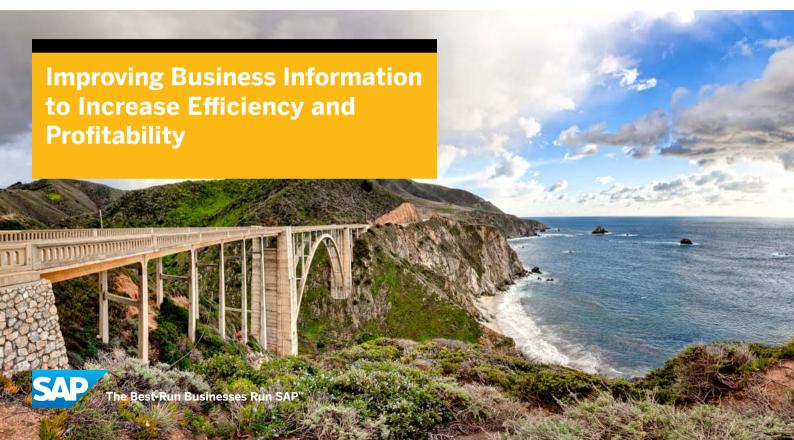**SAP Product Brief**
SAP Solutions for Small Businesses and
Midsize Companies
SAP Information Steward, Edge Edition

Objectives

Solution

Benefits

Quick Facts

Improving Business Information to Increase Efficiency and Profitability

SAP

The Best-Run Businesses Run SAP™

Effectively managing data quality across the organization

Successful implementation of business intelligence (BI) requires complete, accurate, and consistent data. With the Edge edition of SAP® Information Steward software, you can enhance your BI processes using a tool that helps you effectively monitor, analyze, and report on data quality.

Many companies have invested heavily in mission-critical business software initiatives. Much time and effort has gone into deploying sophisticated customer relationship management solutions, adaptive supply chain software, ambitious data migration projects, and other endeavors. For these worthy but expensive initiatives to deliver anticipated benefits, it's critical to have high-quality data.

Getting clean, consistent data takes a disciplined approach. This is best achieved with an integrated software solution that improves collaboration between data analysts and data stewards by providing various tools and perspectives for understanding and analyzing the trustworthiness of enterprise information. Such a solution helps eliminate the problems caused by incompatible data sources; inconsistent rules for changing, improving, or accessing data; and the fact that business users and IT personnel often view data differently and don't understand each other's needs and interests.

Comprehensive functionality in a single solution

A collaborative environment for business users and IT teams

Competitive advantage delivered by data quality

The Edge edition of SAP Information Steward addresses many of the issues that can hinder the effectiveness of operational, analytical, and governance initiatives. The software is designed to encourage collaboration between business and IT, minimize complexity, and provide a single solution for profiling and metadata management.

Unlike other applications, SAP Information Steward, Edge edition, combines functionality for data profiling, metadata management, and data quality monitoring in a unified framework. The solution provides tools that help your company perform data assessments, view data lineage, and improve data traceability to support governance initiatives. Serving as a lens that puts data problems in sharp focus, the software features drill-down functionality that helps you identify and expose the causes of poor data quality – making subsequent remedial efforts more focused and more efficient.

This one solution combines all the tools required to identify data issues, manage metadata, and monitor data quality effectively.

A collaborative environment for business users and IT teams

Comprehensive functionality
in a single solution

**A collaborative environment for
business users and IT teams**

Competitive advantage delivered
by data quality

SAP Information Steward, Edge edition, features a role-based user interface that meets the specific needs of your business users and IT teams. Business users can easily see how their information measures up against information governance rules and standards, while IT personnel can share data quality metrics with business colleagues and involve them in the ownership of data problems. Data quality reports can be viewed via dashboards and scorecards or through sophisticated inquiries into data origins and lineage.

The software serves as a central repository for data asset analysis, metadata management, a business glossary, validation rules, and data profiling. It enables all members of your data management team to work together without having to share reports via spreadsheets or importing data from one application to another. Executives, managers, and IT experts can view and share information regarding governance and data quality metrics while also tracking progress toward quality goals.

The rich user experience is enhanced by concise analytic tools that help your people understand the impact of poor data. With a simple, visual overview of data benchmarks – such as integrity, uniqueness, conformity, completeness, and accuracy – both business users and IT personnel gain a better perspective on how data quality is impacting your organization.

