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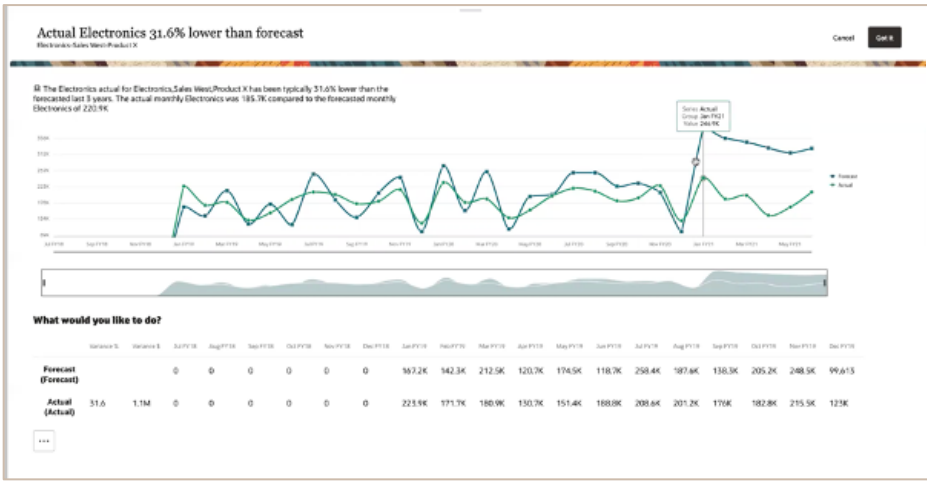
Planning in Oracle Cloud EPM

It's simply 'planning made easy'… Spend more time running your business and less time maintaining planning processes. Planning is a purpose-built business process available in the Oracle Fusion Cloud EPM that is a perfect fit for corporate finance and operational planners throughout the enterprise (such as sales, marketing, HR, IT, and the lines of business.). It empowers operational planners with flexibility, scalability, and the ownership to plan how they want while offering the transparency and control required for corporate finance.

Plan the way you like

Planning is a match for the way you run your business. This solution provides the freedom of choice to you as a customer to deploy a solution that meets your specific needs. You can choose to leverage the out-of-the-box best-in-class planning frameworks (integrated strategy, financial, workforce, capital, projects, sales, and marketing) with high configurability, or you can build a tailored, customized solution for a specific use case. It's the best of both worlds in a single solution. Some planning tools strive for simplicity. Others strive for flexibility. This solution accomplishes both by providing an option that meets the business need while maintaining the ease and upgradeability of a cloud-based planning solution.



Oracle Cloud EPM 1. Automated analysis quickly highlights bias, anomalies, or other 'hot spots' in your plans to help you to take action faster.

Key business benefits

- Create custom planning and forecasting models or get up and running quickly with purpose-built planning models, including prebuilt calculations, dashboards, and reports. Easy to use. Easy to maintain.
- Scalability to address both operational and finance planning processes.
- Intuitive business wizards allow you to evolve your planning processes as your business changes.
- Powerful analytics, dashboards, what-if, and predictive capabilities give you unparalleled insight into your business.
- Automated analysis using inbuilt ML highlights 'hot-spots' or anomalies in your plan for you to take action faster.
- No capex infrastructure investments are required in the cloud.

