



The Case for Switching from SAP PowerDesigner to erwin Data Modeler

Switch to the industry's leading data modeling tool before end of life challenges escalate.

Quest

Introduction

As SAP PowerDesigner approaches its end of life, you will likely face significant challenges. The cessation of updates, discontinued support and limited connectivity pose substantial risks to data integrity and business continuity. In contrast, erwin® Data Modeler by Quest® offers a modern, fully supported and future-ready solution that addresses these challenges and provides numerous advantages. This eBook explores the compelling reasons for making the switch to erwin Data Modeler, highlighting its benefits in terms of model migration, support, platform connectivity, data visibility and data governance.

Challenges of reaching end of life with SAP PowerDesigner

End of updates

As SAP PowerDesigner is phased out, ongoing development will cease, leaving your users stuck with outdated technology. This lack of updates means that the tool will no longer receive enhancements, bug fixes or security patches, increasing the risk of vulnerabilities and inefficiencies.

Discontinued support

When issues arise with SAP PowerDesigner, you will have nowhere to turn for help. The discontinuation of support means that you will be left to troubleshoot problems on your own, which can lead to prolonged downtime and decreased productivity.

Limited connectivity

SAP PowerDesigner's restrictions on data-platform integration will hinder your ability to adapt and scale. As new data sources and technologies emerge, the inability to integrate with these platforms will limit the effectiveness of your data modeling efforts and impede innovation.

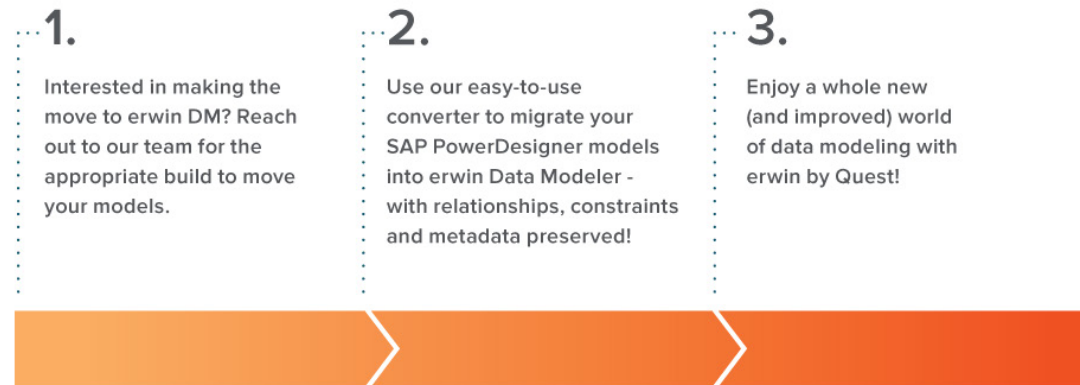
Data integrity risks

Relying on a defunct tool like SAP PowerDesigner puts data consistency and security in jeopardy. Without regular updates and support, the risk of data corruption and loss increases, which can have severe consequences for your business operations and decision-making.

Impact on AI initiatives

Data modeling is more crucial than ever to keep up in the AI race. Building a solid data foundation is critical for maintaining a competitive edge, modernizing your database environment and taking full advantage of AI technologies. Without a reliable data modeling tool, you will struggle to leverage AI effectively.

Worry-Free Migration: Move your models from SAP PowerDesigner to erwin Data Modeler in 3 simple steps



Why switch to erwin Data Modeler

Streamlined model migration

One of the primary concerns when switching data modeling tools is the complexity of migrating existing models. erwin Data Modeler simplifies this process, ensuring a smooth and hassle-free transition from SAP PowerDesigner.

Automated model conversion

erwin Data Modeler automates the conversion process by seamlessly importing PowerDesigner models. This reduces manual work and minimizes the risk of errors, ensuring that your migration is efficient and accurate.

Preservation of metadata

During the migration process, erwin Data Modeler ensures that existing relationships, constraints and business rules are preserved. This guarantees that the integrity of your data models is maintained, allowing you to continue your operations without disruption.

Minimal downtime

The transition to erwin Data Modeler is designed to be quick, minimizing downtime and preventing business disruption. This ensures that you can continue your data modeling activities without significant interruptions.

