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# Authorization Process Manager

Accelerate your authorization testing and make  
authorization operation a dependable and  
efficient process

SAP® Certified  
Integration with SAP S/4HANA®

## The challenge

Authorization Process Manager (APM) is designed to address the many well-proven obstacles relating to the testing of authorizations. Projects blocked by authorization errors create uncertainty as to how much effort is needed to validate the authorization and roles fit to support the processes of the company.

These many authorization errors often have a huge impact on the project's time consumption, extend the project calendar time and frustrate the testers involved. In preparation for the next test phase or go-live, we are frequently in the dark as to what is being tested and thereby questioning if we can trust the quality of the authorization and roles involved in the project.

## How does APM make the test more efficient?

With APM, the testers can work independently of the authorization specialists reporting changes and errors in a simple and intuitive manner. Using the test container functionality, the tester can report authorization errors and continue their work because the missing authorizations are added to the test-user's test container. Afterwards, the authorization specialist can evaluate if the reported errors are to be permanently included in the tested role. Subsequently, this allows the tester to execute the end-to-end test scenario without delay and sign off the test case and continue with the next. In parallel to this, the authorization team does not need to support the testers during the test but can instead focus on the key task of getting the SAP compliance right.

## What are the different elements of APM?

Essentially, APM consists of four different elements.

1. The preparation for the forthcoming test is hand-led in the Authorization Cockpit. Test projects are defined by scope and configured to support the relevant types of test. Test users are automatically pre-pared, and test user overview reports are generated in order to be handed over to the test management.
2. Testers can execute the test from the initial screen of SAP, from the Fiori Launch Pad, or from the test screen delivered from APM. If facing an authorization error, the tester simply uses the relevant APM SU53 error report dedicated for the test-user to report and update the error. After a 10-15 second break entering the error description, APM automatically updates the test-user privileges, and the tester continues the functional testing.
3. From the APM Cockpit, the authorization team can monitor the test being executed as well as authorization errors being reported with detailed information supporting the error analysis and correction. Finally, the errors will be analysed, processed, and documented in the APM error-correction process.

4. In supporting the different needs related to setting up the test, monitoring, and supporting the test being executed, APM has many built-in functions to underpin these processes. For example, the reporting module will deliver a sub-set of reports giving the real-time status of the test being executed and enable the download of II error-related information for documentation purposes. E-mail notifications can be switched on for communication between testers, authorization team members, and possible change approvers.



## Use-case examples with proven return on investment

Implementing the APM typically shows an ROI in one year or less. In authorization projects, the ROI can be as low as 2-3 months through significantly reducing the resources required and achieving much higher quality.

## Can APM support different test scenarios?

Implementing APM is designed to be flexible enough to assist the different types of testing. In the test project, set-up functionalities can be switched on/off, thus enabling APM to optimally support the needs of a unit test, integration test, or user acceptance test. For instance, you can switch off the option for updating authorization errors which include transaction codes or SAP services not already included in the test user's existing authorization being tested.

Subsequently, only objects and field values can be updated for continued testing. Another possibility is to enable the tester to perform the authorization error reporting and update with just one click – thus making the reporting as simple and fast as possible.

### ■ Design phase:

APM can be utilized for the early prototyping of roles. In addition, APM can be configured, enabling business users without knowledge of the SAP authorization practice to design or develop roles supporting business processes.

### ■ Role development:

The authorization team can build more focused roles and finalise roles for testing at an earlier stage just by accepting that there still are gaps to fill; gaps that easily can be identified and updated throughout the test.

### ■ Test phase:

A huge reduction in the effort of testing can be expected – up to a 75% reduction in time spent by testers. Furthermore, it offers the potential for saving an entire test cycle since authorization tests can be performed along with integration test.

### ■ **Go-live:**

The validated and controlled test process reduces the risk for interference at go-live. In addition, APM supports the standard procedure, routing authorization errors from productive users experiencing inadequate privileges in their daily tasks in SAP.

### ■ **Authorizations operation:**

APM supports efficient production-error handling as well as new roles being quickly tested and cleared for production use.

We firmly consider that APM will be ideal for supporting global SAP implementation with the need for authorization support throughout multiple time zones. Not only will APM enable testers to work independently in time zones entirely different to that of the authorization team, but the APM Cockpit will also serve as a central hub for handling authorizations across countries, including different support teams and time zones.

## **Authorization testing in the Fiori Launchpad**

Testing performed through the Fiori Launchpad is challenging since it is necessary to keep track of authorization errors – partly in the Fiori layer and partly in the backend layer. APM supports simultaneous Fiori authorization error reporting as well as error correction in both layers. This means that when a tester is testing through the Fiori Launchpad and is stopped by an authorization error, the tester can report the error directly from the Fiori Launchpad and hereafter update the missing access thereby enabling the continuation of the test. Errors from both layers will be forwarded and registered in the APM Cockpit.

## **How does APM support your productive environment?**

APM supports the standard process, routing authorization errors from productive users experiencing inadequate privileges in their daily tasks in SAP. APM will efficiently collect the relevant data directing the error message to the SAP Compliance Team for further investigation. In particular, organizations with operations across time zones but with a central SAP Solution Centre will benefit from the structured, documented, and efficient error-handling process.

## **Is it possible to test authorization in a productive environment?**

Any project management book or ITIL process will turn down the option of testing in a productive environment. But if the alternative was uncertain wide roles or even SAP\_ ALL, the use of APM in the production environment might be the better option. It is possible to allow singled-out users to be able to update authorization errors blocking their daily work.

All updates will be monitored, and real-time email notification can be activated. The restriction functionality can even reduce the scope and ability to update access, reducing the user to only report missing access.

## Why did we build it?

Performing tests involving SAP authorizations are often time-consuming and unpredictable, creating frustrations for everyone involved in the process. So we wanted a tool to support this challenge. As of today, our Authorizations Process Manager (APM) is an indispensable tool and lifesaver. Our SAP-certified add-on ensures you an efficient and documented authorization process, ensuring that you spend your time and resources the right way and get the projects delivered in time and scope.

Over time, APM has helped and supported hundreds of international companies running SAP. It ranges from small to medium-sized companies across industries that strive to remove pitfalls with authorization tests to large global companies with super-complex structures and tens of thousands of SAP users.

## The ComplianceNow Suite

ComplianceNow Suite is a high-end compliance solution in SAP to increase the productivity, efficiency and transparency of compliance processes in companies and organizations with SAP. The product Suite includes components supporting areas such as test management, internal control, segregation of duties and compliance analytics.



The objectives for the present six different components are to innovate, simplify and offer our customers SAP-Certified products delivering a low TCO. ComplianceNow has a wide customer base including all industry segments and has performed more than 250 installations worldwide.

ComplianceNow can be implemented as the CN Suite or be implemented individually. Implementation of a single component is estimated at 2-3 days and, for the entire CN Suite, at less than 10 days. ComplianceNow is an SAP add-on from Nagarro ES, an innovative full-service SAP provider for critical enterprise applications and complex ERP landscapes.



Check out our animation video of  
Authorization Process Manager at  
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