

Anaplan Platform overview

All planning for all people

The Connected Planning challenge

As business dynamics accelerate, planning needs to evolve to keep up with changing demands. Point solutions and data scattered across disjointed systems and sources can form an incomplete, outdated picture and ultimately lead to sub-optimal decisions.

The case for Connected Planning

Connected Planning seeks to fundamentally transform planning by connecting all of the necessary people, data, and plans to accelerate business value and enable real-time planning and decision-making in rapidly changing environments. By placing the power of planning in the hands of every individual, at every level within and between business functions, Connected Planning breaks the proverbial silos to deliver speed, agility, and visibility.

Empower business planning to connect people, data, and plans on a single unified platform



Data

Single, secure source of planning and decision data.



People

Greater collaboration, deeper insights, and faster alignment.



Plans

Dynamic, continuous planning for any area of your business.

Connected Planning at work: The Anaplan solution

Connected Planning represents a paradigm shift from the legacy approach to planning, which is typically confined to the finance department and uses a patchwork of outdated, disconnected tools and manual processes that are often overly complex, slow, inefficient, and static. Connected Planning enables dynamic, collaborative, and intelligent planning across all areas of an organization, including but not limited to finance, sales, supply chain, marketing, human resources, and operations. Anaplan's Connected Planning Honeycomb illustrates the power of collaborative planning that can only be realized with a purpose-built platform as its unifying core.





As a purpose-built platform connecting people, data, and plans, Anaplan delivers a unified real-time, cloud-based environment to optimize planning and democratize decision-making across all lines of business and business activities, from strategic to operational levels. Leveraging the speed and scale of the platform, Anaplan offers businesses a nimble, intuitive, and secure way to collaborate concurrently to drive faster and more accurate decisions.

Key characteristics of the Anaplan platform that support the needs of organizations and users

Engaging user experience

Anaplan's collaborative, intuitive, and engaging user experience brings the right people into the planning process at the right time, across devices and solutions. The entire company can share real-time data, enabling smarter, faster decision-making and unprecedented flexibility.

- New, modern design facilitates intuitive and personalized experience across devices.
- Build pages, apps, and boards to create more visual, interactive dashboards that display KPIs, charts, and more.
- View KPIs, receive alerts, and make timely changes and updates easily and on-the-fly.
- Commenting and sharing plans empowers teams to have contextual conversations about data and scenarios to quickly unify on strategy and execute.
- Anaplan Extensions for Microsoft Office and Google Suite enable a seamless experience across online and offline reporting.

Embedded intelligence

Embedded optimization, including Optimizer™, cutting-edge predictive algorithms, and evolving AI/ML capabilities transforms complicated inputs into actionable recommendations.

- Assess hundreds of variables and constraints, letting optimization and ML capabilities solve for an optimal answer.
- Derive recommendations for many complicated use cases including sales territory planning, inventory management, project portfolio optimization, and more.
- Embedded algorithms enable statistical forecasting: Curve Fit, Smoothing, Seasonal Smoothing, and more.

Powerful planning and modeling

Anaplan's patented in-memory Hyperblock® calculation engine and HyperScale™ capabilities enable multi-dimensional scenario modeling with unlimited constraints. These powerful technologies allow companies to model even the most complicated scenarios to stay ahead of market changes. The platform maintains 100% consistency across all model changes.

- Anaplan HyperModels allow teams to create models with any number of dimensions and incorporate large-scale data sets.
- Anaplan's modular approach lets decision-makers in sales, finance, supply chain, HR, IT, marketing, and other business units model their own unique organizations and connect between business units.
- Anaplan Data Hub houses all data needed to execute the planning scenarios. As the single source of truth for hierarchies and data, changes in one area immediately roll to all other relevant areas.
- Forecast far into the future. With HyperModels, teams can easily integrate expanded actuals and historical data to model and adjust to scenarios in real time.

Highly extensible ecosystem

The Anaplan platform collects and analyzes data in a single location, enabling both high-level and granular analyses and facilitating data-sharing with all stakeholders. APIs, ETL connectors, and built-in integrations easily communicate with other solutions.

- Anaplan has connectors for industry-leading ETL and ESB tools that integrate with systems of record, such as Informatica, MuleSoft, Dell Boomi, and SnapLogic.
- The Anaplan platform supports purpose-built integrations for enterprise systems of engagement, such as Tableau, Workiva, and DocuSign.
- The Anaplan platform can be further extended with custom integrations using REST APIs and scripting.

Enterprise scalability

The Anaplan platform connects the entire enterprise and scales across billions of cells, hundreds of models and use cases, thousands of users, and unlimited versions. Calculations stay consistent and rapid for all data sets and any number of users.

- Hyper-threading with CPU cores allows the platform to process millions of rows per second.
- Anaplan's patented Hyperblock® technology processes only the relevant cells, dramatically reducing calculation time.
- Application lifecycle management (ALM) in the cloud systematically synchronizes structure between models.

Robust security

The industry-leading security capabilities of the Anaplan platform give businesses the transparency, visibility, access, and control needed for superior data safekeeping and protection. Anaplan offers best-in-class security and compliance including BYOK, single sign-on (SSO) support with SAML 2.0, and data encryption at rest and in transit.

- Identity and authorization management provides user management, access control, and selective access.
- Authentication is validated through SSO and certificates.
- Encryption is provided at rest and in-transit with option for BYOK.
- Audit functionality tracks user activity and access control security events.



Connected Planning incorporates accurate, timely, and comprehensive input to project into the future. Accelerated productivity from Connected Planning provides organizations with newfound agility to respond proactively and decisively in the face of escalating uncertainty. Aided by artificial intelligence and machine learning that continuously learn and recalibrate from growing data sets, organizations can leverage intelligence that helps tackle the unexpected well into the future.

About SUMLOOKUP

SUMLOOKUP is an Australian based boutique consultancy focused on delivery Enterprise Performance Management Solutions. Our Specialist team combines over 10 years of consulting experience to provide clients with expert advice and end-to-end delivery of Anaplan models to support business requirements.

At SUMLOOKUP our primary objective is to design, develop and implement operational improvement strategies specialising in a wide range of industries. We work towards improving business processes.

To learn more:

Website: www.sumlookup.com.au

Email: nick.cimini@sumlookup.com.au