Comprehensive documentation

erwin Data Modeler provides detailed reports to verify model accuracy post-migration. This comprehensive documentation helps you ensure that your data models are correctly migrated and fully functional.

Industry-leading support

Unlike SAP PowerDesigner, which is nearing obsolescence, erwin Data Modeler is fully supported by a dedicated team of experts. This ensures that you have access to the assistance you need to overcome any challenges you may encounter.

24x7 customer assistance

erwin Data Modeler offers round-the-clock customer support, ensuring that you can get expert help whenever you need it. This level of support is crucial for maintaining productivity and addressing any issues promptly.

Extensive knowledge base

As a user of erwin Data Modeler, you have access to an extensive knowledge base, which includes continually updated guides, expert-led on-demand webinars and more. This wealth of resources helps you find answers quickly and efficiently.

Active user community

erwin Data Modeler has an active user community, where data professionals can engage with each other, share insights and find solutions to common challenges. This community support is invaluable for enhancing your data modeling skills and knowledge.

Regular updates

erwin Data Modeler is regularly updated to ensure that you are always working with the most secure and cutting-edge data modeling technology. This commitment to continuous improvement ensures that the tool remains relevant and effective.

Unrivaled platform connectivity

erwin Data Modeler offers unparalleled platform connectivity, allowing you to work seamlessly across a wide range of data sources, including relational, NoSQL, cloud and big data environments.



Broad compatibility

erwin Data Modeler supports all legacy and modern databases, including Oracle, SQL Server, DB2, MongoDB, Cassandra, Amazon Redshift, Snowflake and more. This broad compatibility ensures that you can work with your preferred databases without any limitations.

Cloud and on-premises flexibility

erwin Data Modeler provides the flexibility to work across hybrid environments, allowing you to seamlessly integrate cloud and on-premises data sources. This flexibility is essential for modernizing your data infrastructure.

Seamless integration

erwin Data Modeler integrates easily with ETL tools, BI platforms and enterprise applications. This seamless integration ensures that your data models are consistent and high-quality across all systems.

Consistent data models

By maintaining high-quality, standardized data across all systems, erwin Data Modeler helps you ensure data integrity and reliability. This consistency is crucial for effective data management and decision-making.

Enhanced data visibility

erwin Data Modeler makes data modeling more accessible and understandable for everyone in your organization, from analysts to executives. This enhanced data visibility is achieved through several key features.

Customizable UI

erwin Data Modeler offers an intuitive interface that is designed for both technical and non-technical users. This customizable UI makes it easy for you to navigate and understand data models.

Visualization portal

The visualization portal in erwin Data Modeler allows stakeholders to collaborate and visualize data structures in an easy-to-understand format. This enhances communication and ensures that everyone is on the same

page.

Quick and efficient compare and sync

erwin Data Modeler provides tools for quickly identifying discrepancies and keeping models aligned. This ensures that your data models are accurate and up to date.

Mart on Cloud SaaS offering

With the Mart on Cloud SaaS offering, you can access and manage your models from anywhere. This cloud-based solution provides flexibility and convenience for data modeling activities.

Business-friendly terminology

erwin Data Modeler translates complex technical names into clear, user-friendly terms. This makes it easier for non-technical stakeholders to understand and work with data models.

Strengthened data governance

Effective data governance is essential for ensuring data integrity, compliance and usability. erwin Data Modeler provides the structure and automation needed to enforce governance policies across your organization.

Enterprise glossary integration

erwin Data Modeler integrates with enterprise glossaries to standardize data definitions across teams. This ensures that everyone in your organization is using consistent terminology.

Git integration and version control

With Git integration and version control, erwin Data Modeler helps you keep track of changes and ensure model consistency. This is crucial for maintaining accurate and reliable data models.

Automated compliance checks

erwin Data Modeler includes automated compliance checks to ensure adherence to industry regulations like GDPR, HIPAA and CCPA. This helps you avoid costly compliance issues.

Elimination of data silos

erwin Data Modeler facilitates seamless collaboration and interoperability between departments, eliminating data silos. This enhances data sharing and improves overall data management.

Case study: E.ON

E.ON, the largest energy supplier in Europe, is a prime example of an organization that has successfully transitioned to erwin Data Modeler. By making the switch, E.ON has achieved significant benefits, including:

- Slashing external data management costs by 30%
- Speeding data discovery by 50%
- Ensuring enterprise-wide compliance with standardized data modeling
- Optimizing data utilization across global operations

These results demonstrate the tangible advantages of using erwin Data Modeler and highlight its effectiveness in real-world scenarios.

