

The Emergence of Cloud ERP Systems and Its Effect on Modern Corporates Performance (Studying the Challenges Associated with Utilizing Cloud ERP in SMEs)

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Recently, due to the presence of the fourth industrial revolution and the presence of the digital era, a considerable debate has been established among economists about the emergence of digitalization and its effect on a company's performance. One of the most common tools utilized in modern enterprises is the ERP system. Recently, due to the presence of cloud computing, the emergence of cloud ERP made a significant change in the number of enterprises which be able to utilize the ERP system due to several reasons, but the main reason is less costs compared to the utilization of traditional ERP.

In Large Enterprises (LEs) the utilization and costs of using traditional ERP systems was not considered an issue, due to the availability of financial and technical resources but on contrary, for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) the utilization of ERP system is considered a financially and technically as a challenge, which wastes many chances of growth. While it's worth mentioning that SMEs are acknowledged for having significantly influenced socio-economic growth, moreover, SMEs gain recognition due to their contributions to the nation's and its programs' sustainable development.

The main objectives of this thesis are to present the general benefits and challenges of utilizing cloud ERP in general while focusing more on the challenges associated with the utilization of cloud ERP in SMEs in general throughout the main four phases of project execution, which are the project chartering phase, the project phase, the shakedown phase, and finally the onward and upward phase. The findings of this thesis can be used as a guide for the SMEs which have the intention to utilize cloud ERP to maximize their benefits and reduce utilization costs.

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