WEBINAR

Right-Sizing SAP BusinessObjects

to Lower your Technical Debt Ceiling

APOS

Today's Session

Key Topics

Right-Sizing SAP BusinessObjects

- Technical Debt
- Rationalizing
- Reducing
- Restructuring

- Q&A – see webinar console

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Today's Presenters:

ALLAN PYM

COO
APOS

FRED WALTHER

Senior Solution Consultant
APOS

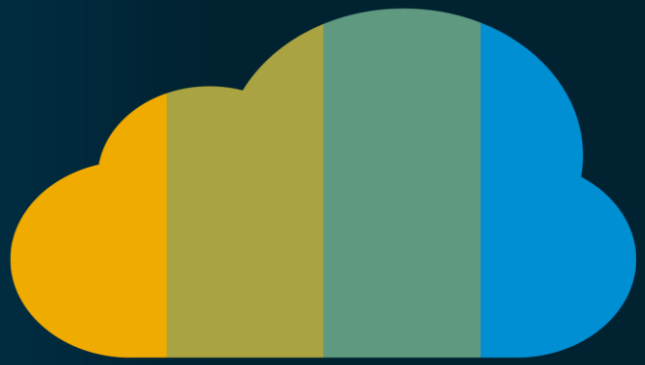
Who is APOS?

- Formed in 1992
- Enabling BI platform management, administration, migration, governance and compliance
- Simplifying, automating, extending SAP Analytics Cloud, SAP BusinessObjects, and SAP data analytics
- Strategic SDK development and consulting
- Hundreds of customers globally

APOS

SAP BusinessObjects

Hybrid BI



SAP Analytics Cloud

HOUSEKEEPING

You will have access to the slides via email

You will get the recording within 24 hours

Download the handouts in the panel

Tell us how we did in the survey

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The Road Ahead for SAP BusinessObjects

Updated Statement of Direction – SAP BI & Analytics

PUBLIC

SAP ANALYTICS

Business Intelligence Statement of Direction

October 2023

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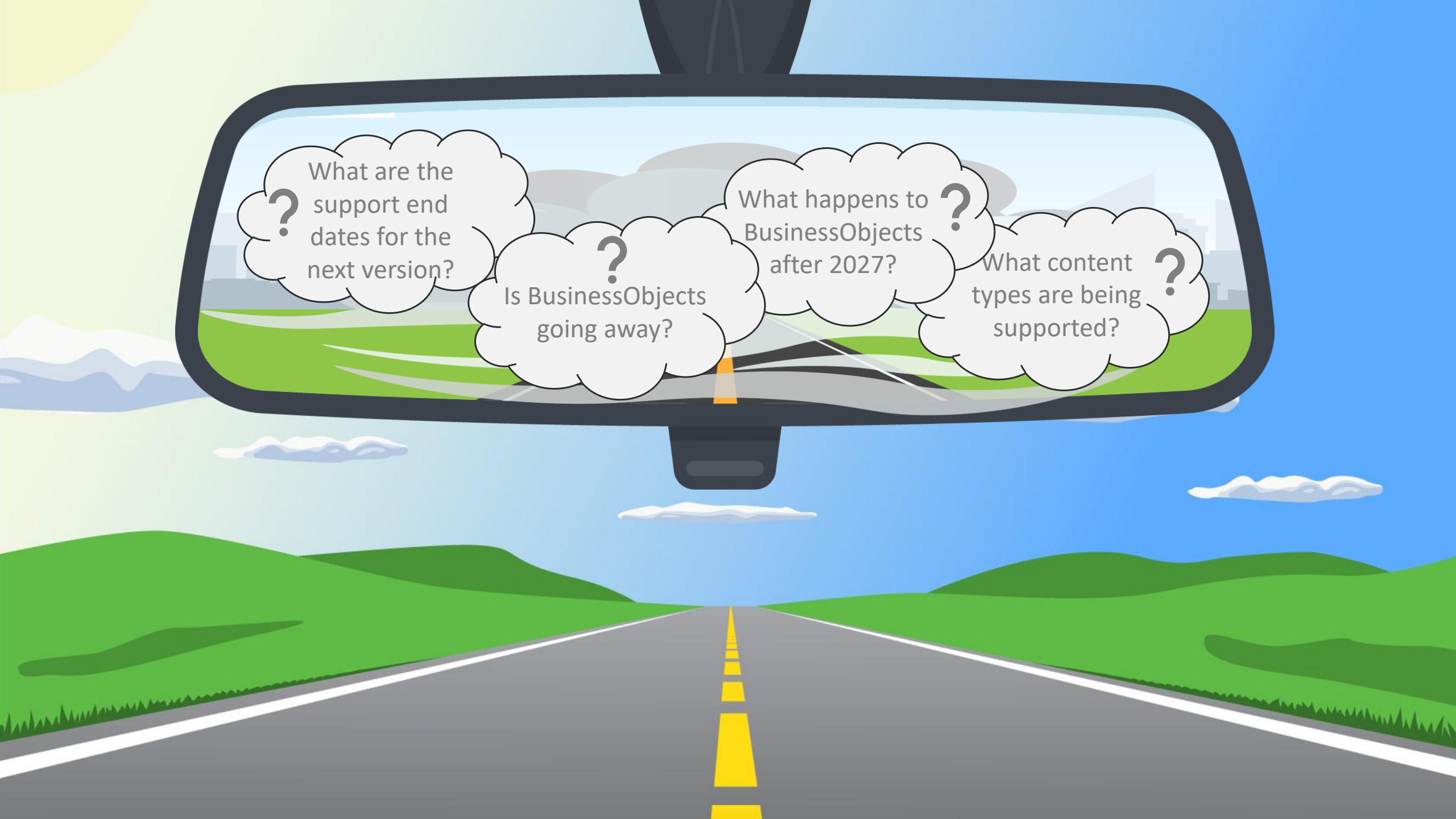
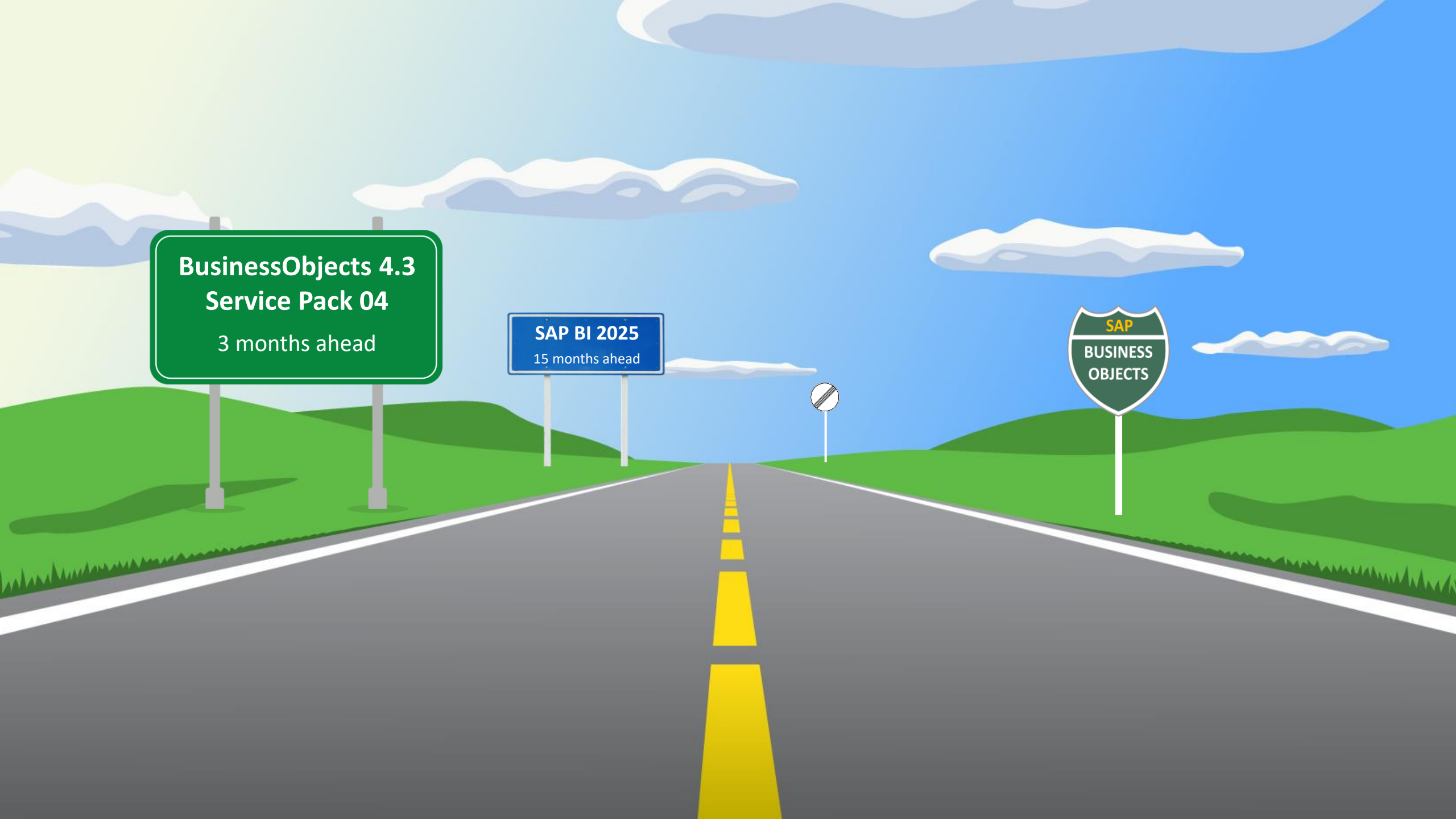
Rear View Mirror


What are the support end dates for the next version?
Is BusinessObjects going away?
What happens to BusinessObjects after 2027?
What content types are being supported?


BusinessObjects 4.3
Service Pack 04
3 months ahead
SAP BI 2025
15 months ahead
SAP
BUSINESS
OBJECTS

Regrouping for your SAP BusinessObjects Future

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Regrouping for your SAP BusinessObjects Future

Recommendations:

- Take stock of what you have
- Assess & action unsupported content
- Right-size your system content
- Upgrade platform to Version 4.3
- Upgrade Universes to UNX format
- Automate for efficient management

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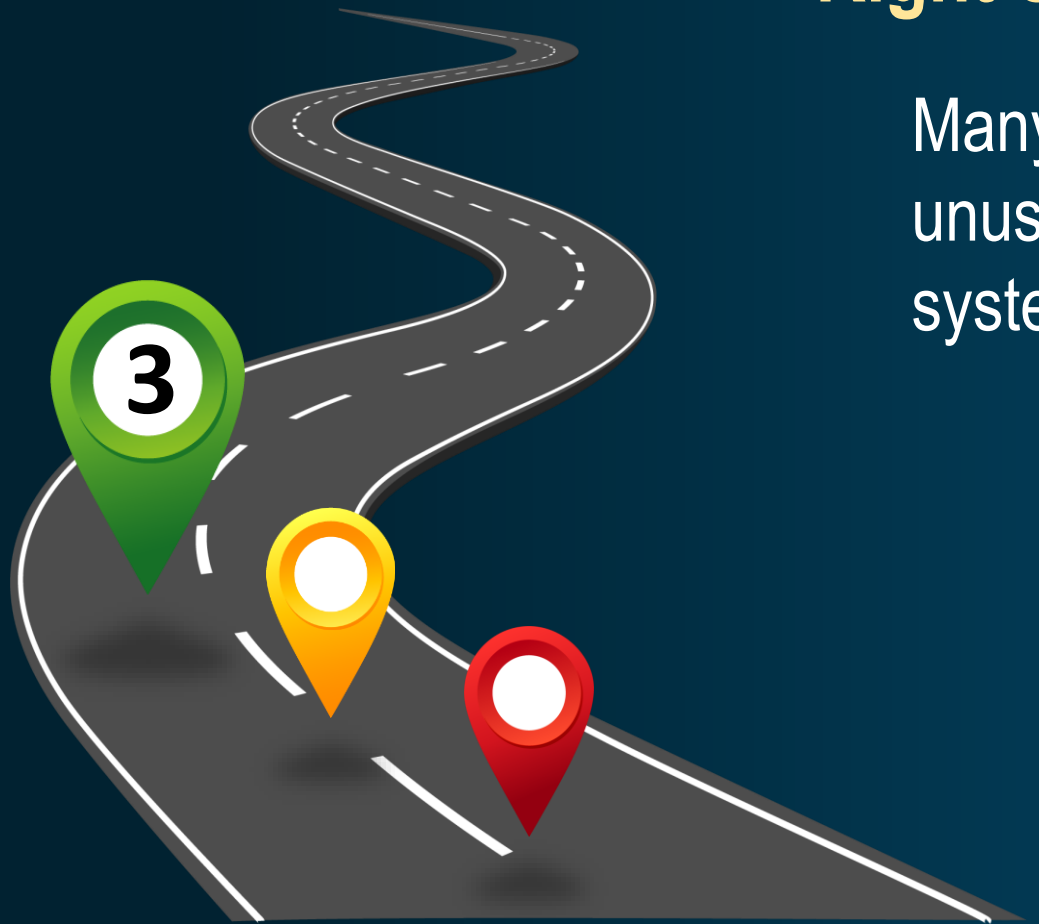
Regrouping for your SAP BusinessObjects Future



Right-size your system content

Many organizations have a significant amount of unused and unnecessary content residing in their system – excessive ‘Technical Debt’

APOS

Fred Walther
Senior Solution Consultant
APOS

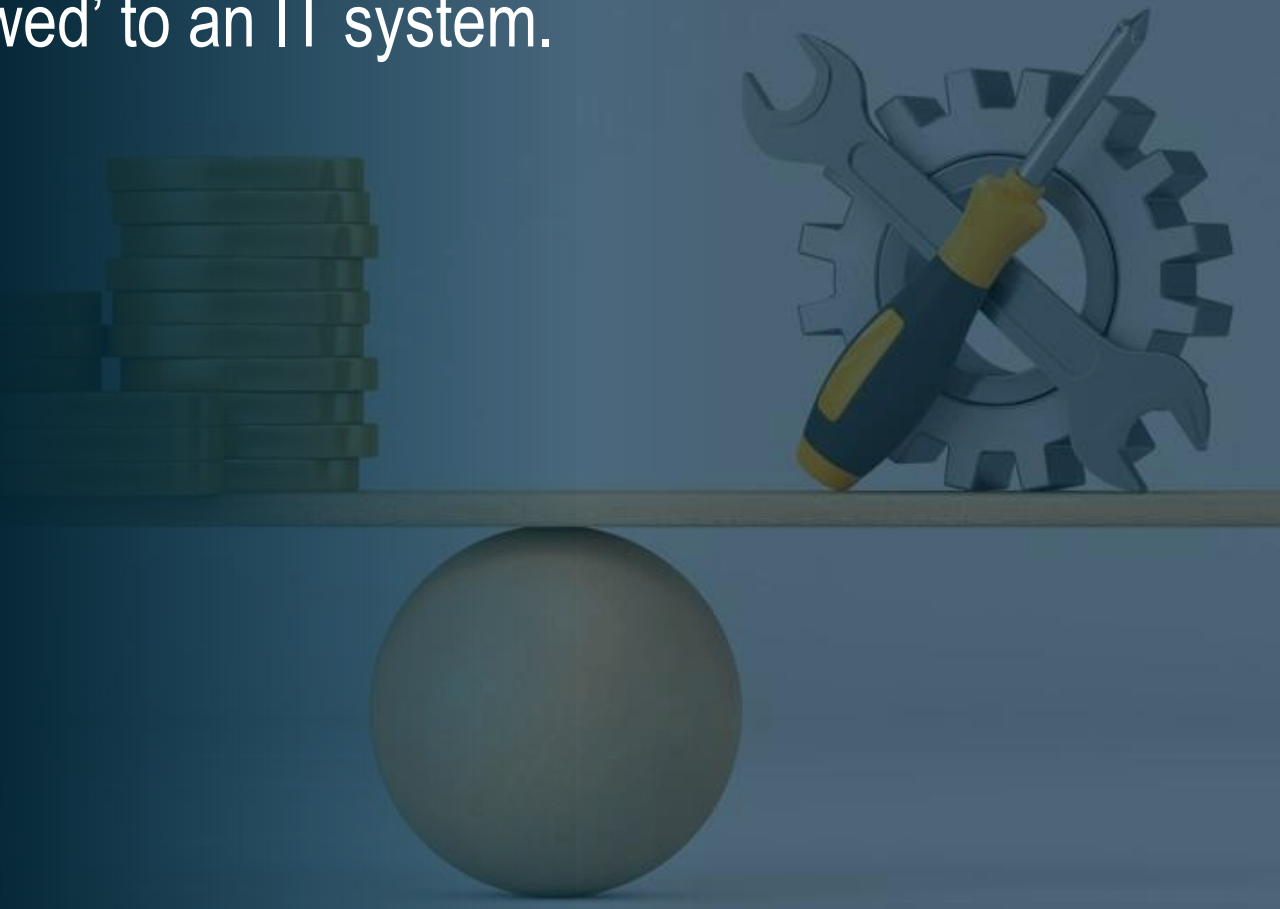
APOS

What is Technical Debt

Technical Debt is accrued work that is ‘owed’ to an IT system.

- Technical debt can accrue when teams delay performing regular maintenance on the system.
- Eventually, technical debt can accrue into a critical mass where the software becomes unstable, and customers become dissatisfied.
- Delayed maintenance can also result in significantly higher support costs…

…as defined by Gartner



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Technical Debt in SAP BusinessObjects

All system content can be considered Technical Debt:

- Report Objects
- Report Instances
- Universes
- Connections
- Users
- Groups
- Security
- Schedules

- What content is useful?
- What content is not useful?
- What debt can be eliminated?

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Symptoms of Too Much Technical Debt

- Challenging system management and maintenance
  - Content edits, updates, administration
  - Content lifecycle management and controls
  - User and usage changes; security management
- Complex system analysis
- Heavy upgrades/migrations
  - Content migration, Content testing
  - Bloated migrations
- Reduced system performance
  - Skewed infrastructure planning
  - Stretched storage resources
- Difficult governance and audits

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Why Remove Unnecessary Technical Debt

- All system content is meaningful and utilized
- Streamlined management and maintenance
- Improved system analysis and audits
- Simplified upgrades/migrations
- Efficiently sized and utilized infrastructure
- Reduced burden on BI Team
- Improve business value of deployment

What is your Technical Debt Ceiling?

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Right-Size Your BI Environment – 3 Steps

- Rationalize
- Reduce
- Restructure

Right-Size Your BI Environment

Rationalize

Assessing what is necessary and what is unnecessary:

- Content
- Users
- Licenses
- Infrastructure

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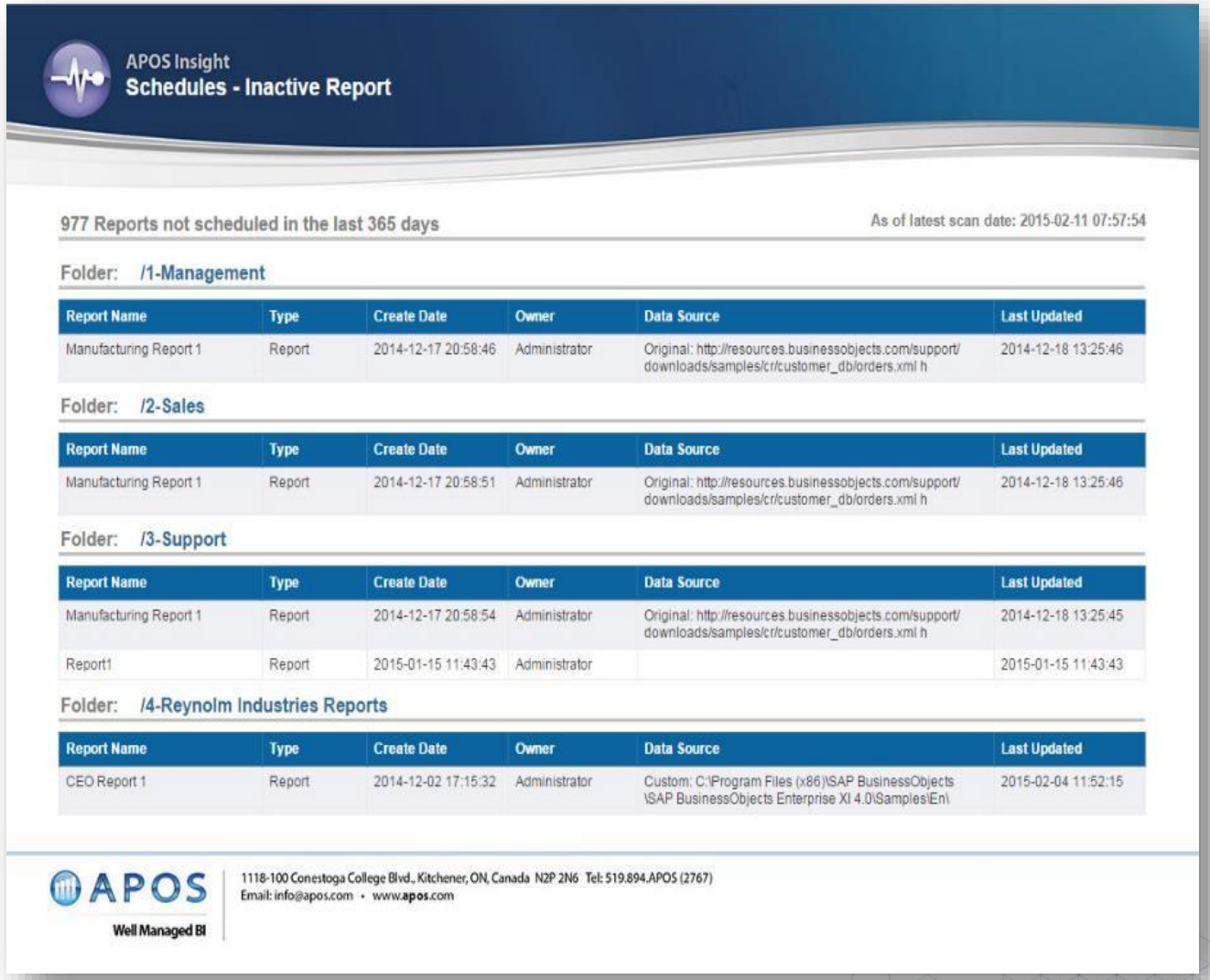
Rationalize – Content

- What Reports are not being used?
- What Schedules/Instances are not relevant anymore?



