

SAP Financial Closing cockpit Integration

Get The Facts You Need to Know.

Beware the misleading claims from some vendors who assert that their scheduling products have 'certified' interfaces or are 'integrated' with the SAP Financial Closing cockpit (FCc). Such claims are false and cannot be substantiated by the vendors in question. Vendors typically use vague wording in their 'documentation' to build the perception in the customer mind as having official SAP-sanctioned capability. Quite often, they will make verbal claims of an even more exaggerated nature. These claims only spread misinformation, causing confusion in the marketplace. Redwood software advises SAP customers to treat such claims with scepticism and to make sure you are aware of the facts. The reality is detailed below:

1) There is no 'Certification' Program for SAP Financial Closing cockpit:

No vendor can have a 'certified' integration with SAP FCc since no such certification exists. Unlike Solution Manager (XAL/XMW), SAP BW (BW-SCH), CCMS (XBP), etc., there are no interfaces to certify against. Therefore, any claims for this are false. This can be verified with SAP.

2) There is no 'Integration' for FCc other than via the Business Automation Enabler:

The only way for an external scheduler to surface job information, log file data, output data and to delegate scheduling actions to and from SAP FCc is via the Business Automation Enabler (BAE). *This interface is ONLY available to SAP Central Process Scheduling. It is closed to all other schedulers.* Any vendor claiming that they can do the same is either deliberately making false statements or does not understand the nature of the BAE and where it sits.

3) SAP Central Process Scheduling by Redwood is embedded into the SAP FCc GUI:

The FCc UI makes clear reference to SAP CPS as an integrated part of the solution (see screenshots below). No other scheduler appears as a named component in this way. No other scheduler has the two way communication that is built into the SAP CPS/SAP FCc integration. The best that any other scheduler could do is pick up a submitted ABAP – **but they will not be able to pass execution information back to the SAP FCc, making it useless for end user awareness**, which is the prime function of FCc.

The screenshot displays the 'Closing Cockpit' interface. At the top, it shows 'Task List FAST_CLOSE On 04/24/2008'. Below this is a table with columns: Status, Status Description, Blocked, Task Type, Processor, Person Responsible, Start Date, Start Time, and End. A red box highlights a task: 'SAP CPS Remote Tasks (Remote System CA 1000 & CC 1000)'. Below this, a tree view shows 'Remote Controlling Area 1000' and 'Remote Company Code 1000'. The table shows several tasks, with 'Calculate and Post Accruals' highlighted in yellow. Below the table, a 'Details: Afa Neurechnen' panel is visible, showing 'General Data', 'Comments (0)', 'Messages Sent (0)', 'Task-related Files (0)', and 'Remote Task Data'. The 'Basic Data' section shows 'Status: Scheduled', 'Task Type: Remote Task', 'Processor: DOE', and 'Person Responsible: DOE'. The 'Time and Duration' section shows 'Start Date: 10.08.2007', 'End Date: 10.08.2007', 'Start Time: 11:44:11', 'End Time: 11:47:00', and 'Duration: 0/00:02:49'. The 'Technical Data' section shows 'Remote Task: SAP_AbapRu' and 'Queue: E36_Queue'.

SAP Central Process Scheduling by Redwood is fundamental to the SAP fast close solution. It enables processes from all relevant SAP and non-SAP applications to be accessed by business users from the Financial Closing cockpit and automates dependencies between tasks across business units. The integration between SAP Central Process Scheduling and SAP FCc is the result of joint development between SAP and Redwood Software and is not possible with other scheduling products.



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