Cloud Based ERP Adoption in Educational Institutions

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Abstract—ERP systems enable organisations to blend resource and data management onto a single platform. Introduction of cloud platforms into the mix has enabled the ERP system to add numerous services that can be scaled and highly available. The previous way of releasing versions using major releases has been turned into a continuous stream of releasing new updates with minor patches. Even though the flow of the business has remained the same, the use cases differ greatly. Not every organization can fully utilise the same ERP platform. Tailoring the ERP platform to each business process is possible due to the rapid development environment enabled by the cloud. This paper discusses the theory of managing changes applicable to modules of a particular ERP platform, Institute-level management processes, lifecycles maintenance. This strategy seems appropriate to help the ERP application's long-term sustainability enforced by constant up-

Index Terms-Cloud, ERP, Software-as-a-Service, OCR

I. INTRODUCTION

Enterprises nowadays invest in different aspects, the expected Return On Investment (ROI) can be in the form of reducing cost, maximizing profits and helping in decision support. One of the key aspects of investing in management frameworks is implementing ERP systems. ERP systems collect, record, integrate, manage and deliver data and information across all functional units of the enterprise. It helps break down information between inventory, production, planning, materials, engineering, finance, Human Resources, sales, marketing, operation and all other departments in the enterprise. The result of implementing ERP systems could be in the form of higher quality, reduced time-to-market, improved communications, support in decision making, shortened lead times, higher productivity and lowered costs. The reduced

costs can help improve services and increase sales, market share and profits as well.

II. WHAT IS ERP?

A. Understanding ERP

ERP is an application platform that integrates all functionality processing units of the enterprise in a cooperative way meaning the data flows of each module are tied in. It may also extend to include parties outside the enterprise for example suppliers and customers to involve them in the integration process. With time, ERP systems underwent a lot of changes and improved functionalities to greatly enhance its versatility and increase the integration capabilities. Major ERP vendors like SAP, PeopleSoft and Oracle developed different modules to support all functional units of an enterprise.

B. How ERP fits in Educational Institute processes

Paper trail is a very big issue when you consider the scale at which the documents are generated. In colleges and universities, student numbers range in the thousands. Documents range from identification documents to answer sheets to marksheets , attendance sheets and more. Keeping track of all the records and finding them as per need becomes an immense hassle. Introduction of a digital platform(ERP System) targets the paper document generation and turns it into a manageable, centralized and easy to use platform. Paper decay is an issue when institutions need to store documents for alumni students. Also, faculty and students face issues when needing to access attendance records for defaulter and general issues. Termwork submissions are also closely tied to attendance sheets. Digitization seems like a viable alternative.

According to HRD ministry:

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ERP systems enable organisations to blend resource and data management onto a single platform. Introduction of cloud platforms into the mix has enabled the ERP system to add numerous services that can be scaled and highly available. The previous way of releasing versions using major releases has been turned into a continuous stream of releasing new updates with minor patches. Even though the flow of the business has remained the same, the use cases differ greatly. Not every organization can fully utilise the same ERP platform. Tailoring the ERP platform to each business process is possible due to the rapid development environment enabled by the cloud. This paper discusses the theory of managing changes applicable to modules of a particular ERP platform, Institute-level management processes, lifecycles maintenance. This strategy seems appropriate to help the ERP application's long-term sustainability enforced by constant up dates.

Keywords: Cloud, ERP, Software-as-a-Service, OCR

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