APOS Insight
Schedules - Inactive Report

977 Reports not scheduled in the last 365 days

As of latest scan date: 2015-02-11 07:57:54

Folder: /1-Management

Report Name	Type	Create Date	Owner	Data Source	Last Updated
Manufacturing Report 1	Report	2014-12-17 20:58:46	Administrator	Original: http://resources.businessobjects.com/support/downloads/samples/cr/customer_db/orders.xml h	2014-12-18 13:25:46

Folder: /2-Sales

Report Name	Type	Create Date	Owner	Data Source	Last Updated
Manufacturing Report 1	Report	2014-12-17 20:58:51	Administrator	Original: http://resources.businessobjects.com/support/downloads/samples/cr/customer_db/orders.xml h	2014-12-18 13:25:46

Folder: /3-Support

Report Name	Type	Create Date	Owner	Data Source	Last Updated
Manufacturing Report 1	Report	2014-12-17 20:58:54	Administrator	Original: http://resources.businessobjects.com/support/downloads/samples/cr/customer_db/orders.xml h	2014-12-18 13:25:45
Report1	Report	2015-01-15 11:43:43	Administrator		2015-01-15 11:43:43

Folder: /4-Reynolm Industries Reports

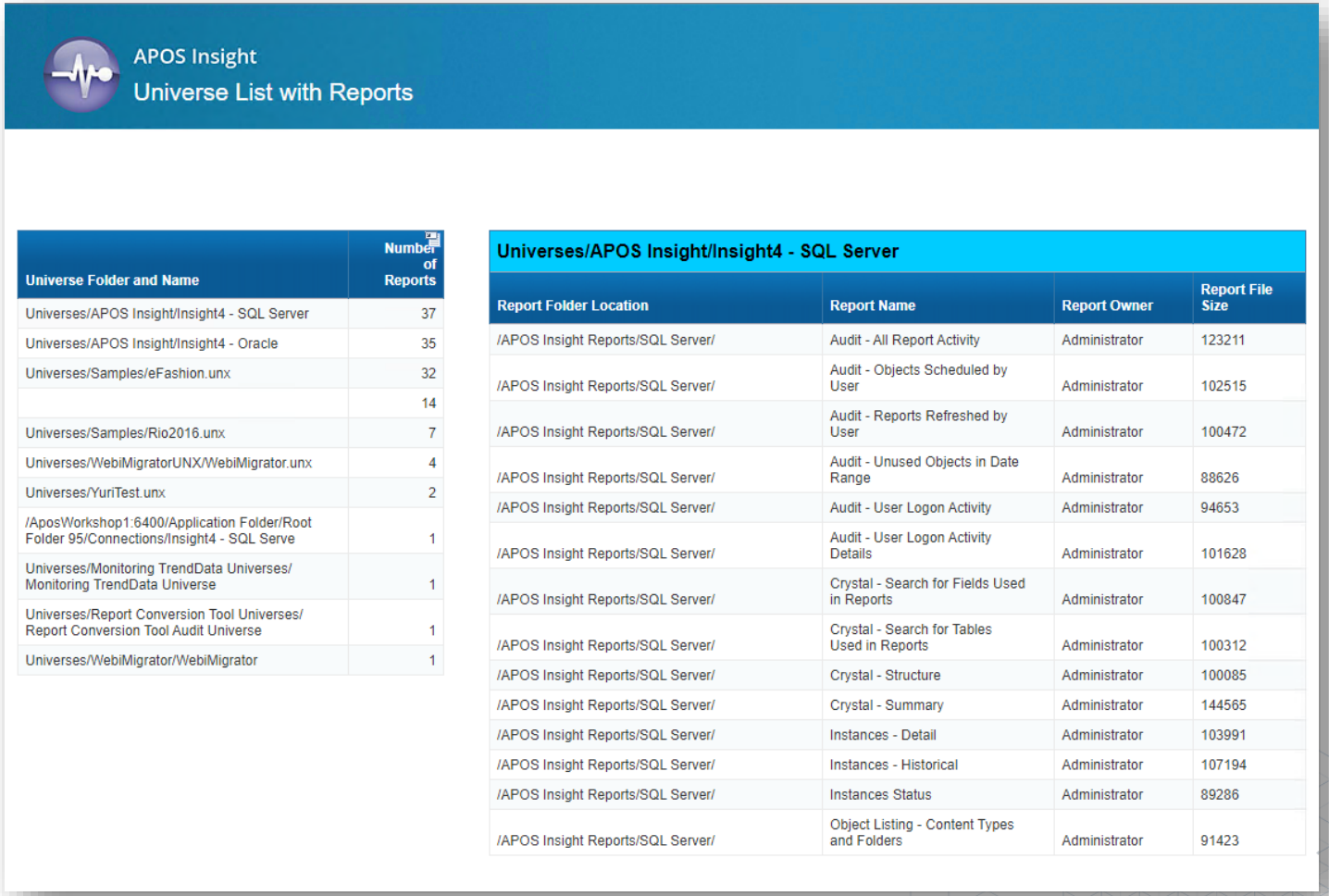
Report Name	Type	Create Date	Owner	Data Source	Last Updated
CEO Report 1	Report	2014-12-02 17:15:32	Administrator	Custom: C:\Program Files (x86)\SAP BusinessObjects\SAP BusinessObjects Enterprise XI 4.0\Samples\En\	2015-02-04 11:52:15

APOS
Well Managed BI

1118-100 Conestoga College Blvd., Kitchener, ON, Canada N2P 2N6 Tel: 519.894.APOS (2767)
Email: info@apos.com • www.apos.com

Rationalize – Content

- What Universes do I have?
- What are my most used Universes?
- What Universes are not active?



APOS Insight
Universe List with Reports

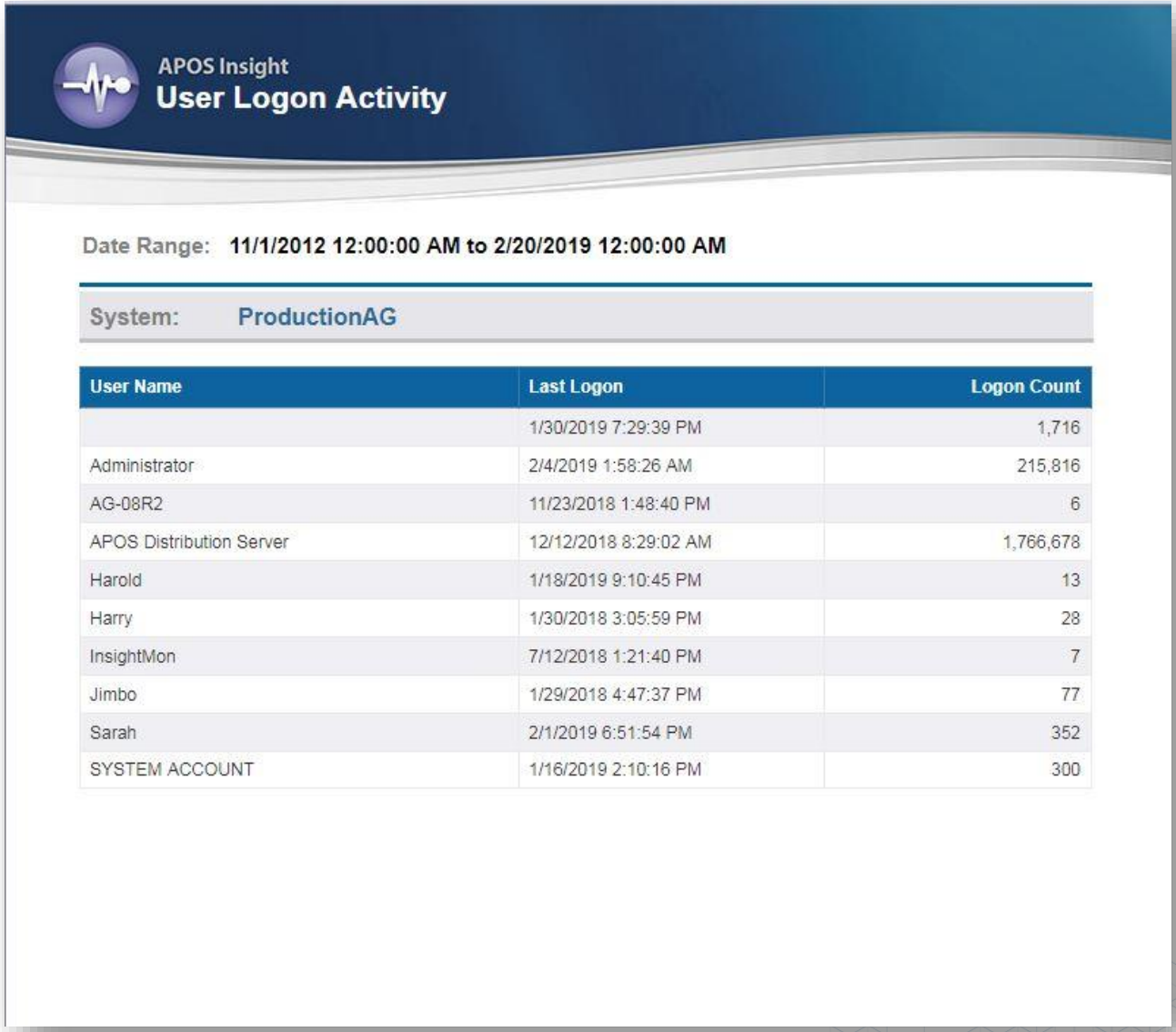
Universe Folder and Name	Number of Reports
Universes/APOS Insight/Insight4 - SQL Server	37
Universes/APOS Insight/Insight4 - Oracle	35
Universes/Samples/eFashion.unx	32
	14
Universes/Samples/Rio2016.unx	7
Universes/WebiMigratorUNX/WebiMigrator.unx	4
Universes/YuriTest.unx	2
/AposWorkshop1:6400/Application Folder/Root Folder 95/Connections/Insight4 - SQL Serve	1
Universes/Monitoring TrendData Universes/ Monitoring TrendData Universe	1
Universes/Report Conversion Tool Universes/ Report Conversion Tool Audit Universe	1
Universes/WebiMigrator/WebiMigrator	1

Universes/APOS Insight/Insight4 - SQL Server

Report Folder Location	Report Name	Report Owner	Report File Size
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Audit - All Report Activity	Administrator	123211
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Audit - Objects Scheduled by User	Administrator	102515
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Audit - Reports Refreshed by User	Administrator	100472
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Audit - Unused Objects in Date Range	Administrator	88626
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Audit - User Logon Activity	Administrator	94653
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Audit - User Logon Activity Details	Administrator	101628
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Crystal - Search for Fields Used in Reports	Administrator	100847
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Crystal - Search for Tables Used in Reports	Administrator	100312
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Crystal - Structure	Administrator	100085
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Crystal - Summary	Administrator	144565
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Instances - Detail	Administrator	103991
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Instances - Historical	Administrator	107194
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Instances Status	Administrator	89286
/APOS Insight Reports/SQL Server/	Object Listing - Content Types and Folders	Administrator	91423

Rationalize – Users/Groups

- Are there Users that no longer use BOE that exist in BOE?



APOS Insight
User Logon Activity

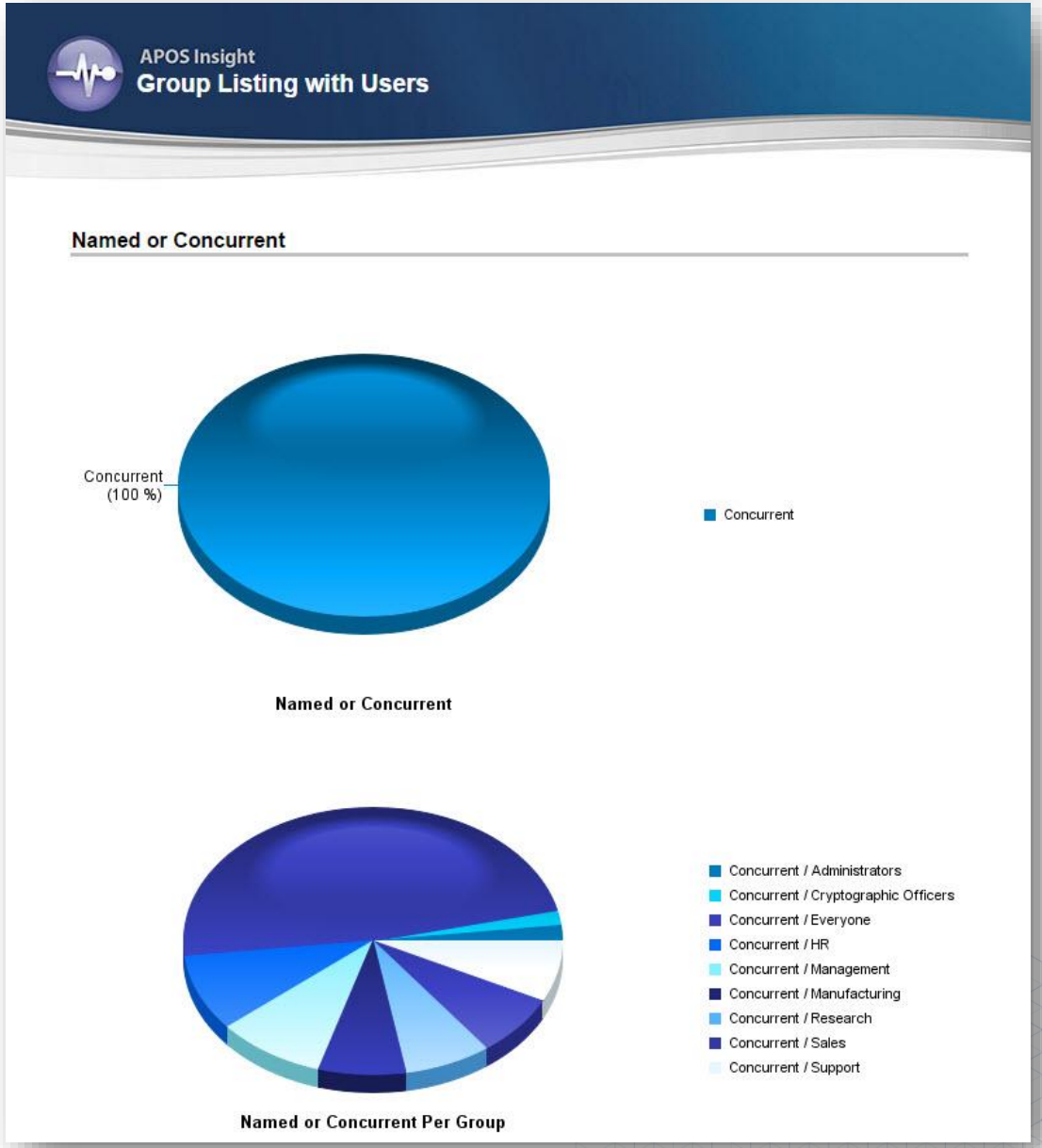
Date Range: 11/1/2012 12:00:00 AM to 2/20/2019 12:00:00 AM

System: ProductionAG

User Name	Last Logon	Logon Count
	1/30/2019 7:29:39 PM	1,716
Administrator	2/4/2019 1:58:26 AM	215,816
AG-08R2	11/23/2018 1:48:40 PM	6
APOS Distribution Server	12/12/2018 8:29:02 AM	1,766,678
Harold	1/18/2019 9:10:45 PM	13
Harry	1/30/2018 3:05:59 PM	28
InsightMon	7/12/2018 1:21:40 PM	7
Jimbo	1/29/2018 4:47:37 PM	77
Sarah	2/1/2019 6:51:54 PM	352
SYSTEM ACCOUNT	1/16/2019 2:10:16 PM	300

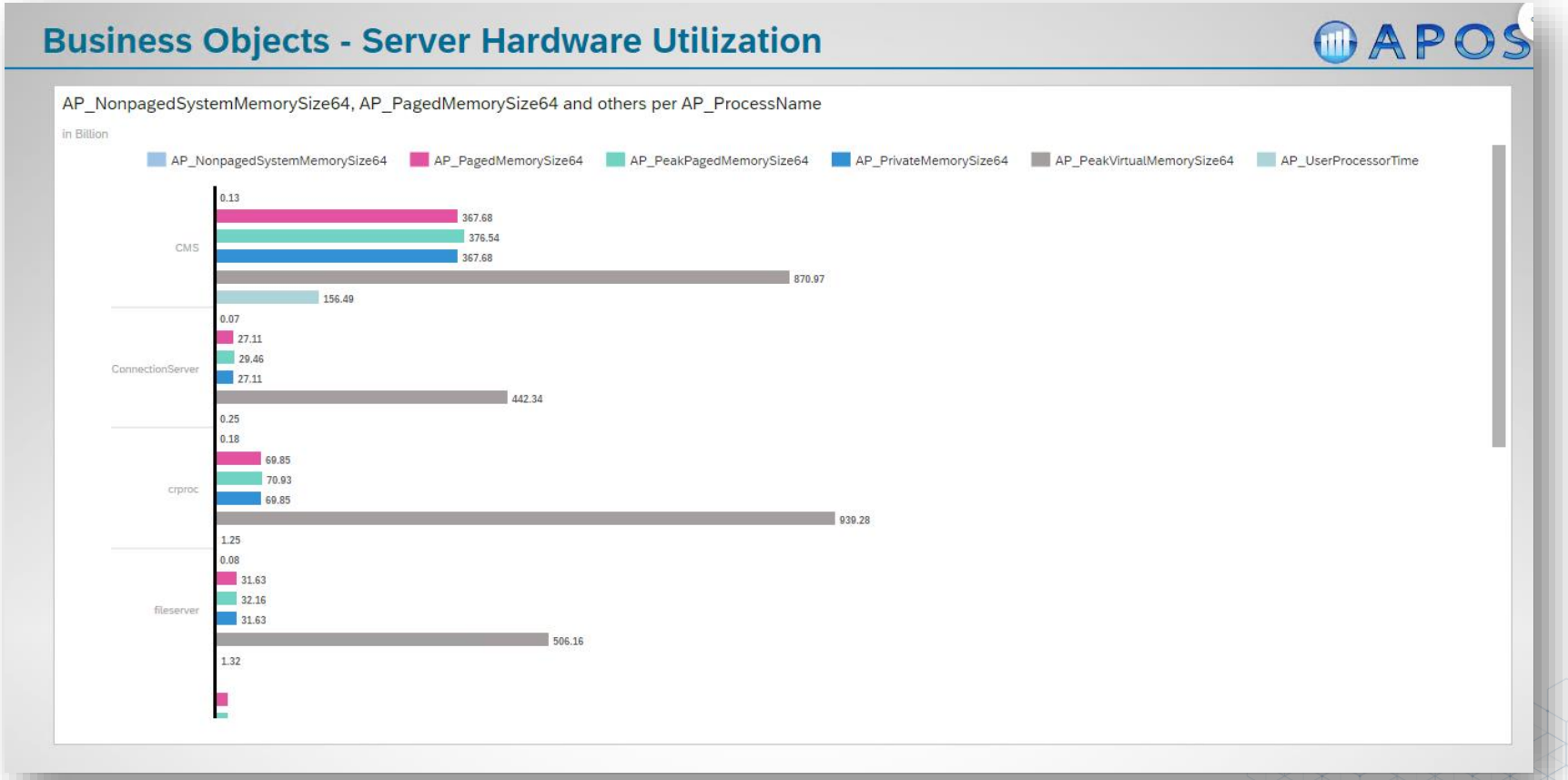
Rationalize – Users/Groups

- How many Groups do I have?
- Can I reduce the amount of Groups I have?
- Can I consolidate replicated Groups?



Rationalize – Infrastructure

- Are my BOE servers under heavy workload?
- Do I need to add more resources to support my infrastructure?



Rationalize – Licences

- What are User activity patterns?

