

# Streamline end-to-end accounting with proactive financial reviews

## Centralize reporting commentary and variance analysis at the entity or group level

More than ever, finance and accounting teams need reliable processes and data to work optimally and make informed decisions. But communicating through e-mail or manually sharing information from spreadsheets, invoices, and expense reports is inefficient at best and creates complexities. At the same time, working with data from multiple sources and application instances can further slow teams down and introduce errors in the preliminary consolidation phase of the close.

**There's a better way.** By connecting people, information, and technology, you can streamline finance. For example, the SAP Account Substantiation and Automation application by BlackLine, financial review option can automate and streamline some of the most labor-intensive, risk-laden financial close processes. This includes activities such as variance and flux analysis at the entity and group levels. Use the application to reduce or eliminate routine manual tasks, take a proactive approach to commentary, and add visibility and standardization to your proactive analysis and consolidation review.



## The financial review option enables more productive, proactive, and secure accounting processes.

The option for this purpose-built cloud application enables rules-driven workflows that can automate the discovery of accounting discrepancies at the entity and group level. At the same time, it can automate the tracking of balance fluctuation

between balance-sheet and income-statement accounts over different periods. You can also use it to define flexible variance rules, conduct balance comparisons, maintain analyses in a central location, and share reports with stakeholders. Alerts let you know when further action is required.

You can also flag and monitor accounts that vary outside expected thresholds. And using centralized controls and workflows, you can monitor and support compliance and track and enable conformity with regulations such as Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.



### Objectives

- Reduce or eliminate manual activities and spreadsheets
- Simplify and speed up financial close processes
- Support better-informed decision-making
- Monitor and support compliance

