



SAUG National Summit 2026| Agenda

Tuesday 23rd June | Doltone House – Jones Bay Wharf, Sydney

8:15am – 8:45am	Registration North Pier
	Keynote Presentations North Pier
8:45am – 8:55am	Welcome & SAP Australian User Group Update George Papadopoulos, Chief Executive Officer, SAP Australian User Group
8:55am – 9:00am	Transition
9:00am – 9:20am	SAP International Keynote: Where AI Meets Business Value Artificial intelligence is advancing faster than most organizations can implement it, so the real challenge is no longer simply adding AI tools but turning them into business value. This session explores how companies can use AI to accelerate innovation by building the right foundations—trusted data, modern cloud platforms, and effective governance—while helping teams work with augmented intelligence rather than being replaced by it. We will look at real-world examples of organizations that are reimagining end-to-end processes and redesigning how work gets done to capture measurable results from AI. Finally, we will discuss what these changes mean for individuals and how professionals can future-proof their own careers as AI becomes a core part of everyday work. Timo Elliott, Global Innovation Evangelist, SAP
9:20am – 9:25am	Transition
9:25am – 9:45am	Thought Leader Keynote: From Pain Points to Opportunity Points – Process Design Beyond Simplification As entire industries have made great progress in streamlining and digitalising their business processes, an organisation’s ability to compete on processing time or cost to serve is diminishing. Process efficiency remains relevant but is becoming an expected hygiene factor. This motivational keynote will present how opportunity points in business processes, and not just pain points, can be systematically identified in SAP-supported business processes. These surface revenue design options, customer experiences and trust-building touchpoints unlock new value propositions for process designer. We will also share the patterns of such process design opportunities, their application in international SAP case studies and the emerging tool support. Dr Michael Rosemann, Director Centre for Future Enterprise & Professor for Information Systems, Queensland University of Technology
9:45am – 9:50am	Transition
9:50am – 10:10am	Expert Keynote: Beyond GRC: How AI-Driven Identity Security is Redefining SAP Access Risk in the Autonomous Enterprise The SAP security landscape is in flux. As organisations accelerate S/4HANA migrations and adopt agentic AI across business processes, traditional GRC frameworks – built for a simpler, static world – can no longer keep pace. Today’s hybrid SAP environments spanning S/4HANA, SuccessFactors, Concur and Ariba demand a fundamentally different approach to access risk and compliance. In this session, Saviynt’s APJ leadership team will share how leading APAC enterprises are replacing



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	<p>legacy GRC with a modern, AI-insights-led identity security platform – delivering real-time SoD intelligence, automated access risk remediation, and governance across both human and non-human identities. Walk away with a clear view of what modern ERP security looks like – and why it matters for your transformation journey.</p> <p>Tim Wedande, APJ Field CTO & Vijay Chaudhari, Principal Solutions Engineer, APJ, Saviynt</p>
10:10am – 10:15am	Transition
10:15am – 10:35am	<p>SAP International Keynote: Cloud ERP Innovations and the road to an Autonomous Enterprise</p> <p>David Yawalkar is the Global Head of Solution Management of RISE with SAP and he was also the former Global Solution Owner of S/4HANA Private Cloud. He will bring his vast experience working with the biggest global customers on their S/4HANA transformations, to share his unparalleled insights into the latest innovations in Cloud ERP and how your Cloud ERP will be central in the journey to an Autonomous Enterprise.</p> <p>David Yawalkar, VP RISE with SAP, Package Commercialisation & Adoption, SAP SE</p>
10:35am – 11:05am	Morning Break Exhibition Area