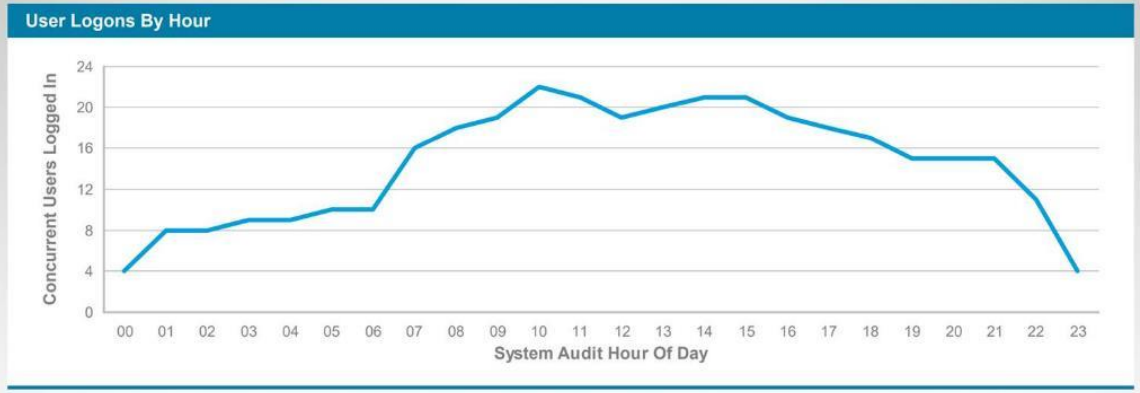
APOS Insight
Connection Count

AG-08R2

2015-02-09

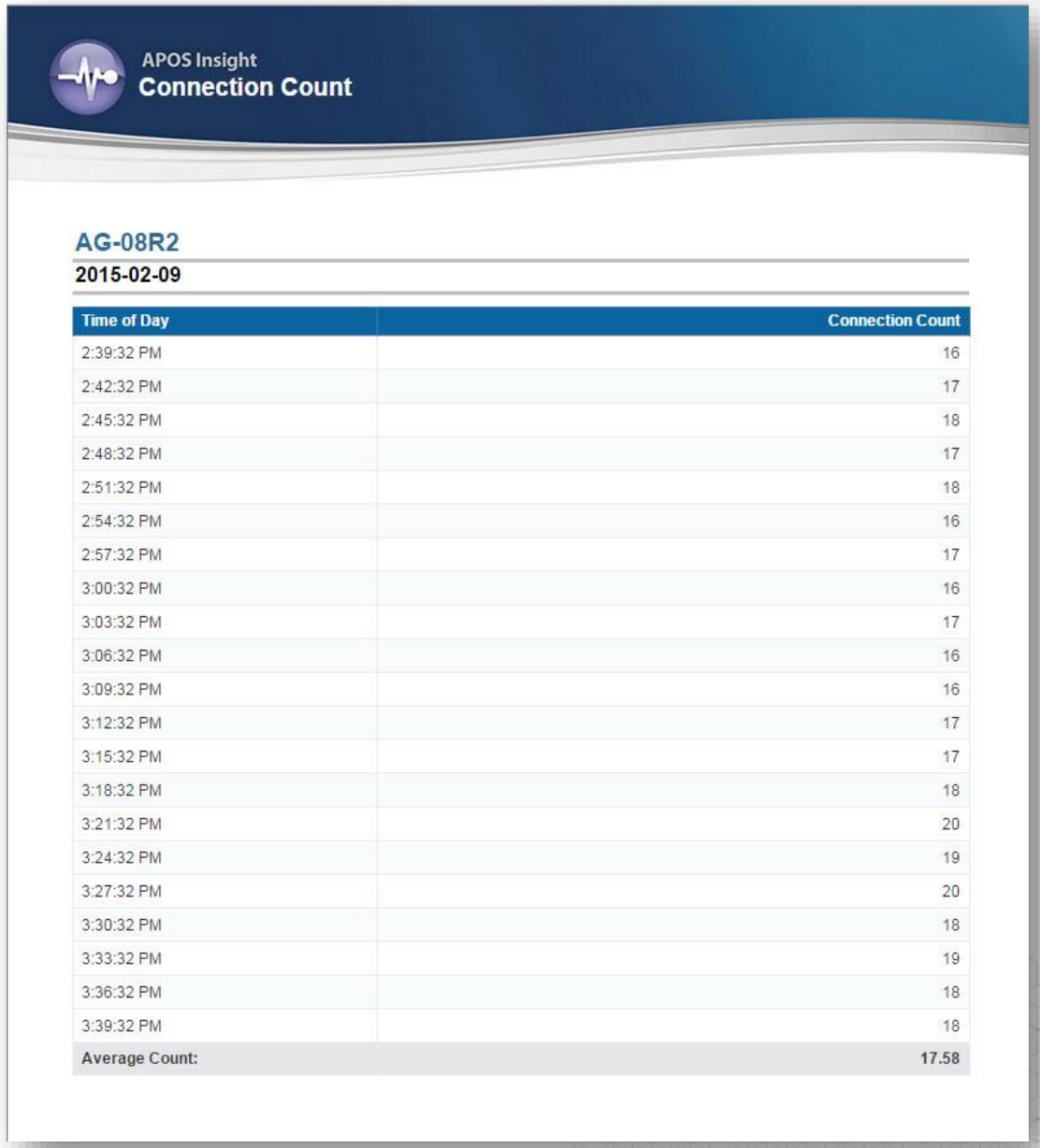
Time of Day	Connection Count
2:39:32 PM	16
2:42:32 PM	17
2:45:32 PM	18
2:48:32 PM	17
2:51:32 PM	18
2:54:32 PM	16
2:57:32 PM	17
3:00:32 PM	16
3:03:32 PM	17
3:06:32 PM	16
3:09:32 PM	16
3:12:32 PM	17
3:15:32 PM	17
3:18:32 PM	18
3:21:32 PM	20
3:24:32 PM	19
3:27:32 PM	20
3:30:32 PM	18
3:33:32 PM	19
3:36:32 PM	18
3:39:32 PM	18
Average Count:	17.58

SAP **BI on BI Report** APOS



Rationalize – Licenses

- What are my average license usage numbers through the day/week/ month/year?



APOS Insight
Connection Count

AG-08R2

2015-02-09

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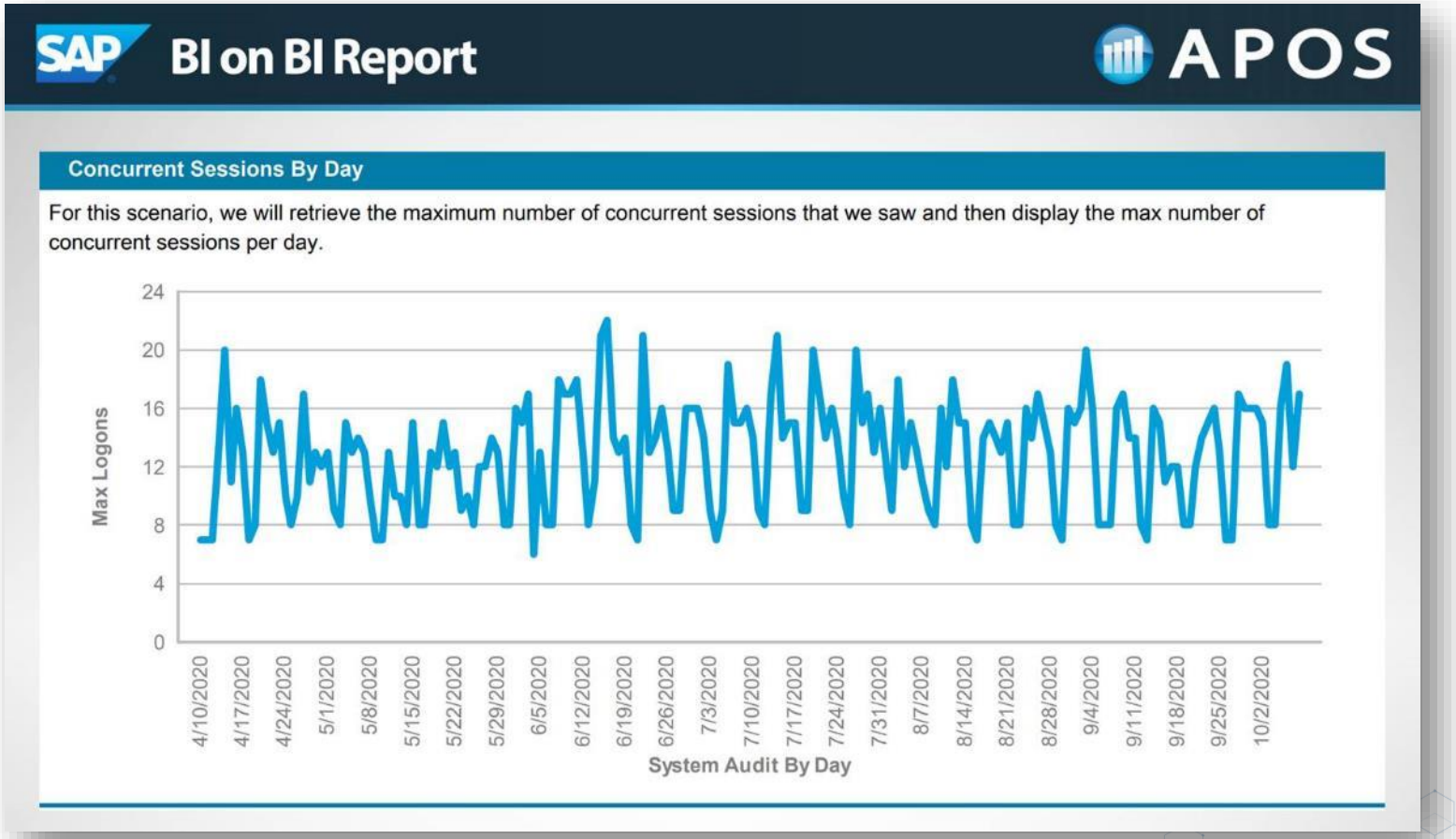
3:00:32 PM	16
3:03:32 PM	17
3:06:32 PM	16
3:09:32 PM	16
3:12:32 PM	17
3:15:32 PM	17
3:18:32 PM	18
3:21:32 PM	20
3:24:32 PM	19
3:27:32 PM	20
3:30:32 PM	18
3:33:32 PM	19
3:36:32 PM	18
3:39:32 PM	18
Average Count:	17.58

Rationalize – Licenses

- What are concurrent session activity highs and lows?



APOS Insight – SAP BI Knowledge

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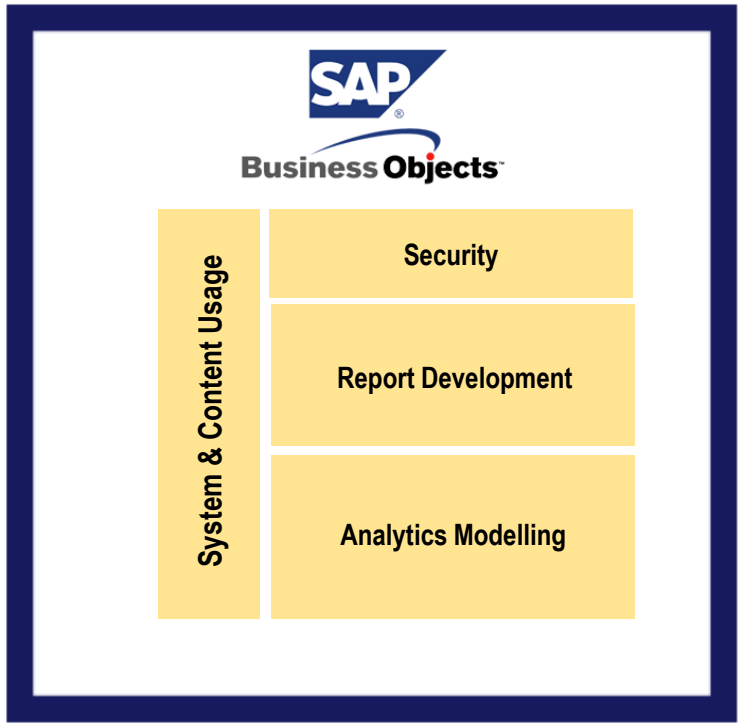
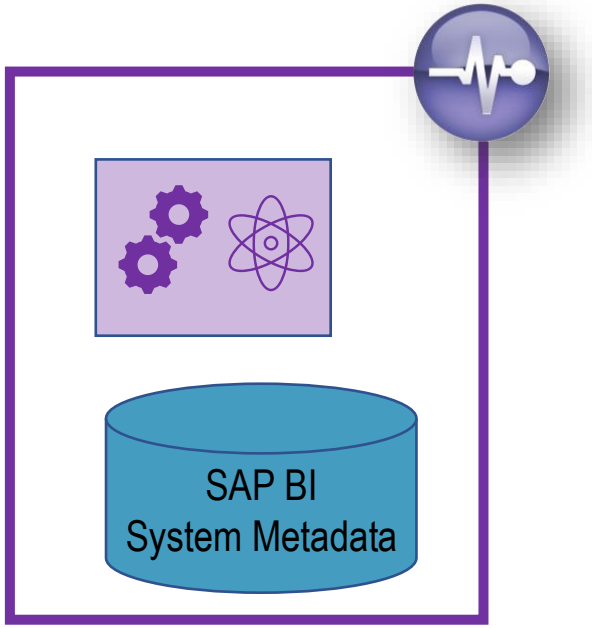
APOS Insight – SAP BI Knowledge





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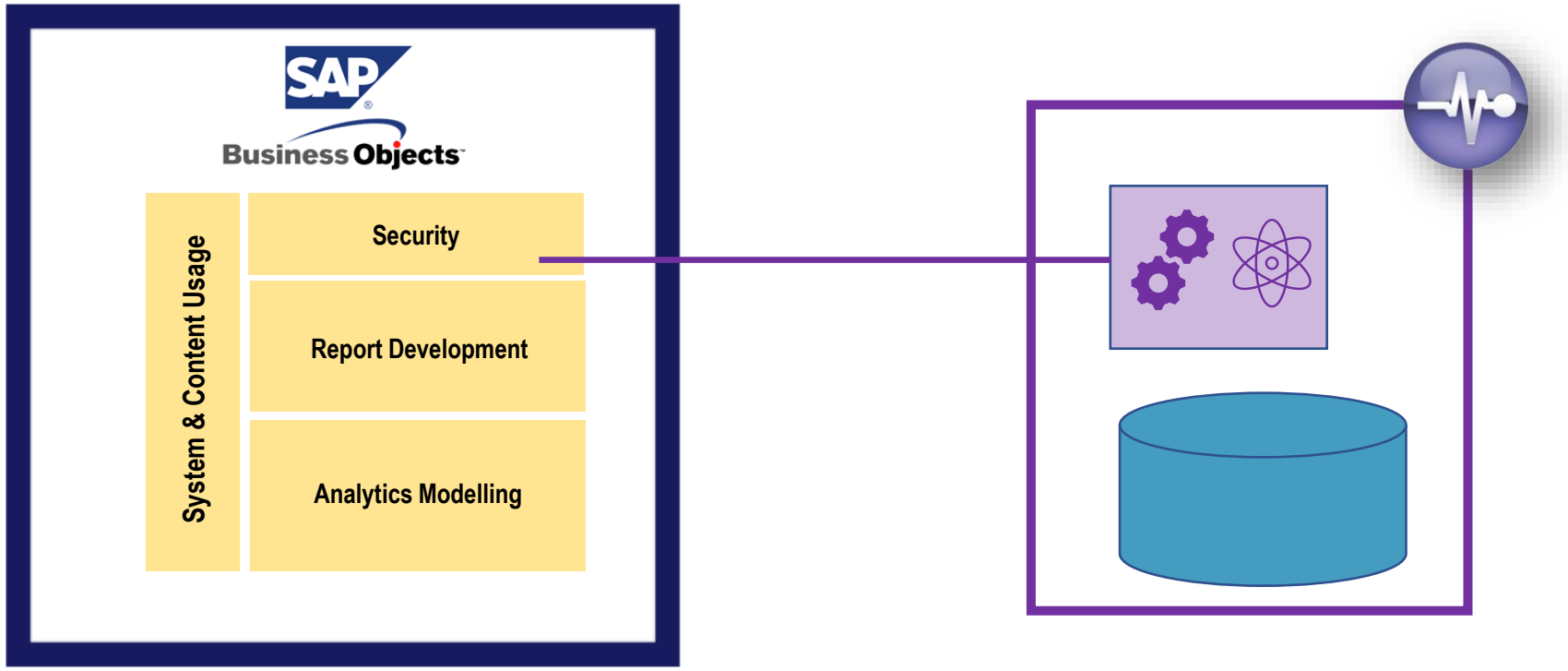
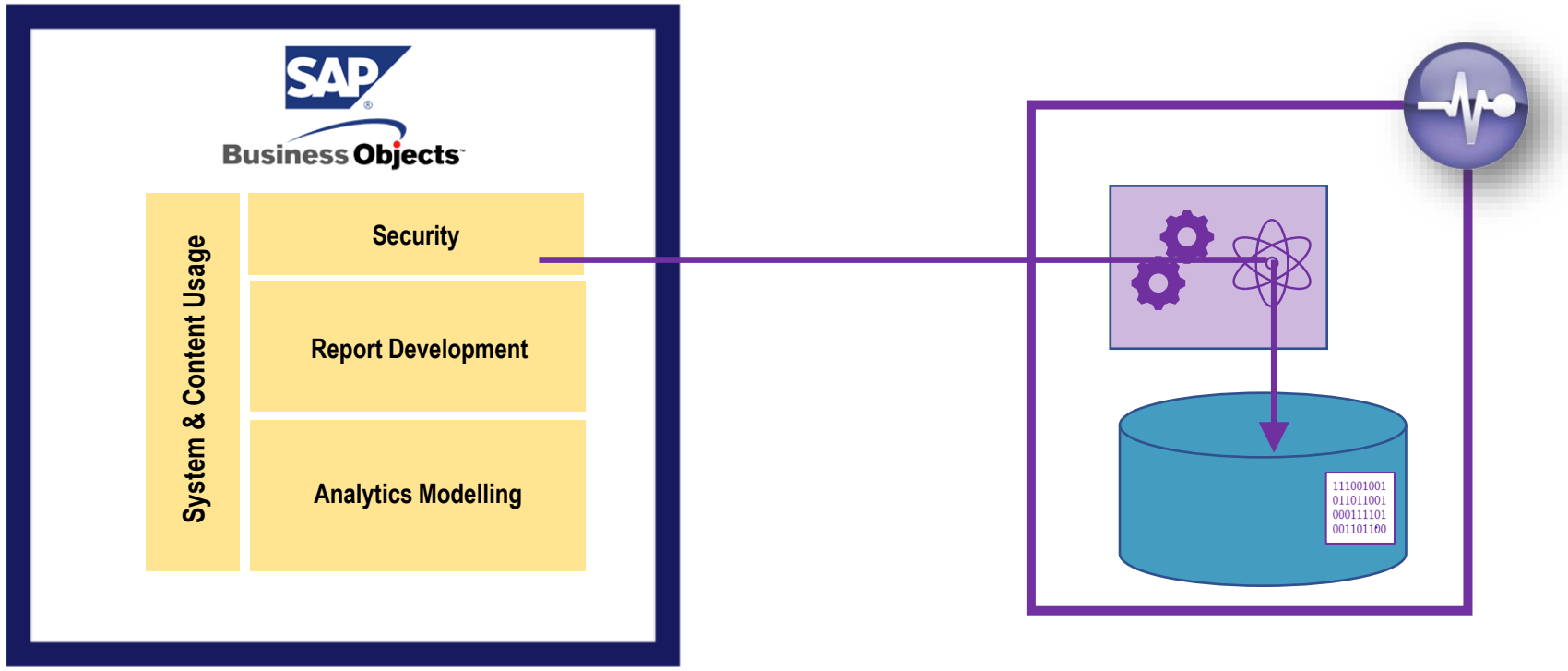
APOS Insight – System Metadata Scan



