Anaplan extensibility and data integration options
Achieve open platform connectivity for optimized plans across the enterprise

Executive summary

With data dispersed across the enterprise by function and disparate integration tools, it can be difficult to execute informed plans with the most up-to-date information. Disconnected systems and data create a complex, tedious process for business leaders and stakeholders to access and incorporate meaningful and relevant data into their plans. Teams across different departments leveraging an array of third-party integrations must find common ground and leverage a single source of truth in order to unlock true Connected Planning.

Anaplan extensibility options simplify integration with built-in and third-party extensions, allowing business leaders to access enterprise-wide data on a unified platform. This open platform approach for connectivity enables teams to easily and quickly share the most important information, so stakeholders can uncover deeper insights and unlock more impactful business plans. Anaplan provides flexible extensibility and interoperability options that meet the unique needs of every organization to empower better decision-making.
Anaplan extensibility: 3 key components

The goal of extensibility is to create interoperability with other enterprise systems. True extensibility creates an open platform for data integration and exchange with third-party sources and systems.

Anaplan delivers the ability to bring in data for planning purposes as well extract data to external systems, with a three-pronged approach:

- Connectors
- Integrations
- Web scripts, tools, and application programming interfaces (APIs)

By leveraging these three components, enterprises can smoothly aggregate data across systems, execute plans that rely on a single source of truth, and extend the reach of industry-leading tools. Anaplan's extensive partner ecosystem with purpose-built integrations helps deliver on the promise of true interoperability.

WORKFORCE AND SALES
Proactive, automatic incentive compensation

Zillow was challenged with late incentive payments that arrived two weeks post pay period and was struggling to integrate HR and compensation systems. Anaplan enabled stronger data integration, empowering HR and sales with data updates every 20 minutes and integrating HR data automatically with compensation plans.

"Because employees now have data at their fingertips, they're spending more of their valuable time doing what they do best: selling our products."

—Karen Han, Senior Manager of Sales Finance
Connectors: Simple and fast

Anaplan connectors link to trusted third-party services that can automate and schedule Anaplan data imports and exports using simplified user interfaces. They deliver simple self-service and fast access to the data stakeholders need most.

Simple self-service capabilities empower business leaders to get the information to answer key planning questions without much reliance on IT, so they can accelerate integrations and time to value. Anaplan offers connectors to both extract, transform, load (ETL) and enterprise service bus (ESB) tools, providing a variety of options for enterprises.

ETL and ESB connectors

Anaplan connectors for leading third-party ETL tools provide integrations that schedule, transform, and deliver data to and from the Anaplan platform.

Anaplan Connector for Informatica Cloud. The Anaplan Connector for Informatica Intelligent Cloud Services (IICS) provides seamless integration with Informatica’s enterprise-class software-as-a-service integration platform. Users can automate and schedule integrations with IICS directly using the Anaplan connector, eliminating the need for additional point products. In addition to this, users can access hundreds of pre-built bi-directional connectors via IICS, and enable connections with systems like Salesforce, Workday, NetSuite, Oracle, SAP and more.

Anaplan Connector for MuleSoft. Seamlessly integrate Anaplan with other applications and products fast with MuleSoft. The Anaplan Connector for MuleSoft allows teams to reduce deployment times and save time by eliminating complicated integration projects. The centralized web interface helps users analyze, manage, and monitor APIs and integrations all in a unified location.

SALES AND FINANCE
High-volume data integration for planning without IT work

Service now needed to leverage SAP BPC and SAP HANA data when planning, and already had MuleSoft and SAP PO integration platforms in place. The Anaplan Connector for MuleSoft enabled imports of over a dozen jobs (up to 1.5 million records per job) from SAP BPC and SAP HANA via MuleSoft to Anaplan during daily, monthly, and quarterly refreshes, giving users greater visibility and access to the data they need most.

“Anaplan’s intuitive dashboards enable users to parse data in any way they require for faster, better decision-making.”

—Lokesh Nandula, Business Systems Analyst, FP&A
**Anaplan Connector for Dell Boomi.** With Dell Boomi, users can design cloud-based integration processes and transfer data between cloud and on-premise applications. The Anaplan Connector for Dell Boomi helps teams achieve complete end-to-end capabilities including application integrations, data quality governance, API management, and workflow automation. With pre-built integration processes and a robust connector library, users can easily import and export data.