### Group-level analysis and commentary on demand

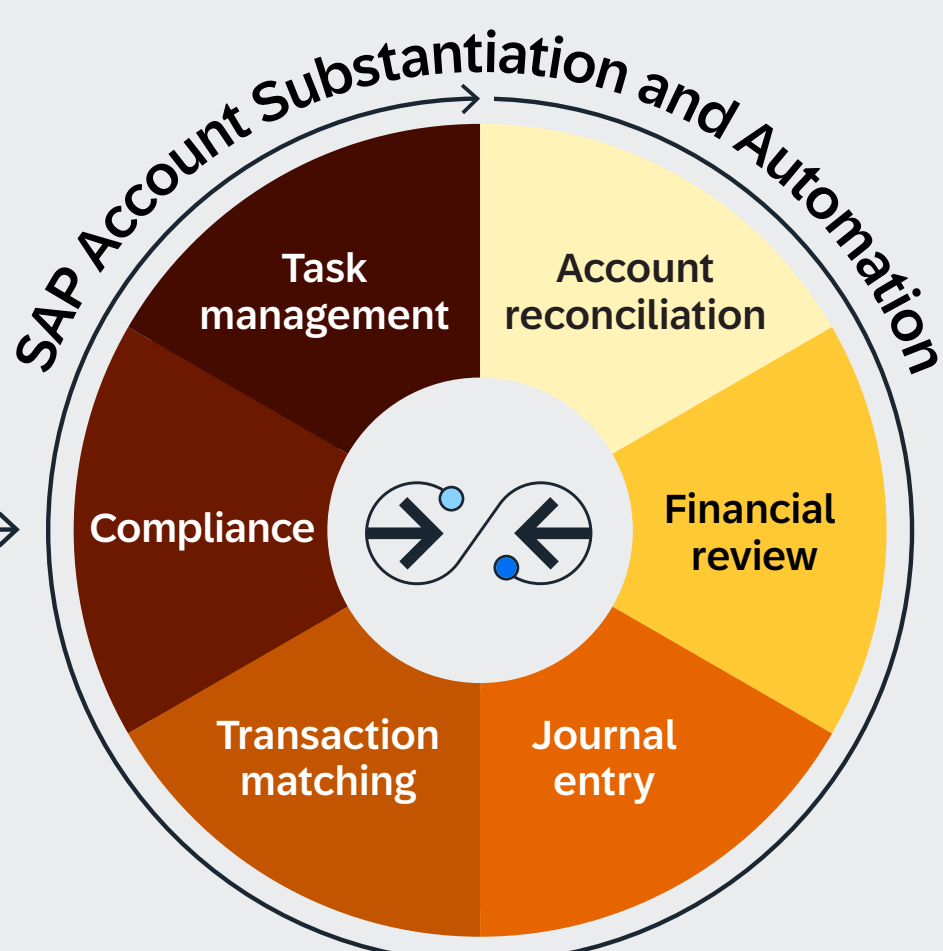
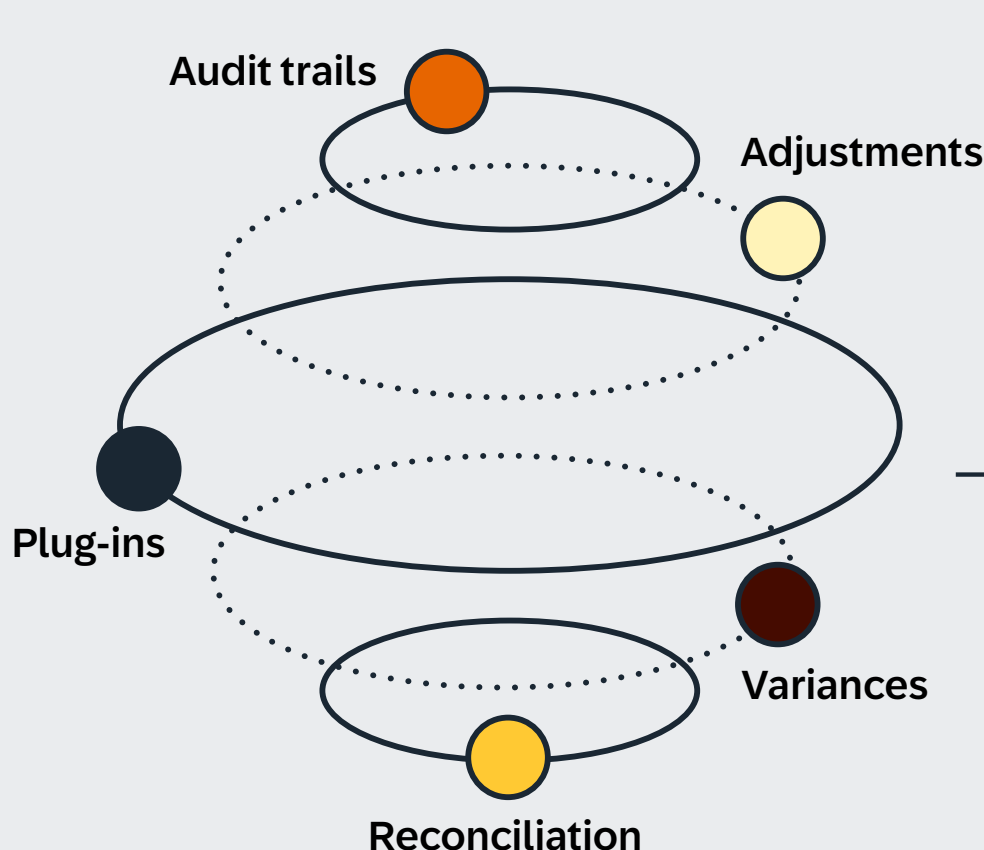
- Proactive analysis of financial statements
- Drill-down analysis of account details and variances
- Preparation and documentation of variance comments
- Ability to assign, perform, and document fluctuation exceptions
- Ability to view validations and attest to controls and balances
- Improved finance and accounting collaboration
- Transparency and traceability through processes with a comprehensive audit trail

#### Before

Increased financial reporting risk with manual, spreadsheet-based processes

#### After

Efficiency, insight, and trust

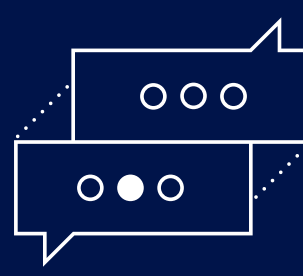


### Benefits

- Proactively identify unusual balances, trends, and activity at the entity or group level
- Unify data with integrations to the SAP ERP application, the universal journal in SAP S/4HANA, and third-party data sources
- Gain visibility across entities and multi-ERP environments
- Accelerate processes and enhance visibility
- Report and fix errors faster, eliminating rework and topside adjustments
- Increase audit efficiency, and reduce audit fees
- Foster compliance and a trustworthy foundation for decision-making
- Save time with automated discovery of accounting discrepancies



Proactively increase **confidence, control, and collaboration**



Access **continuous, centralized commentary** in the cloud



### Learn more

Visit us [online](#) to learn more about how the financial review option for SAP Account Substantiation and Automation can help you standardize and streamline your financial closing process.