APOS

APOS Insight – System Metadata Scan



APOS

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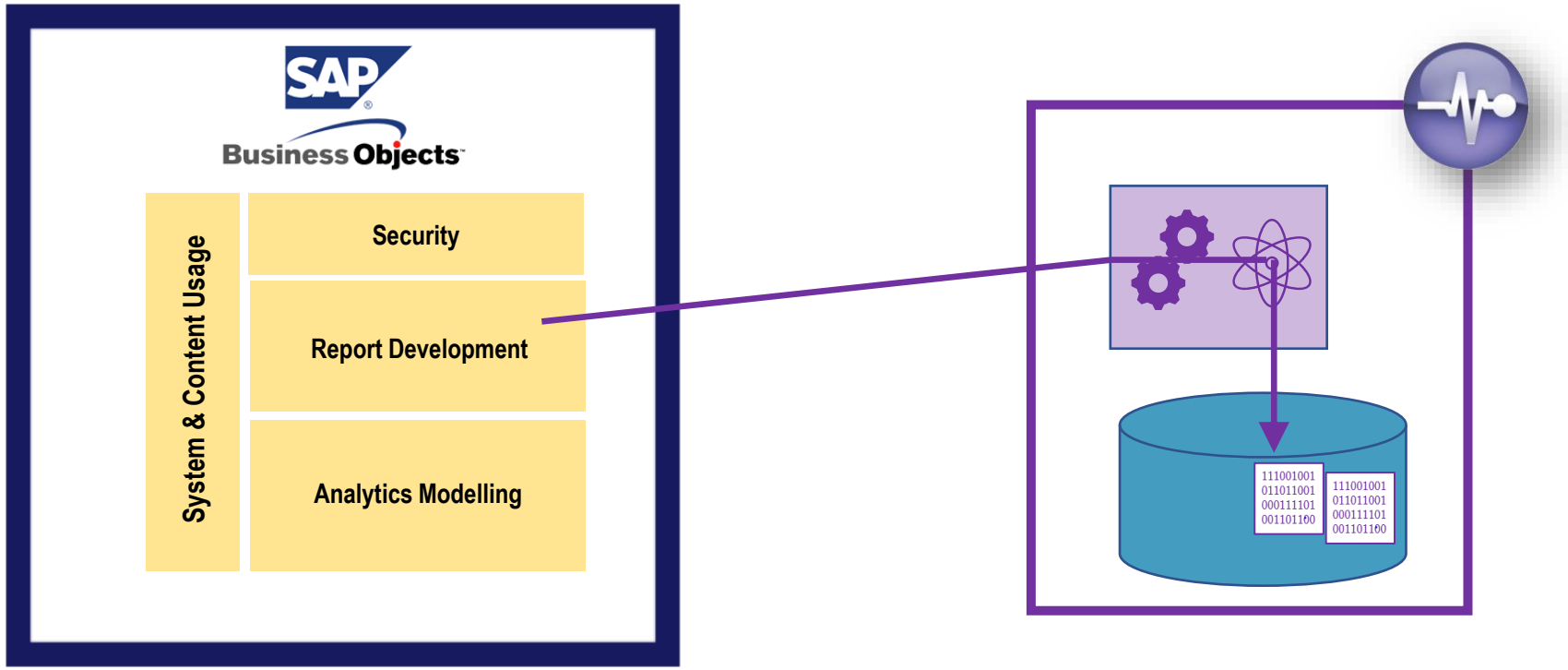
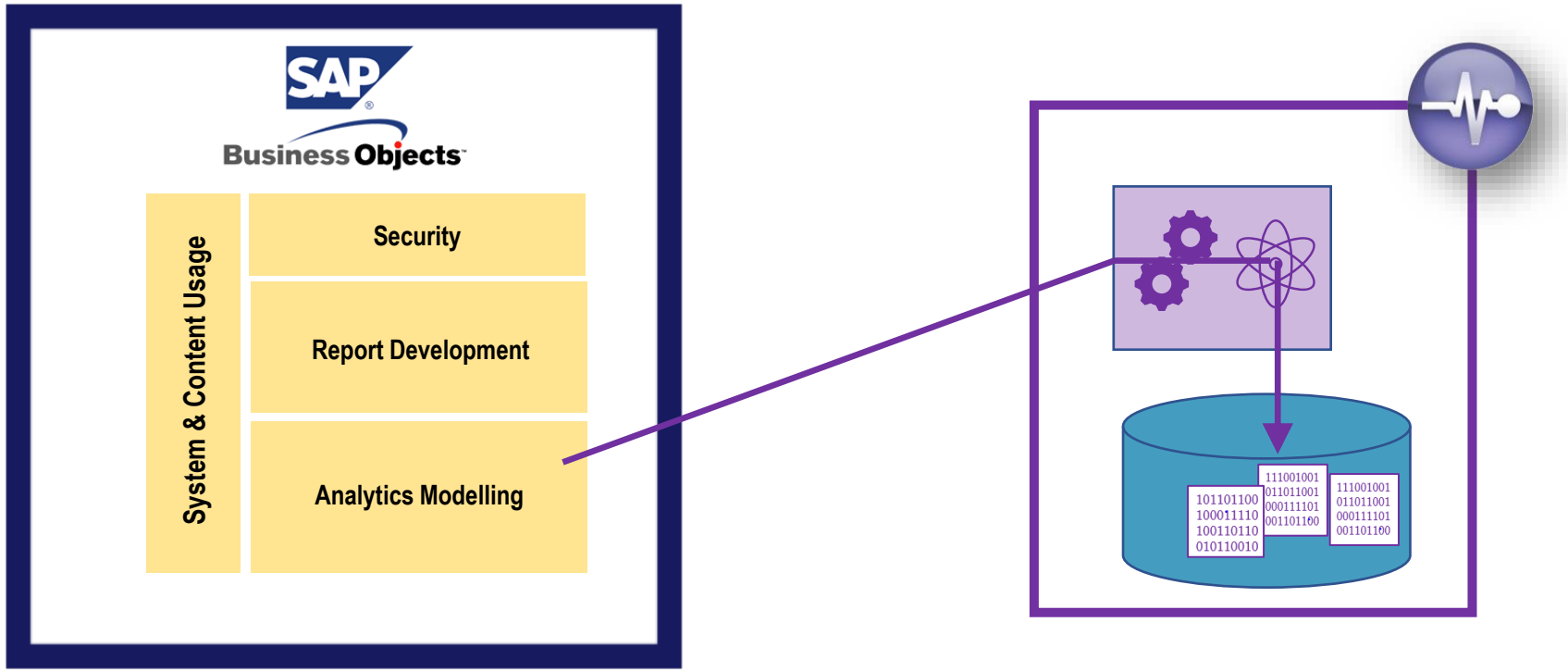


APOS

APOS Insight – System Metadata Scan



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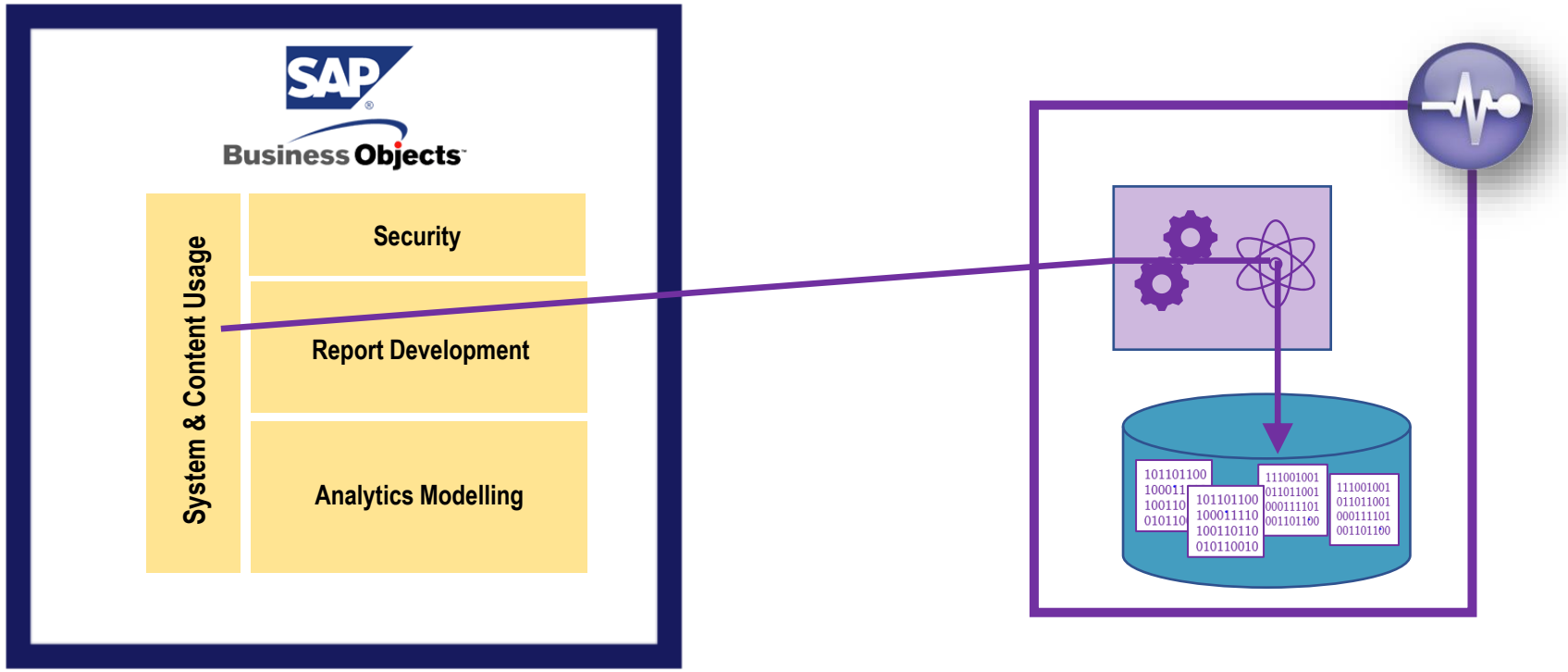
APOS Insight – System Metadata Scan



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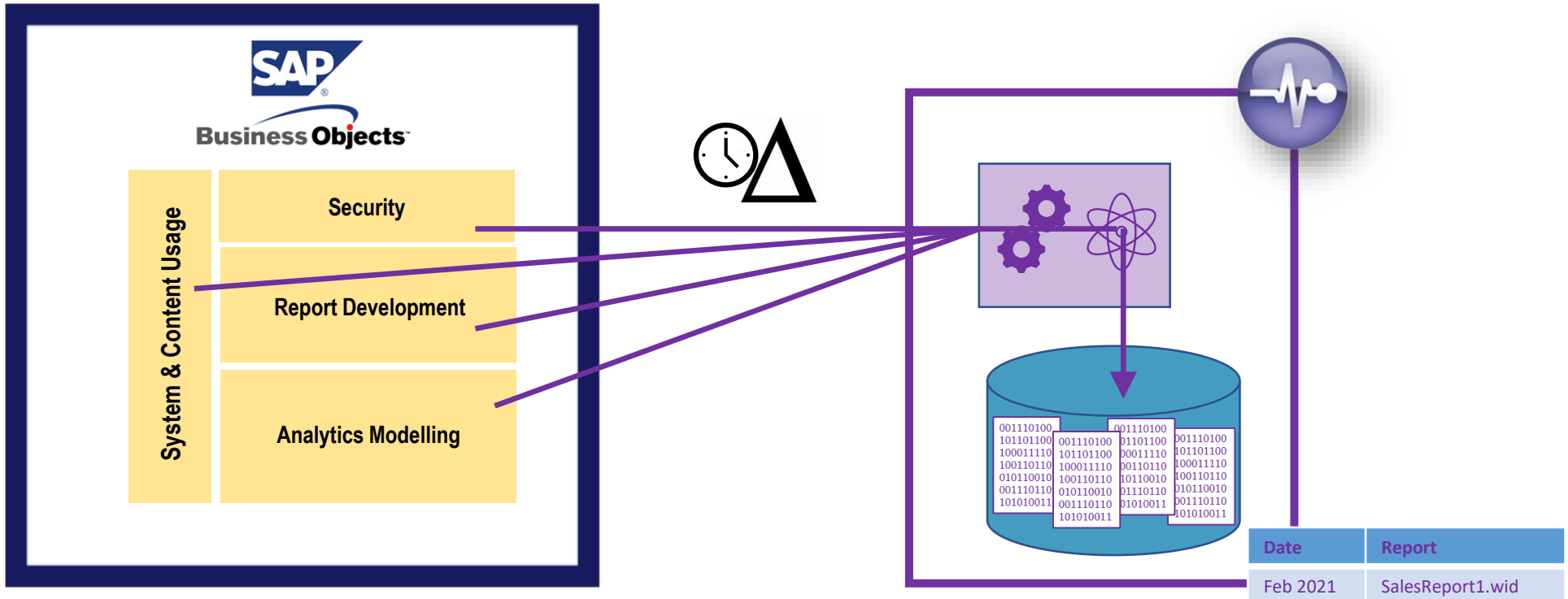
APOS Insight – System Metadata – Update Scans



Date	Report
Feb 2021	SalesReport1.wid
Dec 2020	SalesReport1.wid
Oct 2020	SalesReport1.wid
Sep 2020	SalesReport1.wid

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APOS Insight – System Analysis

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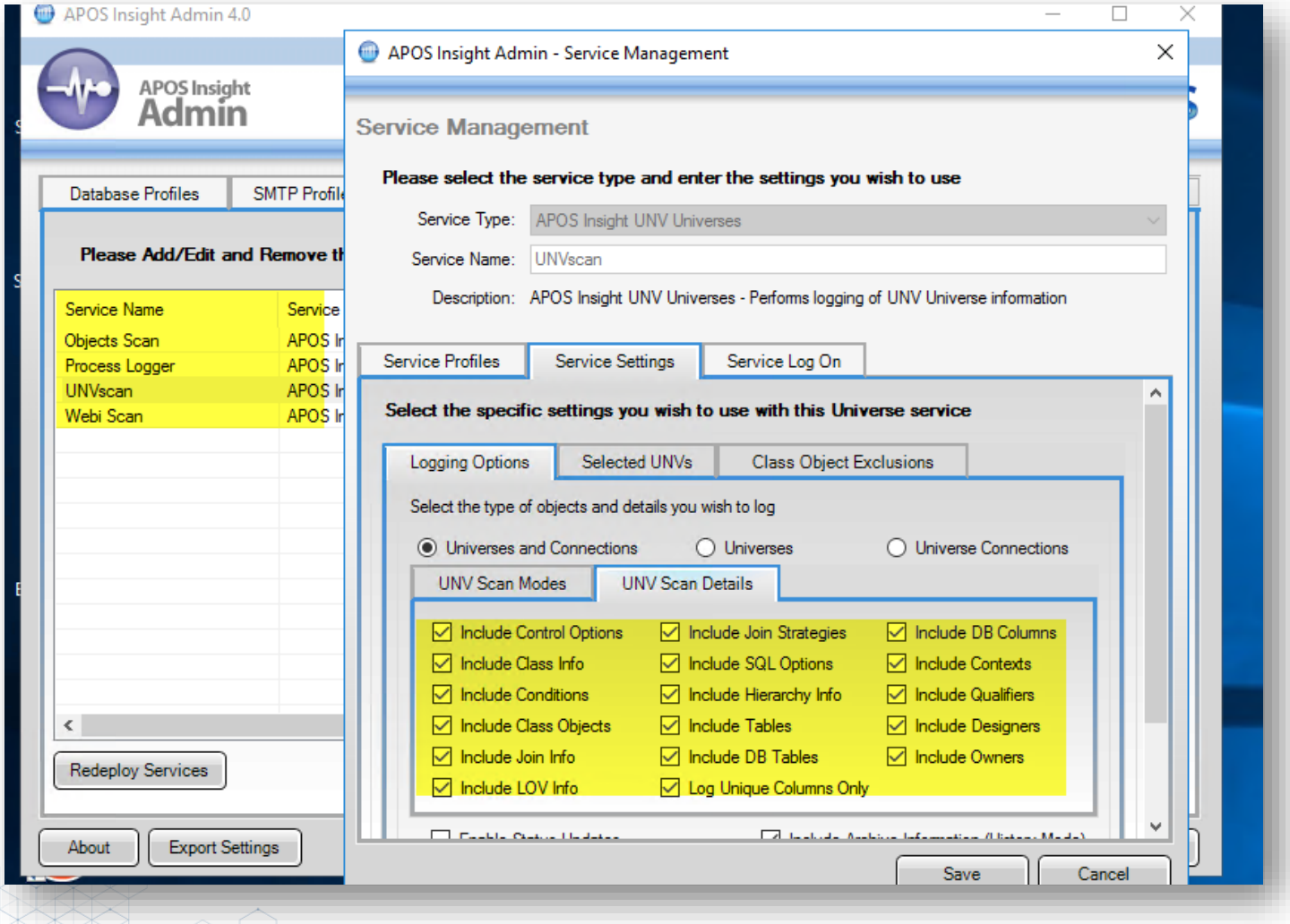

APOS Insight – screenshot

- Fully configurable APOS Insight Services
- Target in-depth data in order to properly rationalize your environment

Right-Size Your BI Environment – Step 2

- Reduce

Right-Size Your BI Environment

Reduce

Find and remove unnecessary elements from system:

- Content
- Users

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Reduce

How to remove unnecessary elements?

Manual

- Delete Reports, Universes
- Delete Instances
- Delete Users

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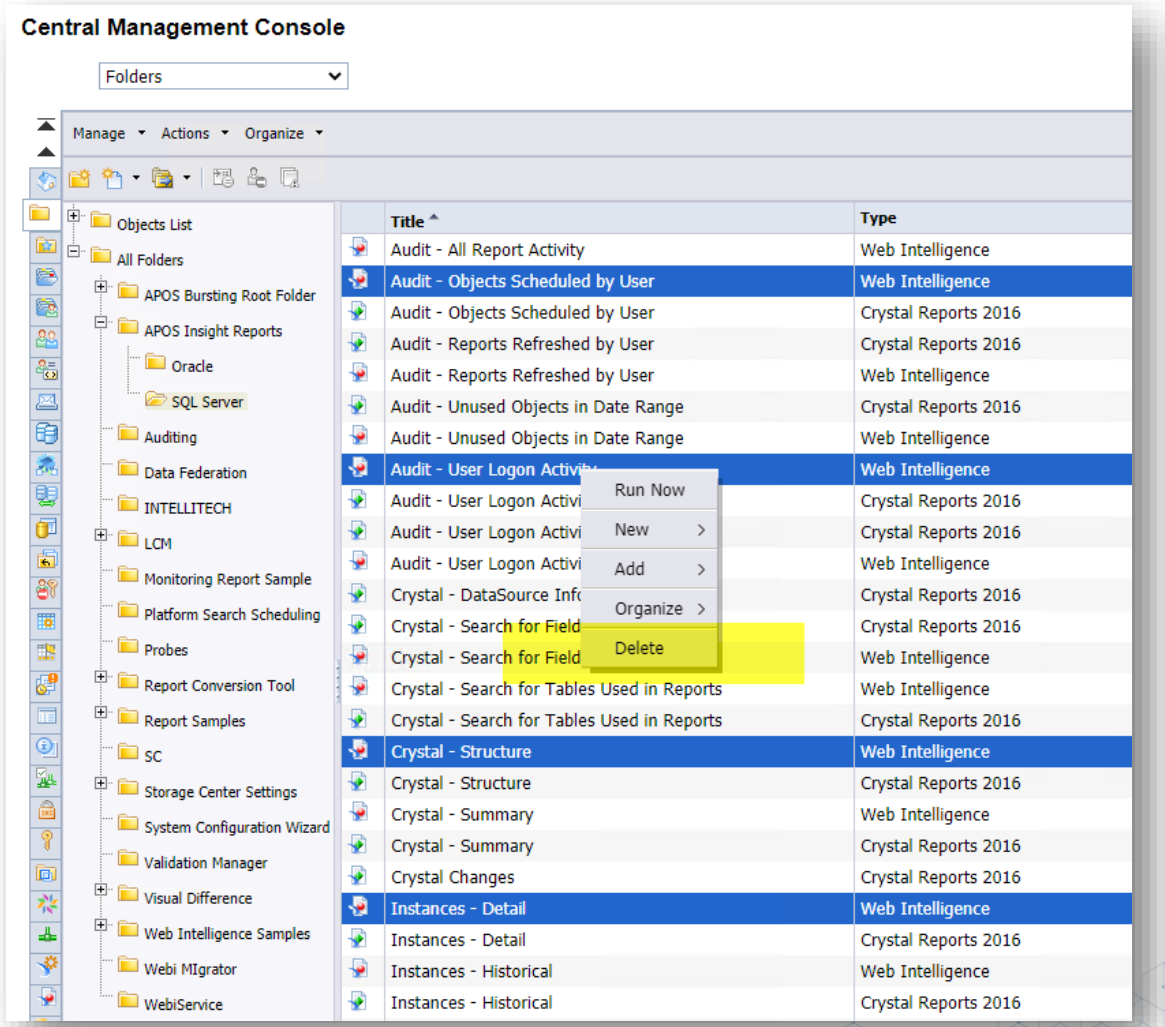
Reduce – How to remove unnecessary elements?

- Have to manually identify what to remove
- Have to manually remove content folder by folder



Reduce

How to remove unnecessary elements?

