Winterhawk

"SAP Identity Management is part of a comprehensive SAP Security suite. It covers the entire identity lifecycle and automation capabilities based on business processes. A strong integration with SAP Access Control creates a holistic identity and access governance solution."

KRISTIAN LEHMENT
SAP PRODUCT MANAGER

About Winterhawk

Winterhawk is a leading global consulting practice, supporting organisations in SAP Security, SAP GRC services and solutions (more than 20) across a variety of SAP environments including SAP R/3, S/4HANA, ARIBA, Fieldglass, Concur and SuccessFactors.

Outside of SAP, Winterhawk supports organisations requiring guidance in Access and Identity Management (IAM), Cyber Security (Pen Testing, Network Detection, Antivirus and SIEM); we support clients through Regulatory services and solutions for compliance with GDPR, SOX, FCPA, CCPA as well as standards such as ISO* and also through their Digital, HR and Finance Transformation projects.

Winterhawk has established its head office in the UK, with resources located across EMEA, the United States, Canada, and Australia.

Winterhawk is the Global Solution Partner for the United VARs Alliance (Platinum SAP Partners) servicing over 8,000 clients worldwide.

HISTORY OF SAP SOLUTIONS: SAP IDENTITY MANAGEMENT

As part of our SAP solution spotlight series, Winterhawk spoke with SAP's Kristian Lehment (Product Manager) about the ongoing development of SAP Identity Management (IDM).

What is SAP Identity Management?

IDM is a stand-alone product which helps to reduce risk and centrally manage user access across an enterprise. It helps to keep operations running smoothly and boost productivity by providing role-based user access, self-service password reset, approval workflows, and more. The software integrates with business processes to provide robust data and application security.

What are the origins of SAP Identity Management?

SAP announced the acquisition of MaXware AS in 2007. The products purchased became SAP Identity Management and continue to be used by some of the largest corporations and government agencies in the world.

After acquiring the software, SAP decided on several strategic changes:

* Replace PHP (a script language not used at SAP) with Java or JavaScript,

* Remove the support of the Apache webserver, leaving the SAP NetWeaver Application Server Java as the sole webserver for the product, and

* Replace the Microsoft Management Console configuration engine with an Integrated Development Environment software application (Eclipse), to enable users to write and debug Java programs more easily.

Who were the first adopters?

One of its early success stories was the Coca Cola Hellenic Bottling company in Greece, but today it is a cross-industry software product, with more than 1,200 companies licenced on IDM on-premise. They range from large corporations to much smaller companies – and the company base is still growing.

What's new with SAP Identity Management?

The latest improvements are in the integration and support of connectivity to cloud applications. This includes the use of the SAP Cloud Platform Identity Provisioning Service as a proxy to cloud services and the support of the SCIM standard.

How does SAP Identity Management support the Intelligent Enterprise?

The solution is part of the overall Identity & Access Governance solution offering from SAP, which includes several products and services to support customers' hybrid landscapes.

