Can't Escape Al? Elevate Your Finance Strategy with Al

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The Association of Accountants and Financial Professionals in Business



Featured Presenter

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Topics

- What is important to the CFO?
- How can finance help increase communication and collaboration across your organization?
- How can finance teams take advantage of opportunities with AI?
- How can your organization use advances in process automation, machine learning, and GenAI to grow your business (organically and through M&A)?



What is important to the CFO?

Finance organizations face internal and external challenges...

Internal challenges are often within your control...

- Manual, error-prone processes
- Lack of real-time visibility
- Multiple legacy systems
- Reactive, "putting out fires" mode
- Difficult to run reports and forecasts
- Duplicate, inconsistent data

...all while taking on more and more responsibilities.



Finance team

External factors can be unpredictable and uncontrollable...

- Geopolitical shifts
- Disruptions from AI
- Higher cost of capital
- Staff retention
- Competitive threats
- Shareholder pressures
- Cybersecurity threats
- Sustainability
- Business model disruptions
- Low-growth, inflationary economy

Your finance team focuses on new strategic objectives Finance measures value in terms of Worth and Usefulness



- Streamline accounting and financial close and consolidation activities
- **Use** predictive analytics
- Accelerate adoption of innovative business models

- Optimize working capital
- Reduce the impact of volatile markets
- **Comply** with regional and global standards and regulations
- **Use** embedded, intelligent controls to reduce risk

- Streamline reporting process
- Utilize more sustainable products and services with actionable insights
- Manage sustainably by evaluating the consequences of business actions

Poll question #1:

What is most important to your business?

- 1. Agility
- 2. Boosting financial resilience
- 3. Sustainability



What is in it for me? Strategies top of mind for the typical CFO

- Innovate with AI 1.
- 2. Improve operational effectiveness
- Improve analysis, and insights 3.
- 4. Increase accuracy and precision in reporting
- 5. Improve planning, forecasting & predictive models
- Enhance company-wide visibility & 6. collaboration

- Increase decision-making agility 7.
- 8. Seamlessly integrate and analyze new businesses (M&A, sell-offs, carve-out)
- 9. Enhance scalability for future growth (new business models, IPO)
- 10. Minimize regulatory risk
- 11. Ensure effective compliance
- 12. Improve controls (Cybersecurity and fraud)



How can your finance team increase communication and collaboration across your organization and become a more strategic partner? What our finance customers are focused on Finance has evolved to be strategic partner...

Strategic Partner	 Steer the company to growth Seek resilience and profitability Prioritize sustainable growth
E Financial Steward	 Align finance to business needs Improve financial data quality Manage risks and optimize working capital
Score Keeper	 Maintain timely financials Manage working capital Ensure compliance with regulations and year-end audits
LEVEL UP!	

Identify your players Who will be participating in the Future of AI?

Finance & R	isk Chief Fin	ancial Officer			
Vice President, Finance	Head, Corporate Reporting	Head, Finance Operations	Head, Corporate Treasury	Risk, Compliance & Audit Officer	CISO, CIO
Financial Planning & Analysis	Accounting & Financial Close	Finance Operations	Treasury Management	Enterprise Risk & Compliance	Cybersecurity & Data Protection
Planning, Budgeting, and Forecasting	Financial Accounting	Record to Report	Payments and Bank Communications	Enterprise Risk Management	Access Governance and Identity Management
Profitability and Cost Management	Entity Close	Order to Cash	Cash and Liquidity Management	Controls and Compliance Management	Single Sign-on
	Corporate Close	Procure to Pay	Debt and Investment Management	Automated Monitoring and Screening	Access Monitoring
	Financial Reporting	Indirect Tax Management	Financial Risk Management	Policy Lifecycle Management	Data Loss Prevention
	Direct Tax Management	Real Estate Management	Risk Management for Commodities	Audit Management	
	Financial Close Governance	Travel and Expense Management	Treasury Governance	International Trade Management	
		Financial Shared Service Management			
		Financial Process Governance			

Include business AI capabilities Finance Innovations



- Financial business insights
- Natural language queries
- Automated error explanation and guided resolution
- Cash application
- Intelligent collections and dispute resolution
- Tax compliance
- Shared services automation
- Fraud detection
- AI-driven analytics and visualization
- Pre-built RPAs to automate manual tasks
- Green ledger

How do you crack the code with Finance Al?

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Poll question #2:

Does your company have an Al strategy?

- 1. Yes, we have a robust strategy that we have been implementing
- 2. Yes, we have a strategy, but we haven't begun implementation yet
- 3. No, we do not have an AI strategy yet, but we have started conversations around this topic
- 4. No, AI is not on our list of topics to handle in the near future



How to use advances in process automation, machine learning, and GenAl to grow your business (organically and through M&A)

23.1

17.99

19%

+0.03%

-0,49%

+0.81%

+0.59%

-0.40%

Mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures

M&A is very significant, particularly in industries where market disruption and business changes continue to drive growth strategies. M&A agendas are looking for access to or are driven by several strategic business factors:

- New technologies
- New business models
- Desire for broader geographic footprints
- Differentiation and/or competitive edge

Global disruptions are powering unprecedented opportunity for businesses to out-execute their competition

Uncertainty

provides

opportunity



- Accelerating **global disruptions** continuously and increasingly evolve the business environment...
- Geopolitical tensions Protectionism, sanctions
- Supply chain bottlenecks Transportation, availability shortages
- Technology evolution Cloud, AI, RPA, Quantum computing
- Consumer behavioral shifts Shifting brand loyalty, Segment of one
- Talent constraints Shortages, Retention, Working from home
- Climate change Sustainability & purpose commitments
- Macro-economical swings Inflation, slow-downs



- ... resulting in a range of **strategic priorities**
- Business model expansion M&A, IPO, Direct to consumer, Platform businesses
- Operating model change Cloud, as a service models, ...
- Autonomous processes Self optimizing processes, self healing anything, ...
- Sustainable operations Green ledger accounting, Green supply chain, ...
- Ecosystem synergies Ecosystem networks, Platforms, ...

Technology remains THE key enabler

Stages of M&A experiences for our customers A well-executed integration strategy is one of the most critical factors in a successful M&A journey



Lets look at what is important to the CFO and CIO





...allowing finance teams opportunities they didn't have in the past



Poll question #3:

What does your company care most about?

- 1. Operational excellence
- 2. Faster decision making
- 3. Trust, transparency, collaboration
- 4. Faster close and consolidation



You cracked the code! Don't Escape Al, Embrace It

Poll question #4:

Would you like to hear more about SAP's opportunities related to AI in Finance?

- 1. Yes, please contact me to hear more
- 2. Maybe, I'm still thinking about it
- 3. No, I'm just here for the CPE



Questions and Answers

Christina Grace Finance Advisor SAP





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Thank you!

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