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Breakout Sessions Stream 1 – Tribute Level 1 / Stream 2 – Harbour Level 2 / Stream 3 (Main Stage) – North Pier level 3 / Stream 4 – Soho level 4				
11:05am – 11:35am	1A: Innovate – Tribute Room Level 1	2A: Tech – Harbour Room Level 2	3A: Transform – North Pier Level 3 (Main Stage)	4A: Optimise- Soho Level 4
	<p>Customer Insight: Every Expense, Every Time: How Endeavour Energy Uses AI on SAP BTP to Audit 100% of Concur Claims</p> <p>Expense fraud and policy non-compliance are persistent challenges for finance teams – yet traditional audit approaches rely on manual spot checks, monthly reporting cycles, and reactive investigations. Endeavour Energy has taken a fundamentally different approach. In this session, we share how we built a real-time intelligent audit platform that automatically reviews every expense report at the moment of submission – before approver action – using a combination of SAP Integration Suite (CPI), SAP Build Process Automation, SAP AI Core, and Generative AI (Claude Vision and GPT-40). The platform performs over 35 policy checks per report, then routes flagged reports directly to AP reviewers through a structured BPA My Inbox workflow.</p> <p>Rajbabu Rajendran, ERP Services Team Leader & Lavanya Selvarathinam, ERP Services Specialist, Endeavour Energy</p>	<p>SAP Deep Dive: Joule Assistants and Joule Agents. Redesign work with human-AI partnership</p> <p>The future of enterprise work is not about humans or AI –it is about humans and AI working together. In this session, discover how SAP’s Autonomous Suite is enabling a new era of business execution through intelligent collaboration between people, Joule Assistants, and Joule Agents. Explore how Joule Work serves as the single entry point for users to trigger, orchestrate, and monitor AI-driven business activities. Learn how Joule Assistants collaborate with specialized agents to execute end-to-end processes, while maintaining human oversight and control. We will also demonstrate how third-party and custom-built agents can be integrated using SAP’s reference architecture patterns, enabling organizations to extend AI-driven automation across their enterprise landscape.</p> <p>Murali Shanmugham SAP Technology Ambassador & Architect, SAP</p>	<p>Customer Thought Leader: The future of work: why your people strategy matters more than your AI strategy</p> <p>Many experts and organisations now understand that the AI layer is real but has real boundaries and the real leverage sits in the people layer. This takes into consideration things such as workflow redesign, reskilling, leadership, governance and culture. Mark will share his vast insights around AI and will make the case that the organisations who will win on AI will be the ones funding the people layer at the same scale as the technology layer.</p> <p>Mark O’Brien General Manager – Digital Technology & Innovation (CIO), CITIC Pacific Mining</p>	<p>Expert Insight An introduction to the SAP Autonomous Suite and it’s licencing and commercial implications</p> <p>SAP introduced the Autonomous Enterprise concept at Sapphire and its fundamental solution is the SAP Autonomous Suite (SAP Business Suite). Together with SAP Business AI and Joule, these offer unlimited innovation potential, however, many customers and users are unsure how licensing for these solutions work and they are wondering how to ensure a system works for them and offers business value. Imari, who is the Global Senior Director for SAP Business Suite Product Marketing at SAP SE, based in Japan, will share the strategy of SAP Autonomous Suite as well as her insights on the commercialization and licensing for SAP Autonomous Suit Application Package together with SAP Business AI and SAP Joule.</p> <p>Imari Okamoto, Global Senior Director – Business Suite Product Marketing, SAP SE (Japan)</p>
11:35 –11:40am	Transition			



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<p>11:40am – 12:10pm</p>	<p>1B: Innovate – Tribute Room Level 1</p> <p>Customer Insight: The Lion automation journey – the good the bad and the ugly</p> <p>Lion, one of Australia’s leading beverage companies has always been at the forefront in innovating and automating its systems and process. Mahesh will share a candid overview of the automation journey and will give you very valuable practical insights, lessons learned, takeaway tips, and checklists to help you with your automation initiatives and journey.</p> <p>Mahesh Duggirala SAP BTP Developer, Lion</p>	<p>2B: Tech – Harbour Room Level 2</p> <p>SAP Deep Dive: From intent to execution: build AI agents with Joule Studio</p> <p>In this session you will dive into Joule Studio’s comprehensive approach to agentic AI. From defining business intent to generating workflows, agents, and applications, see how the Joule solution and unified development tools enable faster builds, smooth integration with SAP software data, and governed deployment at enterprise scale.</p> <p>Thorsten Freitag Chief Innovation Architect, SAP</p>	<p>3B: Transform – North Pier Level 3 (Main Stage)</p> <p>Customer Thought Leader: SAP Transformation projects – technical challenges and lessons learnt</p> <p>For over 20 years, Rukshana has worked as an SAP consultant, around the world, including in the US and Europe, at customer and consulting firms, on numerous challenging transformational projects; currently working on Toyota’s S/4HANA transformation project. She will share her interesting and valuable insights about the technical challenges she has encountered and lessons on what to do and what not to do, to make your SAP transformation projects a success.</p> <p>Rukshana Sameem Senior Corporate Systems Specialist, Toyota Motor Corporation Australia</p>	<p>4B: Optimise – Soho Level 4</p> <p>Architecting the Autonomous Enterprise – Business AI Platform & LeanIX Industry Kits</p> <p>The Autonomous Enterprise transforms how organizations operate by enabling AI agents, intelligent systems, and humans to collaborate seamlessly with minimal manual intervention. This session explores SAP’s Business AI Platform (BIAP) as the foundational architecture. We will also look at how SAP LeanIX Industry Kits accelerate this transformation by providing pre-built, industry-specific content for healthcare, life sciences, and BDC Data Products that align technology portfolios with business capabilities. Organizations rapidly assess their current state, identify transformation gaps, and plan roadmaps aligned with SAP best practices – reducing discovery time by 40–60% while maintaining clean core compliance for RISE with SAP journeys.</p> <p>Martin Burger Chief Enterprise Architect & Jason Luo, Principal Enterprise Architect, SAP</p>
<p>12:10pm – 12:15pm</p>	<p>Transition</p>			



