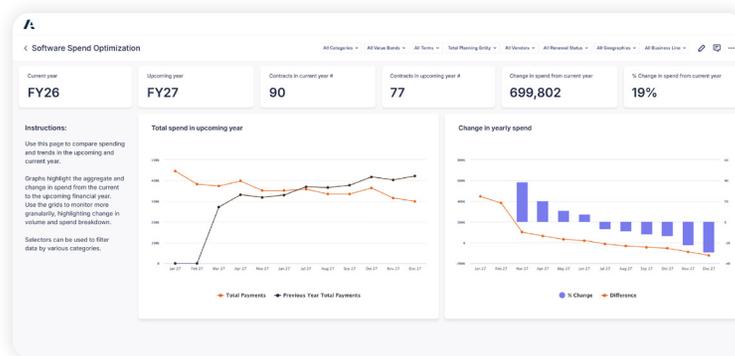


# Software Spend Optimization application

Optimize software spend, proactively manage renewals, and unlock IT innovation budgets



Fragmented software contracts, rising license costs, and constant renewal deadlines create ongoing challenges for IT organizations. Manual tracking, siloed data, and outdated processes limit visibility into software spend, often resulting in wasted budgets and missed savings opportunities. In today's complex software landscape, these issues make it difficult to manage vendor consolidation, optimize portfolios, and align software investments with long-term business goals.



## From overspend to optimization: Ensure software spend drives value

The Anaplan Software Spend Optimization application empowers enterprise IT and finance teams to eliminate redundancies, reduce costs, and make informed strategic decisions by unifying contract and spend data, automating renewal tracking, and enabling scenario-based planning.

Instead of managing software spend across disconnected systems, you get a single, undisputed source of truth for your entire portfolio. By integrating contract details with actual spend data from finance

and procurement, you instantly expose shadow IT and overlapping tools. At the same time, with automated alerts you stop reacting to surprise renewals and gain the time you need to negotiate from a position of strength.

Beyond just tracking what you own, the application enables you to take data-driven decisions with scenario planning to test the financial impact of vendor consolidations, license reallocations, and other major software changes.

## CUSTOMER STORY



Avanade is the leading provider of cloud and advisory services, AI solutions, and sustainable industry innovations across the Microsoft ecosystem.

### Challenges:

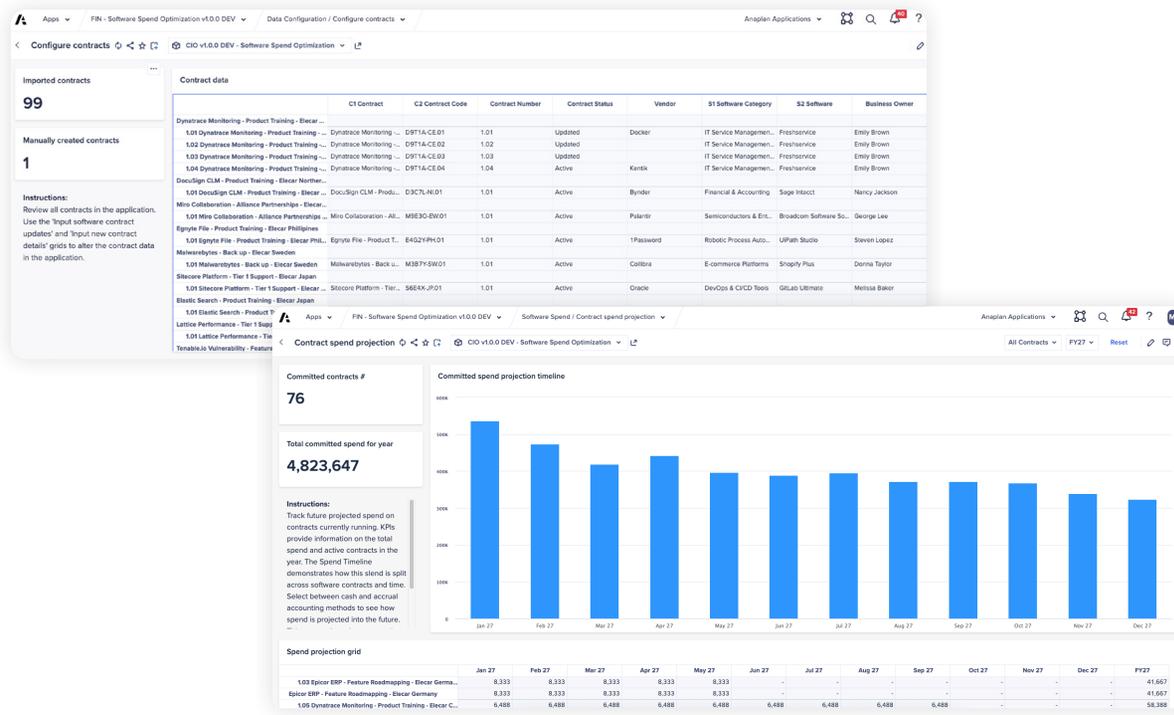
- Legacy finance systems require complex, manual HR/finance data handling.
- Disconnected planning processes across finance, workforce, and IT.
- 80% of time spent on system maintenance — not analysis.
- Forecasting limited by spreadsheets, lacking scenario planning capabilities.