**Anaplan Connector for SnapLogic.** Connect data from enterprise applications to Anaplan and support read-write access to Anaplan workspaces and models with the Anaplan Connector for SnapLogic. Teams can leverage SnapLogic to ingest data from on-premises without requiring security changes, speeding time to proof-of-concepts and market. It all comes ready-to-use with instant access to applications such as Salesforce, Workday, and SAP.

**Anaplan Connector for OneCloud.** OneCloud provides intuitive integration, data transformation, and automation for a wide range of business-critical applications both on-premises and in the cloud. With the Anaplan Connector for OneCloud, users can integrate systems and automate processes, accelerating their planning experience without writing a single line of code.

REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT

OneCloud integrates Anaplan with Salesforce, SQL Server, Hyperion Financial Management

The Anaplan and OneCloud partnership helped this real estate company standardize on a single integration toolset—integrating disparate applications to support Connected Planning in Anaplan. They were also able to integrate their legacy Hyperion application and exchange bidirectional data with Salesforce.
Purpose-built connectors

Anaplan also provides connectors, which are purpose-built integrations with other systems-of-record (SOR) or systems-of-engagement (SOE).

**Anaplan Connector for DocuSign.** The Anaplan Connector for DocuSign enables users to manage an iterative document workflow within and outside the organization. It connects with external suppliers, partners, and potential candidates to complete a transaction or contract negotiation with speed, accuracy, and precision. Users can easily manage reviews and approvals electronically and update plans in real time, speeding collaboration and efficiencies across and outside the organization.

**Anaplan Connector for Workiva.** Workiva imports planning, analysis, and reporting data from Anaplan to deliver integrated narrative reporting, compliance, planning, and performance management on the cloud. The Anaplan Connector for Workiva accelerates reporting by pulling consolidated actuals from Anaplan. It also creates narrative reports with actuals and forecasts for improved reporting accuracy—all while reducing risks by meeting compliance and regulations.

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**SALES**

**Automation slashes sales planning time in half**

With 750,000 variables in sales plans for 2,000 sales reps, Vodafone faced an inconsistent planning process that made aligning sales targets nearly impossible. The Anaplan Connector for DocuSign helped the sales team achieve a 90% automated target-setting and 50% faster sales planning processes.

“Anaplan helps us to see what’s possible with collaborative planning—within sales, and across Vodafone.”

—Kerry Small, Commercial and Operations Director

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**FINANCE**

**Increasing efficiency using the Workiva connector**

HQ Capital had just merged three separate companies, resulting in disparate manual data sets and technical environments that took half a day to update just one model. The Anaplan Connector for Workiva helped them reduce the number of reforecasting models from 70 to five and created a single market report across all properties, streamlining efficiencies.

“With Anaplan, we have improved the efficiency of our planning and reporting processes.”

—Simon Preston, Director, Digital Strategy and Operations
Anaplan Connector for Tableau. The Anaplan Connector for Tableau delivers compelling data visualizations, helping users discover new insights. Tableau’s analytics solution allows users to understand changes in the market or business priorities and draw insights from them. This powerful Anaplan and Tableau integration can provide businesses with measurable competitive advantage to unlock faster decisions and take ownership over the data they use.

Anaplan Connector for Microsoft Power BI. Natively integrate data into Power BI to align on plans and reports based on the most recent data. The Anaplan Connector for Power BI enables self-service capabilities, so users can create and share reports without involving IT or technical support. In addition, users can enhance their existing Anaplan data by leveraging highly visual reporting from Power BI and integrated analytics with Azure cloud.

USE CASE SPOTLIGHT

Anaplan Connector for Power BI

Decision-makers can struggle to execute holistic reporting, especially when all of the data they need does not reside in Anaplan. Users often rely on business intelligence (BI) tools, such as Microsoft Power BI, that enable cross-system reporting and analysis and want to combine the powerful capabilities of both platforms.

Anaplan Connector for Power BI enables decision-makers with quick and easy access to Anaplan data for BI reporting. Simple to use, it empowers users to synthesize insights and drive timely, informed decisions across the organization.
**Integrations: Interoperable and intuitive**

Anaplan integrations enable users to interoperate and seamlessly combine data from multiple sources—including from on-premises, SaaS, and cloud—into the Anaplan platform. This allows teams to use larger data sets to create more informed plans. These integrations are also simple and intuitive to configure and use, democratizing more business users to access data to speed decisions.