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<p>12:15pm – 12:45pm</p>	<p>1C: Innovate – Tribute Room Level 1</p> <p>Customer Insight: SAP S/4HANA Private Cloud transformation – tips, tricks and some fun too!</p> <p>Heidelberg Materials is in the midst of a transformation to S/4HANA with SAP Private Cloud. The group is already live on this platform in several countries; Australia is just starting. Paul would like to share with you assorted tips and tricks learned during the process to help organisations in the same boat. This is very much a “war story”; the transition is very different to a traditional SAP upgrade; much more difficult, but on the bright side you learn so many new things that the project is more fun than might be expected.</p> <p>Paul Hardy Senior ABAP/Integration Specialist, Heidelberg Materials Australia</p>	<p>2C: Tech – Harbour Room Level 2</p> <p>AI in the context of a sovereign cloud: vision and strategy</p> <p>This session will explore how organizations can innovate with AI in a sovereign cloud while maintaining full control of their data. Learn how to balance AI adoption with strict sovereignty, security, and compliance requirements to drive trusted, responsible innovation.</p> <p>Hena Di Petta Business Lead Sovereign Cloud ANZ & Kirsten Tucker, Head of Australia Delivery, Sovereign Cloud Services, SAP</p>	<p>3C: Transform – North Pier Level 3 (Main Stage)</p> <p>Customer Insight: Synergy’s S/4HANA brownfield migration journey</p> <p>Synergy is WA’s largest electricity generator and retailer of gas and electricity to more than 1 million customers. They are moving to SAP Rise on PCE, with all standard SAP modules in scope for the migration. The project started in March 2025 and is slated to go live over Feb 2026. Devang will discuss why it’s a massive undertaking and significant leap in Synergy’s application modernization path. He will also share insights into the challenges and learnings along the way.</p> <p>Devang Shah, Manager SAP Applications, Synergy</p>	<p>4C: Optimise– Soho Level 4</p> <p>Interactive Roundtable Discussion: When SAP Programs Go Off Track: A Live Roundtable for When Things Aren’t Going to Plan</p> <p>Transformation programs rarely fail because of one major issue. More often, things get complicated and problems linger – misalignment builds, pressure increases, and difficult conversations are avoided until they become bigger problems. Join Ashley for this unique session – a live, interactive Roundtable for anyone involved in SAP transformation programs that aren’t going to plan or are starting to go off track. This is not a presentation. It’s a conversation. It’s an open, practical ‘ask me anything’ forum focused on the commercial, negotiation and delivery challenges that arise when programs start to go wrong. You can bring your own questions or situations, raise topics for discussion, or simply listen as real scenarios are unpacked – including escalation risks, stakeholder misalignment, and managing difficult conversations under pressure. The discussion is shaped by the room – there is no script.</p> <p>Ashley Saltzman Lead Negotiator Program Advisor, ashleysaltzman.com.</p>
<p>12:45pm – 1:20pm</p>		<p>Lunch South Pier</p>		