Manual

- Delete Reports, Universes
- Delete Instances
- Delete Users

Automated

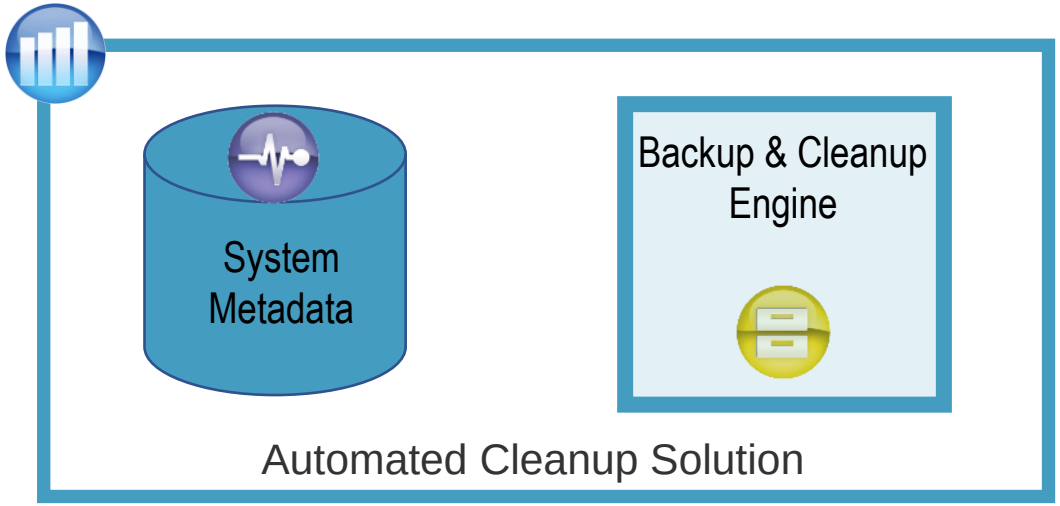
- Automated Cleanup Solution

APOS

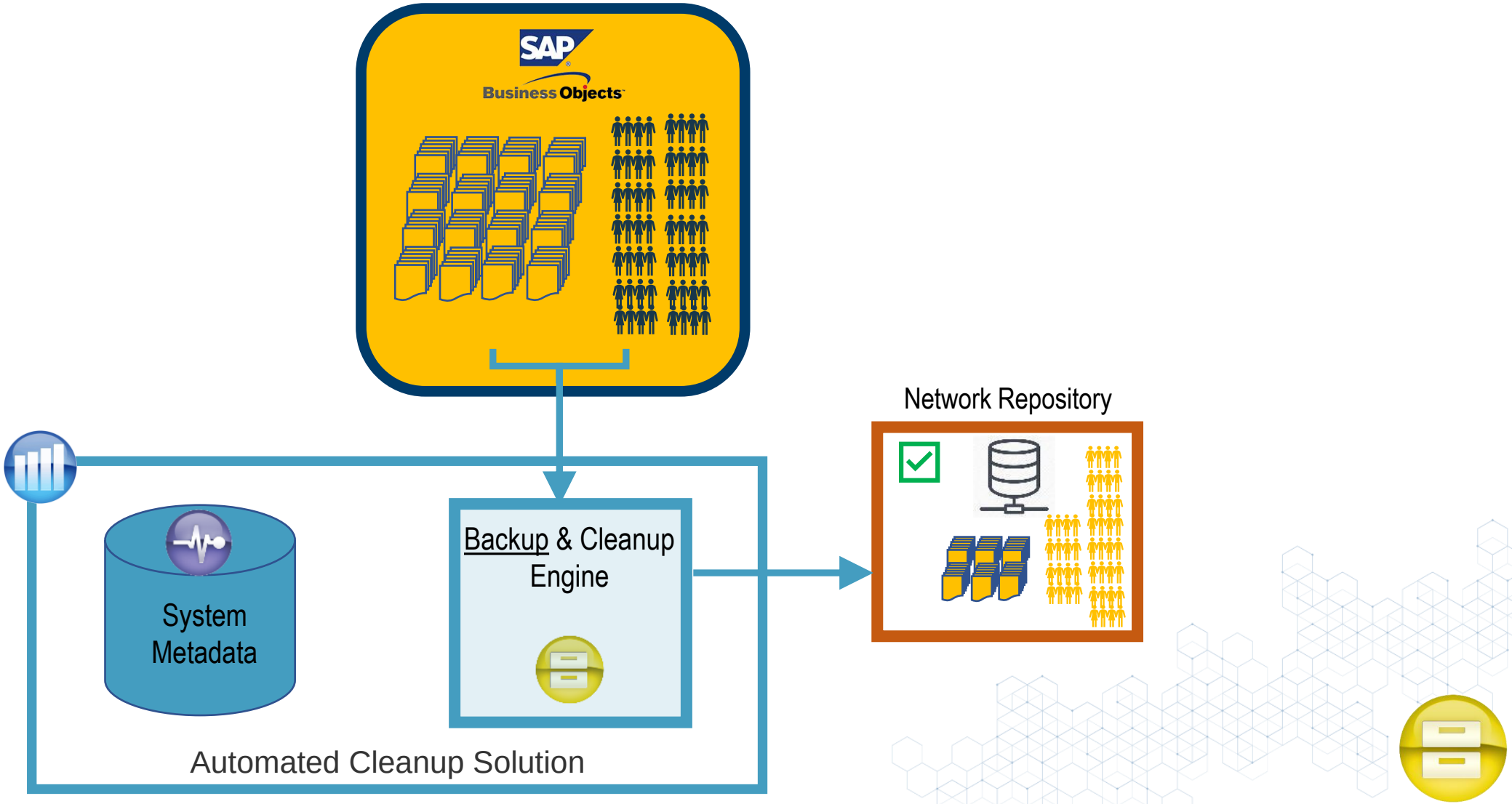
Automated System Clean-Up

Automated System Clean-Up

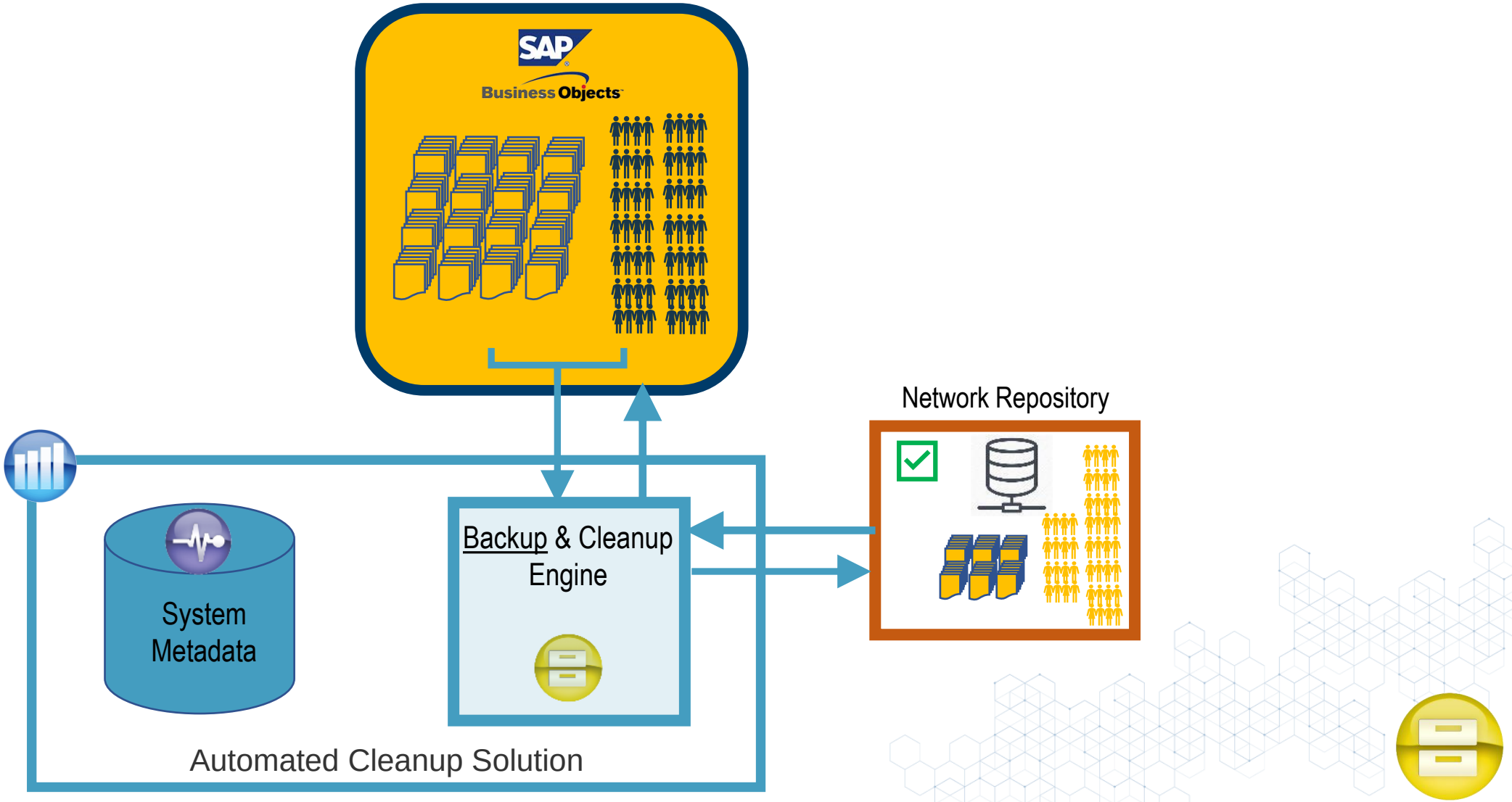
Automated System Clean-Up



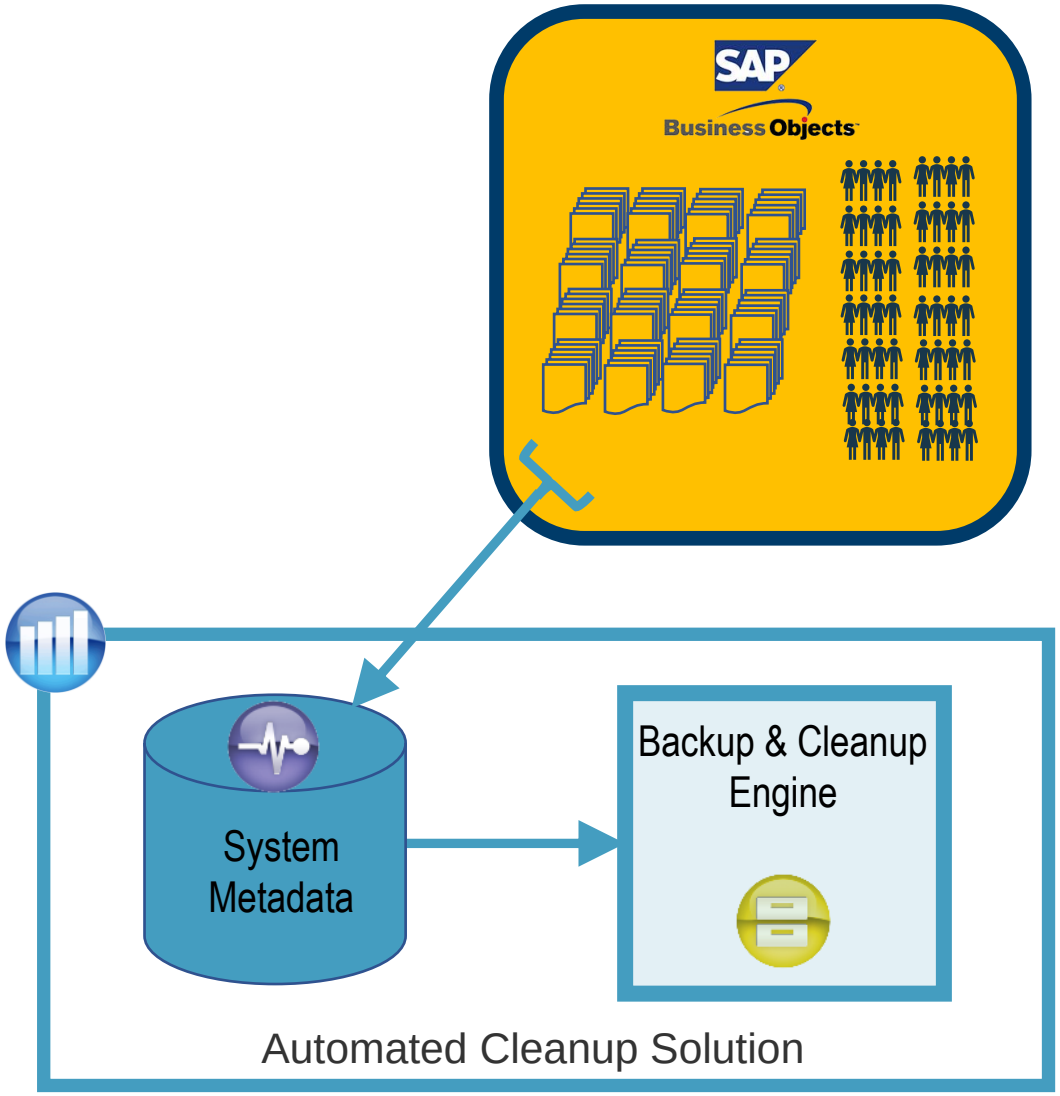
Automated System Clean-Up



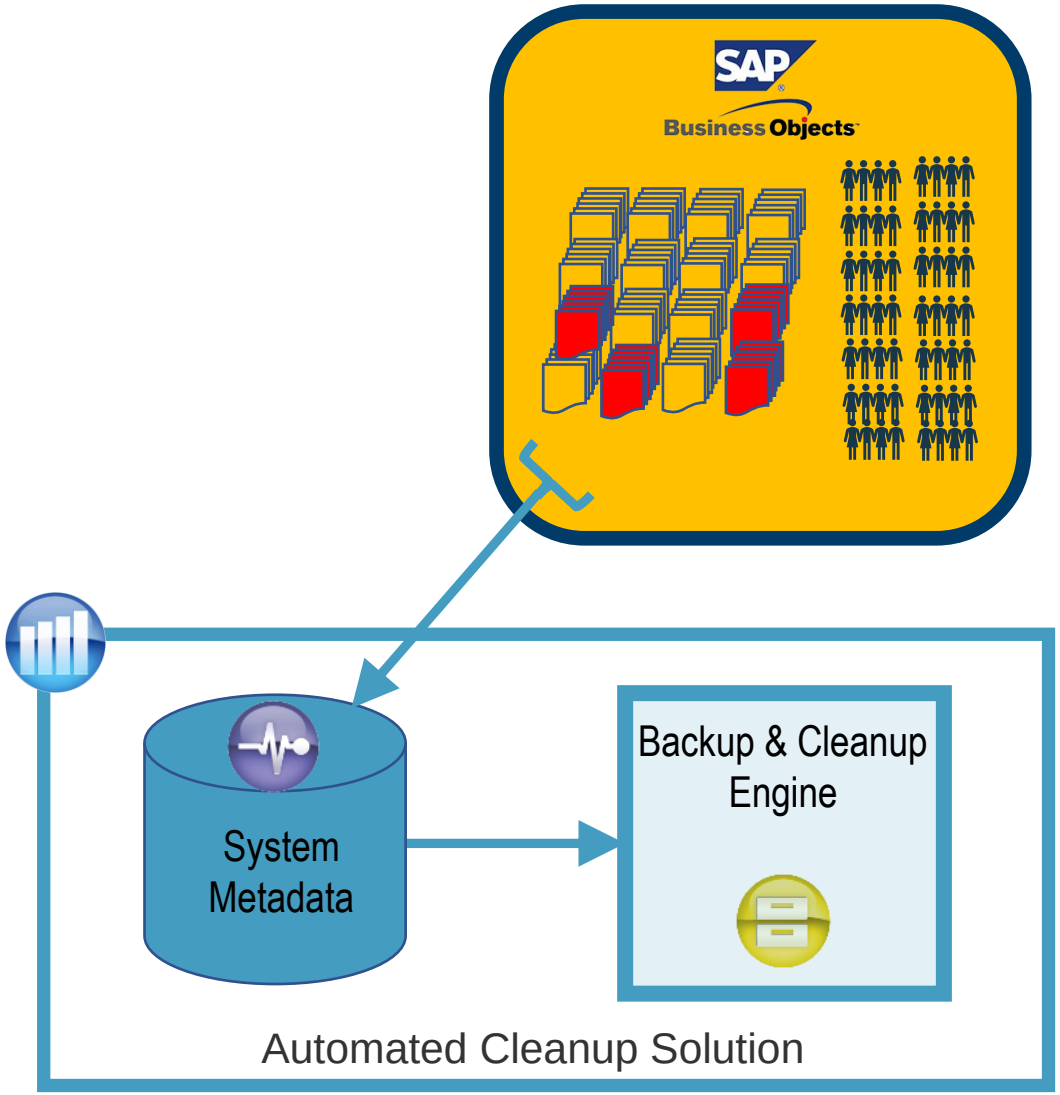
Automated System Clean-Up



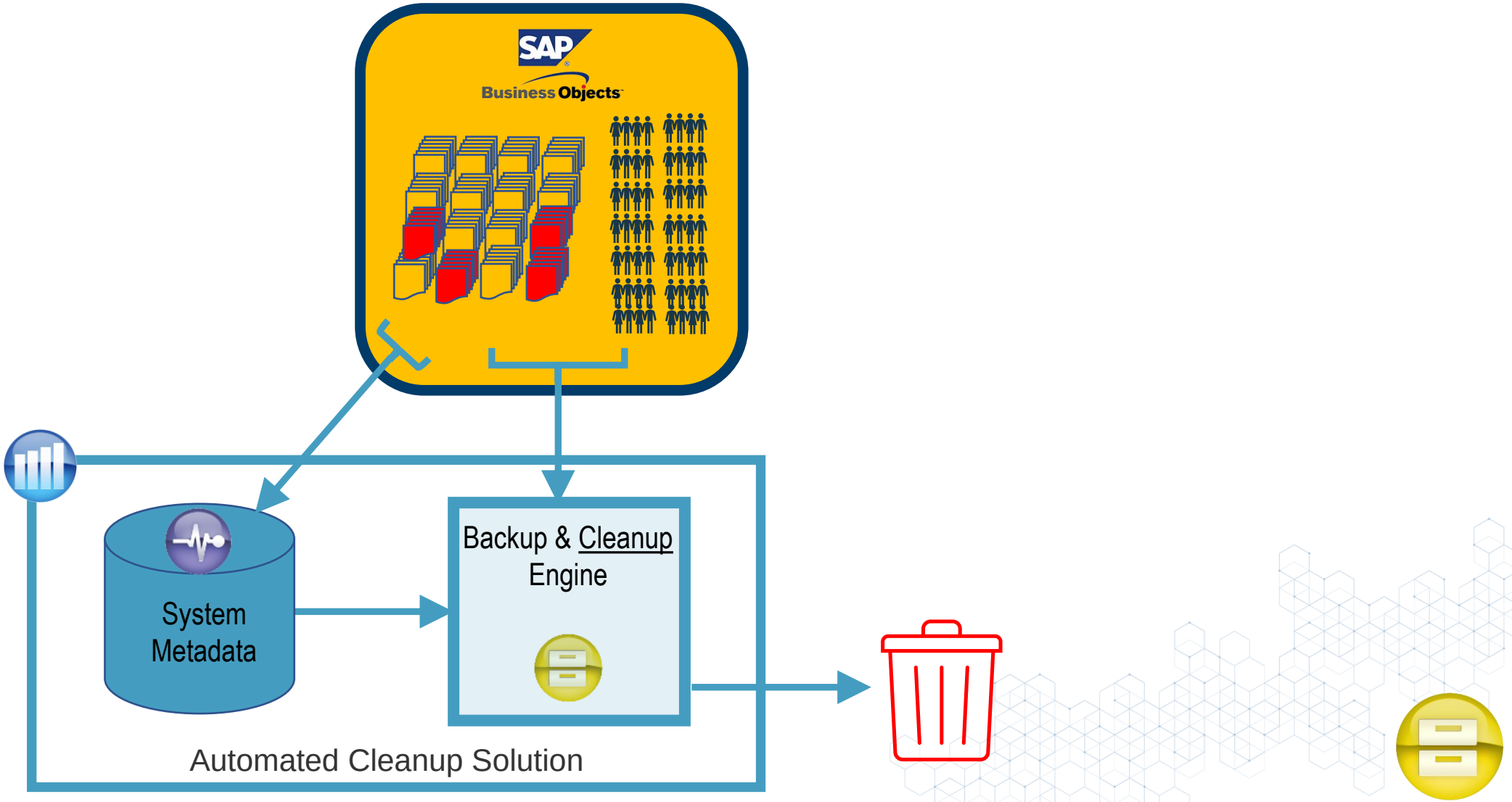
Automated System Clean-Up



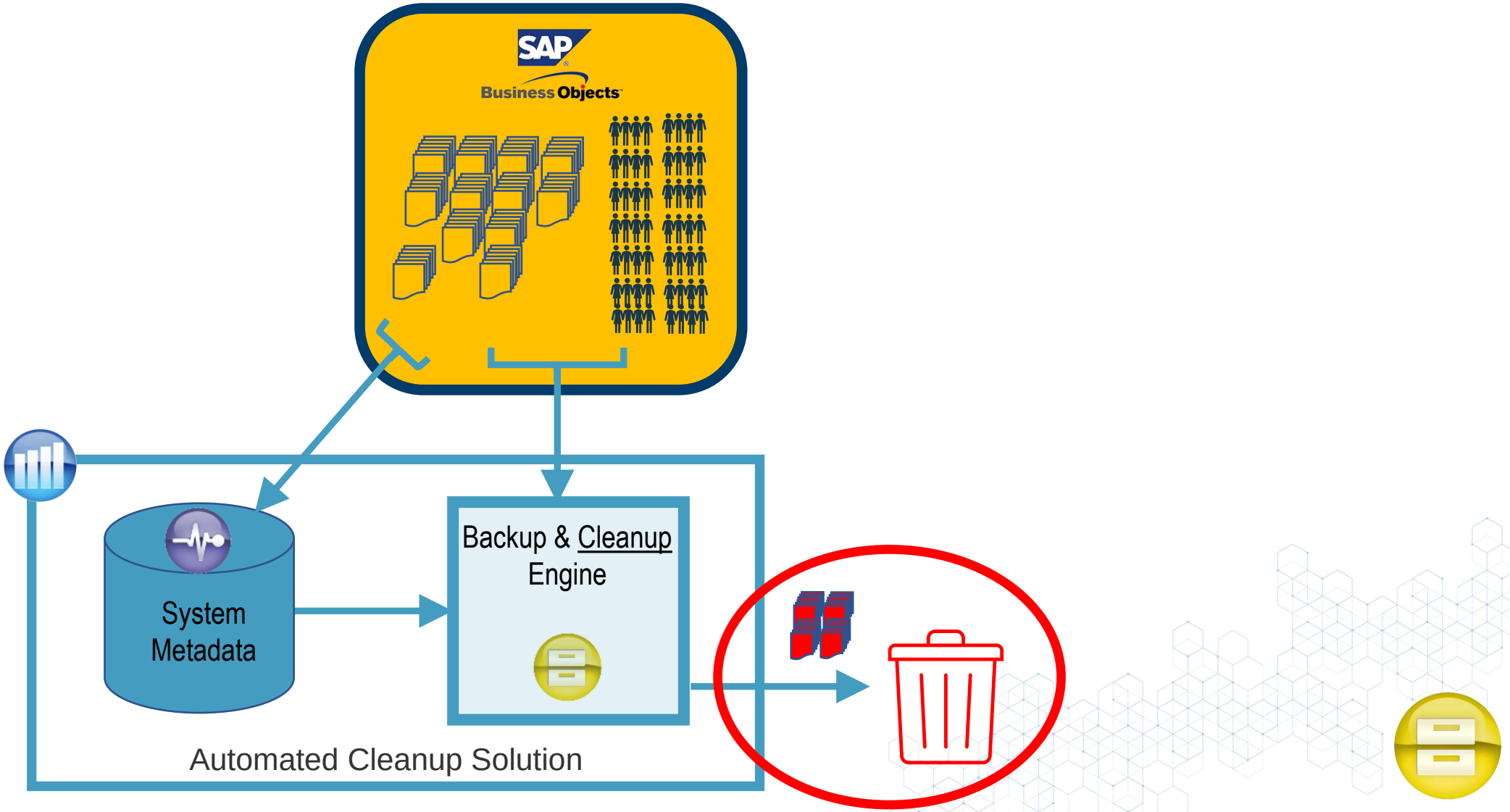
Automated System Clean-Up



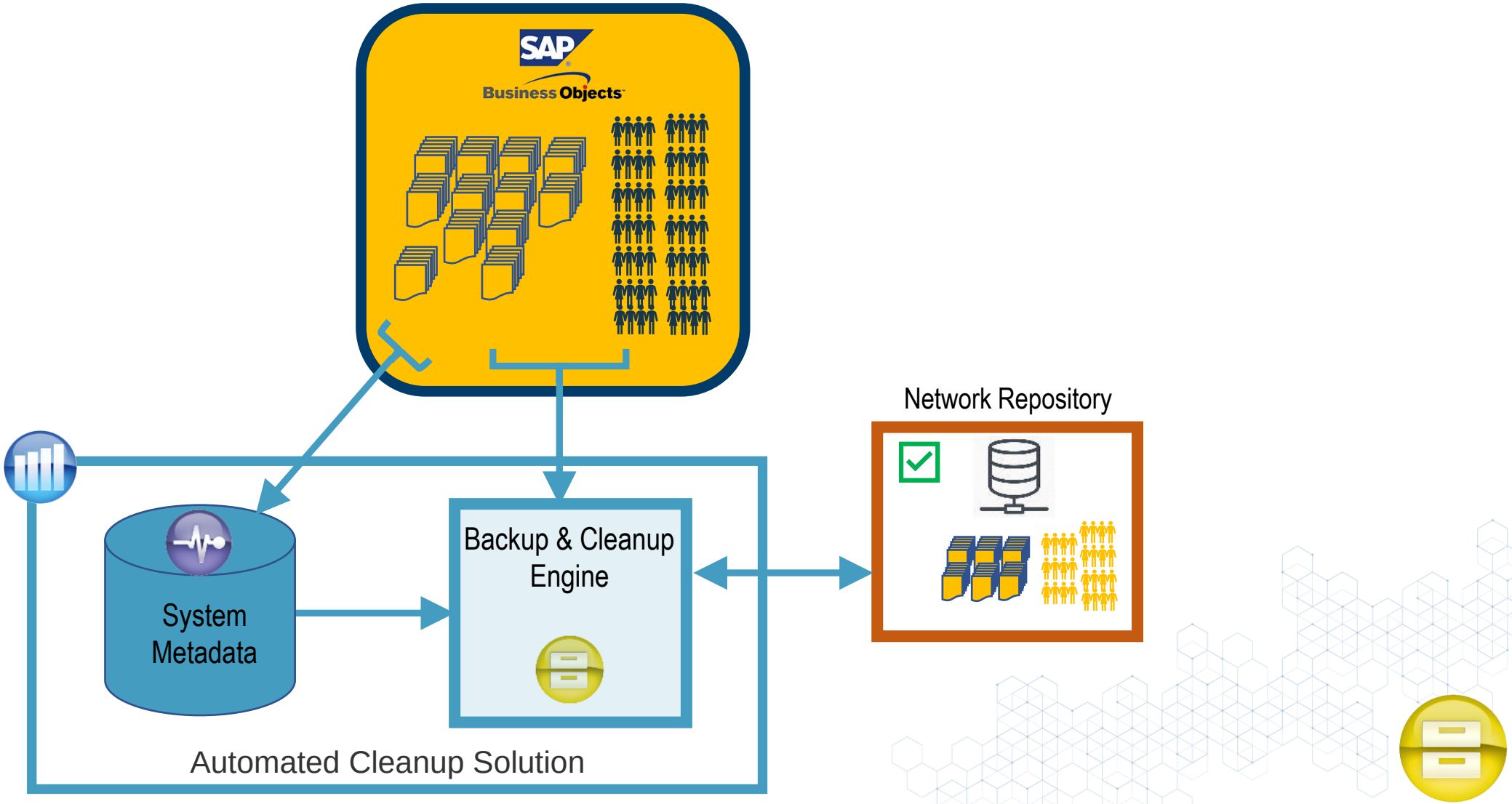