Identity and Access Governance in a hybrid landscape
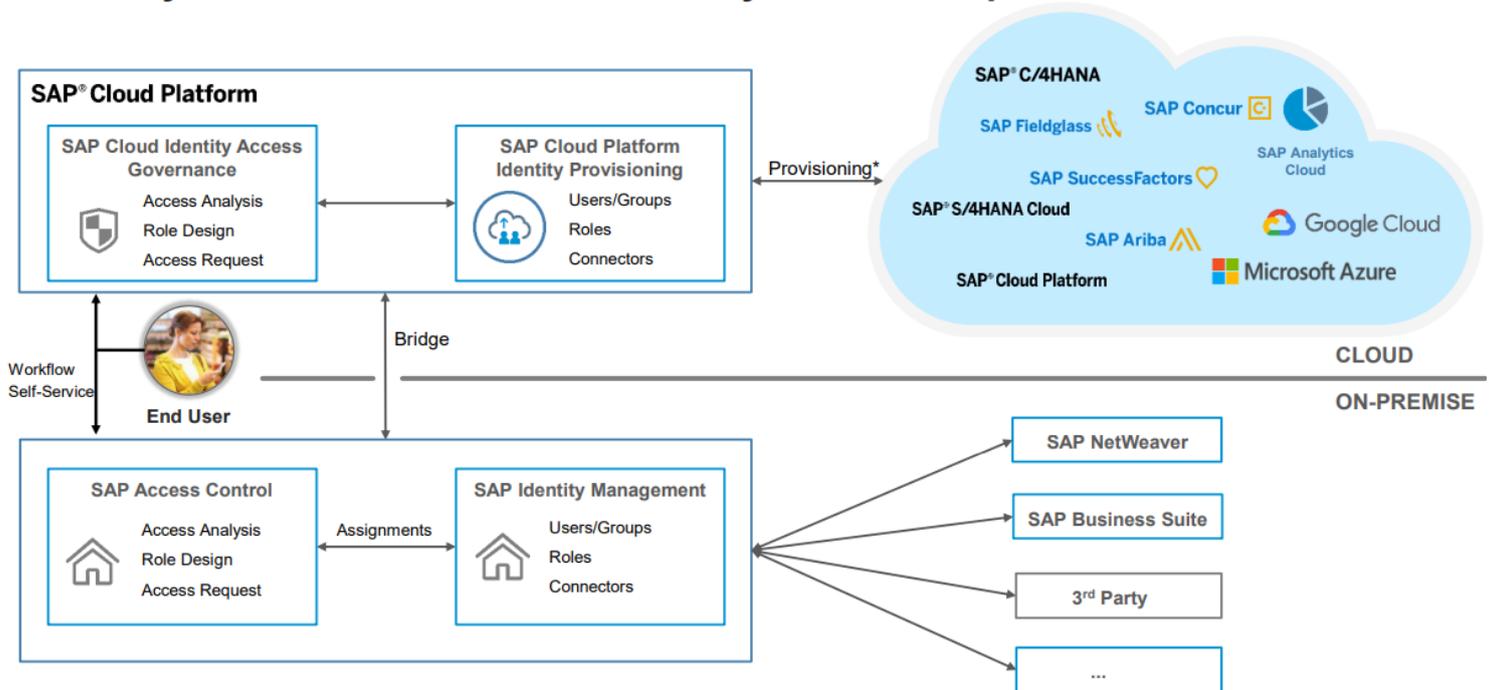
Insights for C-Suite Executives

SAP's IDM software lets you grant user access to a variety of applications both securely and efficiently. It also facilitates:

- Lower IT support costs and reduced risk with centralised identity and access management,

- Increased productivity with self-services such as automatic password reset and rules-driven workflows,

- Greater flexibility with standards-based functionality that seamlessly integrates with business processes,

- Improved user access insights and compliance through integrated logging and reporting.

What's the future of SAP Identity Management?

The SAP Identity Management On-Premise product is only part of the greater Identity and Access Governance solution story. SAP sees the world changing to a hybrid landscape, where all customer landscapes need the capability to connect to all cloud products and not just SAP. Access to these products and the identities using them will, however, still need to be managed within SAP. They envisage still having to this alongside the on-premise world.

In the not too distant future, the cloud will be the leading technology and the management of SAP Identity and Access Governance will take place in it. Support for the on-premise world will continue but this will primarily be from cloud products in the future.

Winterhawk can help

Winterhawk supports clients in 90 countries. We are proud to be innovative, independent, and cost-effective. Our services are complemented with deep domain expertise, content, accelerators, and toolkits.

Reduce risk and centrally manage user access across your enterprise with SAP Identity Management. When integrated with your business processes, the solution provides robust data and application security to keep your operations running smoothly For SAP Identity Management implementation or support, drop us a line, we'd be delighted to talk to you.