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<p>1:20pm – 1:50pm</p>	<p>ID: Innovate – Tribute Room Level 1</p> <p>Customer Insight: Sydney Water’s transformation journey to modernise financial planning using SAP Seamless Planning</p> <p>Sydney Water has embarked on this journey with a lean and iterative delivery. Delivered in-house, the project scope covers planning for OPEX, CAPEX, Financial Statement and for some complex processes like cost model, capitalisation of indirect overheads and interest. The project aims to introduce Self-Service Data Model and embed new analytics-focused business roles to empower business to manage their planning cycles. This session will share insights into Sydney Water’s challenges with current planning products (BPC, S/4, non-SAP systems, spreadsheets), experiences to date, overview of the predictive/ AI features of SAC Planning, early discoveries, and key success factors. This is the start of a longer journey to provide Sydney Water with a system that is flexible, agile and scalable to adapt to expanding customer base and increased CAPEX spend.</p> <p>Rajesh Shanbhag Team Leader, Digital Business Programs, Sydney Water</p>	<p>2D: Tech – Harbour Room Level 2</p> <p>SAP Deep Dive: Agentic ABAP with SAP Joule for Developers: Build Faster, Migrate Smarter</p> <p>In this session, get ready to meet the next wave of agentic ABAP with the SAP Joule for Developers add-on. Using ABAP MCP Server with partner agentic orchestrators like Claude Code, Microsoft Copilot or Amazon Q, you will learn how to speed up SAP ECC to SAP S/4HANA Cloud Private Edition transformations in ADT Eclipse, write ABAP Cloud model code faster in VS Code, and explore J4D architecture for older releases.</p> <p>Liam Mischewski AI Lead – Business AI Platform, SAP</p>	<p>3D: Transform – North Pier Level 3 (Main Stage)</p> <p>Global Thought Leader: The rise of the Intent Engine – when Analytics starts thinking back</p> <p>As data, analytics, and AI converge, a new layer is emerging between users and systems: the Intent Engine. It unifies structured and unstructured data, leverages reasoning and vector search, and connects seamlessly with processes and agents. This session examines how enterprise architectures are evolving to embed intent-based analytics—where models interpret goals, generate insights dynamically, and trigger process actions safely within governed environments. We’ll outline the technical foundations, from unified data semantics to AI orchestration frameworks like SAP Joule Agents and Business Data Cloud.</p> <p>Timo Elliott, Global Innovation Evangelist, SAP</p>	<p>4D: Optimise– Soho Level 4</p> <p>Best Practices in Cloud ERP Implementation</p> <p>Drawing on experience from over 1,200+ SAP S/4HANA projects worldwide, this session provides practical, real-world insights into successful Cloud ERP transformations. Learn about proven approaches and get:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insights and lessons from successful cloud transition journeys • Data migration & archiving strategies and best practices • Tools & Services to accelerate your transformation <p>Hendrik Luetjohann P&E Solution Architect, SAP Australia</p>
<p>1:50pm – 1:55pm</p>	<p>Transition</p>			



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<p>1:55pm – 2:25pm</p>	<p>1E: Innovate – Tribute Room Level 1</p>	<p>2E: Tech – Harbour Room Level 2</p> <p>SAP Deep Dive: AI For Integration, Integration for AI In this session you will learn how SAP is embedding AI and generative AI into SAP Integration Suite to simplify and accelerate enterprise integration. We will also explore how Integration Suite acts as a critical foundation for AI in the agentic era.</p> <p>Greg Carino SAP BTP Architect, SAP Australia</p>	<p>3E: Transform – North Pier Level 3 (Main Stage)</p> <p>AI highlights for ERP: AI-Assisted migration agents and hybrid AI access for on-premise landscapes The migration from SAP ERP (ECC) to SAP S/4HANA presents notable timeline and technical challenges for IT teams. At SAPPHIRE, SAP introduced specialized, landscape-aware AI migration agents designed to mitigate these complexities. This session outlines how these agents function to shorten your transformation path. The session will also detail how SAP handles Hybrid AI access. Rather than restricting Joule and business AI capabilities exclusively to native cloud deployments, SAP now enables on-premises environments where possible including SAP S/4HANA OP and legacy SAP ECC OP to utilize these innovations during cloud transformation projects. We will discuss the specific prerequisites for this access, including the required cloud journey commitment model, and evaluate how to inject AI automation into your existing systems ahead of a full cloud transition.</p> <p>David Yawalkar VP RISE with SAP, Package Commercialisation & Adoption SAP SE</p>	<p>4E: Optimise – Soho Level 4</p> <p>Why Transformation initiatives fail in silence – how to build a culture of speaking up Most transformation fail because nobody said anything. Projects go astray, initiatives lose direction, and costly mistakes compound while capable, experienced people watch in silence. This practical presentation examines why that silence happens and what organisations can do to break it. For those who want to speak up, it offers guidance on framing concerns around impact rather than opinion, using questions to open dialogue without confrontation, finding allies, and acting early before the point of no return. For leaders and initiative sponsors, it makes the case for building feedback mechanisms in from day one: pre-mortems, reviews, escalation channels, and a visible commitment to rewarding honest input rather than penalising it. The goal is a shift from silent compliance to a speaking-up culture, where raising a concern is not a career risk but an expected and valued contribution to transformation success.</p> <p>David Hartwich Founder, Ivolv Consulting Services</p>
<p>2:25pm – 2:30pm</p>	<p>Transition</p>			