Read more about how E.ON benefits from erwin Data Modeler [here](#).



COMPARING THE TOOLS

Feature	erwin Data Modeler	SAP PowerDesigner
SaaS offering	erwin ER360 (also available as SaaS)	X
Read-Only portal for models	✓	✓
Metadata bridges	✓	Separately licensed unless using Team edition
Logical modeling	✓	✓
NOSQL native support	✓	X
Auto normalization / denormalization	✓	X
User permission and model security management	✓	✓
Web-based model and respository administration	✓	✓
Advanced design layer to manage multiple logical and phsical models	✓	✓
DevOps support (Git, GitHub, Bitbucket)	✓	X
Newer database support (Databricks, graph databases, Google Big Query)	✓	X
Reporting	✓	X
Bulk Metadata editing	✓	X

COMPARING THE TOOLS

Feature	erwin Data Modeler	SAP PowerDesigner
Reverse Engineering scheduler	✓	✗
Model and database comparison	✓	✓
Centralized model management repository	✓	✓
Collaborative modeling	✓	✓
Change management and audit	✓	✓

Best practices for making the switch

Assess current data modeling needs

Before making the switch, you should assess your current data modeling needs and identify any gaps or areas for improvement. This assessment will help determine the specific features and capabilities required from the new tool.

Plan the migration process

A well-planned migration process is essential for ensuring a smooth transition. You should create a detailed migration plan that outlines the steps involved, including model conversion, metadata preservation and verification of model accuracy.

Engage stakeholders

Engaging stakeholders throughout the migration process is crucial for ensuring buy-in and support. You should communicate the benefits of switching to erwin Data Modeler and involve key stakeholders in the planning and implementation phases.

Leverage erwin Data Modeler support

You should take advantage of the extensive support offered by erwin Data Modeler, including customer assistance, knowledge base resources and the active user community. This support will help address any challenges and ensure a successful transition.

Monitor and optimize

After the migration, you should continuously monitor the performance of your data models and optimize them as needed. Regular updates and ongoing support from erwin Data Modeler will help maintain the effectiveness and reliability of your data modeling efforts.

Conclusion

As SAP PowerDesigner approaches its end of life, you must act swiftly to avoid the risks associated with outdated and unsupported technology. erwin Data Modeler offers a modern, fully supported and future-ready solution that addresses these challenges and provides numerous benefits. By switching to erwin Data Modeler, you can streamline model migration, take advantage of industry-leading support, enjoy unrivaled platform connectivity, enhance data visibility and strengthen data governance. Now is the time to embrace a solution that will not only make data modeling easier but also set up your organization for ongoing success in the AI era. Switching to erwin Data Modeler is not just about avoiding the pitfalls of SAP PowerDesigner's EOL; it's about embracing an unmatched solution that will empower you today and tomorrow with an enlightened approach to data modeling. With erwin Data Modeler, you can future-proof your data modeling strategy, ensuring that you remain competitive and innovative in an ever-evolving technological landscape.

Final thoughts

The transition from SAP PowerDesigner to erwin Data Modeler is a strategic move that will provide long-term benefits for your organization. By making the switch, you can avoid the risks associated with outdated technology and take advantage of a robust, modern and fully supported data modeling solution. erwin Data Modeler's comprehensive features, industry-leading support and commitment to continuous innovation make it the ideal choice for enhancing your data modeling capabilities and ensuring ongoing success.

Now is the time to break away from software that will soon be unsupported and outdated. Step into the future of data modeling with erwin Data Modeler – because you deserve a solution that's built to last.

About Quest

Quest creates software solutions that make the benefits of new technology real in an increasingly complex IT landscape. From database and systems management, to Active Directory and Microsoft 365 migration and management, and cybersecurity resilience, Quest helps customers solve their next IT challenge now. Around the globe, more than 130,000 companies and 95% of the Fortune 500 count on Quest to deliver proactive management and monitoring for the next enterprise initiative, find the next solution for complex Microsoft challenges and stay ahead of the next threat. Quest Software. Where next meets now. For more information, visit www.quest.com.

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