

# Future ERP Trends to Accelerate Digital Transformation: 2024 & Beyond

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In today's fast-paced business environment, keeping up with change is a significant challenge. To stay ahead, companies need smart, automated processes that can adapt to any situation, innovative technology to support new business models, and real-time predictive insights to navigate effectively.



This blog delves into the future of ERP, exploring the future trends, technologies, and strategies that are crucial for business resilience and success. As the shift from traditional methods to modern practices accelerates, ERP has evolved from on-premises systems to cloud-based solutions, driven by the need for greater agility. In 2024, new Cloud ERP trends and best practices will further enhance business speed and drive essential growth.



## Why Companies Must Prioritize Cloud ERP?

Numerous companies these days are facing challenges in competing and maintaining profitability within rapidly evolving industries, placing them under significant pressure to undergo transformation. As a result, they are under intense pressure to transform. They need to think outside the box, adopt new business models, and develop new revenue streams, all while being able to pivot quickly. Modern Cloud ERP software, which touches nearly every aspect of a company, customizable tools at your disposal, you're better equipped to adapt to any kind of ad hoc and unexpected challenges. Empower your entire system with real-time data, analytics capabilities and obtain granular insights about business performance. In short offers the fastest path to complete digital transformation and new, more advanced business capabilities.

## Cloud ERP Adoption Global Stats

The rapid adoption of cloud ERP solutions reflects this need, with the global market projected to nearly double from \$64.7 billion in 2022 to \$130 billion by 2027. These forecasts underscore a notable change in how businesses operate and vie for market position, underscoring the critical role of ERP systems in enhancing operational efficiency and delivering valuable insights. Modern cloud ERP systems offer numerous benefits, including reducing manual work, increasing productivity, and enhancing employee experiences through user-friendly technologies and automation.



# Top ERP Trends in 2024 and Beyond

## The Rise of Cloud ERP: Unstoppable Surge of Cloud ERP Adoption

Cloud ERP adoption has surged in recent years and shows no sign of slowing down, with the global market expected to nearly double by 2027. Optimizing the cloud environment with ERP enables enterprises to leverage cloud infrastructure to expand capabilities and support innovation. Additionally, Cloud ERP has made ERP accessible to small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs). On-premises ERP systems were often prohibitively expensive for smaller organizations, both in terms of initial investment and ongoing maintenance. In contrast, Cloud ERP offers SMBs a cost-effective solution with predictable monthly payments that include all software upgrades and maintenance, requiring minimal on-site hardware. A recent survey of finance executives highlighted that 20% plan to increase their cloud ERP investments to achieve cost savings and the flexibility to scale resources as needed—is becoming increasingly apparent.

## Two-Tier Systems: A Top Trend for 2024 and Beyond

The adoption of a two-tier ERP strategy is on the rise, moving away from the traditional single ERP system used across an entire organization. Two-tier ERP is gaining popularity and is set to be a top trend for 2024 and beyond. With two-tier ERP, companies use two different ERP systems: a Tier 1 ERP at the corporate level to run large global operations, and a Tier 2 ERP for subsidiaries and divisions, typically cloud-based, to support specialized needs. This approach is more cost-effective than retrofitting a corporate ERP system for the entire business. It allows subsidiaries to operate flexibly and respond quickly to changes, while providing the parent company with essential financial insights and oversight.

## Integration with Advanced Technologies: AI, IoT, and More

Today's ERP are increasingly integrated with other technologies like AI and IoT, enhancing core processes. For example, retail ERP systems can link with warehouse management systems to track goods movement or with eCommerce platforms to streamline online order workflows.

For example, ERP integration with social media, offering deeper insights into customer behavior and boosting digital marketing strategies. To facilitate these integrations, an ERP with a built-in CRM module is typically needed. This represents an exciting opportunity to expand the scope of your business. Incorporating data from mobile scanners, and other IoT devices into ERP applications ensures real-time tracking and management of inventory, further enhancing the efficiency and responsiveness of supply chains.



## Personalization: Customizable and Modular ERP Platforms

The recent trend leans toward personalization—ERP platforms that can be easily customized to meet the unique needs of each business. This shift enables businesses to tailor their ERP systems more closely to their specific operational needs and deliver more personalized experiences. Cloud-based ERP solutions are leading the charge in that regard, offering low-code platforms that are easier to customize to fit the need. It also provides a modular configuration, allowing you to choose which applications to implement and which to omit. deployment. That flexibility keeps costs down while ensuring you have the specific toolkit necessary to carry out your business processes.

