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SAP implementation means integration of end-to-end business processes on an integrated technology platform. The main aim is to synchronize each process through a robust technology platform and enable business growth. This mechanism is promoted through SAP Net Weaver, an excellent business tool which integrates third party systems and external web applications with SAP core ECC systems.

SAP is a large undertaking wherein customers need dedicated professionals who put in maximum efforts and make the project successful through proper implementation and support. In this article we emphasize upon the aspect that every business has different needs and demands to fulfill their specific growth strategies which makes each SAP project unique. SAP projects are setup using some of the best practices to make it user specific and user-friendly with ultimate results.

Ideally, IT transformation project begins with assigning a strategy to support Company's short term and long term business growth. The decision committee comprises of C-level executives including CEO, CFO, CIO, Company Vice Presidents, and IT Heads. The committee understands and approves IT strategy and the process follows in which an executive steering committee is formed comprising of people and executives in leadership role, who represent business processes.

Thereafter, project starts into operational phase with proper planning, preparation, creating blueprint, designing functions, understanding and introducing new technicalities, project-testing, deploying, go-live and support phases.

Planning phase comprises of recognition of team which comprises of a business lead supported by IT lead to work within the guidance of program sponsor. The IT lead works in close proximity of the project and should continue to lead IT strategies to take the project ahead tackling all hindrances.

Before SAP implementation, in planning phase, SAP consultants understand department objectives as set by key stakeholders that should be met through SAP project. SAP Company carries extensive planning pattern so that there are no new transformation objectives or significant enhancements to existing business processes. Any new introductions will elongate the time frame for project to go-live. Next process is to prioritize important project factors including schedule, budget and quality of project so that Company can select the vendor properly. Also, stakeholders should identify the scope items or processes which should be eliminated in case project budget or schedule gets challenged.

Selection of technology is the next phase when Company has decided to implant SAP solutions. Technology is decided based upon following factors:

Efficiency of technology platform

Assessing project's ability to enhance and support long term growth of business with regards to functionality, handling of data volume, system performance and related factors

Effective integration of integral and external systems and ability to operate in-house after Go-live with least or no support from support team of technology vendor for example SAP Company in this case.

All business functionalities complete with SAP standard modules like FI-CO, SD, MM, BI, and more.

SAP as Implementation partner is chosen after evaluating the success of similar project delivery in the past say same industry, same solution or similarity in size of Company.

Preparation phase is dependent upon implementation methodology. Projects and team working on selected projects are decided, including key stake-holders and role of participants. SAP consultants have to work in close proximity of these teams and hence they should be accustomed with individual teams and work area to work unhindered and with proper information and functional support.

Team understands each process, each phase and each input for the desired output and growth of the Company.

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