Competitive advantage delivered by data quality

Comprehensive functionality
in a single solution

A collaborative environment for
business users and IT teams

**Competitive advantage delivered
by data quality**

As a single solution that supports data profiling, data monitoring, metadata management, and the development of data-cleansing packages, SAP Information Steward, Edge edition, gives your data stewards and data analysts the ability to view and align data in accordance with organizational goals. The software helps boost the efficiency and lower the cost of data quality activities with support for the following activities:

• **Data profiling** – Robust data-profiling functionality enables you to measure and assess data quality; establish appropriate data quality metrics based on your specific operational, tactical, or strategic goals; and determine the impact of data quality on your business performance. By shining a spotlight on quality problems, you can reduce the risk of propagating bad data. The software also allows you to create mapping rules for data integration, verify that data matches your business definitions, and define the rules that govern data cleansing and validation. The data-profiling tools are augmented by an intuitive user interface, clear graphic representations, and concise scorecards – all designed to enhance user acceptance and utilization.

Comprehensive functionality
in a single solution

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**Competitive advantage delivered
by data quality**

- **Metadata management** – SAP Information Steward, Edge edition, enables you to consolidate, integrate, and audit your metadata across many different data sources. You can trace data lineage all the way from a report down to a source, gaining a better understanding of your complete business intelligence environment. You can also determine the impact that a change in the data source will have on a report or scorecard. And, with better control and tracking of data initiatives, you can increase the reuse of key data sources and reports, which helps lower IT costs and improve decision making.
- **Root cause and impact analysis** – In combination with data-profiling functionality, you can use data lineage tools to determine the origin of data quality problems. Similarly, impact analysis functionality helps you see where data quality issues are affecting downstream processes or information assets.

- **Validation rules** – All enterprise systems and programs depend on clean, correct, and useful data. This solution helps you establish validation rules that check your data for accuracy, consistency, conformity, integrity, and completeness. It allows you to apply these rules continuously to ensure ongoing quality. For optimal efficiency, validation rule sets can also be reused during data migration and integration projects.

Comprehensive functionality
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**Competitive advantage delivered
by data quality**

- **Glossary of business terms** – Creating commonly accepted business terms – the semantics used to describe basic entities such as customers, products, employees, and partners – is a difficult task for most organizations. SAP Information Steward, Edge edition, enables you to create a business term taxonomy – a "metapedia" that integrates and consolidates metadata from many sources, linking business terms with data elements so business users can better understand data definitions. The functionality allows business and IT experts to define and agree on standardized business terminology.

- **Cleansing package builder** – Cleansing packages help your data stewards and subject matter experts create customized data-cleansing solutions for any data domain. Intuitive, visually oriented tools help you generate parsing rules automatically – based on how your data stewards classify enterprise information. Data can be classified easily by dragging and dropping values, using contexts and patterns that will govern a data-cleansing project. A cleansing package is then used to process the data in accordance with package guidelines provided by the Edge edition of SAP Data Services or SAP Information Steward software.

Single solution, multiple benefits

As a single solution for data profiling and metadata management, SAP Information Steward, Edge edition, enables your company to:

- **Reduce the overall complexity of your IT landscape** – Deploying a single solution for data profiling and metadata management allows your IT team to focus more on value-added tasks. Integrated technology also means more efficient processes and lower costs.
- **Empower business users** – Improved collaboration between data analysts and data stewards can have a substantial impact on your information management initiatives, boosting efficiency and profitability.

- **Govern enterprise information** – Good data governance depends on creating consistent rules and guidelines about who can access, change, add, share, or integrate enterprise information. This solution supports sound governance processes that define data ownership to meet your organization's needs, roles, and accountability principles.
- **Improve information transparency** – SAP Information Steward, Edge edition, offers comprehensive visibility into data quality at all levels of the information management landscape. Impact analysis tools allow you to assess the merits of changes in your data structures and sources, resulting in reduced risk and improved data quality. With better insight into data origins and lineage, your information becomes more accurate and more trustworthy.

Summary

The Edge edition of SAP® Information Steward software provides the tools you need to understand and analyze the trust-worthiness of your enterprise information. With integrated data-profiling and metadata management functionality, the solution is designed to provide continuous insight into the quality of your data.

Objectives

- Enable collaboration between business and IT personnel
- Improve governance of data quality processes
- Increase visibility into enterprise information
- Enhance understanding of data quality metrics
- Build a central repository for metadata management and data validation rules

Solution

- Data profiling that improves trust in data
- Metadata management
- Root cause and impact analysis of data quality issues
- Validation rule management to monitor data quality
- Metadata glossary to promote under-standing of business terms
- Data-cleansing packages

Benefits

- Reduced IT complexity with one solution for data profiling and metadata management
- Increased efficiency and reduced costs via a collaborative environment
- Improved data management processes with tools that support better governance
- Enhanced data quality via increased transparency of data lineage

Learn more

To find out more, visit www.sap.com/solutions/sme/business-analytics-for-medium-business/edge-eim/index.epx.