

IBM now provides the cloud infrastructure running the SAP HANA Enterprise Cloud, allowing the expansion of the service to major markets with the addition of IBM cloud data centres.



HANA is the in-memory database speeding up the performance of SAP's ERP and CRM software.

"We look forward to extending one of the longest and most successful partnerships in the IT industry," SAP CEO Bill McDermott says. "The demand for SAP HANA and the SAP Business Suite on SAP HANA in the cloud is tremendous and this global agreement with IBM heralds a new era of cloud collaboration. We anticipate customers will benefit from this collaboration and expansion of SAP HANA Enterprise Cloud."

The partnership is a positive for both SAP and IBM-- SAP gets further cloud power on which to run HANA and expanded customer reach, while IBM gets more use and earnings from its \$1.2 billion SoftLayer acquisition.

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