Automated System Clean-Up



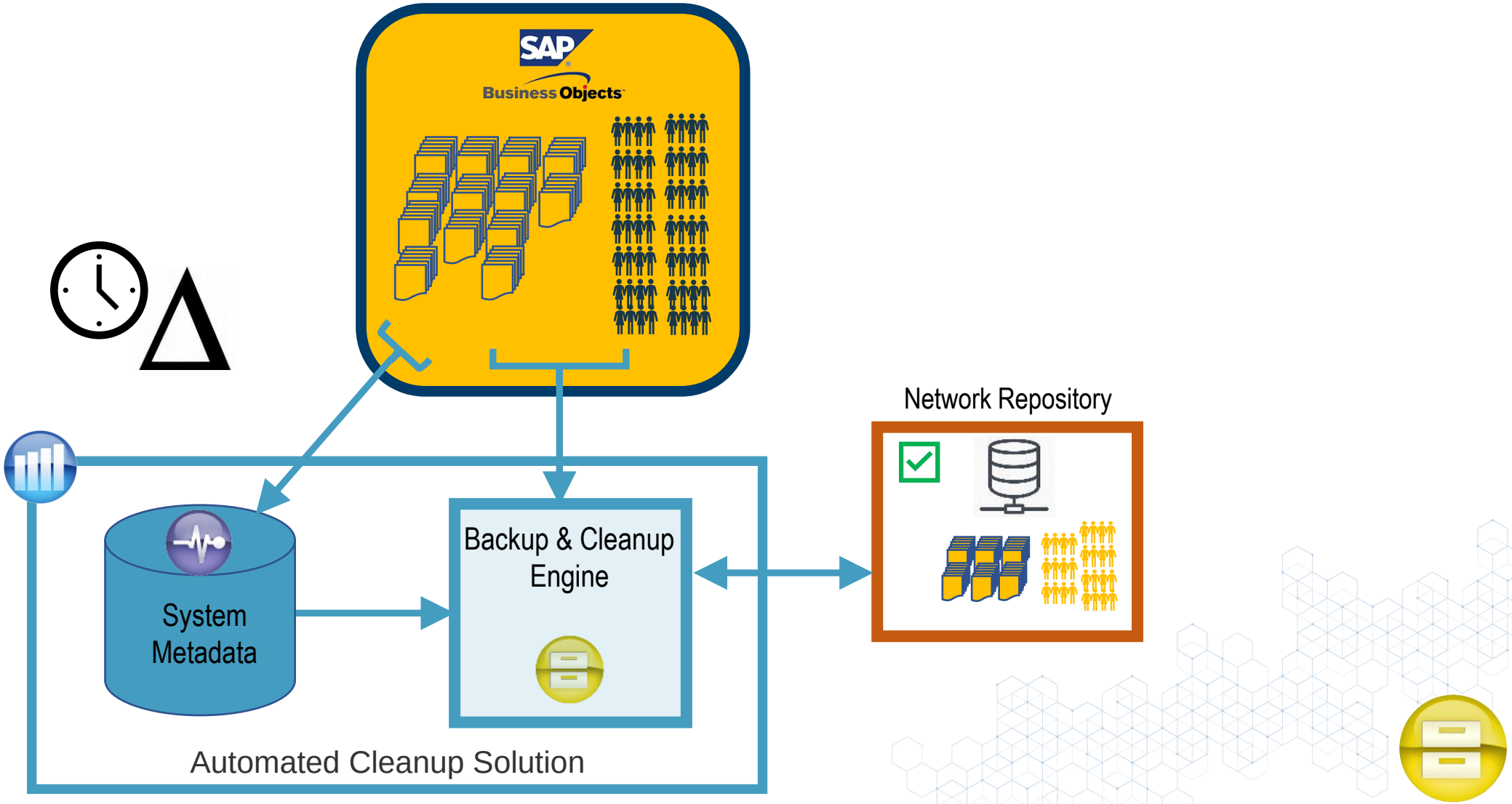
Automated System Clean-Up



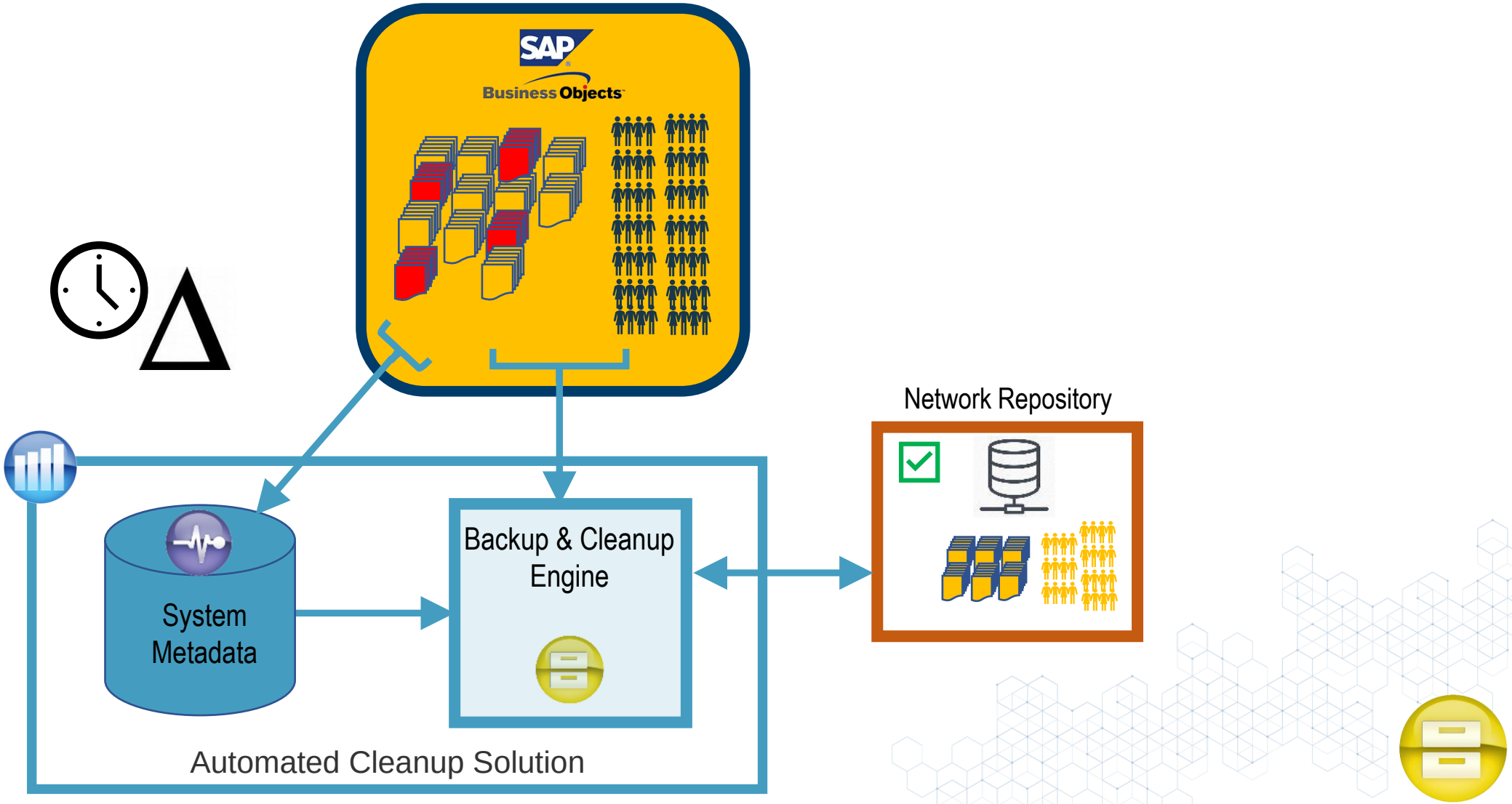
Automated System Clean-Up



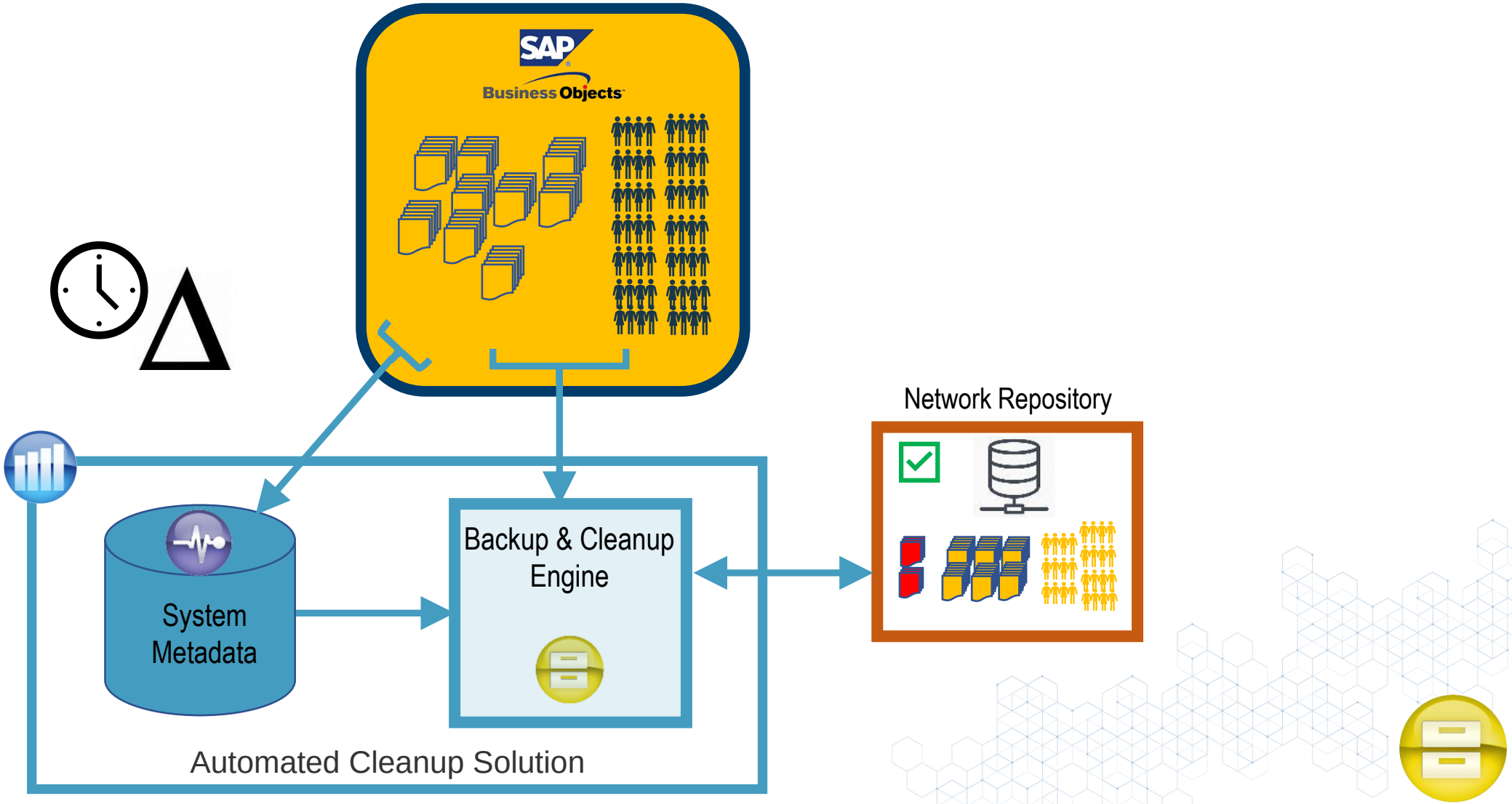
Automated System Clean-Up - Incremental



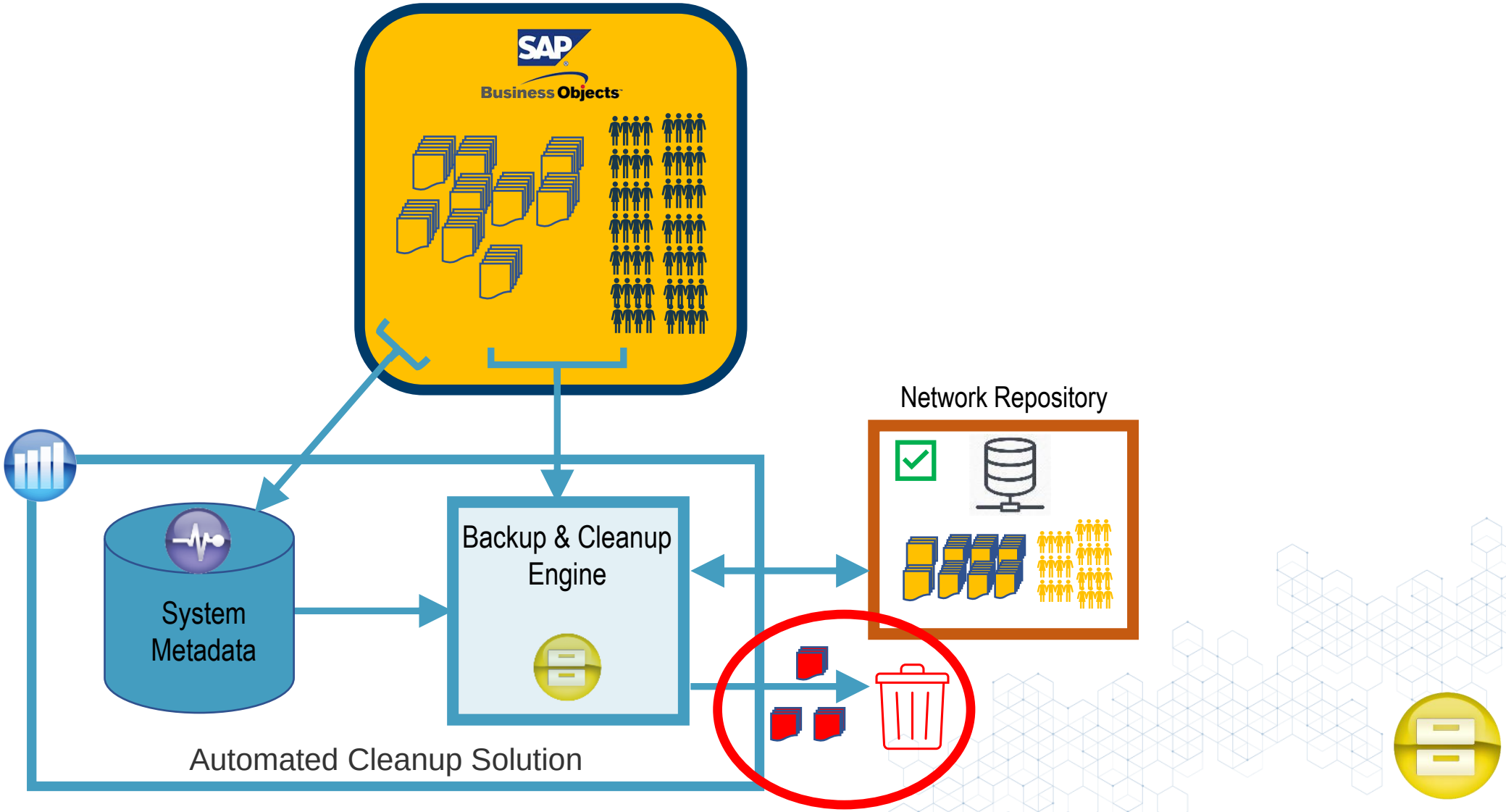
Automated System Clean-Up - Incremental



Automated System Clean-Up - Incremental

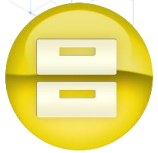


Automated System Clean-Up - Incremental



Reduce - Content & Users

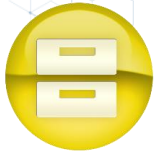
Before	After
Reports = 1200	
Instances = 150,000	
Universes = 45	
Users = 750	
Groups = 65	
Total Objects = 152,060	