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<p>2:30pm – 3:00pm</p>	<p>1F: Innovate – Tribute Room Level 1</p>	<p>2F: Tech – Harbour Room Level 2</p> <p>SAP-RPT-1: a new class of AI for business. SAP-RPT-1 is a first-of-its-kind table-native relational foundation model for enterprise data, purpose-built for predictions on tabular data using in-context learning, so one model can serve many enterprise prediction tasks without task- or customer-specific training or fine-tuning. This session will demonstrate how SAP-RPT-1 can address common tabular prediction tasks such as classification, regression, demand forecasting, ranking/scoring and risk assessment. We'll discuss the business benefits of SAP-RPT-1, advantages over ML and LLMs, and the limitations of this first release Business AI capability.</p> <p>Ryan Van Leent Vice President, SAP Global Public Services, SAP</p>	<p>3F: Transform – North Pier Level 3 (Main Stage)</p> <p>Thought Leader Most people are using AI too small Most leaders are using AI to do old work slightly faster. A rare few are using it to do things that were impossible a year ago. The difference is not technical. It is a matter of imagination, judgement, and nerve. This session shows you where your true unfair advantage lives and gives you the language to take it back to your team.</p> <p>You will leave with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fresh mental model for AI adoption. • Plain language you can use with your own teams tomorrow. • A grown-up point of view on augmentation versus replacement. • A better question than "will AI take my job?" <p>Tim Wilkes Founder, CEO, and Chief Storysmith, Pathos Services</p>	<p>4F: Optimise – Soho Level 4</p> <p>Customer Insights: Rise and Shine: Lion's journey on Clean Core, Walkme and SAP mobility At Lion, our move to S/4HANA 2023 Private Cloud wasn't just a technology upgrade. It was a commitment to simplify and modernise that lets us move faster. We've gone live on RISE with SAP, now what? Going live is not the finish line, it's just the start of the journey. How do we keep the core clean without sacrificing what the business actually needs? How do we turn adoption into a lasting behaviour change? And how do we stop SAP roadmaps from living in IT and start connecting them to outcomes that matters? In this session we share our lessons, the tensions, the trade-offs, and the wins. What it takes to keep the core clean while still making SAP fit for purpose for our business, how we're driving SAP adoption through WalkMe and SAP Mobility to make approvals faster and easier for our people, and how we translate technology roadmaps into outcomes that the business actually cares about.</p> <p>Tess George, Finance Product Manager & Patrick Bulseco, SAP Functional Lead, Lion</p>
<p>3:00pm – 3:20pm Afternoon Break South Pier</p>				



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	Plenary Sessions North Pier
3:20pm – 3:40pm	<p>SAP Expert Keynote: Unlocking AI Value along the path to the Autonomous Enterprise</p> <p>Turn the vision of the Autonomous Enterprise into meaningful action and real impact. No matter where you are on your SAP transformation journey SAP Customer Innovation Services can turn your ambitions into operational reality. In this session learn how companies around the world are unlocking value from AI across domains, Lines of Business and industries.</p> <p>Ajay Tikare, Head of AI Acceleration & Adam Sivell, Customer Officer, SAP Customer Innovation Services</p>
3:40pm – 3:45pm	Transition
3:45pm – 4:15pm	<p>Discussion Panel: The Autonomous Enterprise, Sapphire Highlights & More</p> <p>In this entertaining, insightful and interactive session our experts and customer representative, will distill the biggest announcements and developments from Sapphire, especially the Autonomous Enterprise, and they will unpack what it means for SAP users in Australia including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key takeaways from SAP's global roadmap • What does the Autonomous Enterprise mean for organisations? • Insights into the future of AI, Cloud, Data and ERP • Breakdown of new solutions, functions and capabilities <p>Host: Timo Elliott, Global Innovation Evangelist, SAP</p> <p>Panellists: Adrian Stagg, Chief Information Officer, McGrathNicol</p> <p>David Yawalkar, VP RISE with SAP, Package Commercialisation & Adoption, , SAP SE / Thorsten Freitag, Chief Innovation Architect, SAP</p>
4:15pm – 4:25pm	<p>Prize Draws: Announcement of winners & prizes</p> <p>Make sure you visit our fantastic sponsors throughout the day to be in the running for some great prizes.</p>
4:25pm – 4:30pm	<p>Closing Words</p> <p>George Papadopoulos, Chief Executive Officer, SAP Australian User Group</p>
4:30pm – 5:30pm	Networking Event North Pier



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Please Note:

- Speaking slots without a speaker name are in the process of being confirmed. The topic is indicative of what may appear in this slot however until confirmation the speakers and topics in these slots are subject to change.
- Customer case studies will vary and depend totally on speakers from SAUG member organisations who are willing and able to present.
- If you are interested in presenting at SAUG Events, please contact: michael.kovacevic@saug.com.au