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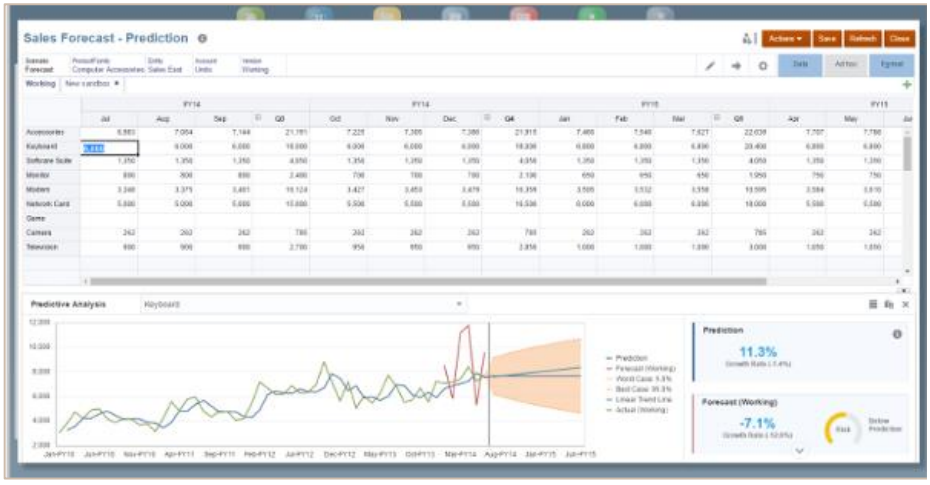
Out-of-the-box functional value

The out-of-box planning content is more than just unsupported 'starter templates' from an 'app store.' Instead, it's innovative new modules that can be tailored to your specific needs yet remains upgradable by Oracle. Are your planning processes are too unique for out-of-box planning content? It's not an 'all or nothing' decision with Planning. Take advantage of configuration 'mash-ups' that combine configured processes with prebuilt planning components from Oracle. The library of prebuilt planning components such as models, dashboards, reports, KPIs, and planning accelerators continues to grow. Only use the components that you prefer but keep an eye out for new functional ones with each new release.

Be up and running in no time

The best practice planning modules are designed to be up and running with minimal effort and are easy to maintain as your business planning needs evolve. Simple-to-use wizards allow even a technology novice to create complex planning processes without a deep understanding of the product.

The configurable planning framework provides immediate value by quickly getting you up and running with a targeted planning process. Then, it allows you to enhance and mature your planning processes over time. Instead of lengthy implementations, you can establish quick success and evolve your planning approach in a more agile manner – building on the success of each new process that you enable.



Oracle Cloud EPM 2. Intuitive business wizards make it easy to 'enable' only the features you want and quickly configure calculations and processes.

Key features

- **Financials –** Fully integrated financial statement planning across the income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow.
- **Strategy –** quickly create long-range forecast models using built-in sophisticated scenario modeling capabilities, Monte Carlo simulation, and debt and capital structure management features.
- **Workforce –** Financial workforce planning for compensation spend by employee and/or job code.
- **Integration to HCM –** Pre-built integration to Oracle HCM Cloud and seamless cloud-to-cloud integration to 3rd party HCM solutions to align workforce and strategic priorities.
- **Projects –** Project financial planning for project- oriented industries and departments (e.g. IT, Marketing, R&D, etc.).
- **Capital –** A Capital asset process for detailed planning on the impact of new and existing assets.
- **Integration to CX –** Pre- built integration to Oracle CX Cloud and seamless cloud-to-cloud integration to 3rd party CX solutions for sales planning alignment
- **Excel Add-In –** Smart View, for ad hoc analysis and Excel-based interactions with your plan.
- **Integrated Predictive Planning –** capabilities that allow you to create forecasts based on historical actual data.
- **Support for Hybrid Cloud Deployments –** deep integration to on-premises systems.

Best-practice modules

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Planning in the Oracle Cloud EPM includes pre-built modules to help address your planning needs. The modules can be used by both finance and operational planners. They can also be used as is or mashed up with configured processes to deliver value to your planning quickly.