Reduce - Content & Users

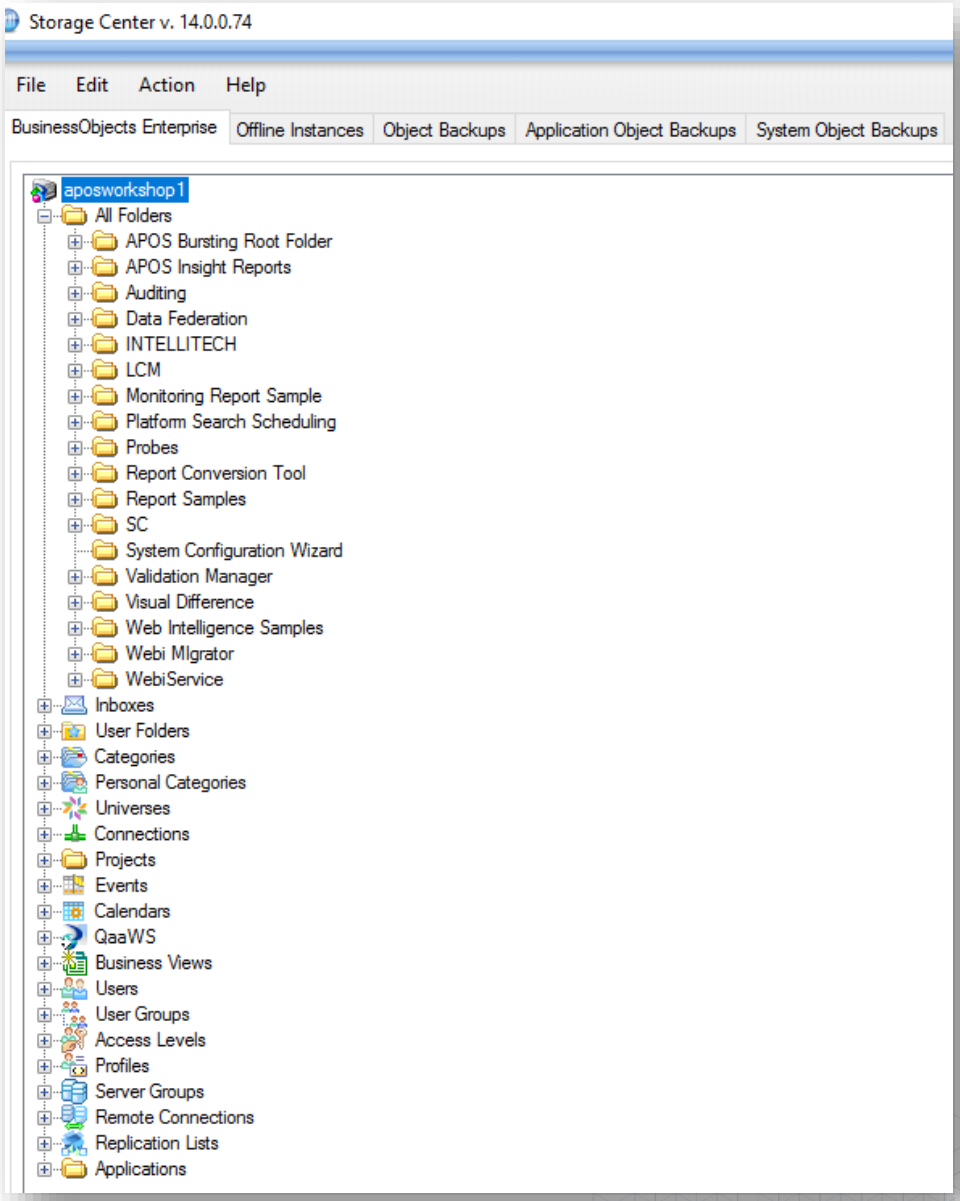
Before	After
Reports = 1200	Reports = 350
Instances = 150,000	Instances = 73,550
Universes = 45	Universes = 20
Users = 750	Users = 500
Groups = 65	Groups = 30
Total Objects = 152,060	Total Objects = 74,450

End Result : SAP BI content and user count reduced by over 50%



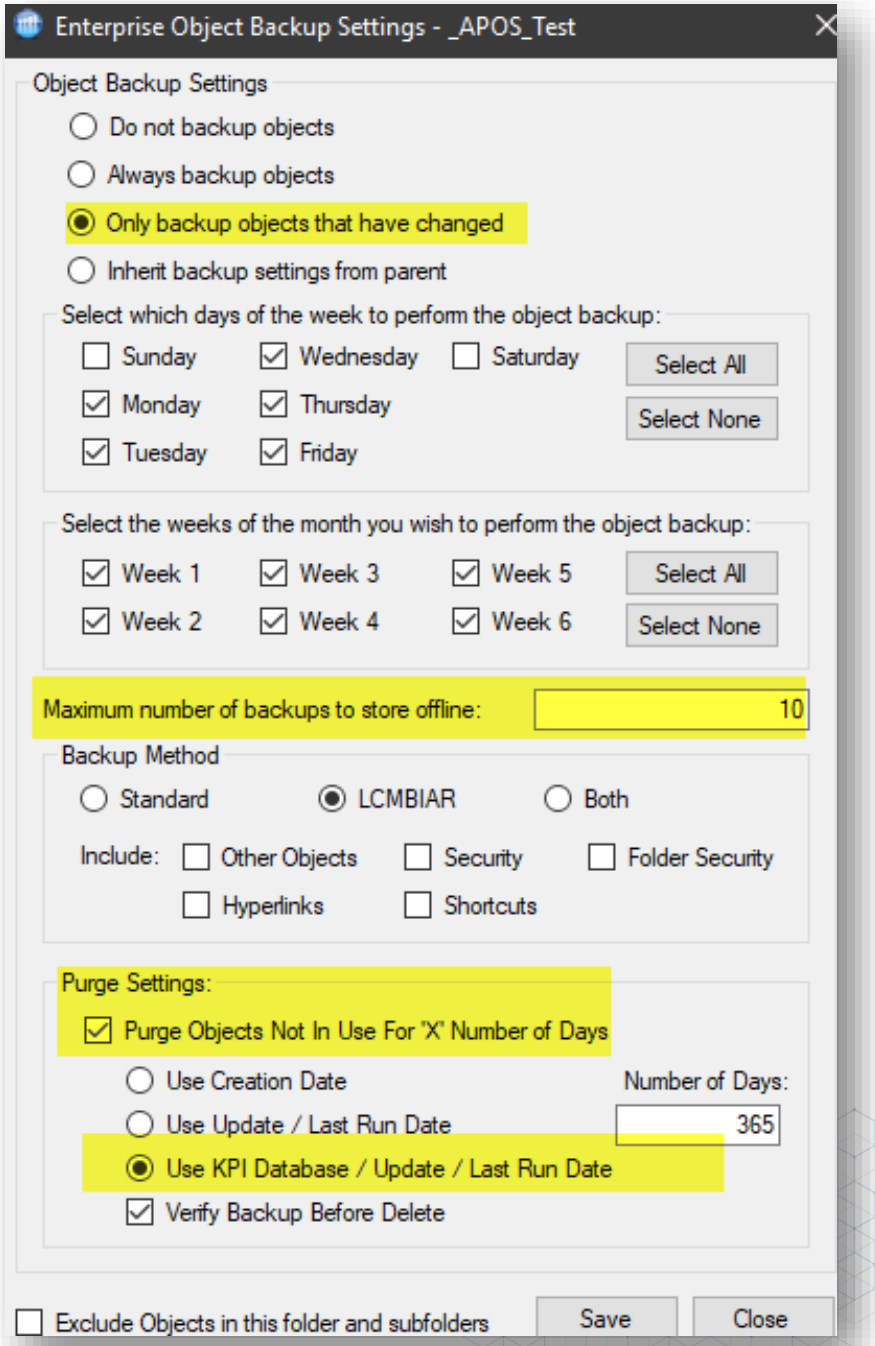
APOS Storage Center

- Centralized storage and backup interface
- Selective backup and restoration on all object types



APOS Storage Center

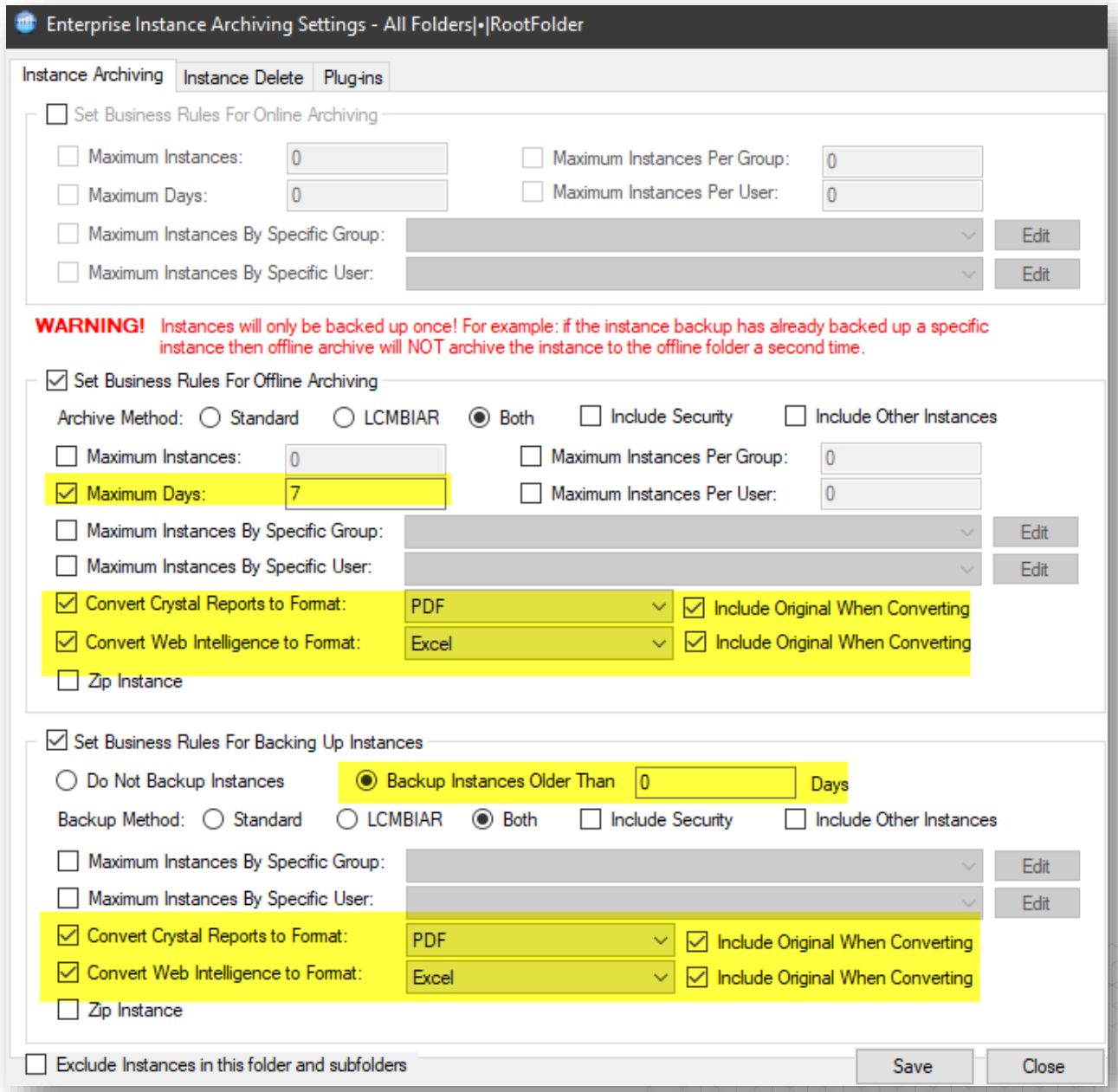
- Create customized rules for backup strategy
- Have assurance before right sizing your environment



APOS Storage Center

Archiving instances

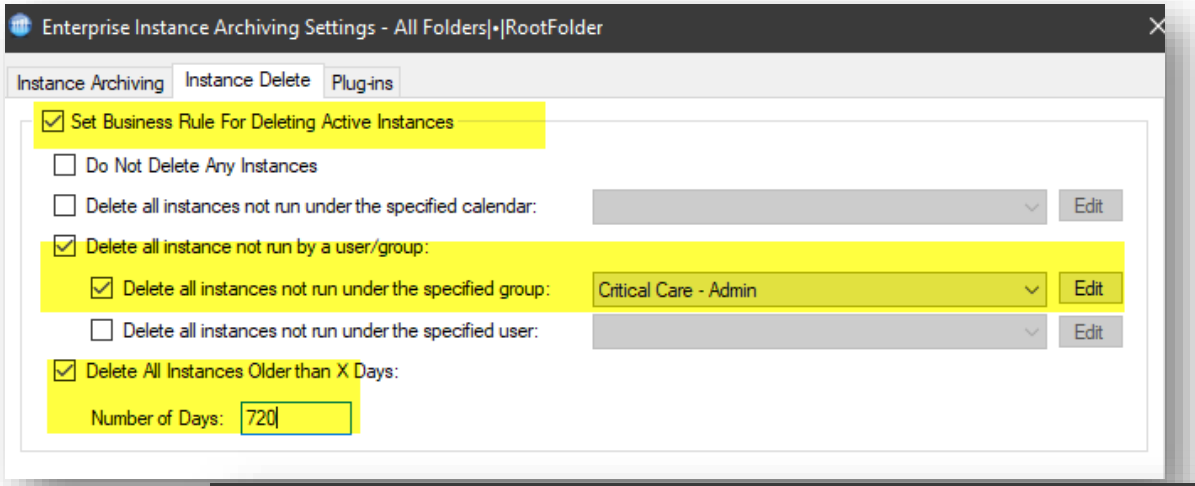
- Create customized rules for backup and archive of instances
- Allows you to conform to governance requirements, while reducing technical debt

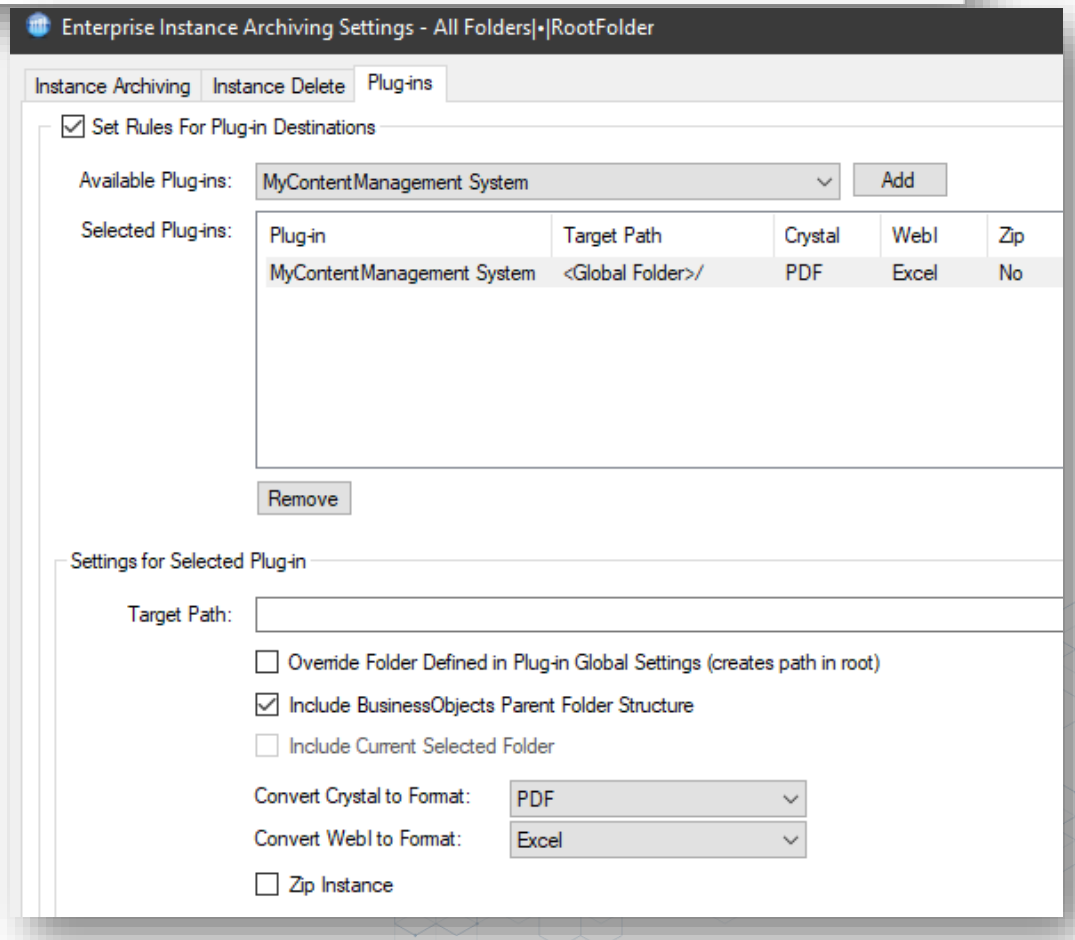


APOS Storage Center

Archiving instances

- Customize which instances to keep
- Integrate with Content Management Systems





Right-Size Your BI Environment – Step 3

- Restructure

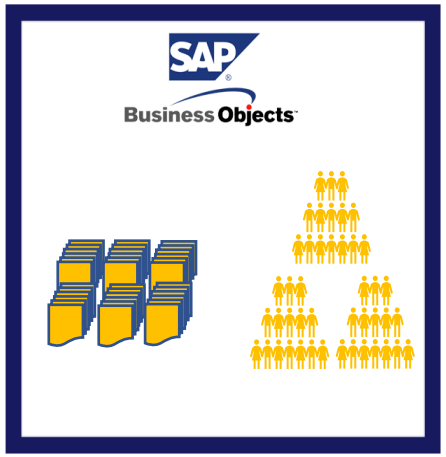
Right-Size Your BI Environment

Restructure

- Infrastructure
- Licenses

APOS

Scale Down



Before Reduction

After Reduction

Restructure – Infrastructure

- Scale down due to reduced users
- Scale down due to reduced content
- Scale down due to reduced usage from past consumption levels
- Scale down due to lower usage than original expectations

APOS

Scale Up

Before Growth

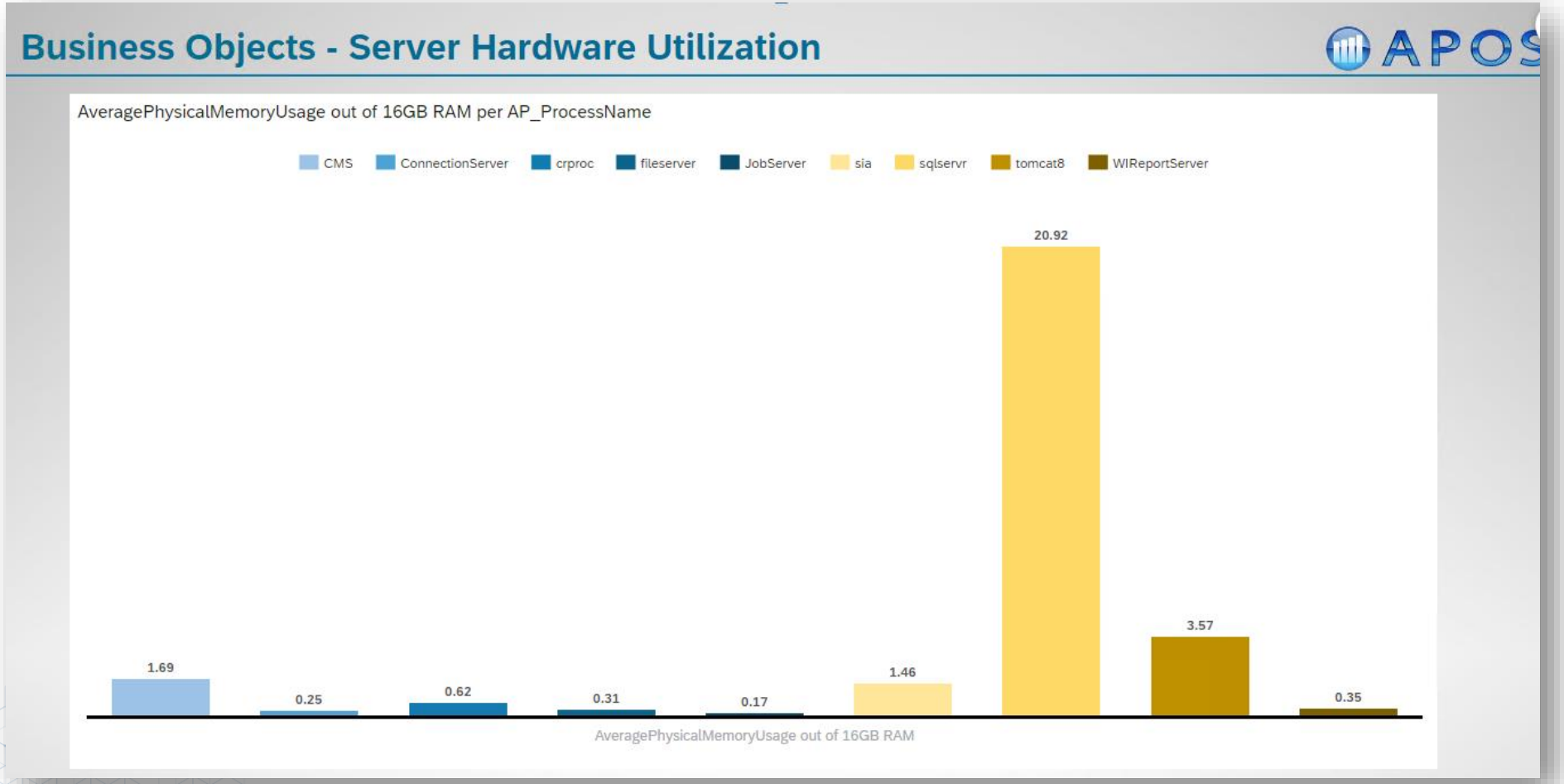
After Growth

Restructure – Infrastructure

- Scale up due to increased usage - servers maxing out
- Scale up due to increased users
- Scale up due to increased content
- Scale up due to old hardware
- Scale up with move to cloud deployment
- Scale up due to more scheduling
- Scale up due to revised licensing method

