SAP Takes on Data Warehousing

Written by Marco Attard
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SAP adds more capabilities to the Hana cloud platform with BW/4Hana, a solution the company claims provides simpler and more powerful real-time analytics through "a new foundation for logical data warehousing."
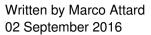

Designed to run solely on Hana, BW/4Hana promises to minimise data movement and duplication by enabling the analysis of data wherever it resides, be it within or without the enterprise. It also integrates live streaming and time-series sensor data collected through IoT devices.

BW/4Hana features a simplified development environment allowing the faster building of data warehouses. It automatically distributes data in hot, worm or cold storage areas for optimal management and reduced storage costs, and can integrate with Hadoop data lakes as well as SAP's own Vora for analysis.

Users can push data warehouse objects to the SAP BusinessObjects Cloud for visualisation, storytelling and data exploration, while built-in migration tools allow out-of-the-box deployment for Amazon AWS and SAP Hana Enterprise Cloud, with more 3rd party cloud platforms to follow.

"The digitisation of business requires a modern approach to data management, data processing and analytics that can handle any data source and type in real time," SAP says. "With SAP BW/4Hana and our collaboration with AWS, the leading cloud infrastructure provider, we are providing customers with an easy-to-consume next-generation data warehouse platform that will further accelerate their journey toward becoming a live digital business."

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SAP BW/4Hana is available from 7 September 2016.

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