- **Strategy –** The 'Strategy' module is purpose-built for scenario modeling. It includes rich features for side-by-side financial and operational analysis of numerous business scenarios. End users can easily change assumptions, model logic, and mix-and-match scenarios on the fly in seconds. It can be used by corporate/group users and users in the business units. For those users responsible for the company's strategic direction, like corporate development, it also includes robust financial logic for the entire trial balance (income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow), treasury features, and mergers & acquisitions.
- **Financials –** The 'Financials' module is a fully integrated financial statement planning solution across the income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow. For example, the integration ensures that changes on the income statement automatically roll to the balance sheet and cash flow. Noteably, the Financials is constructed into four sub-process that can be incrementally enabled: Revenue, Expense, Balance Sheet, and Cash Flow. This allows you to use a single sub-process – such as Expense planning – or any combination of the sub-processes in the module.
- **Workforce –** The 'Workforce' module addresses your planning needs for employees across the enterprise. In most enterprises, the workforce is one of the more significant expenses on the income statement. Furthermore, workforce effectiveness is in ensuring the enterprise meets its strategic objectives. Therefore, it's an essential planning process. This module addresses the needs of both Finance and HR. It addresses compensation spend by an employee and job code integrating with your HCM systems and strategic workforce planning for a complete solution to manage employee budgets, skills, and talent— now and in the future.
- **Projects –** The 'Projects' module is a planning pattern suitable for numerous uses. Project-oriented industries will benefit from the detailed project financial planning process that allows for granular planning for employees, contractors, materials, and costs associated with large-scale projects. Projects are well-suit ed for task-oriented departments in any enterprise (e.g. IT, Marketing, R&D, etc.) that need a more streamlined approach to planning projects.
- **Capital –** The 'Capital' module addresses planning needs associated with new and existing assets and intangibles. Capital is very appropriate for enterprises that have significant capital assets. The module accounts for long-range asset-related impacts across the income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow.
- **Sales –** The 'Sales' planning module helps you optimize revenue by addressing complex planning processes. The module allows for optimal quotas and territories and uses predictive modeling to align your sales force with revenue goals to ensure a higher probability of achieving their targets.

Flexible, customizable solution

Business processes can vary across industries and based on the size and complexity of the business. Using Oracle Fusion Cloud EPM, customers can create highly flexible and scalable solutions to suit their targeted business needs within and beyond finance. The

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solution includes an intuitive web interface and a powerful Excel Add-in, called Smart View, which contains a rich set of capabilities to satisfy any business planning, modeling, analysis, and reporting need.

Robust modeling with sandboxing and predictive analytics

Companies today are faced with a rapidly changing business environment. Demand is volatile, and costs are being closely scrutinized and cut. An essential requirement to stay ahead of the competition is to understand this volatility and quickly model for these financial and operational changes based on fast-changing assumptions.

Planning provides sophisticated modeling and predictive analytical capabilities that allow users to create multiple what-if versions and slice and dice data based on various what-if assumptions. Planning also has a rolling forecast wizard, which makes it simple to implement a drive-based rolling forecast process in which the forecasting time horizon rolls forwards across years.

Automated insights for faster action

The value of a connected planning solution is realized when action can be taken on identified opportunities and issues are rapidly corrected, avoiding wasted time analyzing data. Oracle Cloud EPM has embedded machine learning (ML) to do the hard work. ML can quickly identify anomalies, biases, and unusual variances on millions of data points. It then presents them to the users with the context, so stakeholders can spend more time taking action than doing data analysis.

The sophisticated built-in Scenario Modeling framework allows end users to quickly create long-range and focused on-the-fly forecast models for fast-changing business dynamics using built-in scenario blending, Monte Carlo simulation, and debt and capital structure management features

Align enterprise planning processes

Planning should not be limited to corporate finance. The organizations that are most successful at enterprise planning connect operational planners to the corporate finance plans in a manner that provides synergy to both sets of stakeholders. Planning helps you to accomplish this through a unique ‘federated’ architecture.

