



Aptitude
**Accounting
Hub (AAH)**

SOLUTION BRIEF

Empowering the finance function to progressively transform and be future ready

The Aptitude Accounting Hub simplifies the most complex of finance architectures creating a **‘single view of finance’** and a launch pad for digital finance



Rich financial data foundation

consolidated, highly granular, multi-entity,
multi-currency, multi-GAAP, multi-period,
thick subledger for a single, quality
controlled source of financial truth



Centralized control

total financial management and control
of accounting and regulatory rules,
calculations, processes and reporting
from a single location



Greater efficiencies

fully automated, end to end accounting
and reporting processes significantly
accelerating the speed of financial close
and regulatory compliance



Business agility

modern finance architecture, future ready to embrace new
business models, changing market conditions, evolving
regulations, new opportunities and emerging technologies



Strategic foresight

access trusted data to deliver
valuable and timely business insights

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Progressively transforming finance

The finance function, across all organizations, is witnessing a sea-change as companies strive to compete in a digital world which necessitates leveraging the most valuable business asset – data.

Traditionally the CFO role was focused on statutory requirements, corporate governance and historical reporting. However, today's business leaders are looking to finance to provide data-driven analysis and insights enabling forward-looking planning and forecasting to drive business and revenue growth. This is shifting the role of CFO from being one of governance to one of strategic guidance and trusted advisor.

Another major catalyst forcing change is the tidal wave of emerging digital technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), robotic process automation (RPA), blockchain and predictive analytics.

Smart adoption of these technologies can deliver significant, measurable business benefits such as improved efficiencies from streamlined, automated operations and valuable business insights based on trusted, accurate data for strategic decision making.

To meet these new expectations, finance needs to have complete control over both accounting and reporting data and the operational efficiencies that come from automation.

The finance function is unique in that it is the custodian of key customer, operational and finance data that drives the business. With the right platform in place, to support progressive digital transformation of the finance function, the CFO can drive significant business value by empowering the business to meet and predict the needs and demands of today and the future.



80%

of the
**Fortune
500**


will be an insight-driven
organization to retain
competitive advantage

Challenges to overcome

Multiple siloed data sources

The data held by the finance function is undoubtedly the holy grail of any business.

However, accessing and leveraging that data is a major challenge. Data sources, varieties and volumes are increasing at an unprecedented rate and data is typically dispersed across many disparate business units and held in legacy systems with little, if any, integration. This is exacerbated with market consolidation such as mergers and acquisitions, inherited system architectures and multiple General Ledgers (GLs). As a result, CFOs lack a single view of finance across the enterprise.



76%
of CFOs

agree that without 'one version of the truth' across business units, their organization will struggle to meet its objectives

Regulatory environment

An increasingly complex finance and regulatory reporting environment is a major burden for the finance function.

New and evolving regulations across the globe from the FASB (Financial Accounting Standards Board) and the IASB (International Accounting Standards Board) complicated by incomplete global harmonisation, demand total transparency and auditability across both GAAP, IFRS and Local reporting. This presents a massive challenge as these standards require highly granular levels of data, new data sets, complex calculations and the production of new disclosure statements.

With complex business environments, and a lack of systems integration, a lot of manual effort and resources are needed simply to produce the backward-looking reporting that these regulations demand. This limits the ability of finance resources to focus on forward looking planning and value-added activities that support business growth.

In a recent survey of CFOs and senior finance executives



only 6%

say they really understand
the technologies available



31%

broadly know what is on
the market



50%

of finance executives believe
their finance function has the
skills to evaluate technology

