

HCLTech and RISE with SAP

HCLTech selects RISE with SAP to modernize its enterprise digital landscape and move critical applications to the cloud

To remain competitive and prepare for growth, HCLTech selected RISE with SAP to help modernize its own IT infrastructure and embrace a future in the cloud, while taking lessons from this cloud transformation to its own enterprise customers.

HCLTech has been a global strategic SAP partner for more than 25 years, helping enterprises transform their businesses for the digital age. HCLTech is more than just a SAP partner, it's a SAP client as well. HCLTech selected RISE with SAP to modernize its own enterprise digital landscape, transitioning critical applications and processes to the cloud to meet its global business challenges.

As SAP's first global strategic partner adopting the RISE with SAP offering in Asia, HCLTech is leveraging the experiences and the lessons learned to act as a global strategic service partner for RISE with SAP, helping its own clients evolve in the cloud transformation space.

The Challenge:

Modernizing HCLTech's IT Infrastructure to prepare for growth and expansion

Like any large multinational business that has multiple business processes running in multiple business units in many locations, HCLTech wrestled with complex legacy financial systems that could not offer a holistic view of the business. The technology worked, but it was challenging to align it with

the company's business objectives in any meaningful way. HCLTech needed a new way to keep pace with technology innovations and at the same time, align these to the business' strategy. A cloud-centric digital transformation could help its business units work in sync and be more nimble and responsive moving forward.

The Objective:

An agile and resilient cloud transformation

HCLTech knew that creating an agile and resilient cloud-based infrastructure would be critical to successfully navigating the business challenges that arise from running an innovative and fast-moving multinational business. Just like its clients, embracing the cloud with a commitment to continuous modernization and innovation was key for HCLTech to thrive in the digital era. A cloud transformation was also important for supporting future mergers and acquisition (M&A) onboarding, making cultural shifts of acquisitions much easier to manage. Getting M&A right is key to HCLTech's ambitious growth plans.

At the same time, all SAP customers, including HCLTech, are facing SAP's 2027 deadline, when it will end its mainstream maintenance for core applications of SAP Business Suite 7 software. Smart organizations are getting ahead of that deadline, prioritizing business-critical applications like SAP on their digital transformation roadmap.

The Solution:

Adopting RISE with SAP to create a scalable, business-aligned IT infrastructure

RISE with SAP is a comprehensive cloud ERP solution that includes analytics and business process intelligence. With this solution, HCLTech saw the ability to change business models with urgency and speed, the chance to simplify operations by removing cost and complexity from the enterprise, and a unique opportunity to focus on sustainability. After an extensive investigation process, HCLTech considered RISE with SAP as the most effective “business-transformation-as-a-service” solution that could be delivered in conjunction with HCLTech’s own CloudSMART for SAP strategy.

RISE with SAP offered the chance to create a future-proof clean foundation on which to build a scalable and robust platform with single data models, embedded analytics, easily accessible data insights and a no- or low-code citizen development capability. The idea was to cut back on customization that often leads to a long tail of rigidity and create an environment that encourages fast and nimble development at the edge. Business leaders saw a chance to build a truly business-aligned IT landscape that could:

- Accelerate and streamline accounting close processes and closing calendars
- Improve the speed and accuracy of accounts receivable
- Integrate payments with banks and financial institutions using a multibank digital channel
- Consolidate master data across the entire enterprise landscape
- Improve tax compliance and streamline remediation
- Simplify and centralize billing systems
- Build a global payroll process with embedded localization



Harnessing HCLTech’s CloudSMART for SAP strategy, HCLTech deployed RISE with SAP S/4HANA Cloud private edition, a comprehensive business-transformation-as-a-service (BTaaS) that includes key products and services to support greater speed, agility, integration and extensibility. HCLTech also implemented SAP Customer Experience solutions, SAP Business Technology Platform (SAP BTP), SAP Ariba solutions, SAP SuccessFactors solutions and SAP Fiori apps to keep pace with technology innovation and offer a smoother digital transformation experience.

The Impact:

An agile digital footprint that strengthens competitive advantage

By accelerating its journey to the intelligent enterprise in the cloud with RISE with SAP, HCLTech is already experiencing the benefits of a more fully integrated IT landscape. New efficiencies in business processes have helped HCLTech:

Cut five days from its day sales outstanding (DSO) rate

Set a goal of 60% touchless invoicing so that 90% of invoices can be submitted in less than five days

Target a 20% to 25% reduction in the number of days after period end, leading to closings three to five days faster

The most important lesson HCLTech has learned, a lesson it can now share with its clients, is that a successful business transformation is never simply a “lift and shift” to the cloud focused on total cost of ownership (TCO) reduction. Instead, businesses must embrace a reference architecture that is truly fit for purpose, addresses unique business goals, focuses on reducing the total cost of innovation and drives the business to operate at scale as an intelligent enterprise. That’s where an impactful ROI will ultimately be found.

For decades, HCLTech has been partnering with SAP to address the needs of clients in diverse industries — manufacturing, financial, retail, consumer goods, insurance and more — and now that the cloud is a mandate for digital transformation and continuous modernization, HCLTech is increasing its collaboration with SAP on a broad range of specialized IP and solutions to address evolving industry-specific needs and refine FinOps frameworks for managing operating expenditures in the cloud. This is all part of HCLTech’s mission — for both its clients and itself — to make technology work optimally for business outcomes in an environment of consistent innovation.



RISE with SAP is showing strong adoption momentum. By bringing in their invaluable implementation experience, expertise and solutions, global partners such as HCLTech further accelerate this trajectory,”

said Christian Klein, CEO, SAP.