

Introduction to SAP Cloud Platform Integration (SCPI)

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The last thing you want to know about the software you recently installed to boost your business is that it cannot be expanded to accommodate any new user interface or software.

Consider these situations: you want to foray into cloud in order to reach out to a larger customer base or maybe you want to leverage the capabilities of another software that will help your Human resources department(for example) to move faster and more efficiently or perhaps you want to collaborate with another partner/customer who has a different software in use – the easiest and the fastest approach to address these and many more such issues is Integration.

SCPI is the integration service on the cloud that can be used to integrate processes and data in all of the above scenarios or to be more specific all the Application to Application, Business to Business, Business to Client Scenarios and also for multiple endpoints such as Cloud to Cloud applications, Cloud to On-Premise, etc.

The benefits of using SCPI for integration are varied, some of the key ones are listed here as follows

- Speedy communication between systems especially for Cloud to Cloud Application.
- Increased security, security features such as content encryption and certificate-based communication makes sure that all your communication is very safe.
- Tenant Isolation (For each customer system connected to SCPI separate resources are allocated)
- Pre-packaged Integration content by SAP for quite a few applications
- Less implementation time, pre-packaged content, graphical tools and easy to learn methods make for easier customizations
- Scalability and maintenance are taken care of by SAP (SAP rolls out updates every month).
- Lower Total cost of ownership, pay as you go subscription model and minimal upfront investment.

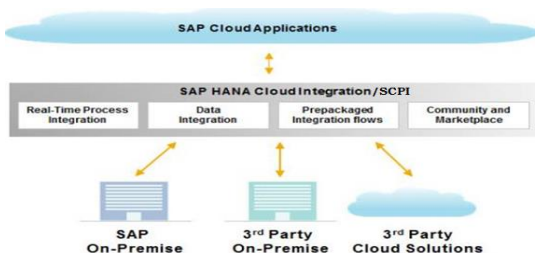
In an integration scenario the SCPI system sits in the middle, it acts as the communicator between the two systems

The data can be exchanged via SCPI using a different type of adapters, for example, if the data from SAP comes into SCPI via IDoc adapter the same can be converted to SFTP File adapter or SOAP adapter as required by the third-party application or C4C system. The internal mappings and conversions can be taken care of within the SCPI system. The list of adapters currently supported by SCPI are –

- SOAP Adapter (Sender and Receiver) – this adapter allows to connect another system that supports SOAP adapter(1.x)
- HTTP adapter (Receiver side) (POST/GET/PUT methods) – This adapter allows to connect to receiver system using the HTTP protocol.
- SFTP adapter (Sender and receiver) – This adapter allows to connect to another system using the SSH File transfer protocol.
- IDoc SOAP adapter (Sender and receiver) – This adapter allows to exchange IDoc messages with another system.
- Mail adapter (Receiver) – This adapter allows to send encrypted messages by e-mail.
- Success Factors adapter (SOAP/OData/REST Sender and receiver) – to connect with success factors.
- Salesforce adapter (Sender and Receiver) – this adapter was designed to connect with salesforce
- Ariba adapter – Connect a tenant to the Ariba network (that way allowing SAP and non-SAP cloud applications to send and receive business specific documents in cXML format to and from the Ariba network).
- OData adapter – Connect to systems exposing OData services (OData service providers).

SCPI serves as Integration Platform as a service (iPaaS), it therefore acts as a complementary offering to PI/PO and not as a replacement. Each has its own capabilities, some of the factors that goes in favour of SCPI are integration between cloud to cloud application, if the pre-packaged content for the integration scenario is only available on SCPI, it shall reduce the time and cost of implementation significantly. Also, in cases where PI/PO is on older release the cost of upgrading it or implementing SCPI can be compared as all the PI flows can be migrated to SCPI easily. SCPI is an affordable option for customers who don't have a PI/PO system as it allows to have something up and running very quickly.

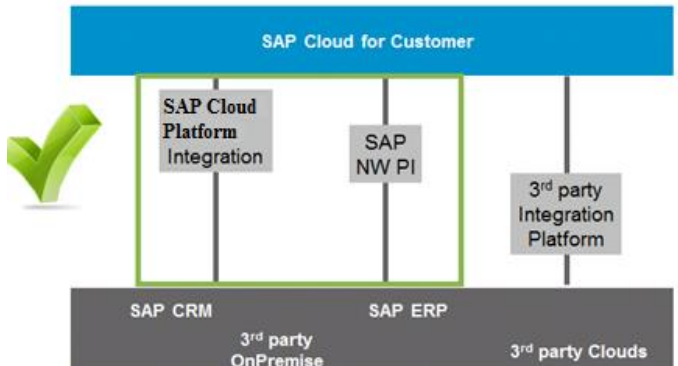
The deciding factors in favour of PI/PO system are – In case that the customer already has a PI/PO system up and running, or if the integration is mainly required for on-Premise to cloud application, customer already has experience with PI/PO and if the pre-packaged content provided by SAP can only be leveraged in PI/PO system.



Once the decision is made and we are ready to use SCPI as our integration platform, what next? We need to procure a tenant from SAP and the tenant provisioning mail has all the details required for the setup of SCPI system. Now, all we need to do is set it up before we can leverage the pre-packaged content and start the processes between systems. The pre-packaged content also has the integration guides by SAP which are very helpful in setting up the systems.

The basic set up and the flows related for a master data and sales setup from C4C to S/4 Hana system will be explained in the blogs to follow.

In conclusion, SCPI or no SCPI, Integration is an important aspect of every business/implementation, it can help you create new avenues or improve the existing ones. SAP is ever expanding and upgrading to keep up with the demand and provide the best possible solution to meet all our business needs. With SAP as your platform it makes much more sense to leverage SCPI for all your integration requirements, although it fits no less in other scenarios as well.



Customers have a choice to deploy integrations on-premise or in the cloud. Cloud for Customer provides prepackaged integration content for SAP HANA Cloud Integration (HCI) and SAP NetWeaver Process Integration.



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