



International Leader in the Food Industry Enables Real-Time Data Lake Analytics with Attunity

“Attunity Replicate for SAP is quite impressive, delivering an automated approach to integrating SAP ERP data into our Hortonworks data lake that accelerates integration, saving us significant time, labor and budget.”

— Senior Director of IT

This international leader in the food industry sells a variety of prepared foods in over 100 countries. To manage their extensive operations, decision makers need a current and consistent daily view of cash flow, materials and production capacity as well as business transactions such as customer orders, purchase orders and payroll. All this runs on SAP.

But ongoing acquisitions created data silos that challenged the ability of managers and executives to get a comprehensive view of the business. Matching orders to production line items became a bottleneck, preventing sales teams from filing accurate daily order reports and blocking various pricing and product decisions.



The Objective: A Single Source of Truth for Analytics

To enable efficient decision making, the company decided to consolidate its data in a Hadoop data lake on the Hortonworks Data Platform. Its IT organization needed to provide business analysts with access to transactional data from approximately 500 SAP ERP tables, as well as a variety of SQL server data sets for analytics.

As they started the project, the IT team quickly discovered that they had underestimated the complexities of extracting usable data from the source SAP ERP systems. They lost three months of time working with data integration software that lacked the necessary decoding capabilities for SAP's complex pooled, clustered, and indexed table structures. Despite assistance from their vendor's consulting team, the effort ultimately got bogged down in manual coding and failed. The data lake initiative fell behind schedule and forced the IT team to evaluate alternatives.

About the Company

This US-based food producer sells a variety of prepared foods to millions of consumers in about 130 countries.

Objective

To overcome data silos and improve decision making, the company decided to consolidate on a Hadoop data lake based on the Hortonworks Data Platform. Business analysts needed access to transactional data from approximately 500 SAP ERP tables, as well as a variety of SQL server data sets.

Solution

Attunity Replicate automatically integrated SQL Server and SAP ERP data into Kafka streams and the data lake, furnishing managers and executives with a comprehensive view of the business. Orders now are easily matched to production, enabling faster and more informed decisions for sales, pricing, product and manufacturing teams.

The Solution: Attunity Replicate

An IT staff member learned of a new data ingestion solution, Attunity Replicate, downloaded the free trial software, then introduced the Attunity team to their systems integrator Clarity Insights. They collaborated on a successful proof of concept with Attunity Replicate that automatically integrated SAP ERP data into Kafka streams and their data lake within the target latency window of five seconds. The team then loaded the first sales order ERP module, and was able to select and add around 25 custom Z-tables including indexed columns. Attunity Replicate moved 2.2 billion records in 48 hours at an average of 600 rows/second. After landing and transforming the data on the Hortonworks platform, they also have the option of moving it to SAP's HANA in-memory computing platform for rapid analytics.

Their analysts now run real-time queries and reports with a variety of BI tools, including Cognos, Microsoft BI, Crystal Reports and Qlik View. The result: new insights in less time and under budget.

Benefits



- Real-time operational visibility
- Faster and more informed business decisions
- Lower data integration costs

