



Automated License Optimization for SAP Applications

CLR for SAP® Applications™

SAP licensing is very expensive and determining the best license type for each user can be impossible to do manually. Organizations are urged by SAP to buy high-priced Professional licenses for 80% of users, and to purchase other license types for the remaining 20%. However, most organizations do not require anywhere near this many Professional licenses. They end up wasting large amounts of money over-licensing just to ensure that they will be compliant with their SAP license agreements.

Solution Overview

Eracent's Continuous License Reconciliation (CLR) for SAP Applications™ offers an automated method to ensure license compliance for any SAP application. It also helps customers realize tremendous cost savings through optimization analysis and license type recommendations based on detailed actual usage details.

CLR for SAP Applications™ (Base) provides details around your organization's SAP licenses that utilize common, non-complex license models such as Per User, Per Server, etc. This information includes:

- Discovered installations
- Purchase transactions and financial details
- Contracts and license agreements with terms and conditions and renewal dates
- License allocations to devices and users

CLR For SAP Applications (Advanced) provides a powerful, automated solution for optimizing SAP licensing by ensuring that users have the license type that best matches their actual use of SAP system functionality. This module addresses three critical aspects of SAP licensing: User Licensing, Indirect Access and SAP Software Engine Licensing.

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User Licensing

CLR for SAP Applications (Advanced) examines User Licensing from two levels: The first is to compare Current Licensing – actual installations and assignments - with licensing data from SAP purchase agreements and contracts. Current Licensing reflects what SAP would see if they did an audit right now, using data in the user records in SAP. This comparison shows license compliance in the interface and reports, and over- and under-licensing are highlighted.

License Type	Purchased From SAP	Current Licensing	
	No. of Employees	No. of Employees	Free
Inactive Employee			
No Usage Data			
Test		25	25
ESS - Employee Self Service	17,200	16,849	351
Employee		2,285	-2,285
Limited Professional	125	124	1
Indirect Access User License			
Professional	115	118	-3
Not Classified		10	-10
Developer		4	-4
SPECIAL MODULE TYPE 1		3	-3
Total	17,465	19,418	-1,953

Licensing Overview

License Optimization

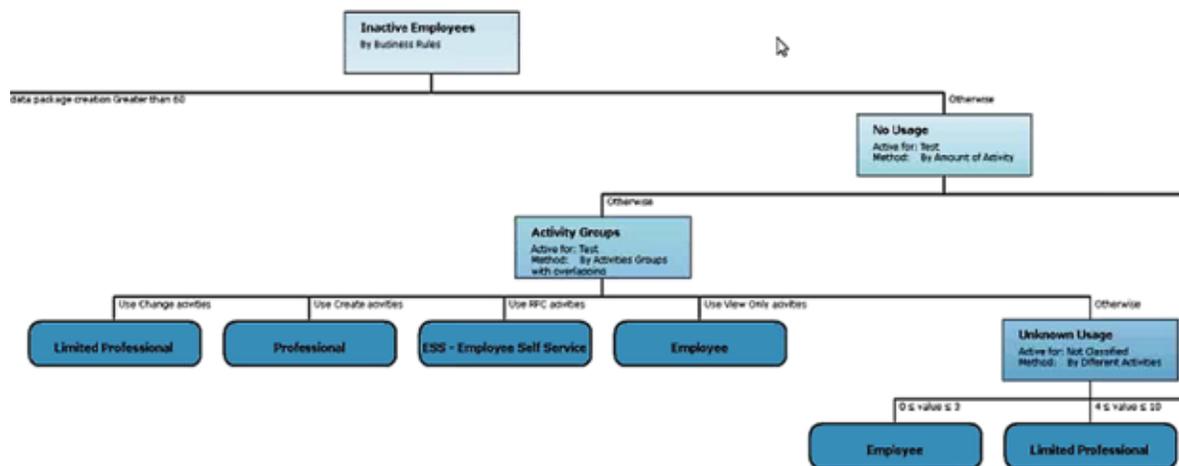
The second level of calculations – which can result in tremendous savings on SAP licensing - is License Optimization. The system makes license type recommendations based on actual usage data for each user, so it is a stable, reliable and accurate method of optimization. If SAP questions any of the optimization data, you will be able to produce justification as to why licenses were classified in a certain way.

The algorithm considers multiple user profiles and license types when calculating optimization suggestions, including:

- Test and Developer
- Employee and ESS (Employee Self Service)
- Professional and Limited Professional
- Indirect Access User Licenses
- Licenses that are inactive or show no usage data
- Custom, user-defined license types and optimization methods that support special licensing agreements and metrics

If a user performs system functions that cross several license types, the system will assign the highest-level license to that user. For example, if a user is using RFC functions and they create records and they have view-only access to some views and reports, they should have a Professional license.

The system also applies multiple configurable rules and thresholds, such as Business Rules, Amount of Activity, Types of Different Activities and by Activity Groups with overlap. Users can be classified by department, job title, etc. for reporting and calculations.



Configurable Business Rules

Unsuitable Licenses Report

The Unsuitable Licenses Report shows users whose currently assigned and optimized license types are not the same. The license type for these users should be changed in the SAP system. This change can be performed automatically or manually. Reports also show users who are under-licensed based on the work they are doing (e.g., they have an Employee license but the tasks they are performing require a Professional license).

For each user, you can see the activities they are performing in SAP and what license type corresponds to those activities as defined by your SAP agreement. Their frequency of use and activity within specified timeframes can also be seen.

SAP Engines Usage Overview

SAP Engines reporting compares contractual measurements to current, actual measurements of SAP Engine usage. These reports help to maintain license compliance around SAP Engines and provide data for advance planning. They also enable alerts as full utilization approaches.

It is possible to see how many licenses are free or utilized, as well as trends and a historical view based on data collected over time. Alerts can be configured based on thresholds, such as 80% or 90%

Indirect Access License Management

CLR for SAP Applications (Advanced) provides discovery and management around SAP Indirect Access licensing. The system uses different usage profiles, heuristics and analysis of different connections to identify potential Indirect Access "users".

Not only can you manage Indirect Access from systems you're aware of, but if a new Indirect Access system is added and connects to SAP for its operations, then the CLR module will discover this.

The second part of Indirect Access management is license optimization. The CLR module looks at consolidated user data from third-party applications that connect to SAP, and it examines the connections as well. It can also enable the transfer of the user list from the third-party application to the SAP licensing module. It will then compare the user list to users who already have SAP licenses in order to make recommendations on how many additional licenses are necessary for indirect access.

For example, if a third-party application that you use interacts with SAP and has 1,000 users, SAP will say that you need to buy 1,000 Indirect Access licenses. If 700 of the users of the third-party application already have another SAP license, then the number of new licenses required will probably be significantly lower since user licensing is based on named employee.

How does the CLR module identify Indirect Access licenses? There are various algorithms in the system to identify Indirect Access. The tool looks at a combination of attributes as well as user name, the host name or computer from which a system is connecting, and identifiers on the application itself. CLR can analyze actual usage patterns and use that data to identify Indirect Access as well. For instance, if a user connects every three hours on the hour and performs a large number of RFD transactions, that is a user profile that is indicative of an automatic system or Indirect Access user.

For more details on CLR for SAP Applications and how it can save your organization a significant amount on your SAP licenses, contact your Eracent representative today.



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