

Finding the Right Balance Between Compliance and Agility

How to Turn Enterprise Risk into a Strategic Asset

How will your company stay viable in an era of increased regulatory and competitive pressures? Merely working to pass your next audit is no longer enough. Now, companies must fully understand how their application and infrastructure investments affect business objectives. Above all, companies must wield their IT infrastructures in a way that keeps the business compliant and turns risk into a strategic asset — an asset that will help drive business results.

This is why SAP and Novell have formed a partnership: to deliver a comprehensive solution that helps companies connect risk management to business strategy and performance management.

Becoming Agile and Compliant

Thriving in today's competitive and closely regulated environment requires companies to move at the speed of the market. Yet, it is increasingly costly and complex to stay agile while also adhering to a growing list of regulatory requirements. On the one hand, the infrastructure needs to be agile enough to respond to competitive threats and new market opportunities. On the other hand, safeguarding sensitive information

requires putting controls and processes in place to prove compliance. But having too many controls and processes will slow down the business, while having too few will jeopardize key assets and the business's reputation. Either scenario has the potential to negatively impact the bottom line.

So how do you strike the appropriate balance? SAP and Novell have found that the answer is to enable better risk visibility. This improved visibility guides companies to help them put in place the right controls — controls that balance agility and security in line with the enterprise's risk tolerance.

Deliver Continuous Compliance Through a Proactive Approach to Risk

The recipe for a sustainable and enforceable governance, risk, and compliance (GRC) solution calls for two main ingredients: the SAP BusinessObjects GRC portfolio and the Novell Compliance Management Platform (see sidebar). When combined, the result is an integrated solution that provides greater visibility into overall enterprise risk. It helps SAP customers move away from a reactive approach to risk and instead turns that



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“The unique partnership between SAP and Novell features three critical elements that create value for customers: alignment of enterprise risk management in the context of business strategy; integration of risk and controls with performance monitoring and metrics; and the ability to leverage an existing IT infrastructure to drive higher ROI.”

— Sonny Dasgupta, Director of GRC Marketing, SAP

A Deeper Look at the Novell Compliance Management Platform

The Novell Compliance Management Platform integrates identity and access information with security information and event management technology to provide a real-time, holistic view of all network events enterprise wide. By adding the extension for SAP environments, the platform integrates with SAP BusinessObjects Access Control to continuously monitor access to enterprise assets and to enforce segregation of duties (SoD) and critical access compliance.

For more information, visit www.novell.com/cmppsap or download a white paper detailing how the Novell Compliance Management Platform integrates with SAP solutions (www.novell.com/achieving_compliance).

risk into a strategic asset (see **Figure 1**). To do this, the solution addresses two key components of GRC management: identity and security.

Industry Examples: The Novell/SAP Partnership in Action

Here are two examples of companies that are benefiting from the Novell and SAP integrated solution:

- A **chemical manufacturer** using a legacy identity management system needed to automate provisioning across disparate systems. The company was in the early stages of developing its GRC program, so the expandability of Novell and SAP's integrated solution played a key role in the selection process. Because this chemical manufacturer also had several mission-critical SAP systems, this solution's out-of-the-box integration was a key differentiator.
- A **utility company** needed an identity management and security system that would not only leverage its existing SAP BusinessObjects GRC investments, but also provide a roadmap to future integrations with other SAP BusinessObjects GRC solutions. Novell and SAP's integrated solution was the answer for that company.

The Crux of GRC Management: Identity and Security

Integrated identity and security data form the backbone of a structure that will help you understand what is actually occurring in the enterprise. Identity management tells you who is who in your enterprise, while security data tells you what is going on in the enterprise. By integrating the two, you gain a unified view of who is doing what. GRC management software — including SAP BusinessObjects GRC solutions — uses that information to provide business context, giving executives confidence that network events are not putting business objectives at risk.

For example, one product in the SAP BusinessObjects GRC portfolio, SAP BusinessObjects Access Control, works closely with the Novell Compliance Management Platform to proactively detect and mitigate segregation of duties (SoD) and critical access violations. A common example is when a user both creates and pays a vendor. Another serious SoD and critical access violation can occur if a user has both database administration and system administration access. The combined Novell and SAP solution can automatically prevent and monitor such violations, identifying business and IT risks from one central place based on key corporate objectives, and continuously enforcing and monitoring controls.

Two Industry Leaders, One Innovative Solution

With the SAP BusinessObjects GRC portfolio and the Novell Compliance Management Platform, enterprises can be confident that the right controls are in place so that only authorized employees will have access to sensitive business information. With the common set of enforced controls that these solutions provide, companies also gain transparency into business processes across the enterprise.

The integrated solution ensures enterprise-wide provisioning, prevents inefficiencies stemming from resource silos and duplication of controls, and offers an automated process to discover and remediate high-risk business problems.

Using the solution, customers can continuously monitor IT controls and business risk as part of an overall enterprise risk management strategy. And there you have it: risk becomes a strategic asset, one that can help your business be both compliant and agile to drive success. For more information, please visit www.novell.com/cmepsap. ■

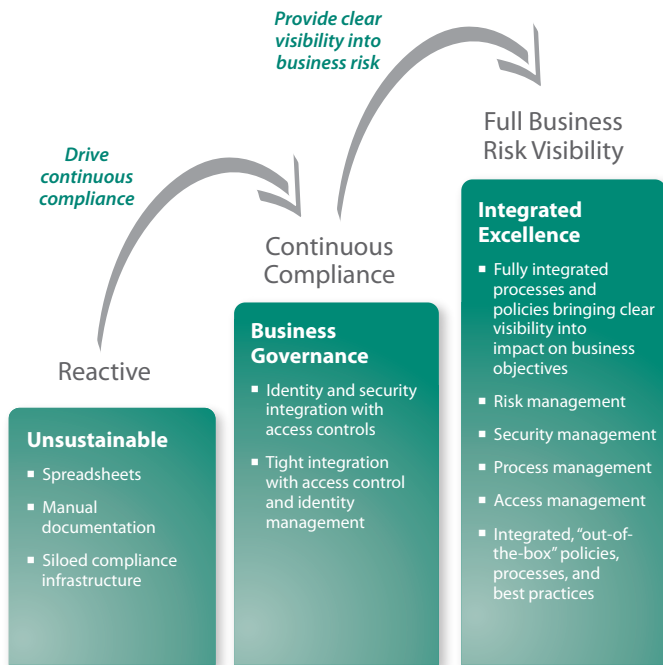


FIGURE 1 ▲ The joint solution from Novell and SAP helps SAP customers move away from a reactive approach to risk