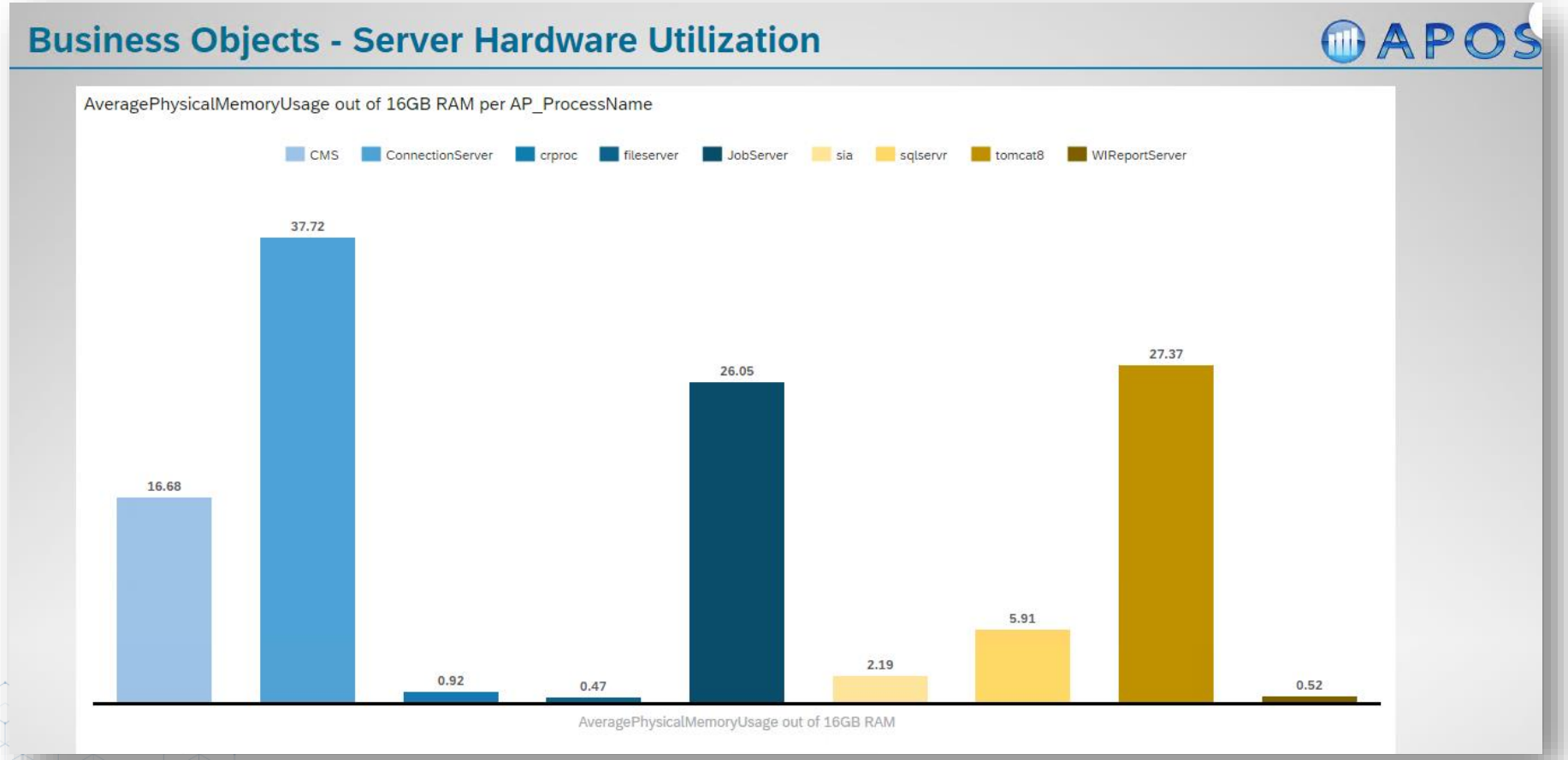
APOS

Restructure – Infrastructure – Scale Down?

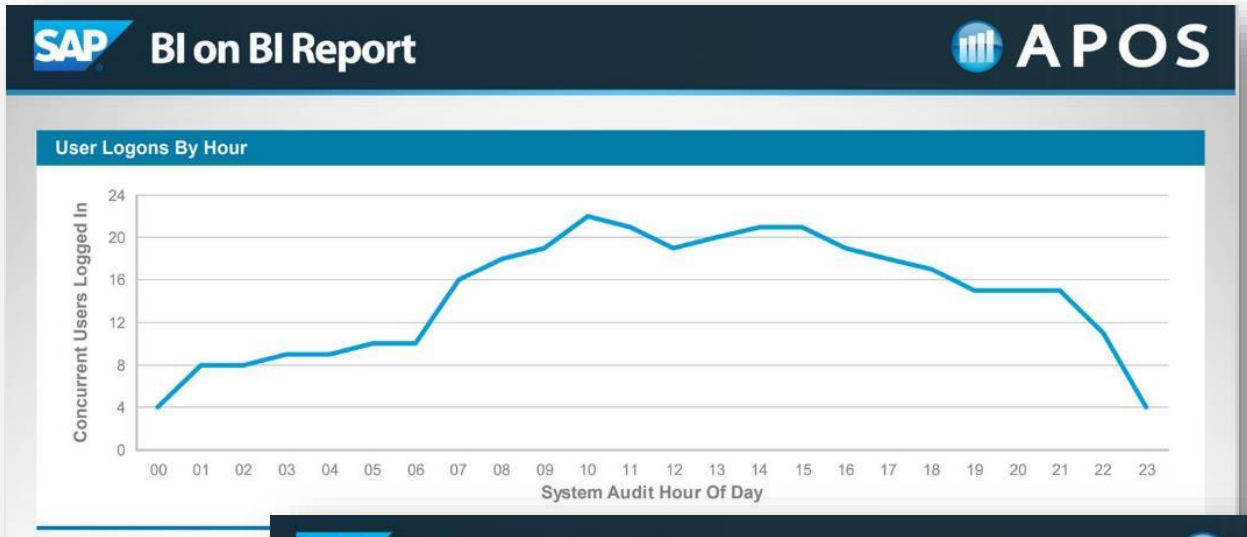


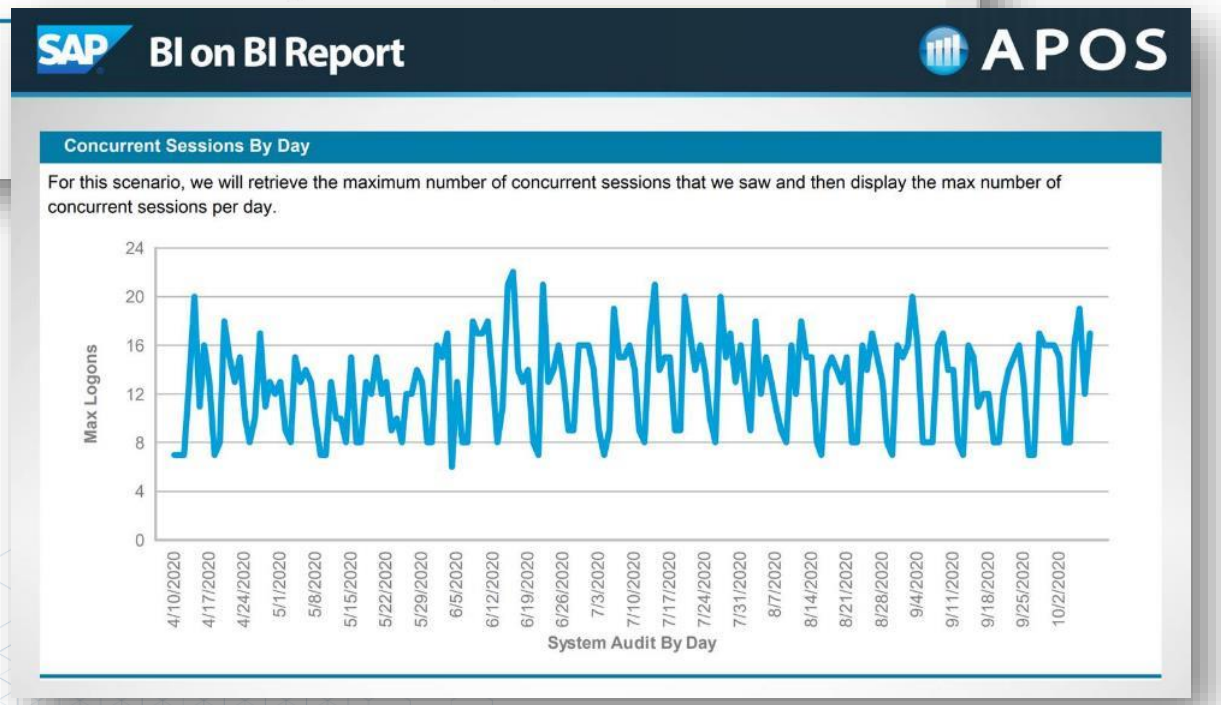
APOS

Restructure – Infrastructure – Scale Up?



APOS



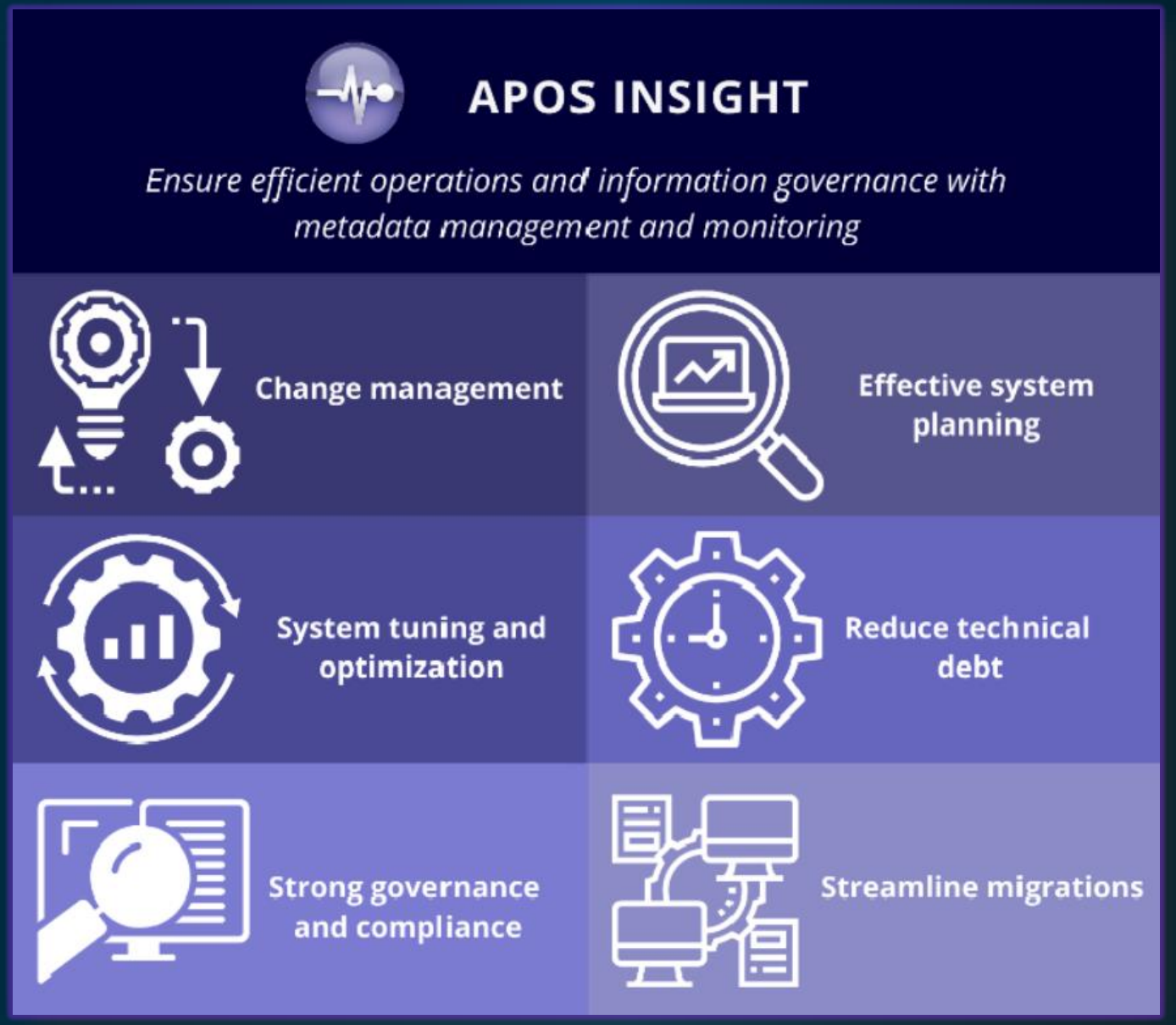


Restructure – Licensing Volume

- Am I hitting license maximums too frequently?
- Do I have too many or too few licenses?

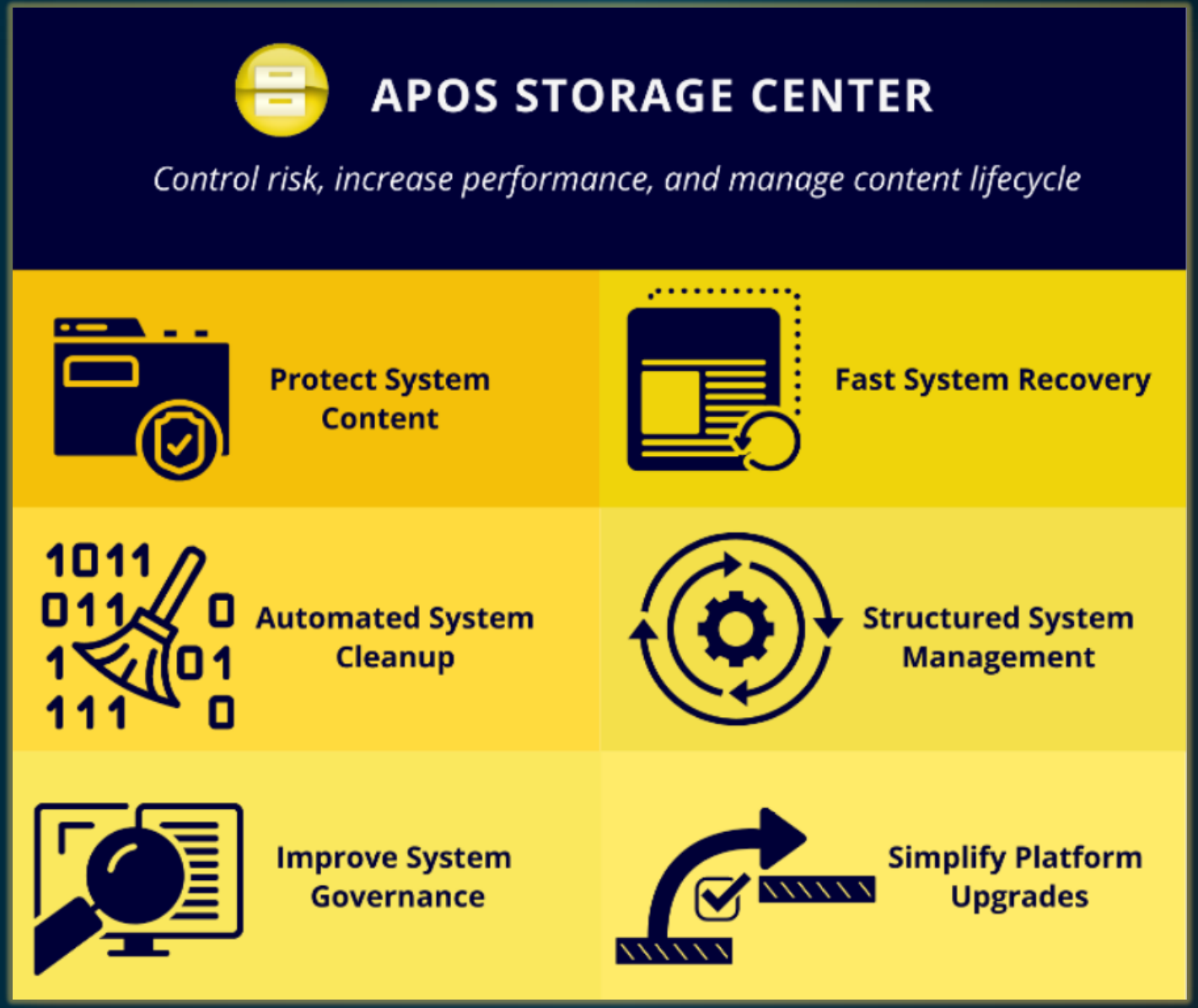
APOS

APOS Insight



APOS

APOS Storage Center



APOS

Regrouping for your SAP BusinessObjects Future

Recommendations:

- Take stock of what you have
- Assess & action unsupported content
- Right-size your system content
- Upgrade platform to Version 4.3
- Upgrade Universes to UNX format
- Automate for efficient management

APOS

APOS Solutions for SAP BusinessObjects

APOS Insight

BI System Auditing
- System Inventory
- Security Analysis
- System Usage Analysis
- Report Impact Analysis

BI Report Testing
- Automated Report Testing
- Regression Testing
- Validation of Report Data
- Report Performance Testing

BI System Monitoring
- Advanced System Monitoring
- Operating Environment Monitoring
- Database Monitoring
- Process Monitoring

BI Query Surveillance
- Real-time BI Query Monitoring
- Query Performance Alerting & Auditing
- Query Intervention; Remote Cancelling
- Sensitive Data Audit

APOS Administrator

Object Management
- Bulk Security Management
- Bulk Settings Management
- System Objects Promotion
- Connections Maintenance

Schedule Management
- High-volume schedule management
- Multiple schedule properties editing
- Grid scheduling interface
- Repeatable scheduling templates

Instance Management
- Manage entire instance inventory
- Granular instance search
- Stop, pause, release, reschedule
- Rapid recovery to failed schedules

APOS Storage Center

- System Backup
- Content Archiving
- Content Versioning
- Selective Restoration
- Automated System Clean Up

APOS Publisher

- Systematic Content Delivery
- Advanced Document Bursting
- Enhanced Content Distribution
- Security and Encryption
- Statement Generation

APOS Web Intelligence Migrator

- Bulk conversion of Universes from UNV to UNX
- High-Volume Repoint Web Intelligence reports
- Success validation
- Controlled, project-based workflow

APOS

STREAMLINE YOUR MOVE TO UNX UNIVERSE

Freemium Upgrade Offer

APOS Web Intelligence Migrator

INVENTORY SYSTEM CONTENT

Detailed view of universes and reports for effective project planning

BULK CONVERSION OF UNIVERSES

High-volume conversion of universes from UNV to UNX format

HIGH VOLUME REPOINTING OF REPORTS

Scan and repoint Web Intelligence reports in bulk from old UNV to new UNX

VALIDATE UPGRADE SUCCESS

Automated testing of reports to validate successful and accurate migration

STRONG PROCESS CONTROLS

Enterprise-grade controls to synchronize and scale your migration processes

APOS Freemium Offer

Free Production deployment use of APOS Web Intelligence Migrator:

- Scan and inventory your SAP BI systems
- Bulk convert all UNV universes to UNX
- Bulk repoint up to 200 WebI reports
- Validate migration success
- 100 days of free use
- Inventory multiple systems
- Guidance and support

Access now at apos.com/freemium

APOS

APOS has been serving the SAP BusinessObjects user community for 20 years, providing solutions for automating key functions in managing an SAP BI platform.

Whether you are upgrading your on-premise BI in preparation for SAP BusinessObjects 2024, moving to SAP BusinessObjects Private Cloud Edition, or migrating to SAP Analytics Cloud, migrations can be challenging, putting strains on resources, so streamlining and automating processes is needed. APOS solutions simplify and automate many key processes in a successful SAP BusinessObjects migration.

SAP BusinessObjects Migration Kit

Upgrade Readiness, Execution & Content Governance

Achieve a streamlined, efficient and effective deployment that is upgrade ready. APOS solutions help you run bulk upgrade operations, validate content, optimize security, and maintain your BI environment.

Learn More

SAP BusinessObjects Private Cloud Edition (PCE) Adoption Kit

Streamline, simplify, safeguard, and accelerate your move to SAP BusinessObjects Private Cloud Edition (PCE)

The PCE Adoption Kit by APOS bundles time-tested APOS technology to simplify migration from on-premise to the Cloud, providing vital automation to assist you through the stages of your migration.

Learn More

APOS Solutions for SAP Analytics Cloud

APOS Live Data Gateway

- High performance, live data connectivity from SAC to wide range of data sources

APOS Publisher for Cloud

- Automated broadcasting and distribution of personalized SAC reports to target user groups

APOS Insight for Cloud

- Enhanced Monitoring, Auditing and Report Testing for SAP Analytics Cloud

APOS

Upcoming Event

Technical Deep Dive:

Automated Streamlining and Right-Sizing of Your SAP BusinessObjects Deployment

This technical session will look closely at the APOS mechanisms and best practices to simplify and automate the initial and ongoing system right-sizing processes, which bring future-focused efficiency and order to your SAP BusinessObjects deployment.

This live webinar will include time for Q&A.

December 14 - 11am Eastern Time
Link to register in webinar handout

Register at www.apos.com

APOS

Upcoming Event

Technical Deep Dive:
APOS Publisher for Cloud

Join us for a great opportunity to take a deep dive with our solution consultants with in-depth live demos and Q&A.

In this session you will get insight into how customers are using APOS Publisher for Cloud with SAP Analytics Cloud as we demonstrate the most popular (and interesting!) use cases.

November 30 - 11am Eastern Time

Register at www.apos.com

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View a webinar on-demand

- *Flashes of Insight* - Simplify SAP BusinessObjects Administration & Governance
- Simplify Your SAP BusinessObjects Upgrade
- Extend Analytics Content with Bursting & Publishing
- Extend Analytics Data Connectivity

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