**Anaplan HyperConnect**

Anaplan HyperConnect powered by Informatica is a solution that leverages the technology of Informatica Cloud to integrate both on-premises and cloud applications with Anaplan. HyperConnect seamlessly integrates data from any source in just a few clicks, expediting enterprise planning. Business users can access Informatica Cloud at a fraction of the cost to connect and integrate data to and from Anaplan. Easily leverage this integration solution through a single point of contact, reducing the need for IT involvement to get started.

**Anaplan CloudWorks™**

Anaplan CloudWorks makes planning more intelligent and agile. It orchestrates integrations with both external sources, such as cloud-based data and service providers, as well as with internal sources, such as Anaplan models. It uses an intuitive application user interface that empowers business users to easily configure, manage, and run integrations. CloudWorks also makes it easy to schedule and automate model-to-model imports, trigger-based event processing, workflows, processes, and import/export integrations, and will deliver future capabilities for seamless integrations with third-party AI services. Anaplan users can connect to and schedule integrations with data in AWS S3, Microsoft Azure Blob, and Google BigQuery through the CloudWorks interface.

**USE CASE SPOTLIGHT**

**Anaplan CloudWorks**

Sales and revenue planning can struggle with accurately forecasting when deal commits will convert to sales. Reliance on complex and outdated data across multiple dimensions often fails to provide accurate, reliable results. With CloudWorks, teams can achieve greater accuracy predicting sales with a greater set of dimensions such as product, geography, and segment. Predictions are automatically updated every week, providing the latest data for better predictions.
Web scripts, tools, and APIs: Efficient and extensive

Anaplan also provides additional integration options at multiple levels, including via a web UI, Anaplan Connect, and APIs to extend the reach of an organization’s Anaplan capabilities and help users gain insights about their data. This set of services further drives efficiencies across the organization by delivering fast, simple access to data.

Web tools

Web tools make it easy for users to import and export flat files straight from the Anaplan UI. Teams have the option of leveraging web tools in either the classic or New UX to quickly extract and share the files they need. Web tools support import and export capabilities from multiple file formats including .txt., .csv, and .xlsx.

Anaplan Connect

Anaplan Connect is an on-premises Java utility that automates and runs integration scripts for imports and exports. Users can install it on a dedicated computer or server behind their network firewall and begin to write and execute integration scripts. Anaplan Connect is flexible, having scripts that can be scheduled using either a user’s primary operating system or a third-party scheduler.

Anaplan APIs

Anaplan REST APIs help teams get better visibility into actions and services to support Anaplan Connect, ETL connectors, and custom integrations. REST APIs support data imports, exports, deletion, and file downloads and allow users to gather more information about their workspaces and models. Users can configure import and export actions within Anaplan and act via public API calls.

Anaplan’s new set of Transactional APIs enable simple integrations and help teams deliver on requirements quickly. Users can easily configure Transactional APIs, requiring with minimal preparation and technical expertise, so they can extend Anaplan capabilities through rich integrations to glean greater insights from Anaplan data. In addition, users can better understand workspaces and models with enhanced usage monitoring, reporting, and analytics. Transactional APIs support multiple file formats, such as CSV and JSON, and allow for deeper visibility into their models, ultimately helping teams discover new use cases.

USE CASE SPOTLIGHT
Anaplan Transactional APIs

When it comes to administration and reporting, both model builders and administrators are looking for automated and scripted ways to understand workspace and model usage for expanding the use cases, which can sometimes be a time consuming process.

However, with Transactional APIs, teams can quickly understand how their workspaces are being used. They can get information about the number of models, size of models, and space consumed by all of their models. This empowers model builders to easily respond to requests and speed decision-making.
Conclusion

Anaplan’s broad range of extensibility and data integration options help to extend Connected Planning into every area of an enterprise. Not only do Anaplan connectors, integrations, and APIs create an open platform for connectivity, but they help to democratize critical data access to more stakeholders. When teams across a variety of business units can share data with a flexible suite of integrations, teams can perform better analysis, creating more informed plans and forecasts.

About Anaplan

Anaplan (NYSE: PLAN) is a transformative way to see, plan, and run your business. Using our proprietary Hyperblock™ technology, Anaplan lets you contextualize real-time performance, and forecast future outcomes for faster, confident decisions. Because connecting strategy and plans to collaborative execution across your organization is required to move business FORWARD today. Based in San Francisco, we have 20 offices globally, 175 partners and more than 1,700 customers worldwide.

To learn more, visit anaplan.com