

Top 10 reasons customers choose Anaplan over all-in-one solutions

1

Modeling configuration vs. code customization.

Finance teams must pivot and update their models quickly – it's that simple. All-in-one solutions require technical acumen in scripting or coding languages from IT or other specialists, creating additional processes and adding unnecessary project time. Anaplan leverages plain English formulas and spreadsheet-like functions, putting model enhancement in the hands of finance teams to evolve and add use cases themselves.

3

“What-if” scenario modeling on the fly. “I can't run that scenario. We'd have to customize the code.” CFOs find that excuse unacceptable. Where all-in-one finance solutions create bottlenecks and limitations, if they can accommodate scenario modeling at all, Anaplan gives its users the autonomy to create limitless what-if scenarios on the fly to answer necessary questions for the business when there is disruption, weigh risks and rewards of possibilities, and prepare for any business outcome.

5

Democratize predictive analytics within finance.

Financial plans begin with data and information upon which to create a forward-looking base case. All-in-one solutions are unable to support the multitudes of ways to look at that information due to the rigid structure of the models. Anaplan enables finance teams to evaluate both internal and external data and drivers, combined with statistical and machine learning capabilities, to improve forecasting accuracy and decision-making.

7

Data-agnostic integrations. Organizations continue to struggle with vast amounts of data from a multitude of sources. All-in-one solutions are often tightly aligned to the ERP system and struggle with data from other systems. Anaplan supports both simple and very sophisticated integrations via native APIs and ETLs to connect with any source system. Anaplan's democratized integration approach and data agnostic strategy enable continuous forecasting for finance teams.

9

Quick time to value. Finance organizations do not have the time or the bandwidth for lengthy, multi-year projects without showing incremental wins and measured value. All-in-one implementation cycles are very long due to the rigid nature of a system that doesn't accommodate specialized planning, coding and scripting, and broader IT support. Often, all-in-one solutions go over the timeline originally quoted. Anaplan's agile implementation methodology is dynamic and streamlined to ensure both successful and timely implementation and adoption.

2

Cross-functional business planning.

Visionary leaders are demanding connectivity of financial, strategic, and operational plans across finance, sales, marketing, supply chain, IT, and HR. All-in-one solutions do not support financial to operational connections without integrating additional tools and capabilities. Anaplan provides a single platform on which to collaboratively and continuously plan and forecast across the entire enterprise value chain.

4

Eliminate reliance on spreadsheets with limitless modeling.

System limitations and rigidity drive planners and stakeholders to offline spreadsheets in order to model the unique aspects of their business. All-in-one solutions limit customers to a set number of dimensions, predefined structures, and inflexible template apps to download. Anaplan gives you the freedom to model your business with unlimited dimensions on which to model any business concept.

6

In-memory intelligent architecture.

One of finance's biggest frustrations is collecting and entering data into systems, and waiting for recalculations to run. All-in-one solutions rely on batch calculation scripts that lock users out of the platform while it performs this task. Anaplan's Hyperblock technology is built as an in-memory calculation engine that delivers unparalleled immediacy in the marketplace. Anaplan understands data changes, and only calculates impacted cells, providing incredibly rapid calculation times.

8

True cloud. Organizations are moving more and more of their capabilities and users to the cloud. Many all-in-one solutions are on-premise or hosted SaaS, limiting a customer's ability to customize, extend, and upgrade the solution on demand. Anaplan is a true multi-tenant SaaS application enabling all users to be on the same version, upgrades to be rolled out without disruption, and constant access to the latest solution innovation.

10

Recognize the need to break from “the old way of doing it.”

Habits are hard to break, but visionary finance leaders see the need to rethink processes and plans to meet the strategic targets of the business. All-in-one solutions proudly follow in the footsteps of yesterday's solutions as rigid, consolidation-first applications, limiting users to plan and forecast with financial data only. Anaplan allows you to plan for the full picture aligning the entire business around overarching targets, and ensuring strategic plans are aligned to financial outcomes and driven by operational execution.