See Your Enterprise Data from a Single Point of View

ACL Business Assurance Analytics

Ken McGovern
Director, Product Management,
ACL Services Ltd.

To gain visibility into financial and operational performance, and to satisfy compliance regulations, companies are turning to data analysis technologies to access their transactional data. ACL, an SAP Software Vendor with certified integration, can help SAP customers examine transactions across key business processes and disparate systems to uncover errors, identify unforeseen risks, expose fraud, isolate internal control breaches, and enable smarter decision making.

ACL offers Business Assurance Analytics, a suite of data analytics technologies — including *ACL* Desktop and Server editions, *Direct Link 4.2*, and Continuous Controls Monitoring solutions — that enable SAP customers to meet regulatory and business requirements. Through the single point of view provided by these analytics solutions, SAP customers can access their data in mySAP ERP along with transactional data from legacy systems and other data sources in diverse IT environments. By simplifying cross-platform comparative analytics, ACL technologies provide facts-based evidence to support more informed strategic and tactical decisions.

The New Role of Data Analytics

Data analytics are no longer the sole domain of auditors, technical users, or specialists. In fact, data analytics technology can help financial and operational managers review transactions within business processes (the payables cycle, general ledger, inventory, payroll, etc.). And in response to compliance requirements and corporate accountability pressures, organizations must increase the frequency of internal controls testing and monitoring, and analyze *all* transactional data, while reducing the overall cost of compliance.

ACL Data Analytics Technologies

For more than 18 years, ACL has been providing Business Assurance Analytics technology to some of the world's largest organizations. Hundreds of companies, including Dow Corning, Dominion, and Suncor Energy, have applied ACL data analytics within their SAP solutions environments to improve operational efficiency and bottom-line results — while providing a positive return on investment in a matter of weeks.

Highlights of ACL's Business Assurance Analytics include:

- **Independence:** ACL analytics reduce the burden on IT for extracting data in SAP solutions, allowing end users to get the information they need — when they need it.
- **Productivity:** End-to-end automation is key to operational efficiency. ACL's *Direct Link*, certified for integration with SAP NetWeaver, connects to the target SAP system using SAP RFC calls. Based on a user's table, field, and filter selections, *Direct Link* generates temporary ABAP reports that extract, format, and download SAP table data to *ACL*. Queries can be monitored and administered using the SAP Process Overview and the SAP Job Overview transactions, thereby extending the reach of ACL analytics in your SAP solutions environment.
- **Coverage:** The complex, time-consuming tasks of retrieving and analyzing data in SAP solutions can limit the scope and frequency of controls testing, monitoring, and data analysis. *Direct Link* provides seamless access to data in mySAP ERP, enabling you to conduct comparative analysis with transactional data from other systems.
- **Data integrity:** *ACL* provides read-only data access — the source data is never modified or deleted, and the quality of your data analyses is always maintained.
- **System security:** Access to data in SAP solutions is determined by the user's table authorizations, respecting security and authorization protocol.

Leading organizations around the world use ACL data analytics technologies to gain a single point of view into their organization's operational performance. To learn more, visit **www.acl.com/view_sap**. ■