The architecture allows you to connect and align related planning processes across the enterprise maintaining individual planners’ independence. It is based on two fundamental principles:

- **Operational independence –** To succeed, operational planners need ‘ownership’ of their planning processes. First, they need to plan at an operational level of detail (e.g., a level of detail not typically required by finance). This could be different planning dimensionality, a more granular level of data, and/or a different forecasting cadence. The federated architecture has unparalleled scalability to address detailed planning. The system has a unique way of dealing with sparse data and in-memory calculations to easily handle volumes of data required for operational planning. Furthermore, operational planners need the ability to own and operate their planning system without heavy reliance on system administrators at corporate finance. This is where the value of the configuration

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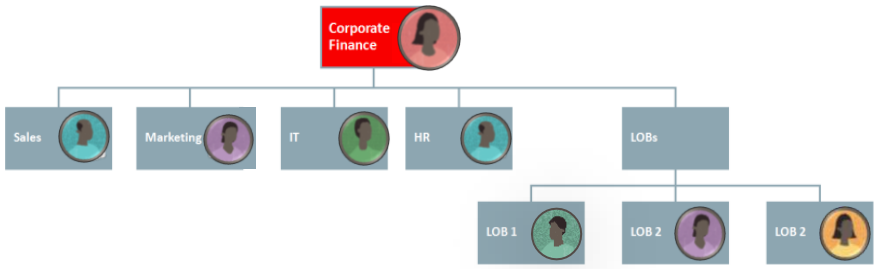
wizards comes into play. These allow operational planners to take ownership of the maintenance and administration of the system.

- **Synergy between plans –** Plans must be connected to create synergy and alignment. For example, the various operational plans (e.g., sales and marketing, supply chain, HR, IT, etc.) need to be connected to corporate finance to ensure strong controls and governance. The solution's federated architecture can share data and processes where appropriate, allowing synergy and collaboration between planners yet still allowing independence and privacy for each set of planners.

The cloud makes it more practical to extend planning across the enterprise. However, instead of having numerous disconnected plans, the federated architecture of Planning in Oracle Cloud EPM allows you to ensure alignment and synergy across the planning spectrum. This will enable you to instill a culture of planning around the enterprise and to mine the wisdom of the planners closest to the operational details.



Oracle Cloud EPM 3. Planning allows you to create federated planning processes, ensuring independence and realizing synergy between related plans.

Integration and hybrid cloud deployment

Well-designed planning processes are not isolated 'data islands. Instead, they rely on the other operational and financial systems from around the enterprise. Some of these systems will reside on-premises, while others may be in the cloud. Planning is architected to thrive within hybrid cloud deployments. For example, the solution includes various data management options that allow you to pick the right tool for the job.

Basic flat-file imports may be your tool of choice. These are quick and easy, and anyone can use them. In other cases, you may prefer more highly automated data transformation and load processes from source systems (on-premises or in the cloud). Finally, you may prefer certified adapters or the ability to configure rich integration using the secure RESTful API. In all cases, Planning has the right tool for the job.

The solution also supports single sign-on (SSO) and reporting across other on-premises enterprise performance planning systems – such as Oracle Hyperion Planning, Hyperion Financial Management, etc. This allows you to leverage your investment in existing financial systems while realizing the benefits of a cloud-based planning solution.

In summary

Related EPM business processes

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Planning in the Oracle Cloud EPM offers a very compelling value proposition for both finance and operational planners. As a steward of enterprise performance management at your company, it is imperative that you have a planning solution that makes you more effective. The preceding is just a quick summary of the solution's value. For a more detailed discussion, contact your Oracle account manager.

Oracle Fusion Cloud EPM

Oracle Fusion Cloud EPM is the only complete and connected EPM solution delivering the agility you need to outperform in today's constantly evolving business landscape.

- Oracle Fusion Cloud EPM provides the following capabilities:
- Narrative Reporting
- Financial Consolidation and Close
- Account Reconciliation
- Planning
- Profitability and Cost Management
- Tax Reporting
- Enterprise Data Management

Other related solutions

- Oracle Fusion Cloud ERP
- Oracle Fusion Cloud SCM
- Oracle Fusion Cloud HCM
- Oracle Fusion Cloud CX

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