### Results:

- 10–20% greater financial forecast accuracy due to complete, consistent data from around the globe.
- 20% FP&A productivity improvement frees time to focus on analytics and strategic decision support.
- 20% reduction in planning cycle time due to Connected Planning.

## Key benefits

- Cost optimization at scale:**  
 Identify overlapping software and unnecessary renewals to reduce spend without compromising capability.
- Proactive renewal management:**  
 Avoid last-minute renewals and penalties through timely alerts and centralized visibility.
- Portfolio optimization:**  
 Consolidate vendors and streamline the software stack for simplicity, security, and efficiency.
- Data-driven decision support:**  
 Use scenario modelling and procurement integration to support strategic planning and budgeting.
- Strategic IT leadership:**  
 Position the CIO's office as a business enabler by aligning IT investments with enterprise priorities.



IT services powerhouse, Avanade, serves its customers best by making effective use of its people. To support that mission, Avanade moved from a 20-year-old finance solution to Anaplan. Building and connecting use cases across finance, workforce planning (both cost and supply), IT cost planning, and sales performance management — and building a six-quarter rolling forecast based on the data — has delivered greater forecast accuracy through global consistency, substantial productivity gains, better decisions by empowered leaders, and improved corporate performance.



Avanade is a global company, and we need to be consistent. We have one source of truth in Anaplan.

Sonia Webb  
 Former CFO, Avanade

## Solution details



### Software contract lifecycle management

- Centralize and monitor software contract metadata, renewals, and obligations.
- Track key dates such as start, end, and renewal dates.
- Link contracts to procurement data like purchase orders (POs) from systems such as Workday or Scout.
- Manage contracts within a single Anaplan application.



### Renewal pipeline tracking & risk management

- Track upcoming renewals and annotate contract risks or negotiation status.
- Tag contracts with their renewal status (e.g., set to renew, not set to renew, pending).
- Receive automated notifications for upcoming renewals at 90, 60, and 30-day intervals.
- Add time-stamped notes and updates to contract records.



### Procurement data integration

- Sync contract and spend data with ERP, ITSM, and procurement platforms.
- Enable automated data exchange with third-party systems using Anaplan Data Orchestrator (ADO).

- Support both manual data input and automated integration for flexibility.
- Associate financial data with contracts to track actual spend.



### Category-based software spend reporting

- Report on software spend by user-defined categories (e.g., collaboration, CRM, security).
- View aggregated spend per category, business line, and the number of contracts and vendors per category.
- Drill down into categories to see individual software contracts.
- Filter reports by time range, business line, and renewal status.



### Software spend optimization scenarios

- Test different vendor consolidation or termination scenarios to model potential savings.
- Run “what-if” comparisons by adjusting spend by a certain percentage, eliminating duplicate tools, or consolidating vendors.
- Calculate and display projected cost savings, comparing baseline spend with scenario-adjusted spend.
- Save and name different scenarios for future reference and comparison.



### Committed software spend reporting

- Track future contractual obligations across multi-year deals.
- Gain visibility into committed spend for the upcoming financial year, aligned with the budgeting cycle.
- View committed spend broken down by software category, vendor, business line, and legal entity.
- Analyze trends by comparing committed spend to the current year’s spend.



### Cross-entity software spend reporting

- Manage software contracts across different business units or geographies.
- Track software spend and consumption by legal entity, region, and vendor.
- Aggregate and display global spend for a single vendor, even when it’s split across different contracts or entities.
- Utilize dimensions like legal entity and region in scenario planning for more granular analysis.

## The Software Spend Optimization application helps

- **Unify software spend:** Bring fragmented contract and cost data into a single, connected view to enable better decisions, accountability, and software spend planning.
- **Prevent renewal risks:** Track and alert on upcoming renewals to avoid missed deadlines, late fees, and missed renegotiation opportunities.
- **Drive portfolio optimization:** Detect duplicate or overlapping software contracts, simulate optimization scenarios, and simplify the stack to reduce waste.
- **Simulate fast, flexible scenario modeling:** Quickly simulate software spend and renewal scenarios with powerful, enterprise-grade calculation engines to optimize investments and anticipate changes.
- **Leverage cross-functional collaboration:** Align IT, finance, and procurement teams with agile, collaborative planning for smarter software spend management.
- **Integrate spend data with confidence and control:** Benefit from robust security controls and seamless integration with multiple data sources through APIs and connectors for a comprehensive, secure software spend view.



### About Anaplan

Anaplan is the only scenario planning and analysis platform designed to optimize decision-making in today's complex business environment so that enterprises can outpace their competition and the market. By building connections and collaboration across organizational silos, our platform intelligently surfaces key insights — so businesses can make the right decisions, right now.

More than 2,500 of the world's best brands continually optimize their decision-making by planning with Anaplan.

To learn more, visit [www.anaplan.com](http://www.anaplan.com)