## The Rise Mobile ERP: Enable on-the-go access

Another rising trend in 2024 is mobile ERPs. In the era of remote and hybrid work, on-the-go access has become essential, and mobile ERPs meet this need perfectly. Mobile ERPs allow you and your team to access your core enterprise resource planning solution from anywhere, at any time, using a tablet or smartphone. This enables business leaders to manage operations from any location and offers significant advantages for field sales and technicians.

Mobile ERPs improve daily workflows by enabling employees to upload data in real time, rather than waiting until they return to the office. They also provide field workers with access to inventory, account, supply chain, and other vital information when needed, allowing for fact-based decisions and top-notch service. Furthermore, mobile ERPs enhance collaboration and communication between team members in the field and those at physical locations.



## Advanced Analytics: Transforming Data into Actionable Insights

Today's smart Cloud ERPs go far beyond basic reporting capabilities, incorporating AI-powered analytics and data visualization tools. These advanced ERP technologies and analytics not only provide data but also guide users in their tasks, deliver context-rich insights, and flag anomalies. When an anomaly is detected, the system sends an alert and invites the user to participate in the process. With advanced ERP analytics, the system can even act autonomously on the user's behalf. By leveraging machine learning algorithms, businesses can predict future trends, optimize operational strategies in advance, and mitigate potential risks, offering a forward-looking approach to business management.

## Centralized ERP: The Trend Towards Unified Systems for Growing Businesses

Earlier growing businesses often acquired divisions that use different ERP software, but the current trend is to standardize centralized ERP across the entire organization.

By adopting a common, centrally managed ERP core, organizations can eliminate data silos and facilitate seamless data sharing. This integration connects data threads from each process or department to central management, creating a single source of truth for the entire enterprise. Real-time visibility into operations enhances informed decision-making and efficiency while paving the way for advanced technologies and automation.

## **Hyperautomation: The Next Frontier in ERP Efficiency**

Hyperautomation emerged as a significant trend during the pandemic when companies sought to make operations as contactless, safe, and efficient as possible. This approach, which involves automating as many processes as possible using AI, machine learning, and robotic process automation (RPA), has evolved from a niche trend to the mainstream. According to a Gartner report, organizations can reduce costs by up to 30% over the next three years by leveraging these technologies to automate processes.

By enhancing their ERP systems with hyperautomation, companies can improve previously automated processes, gaining speed and new efficiencies across their entire operations. Additionally, increased and more advanced automation helps businesses address talent shortages by freeing up staff and resources to focus on more value-added activities.



## **Composable ERP: The Future of Business Flexibility**

Composable ERP is poised to be a future trend, revolutionizing how businesses assemble the best-of-breed modules and applications to meet their specific needs. This approach offers far greater flexibility and agility compared to traditional, monolithic ERP systems. By allowing various “pieces” of the software suite to be configured as needed, composable ERP addresses new opportunities, challenges, and threats effectively.

The benefits of composable ERP include improved agility, scalability, cost-effectiveness, flexibility, and security. For example, if demand spikes in a certain region and customers want more of product A than product B, composable ERP enables rapid sourcing and procurement of necessary materials, redirection of workloads, workforce adjustments, increased production of the in-demand product, and efficient shipping to the desired location. This ability to swiftly adapt makes composable ERP the future of enterprise resource planning.

## **Collaborative ERP: The Next Big Trend**

Most companies today have to switch between different applications when using their ERP systems. For example, when working on a purchase order, employees must toggle between the ERP system and tools like Microsoft Teams, Slack, or Zoom for input. This also applies to liaising with partners, suppliers, or customers.

However, collaborative ERP is emerging as a future trend. Some ERP systems are starting to offer better integration for seamless collaboration. For instance, SAP and Microsoft have partnered to allow users to share links to live ERP data directly in Teams. In the future, it's easy to envision Teams chats where relevant ERP data is automatically pushed to the group in real time.



## Conclusion: Driving Innovation and Efficiency

The ERP landscape is evolving rapidly, shaped by advancements in cloud computing, AI, IoT, and predictive analytics. These technologies are redefining ERP systems from mere operational tools to strategic assets that enhance decision-making and operational efficiency. Looking forward, the future of ERP holds immense promise, offering businesses opportunities to innovate and maintain competitiveness. Strategic ERP implementation and the adoption of new technologies will be pivotal in achieving greater efficiency and driving growth in the digital age. By embracing these trends and leveraging ERP advancements, businesses can position themselves at the forefront of digital transformation, poised for sustained success in an increasingly competitive global marketplace.

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