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Next-gen SAP Ariba

Frequently asked questions

What is next-gen SAP Ariba?

Next-gen SAP Ariba is a leap forward in our product vision and strategy, introducing a transformed experience across our procurement solutions to help you meet the challenges of today's high-pressure, hypernovel environment. Designed around six core pillars, this evolution represents a step change in the speed, intelligence, and scale of our innovation delivery—all designed to maximize the agility and efficiency with which you can get work done:

1. **AI-native intelligence:** Built into our modern platform from the ground up, anticipating your needs and guiding your actions across source to pay.
2. **Suite orchestration:** Native integration of SAP Ariba solutions to SAP Business Suite and to non-SAP ERP through open APIs, so you can orchestrate spend all the way to ERP.
3. **Best-in-class user experience:** Personalized dashboards, at-a-glance insights, and prioritized action items directly embedded in workflows to drive consistency across applications and enhance your productivity.
4. **Guided deployments and self-service configuration:** Low-code/no-code setup for end-to-end processes, plus trial environments with built-in testing and go-live support that accelerate your time to value and give you confidence before you buy.
5. **Modern, extensible platform:** Streamlined functionality and extensibility through SAP Business Technology Platform (SAP BTP), supporting rapid innovation and adoption enhanced by high security and reliability.
6. **Business network—centricity:** Giving you access to efficient transaction exchange, information sharing, and collaboration with trading partners across the globe.

Through these advancements and more, next-gen SAP Ariba will help to unlock the power of AI-enabled procurement, delivering the resources you need to take business results to a whole new level.

What is SAP BTP, and what benefits does it provide?

SAP BTP is a unified, modern, and highly adaptable platform with multicloud-compatible architecture that provides flexibility and scalability across diverse environments. It offers a host of benefits to help you work more effectively and improve outcomes across a wide range of processes. For example:

- Your professional and even casual users can supercharge their productivity through personalized AI-driven insights, guided actions, and intelligent recommendations.
- Your administrators can help the business achieve rapid ROI with self-service guided configurations, reducing reliance on lengthy consultant engagements to get up and running.
- Your IT department can benefit from the quick user adoption, extensibility, security, and reliability the platform provides and meet unique business needs through industry-specific solutions available in the SAP BTP partner ecosystem.

On a broader scale, the accelerated innovation delivery enabled by SAP BTP drives continuous benefits throughout your organization, providing fast access to advanced features and functionality that keep you competitive in an AI-ready era.

What types of innovations will next-gen SAP Ariba include?

While a broad range of additional innovations will be made available as part of our release process in the coming months, initial offerings include:

- **A uniform, consumer-grade user experience:** We're introducing a single SAP Ariba launchpad feature with unified navigation, to-dos, and insights. This modern, SAP Fiori-based experience creates consistency across the entire suite for a more intuitive and efficient workflow.
- **Innovation in contract management:** We're deepening our integration with Icertis Contract Intelligence while also introducing native contract authoring. Combined with an AI-based contract creation assistant and obligation management, we will seamlessly cover the entire contract lifecycle.
- **Generative AI copilots across the suite:** We're embedding AI assistants using Joule capabilities into solution workflows, from AI-enhanced contract analysis and sourcing event creation to intelligent bid analysis, buying processes, invoice exception management, and supplier summaries.
- **Intelligent and automated sourcing:** We're revolutionizing the sourcing process with an AI-driven engine that aggregates demand, analyzes bids, and manages complex scenarios. A new supplier sourcing experience makes participation easier, leading to more competitive events.
- **Holistic, AI-driven supplier management:** We're delivering enhanced supplier 360 profiles, performance evaluations, action plans, and AI-based risk analysis to help you build resilient and successful partnerships.
- **Reimagined buying experience:** We're infusing agentic AI into purchasing and policy management processes and enhancing the user experience for tracking, receiving, and approvals. Improved catalog management capabilities deliver powerful catalog ingestion, indexing, marketplace connectivity, and search functionalities.
- **Upgraded invoice management:** We're adding a wide range of advanced invoicing capabilities, including intelligent fraud detection and exception management, agentic invoice creation, smart OCR, and invoice matching.
- **A single "front door" for all spend requests:** SAP Ariba Intake Management will serve as the central starting point for all procurement needs—from simple goods and services to complex sourcing events and new supplier onboarding—orchestrating the process across all systems.

Will all the next-gen innovations be built on SAP BTP?

Yes. Over time, we will create a technical uplift to SAP Ariba solutions by gradually shifting them to run on SAP BTP, enabling the ongoing delivery of all our next-gen innovations. If you are a current SAP Ariba customer, rest assured that the solutions you use will continue to work as is while this process unfolds.

We're a current customer; can we start using next-gen SAP Ariba?

Your process for adopting next-gen innovations depends on multiple parameters, including your current landscape, the solutions you use, and your readiness to transition to SAP BTP. As new innovations become available through our release process, your customer representative will work closely with you to determine the best timing, process, and strategy for your shift to the next-gen platform so you can begin using the innovations. We'll also provide a comprehensive adoption framework—including toolsets, services, support options, and other resources—to guide you through the transition without disruption to your existing setup or business processes.

We're a new customer; can we start using next-gen SAP Ariba?

Your process for adopting next-gen innovations can begin as soon as they become generally available through our release process. If your immediate business needs require you to implement any SAP Ariba solutions that

don't yet have next-gen capabilities, you have the option to deploy current-gen applications now and then transition to the next-gen options later.

Will we need to sign new contracts when we transition from our existing SAP Ariba solutions to the next-gen SAP Ariba solutions?

No. Next-gen SAP Ariba solutions do not have new SKUs, so you will be able to transition from any current-gen solutions you use to the next-gen versions without needing to sign new contracts.

Will there be a separate product road map for next-gen SAP Ariba solutions?

No. There is only one product vision and strategy for SAP Ariba solutions, and our next-gen innovations will continue to be reflected through SAP Road Map Explorer.

Will the next-gen innovations impact how SAP Ariba solutions integrate with SAP Fieldglass solutions, SAP Business Network, or third-party applications?

No. The planned innovations will not affect how SAP Ariba solutions integrate with any of these applications now or in the future.

Where can I find additional information on next-gen SAP Ariba?

To learn more about the impact and value next-gen SAP Ariba can deliver for your business, contact your SAP representative.