implementation was planned with the materials. These factors make ERP software integration complex, because consensus is required from an entire enterprise to reengineer a core business process and take advantage of the software. ERP implementation can reap enormous benefits for successful companies—or it can be disastrous for organizations that fail to manage the implementation process. We illustrate our approach with two case examples from a research sample of eight companies. Critical success factors and reasons for SAP ERP implementation success and failures are discussed in this project. Content analysis of articles reporting SAP implementations in twenty companies from all over the world have been done. Ten of these companies had a successful SAP ERP implementation and the other ten were failures. Common critical success factors have been identified for successful SAP ERP implementations based on the content analysis. SAP ERP implementation is the group of processes that defines a complete method to implement SAP software in an organization. The two methodologies used to implement SAP ERP are Conventional and ASAP4. Conventional methodology also known as SAP Procedure Model was widely used initially.