

SAP® LOADRUNNER BY HP

MAKING THE MOST OF ENTERPRISE SOFTWARE

Organisations across all industries are challenged to find new markets, innovate new products and business processes, and compete on complex playing fields. By the same token, they demand that their enterprise software be flexible enough to adapt quickly to changing processes and powerful enough to accommodate rapid increases in users and application types. The SAP® LoadRunner application by HP helps organisations maximise and validate the effectiveness of their enterprise software through rigorous load testing.



The ultimate goal of enterprise is to facilitate and optimise business processes. But to do its job, enterprise software must itself be optimised to support the performance needs of those processes. To achieve this optimisation, organisations must test new software applications rigorously before systems go-live.

A retail Web-commerce application is an example of how rigorous testing can benefit a critical business process. Such an application must be able to handle not just event-based peak loads, such as when a new product is released, but seasonal peak loads as well.

The need for product testing prior to the go-live stage becomes evident at critical times; no retail company wants to experience the failure of its Web portal during the holiday shopping season.

With the rigorous load-testing functionalities of the SAP® LoadRunner application by HP, organisations can better deliver high-performing business processes and can execute, upgrade or modify existing processes on time and within budget.

How SAP LoadRunner Works

The SAP LoadRunner application enables organisations to test processes before they go-live and helps project teams make necessary corrections, and then retest, before the processes are delivered to their end users. With its thorough, integrated diagnostic and validation functionalities, SAP LoadRunner can help reduce slowdowns in development schedules and lower the cost associated with such slowdowns.

In a typical situation, an IT project team might want to launch a new business process. The team will use SAP LoadRunner to validate and test the performance of the software that supports the process. This is usually a five-step process:

1. Define the business process

The team uses SAP LoadRunner to determine the optimum hardware and software platform, based on the business process itself.

2. Develop script

The team then develops one or more tests scripts to (walk) the software through the actual screens and entries that will be used by the business process. This script represents the activities of a virtual user.

3. Expand the user load

SAP LoadRunner now lets the project team increase the virtual user load in order to simulate the peak loading requirements for this business process.

4. Evaluate results

SAP LoadRunner measures simulated performance against the key performance indicators for the process and then recommends any necessary changes to the related enterprise software systems.

5. Retest to validate

The team then uses SAP LoadRunner to rerun the tests, using the modified environment, to validate the effectiveness of the changes.

Support for Production Environments

SAP LoadRunner scales easily from small user environments to very large environments that support tens of thousands of users with complex application needs. At the same time, the application measures the full, end-to-end performance of business processes even when those processes cross between enterprises, as they typically do in supply chain and demand chain business processes. Also, because SAP LoadRunner is integrated with the computing centre management system from SAP, it lets organisations automate load testing and operates with minimal administrative overhead.

A Path to the Future

SAP LoadRunner represents an important tool for companies that move to an enterprise service-oriented architecture (enterprise SOA), a framework for service-oriented computing. Enterprise services are far more dynamic, and therefore less predictable, than traditional applications. Because of its compatibility with the SAP NetWeaver® platform and its support for enterprise SOA, SAP LoadRunner is essential in helping enterprises plan, deliver, and benefit from the newest classes of service-driven business processes.

Powered by SAP NetWeaver

SAP LoadRunner by HP is powered by the SAP NetWeaver platform. SAP NetWeaver unifies technology components into a single platform, allowing organisations to reduce IT complexity and obtain more business value from their IT investments. It provides the best way to integrate all systems running SAP or non-SAP software.

SAP NetWeaver also helps organisations align IT with their business. With SAP NetWeaver, organisations can compose and enhance business applications rapidly using enterprise services. As the foundation for enterprise SOA, SAP NetWeaver allows organisations to evolve their current IT landscapes into a strategic environment that drives business change.

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