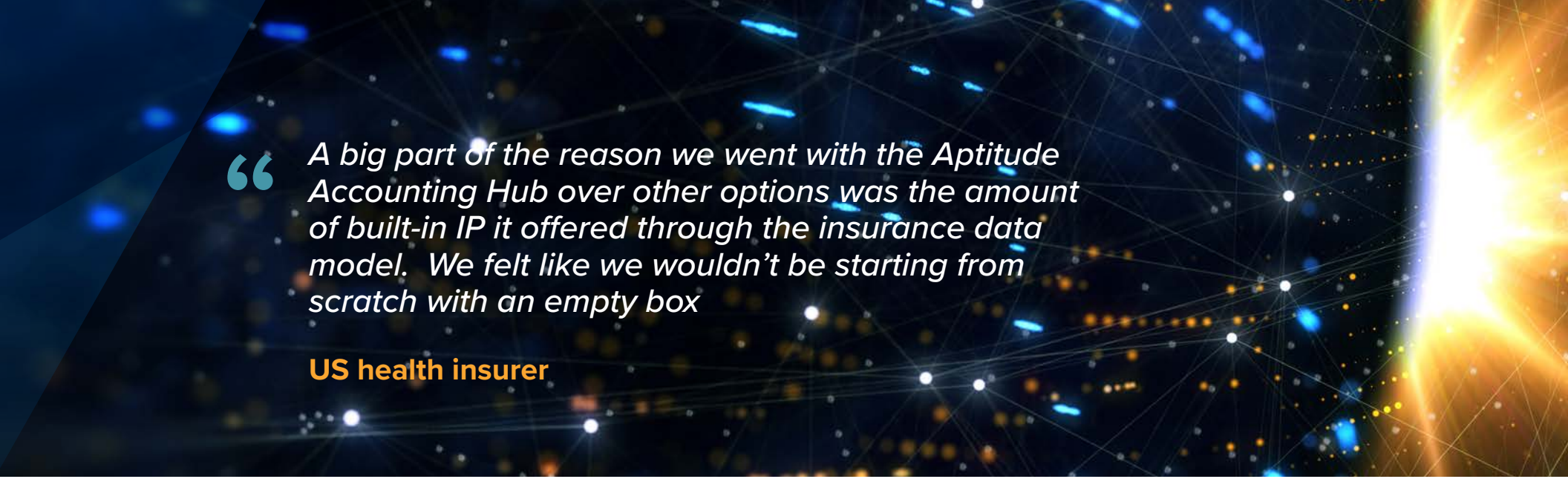
The need for agility and bridging the gap

Global market conditions and business models are changing rapidly alongside the incredible speed of technological developments and innovation. The regulatory environment will naturally evolve as a consequence.

For businesses to succeed, they need to be agile and able to respond quickly to change and new opportunities. However, there is a significant void between IT and Finance. IT does not understand the finance function and what finance needs to empower the business and finance does not understand IT and what technologies are available to support the transformation of the finance function. There is a gap that needs to be bridged.

Finance is entering a golden age of technology. Finance departments need to modernize and transform so that they can empower the business through data-driven insight, operational intelligence, control and automation within ever-tightening timescales. This evolution is fundamental for survival in a rapidly changing world and to deliver competitive advantage, business growth and increased shareholder value.





“ A big part of the reason we went with the Aptitude Accounting Hub over other options was the amount of built-in IP it offered through the insurance data model. We felt like we wouldn't be starting from scratch with an empty box

US health insurer

Aptitude Accounting Hub (AAH) – modernizing finance

Aptitude's Accounting Hub is finance management software – essential for every finance function looking to transform the business and have the foresight and agility to embrace future regulatory, market and technology change.

The business value that AAH brings goes far beyond driving smart finance and regulatory compliance and provides a launch pad for progressive finance transformation.

AAH is purpose built to centralize and automate finance, accounting and reporting. It empowers finance teams with total control of accounting rules and processes all managed from a single location. A key strength of the Accounting Hub is its robust, multi-GAAP, two-way subledger and integrated calculations engine built to handle the most complex US GAAP and IFRS regulatory reporting.

It is flexible, highly configurable and has the scale, speed and capacity to handle vast amounts of transactional level data. It holds it in a structured way that is easily accessible, fully auditable and traceable from source-to-post.

Its ability to consolidate masses of customer, operational and finance data, from multiple siloed sources, simplifies the most complex of finance architectures with seamless integration into an existing technology landscape. This creates a standardized, enriched and highly granular data foundation that can be exploited to deliver value through business insight delivered with confidence.

Aptitude Accounting Hub is the ultimate finance software solution for finance teams ready to modernize and embrace the digital era and 4.0 world.



Key features



Centralized enterprise accounting rules platform to consolidate complex and disparate source systems



True double-entry accounting, manual adjustment portal, and financial control with full internal reconciliation support



Multi-basis accounting to support US GAAP, IFRS, local statutory, and other management reporting requirements



Summary and detailed balances held in daily, MTD, YTD and LTD running totals in transaction, Base and local currencies



Journals created in Transaction, Base and local currencies, with periodic FX revaluation support



Multiple calendar support allowing entity specific close frequencies to shorten period end processing



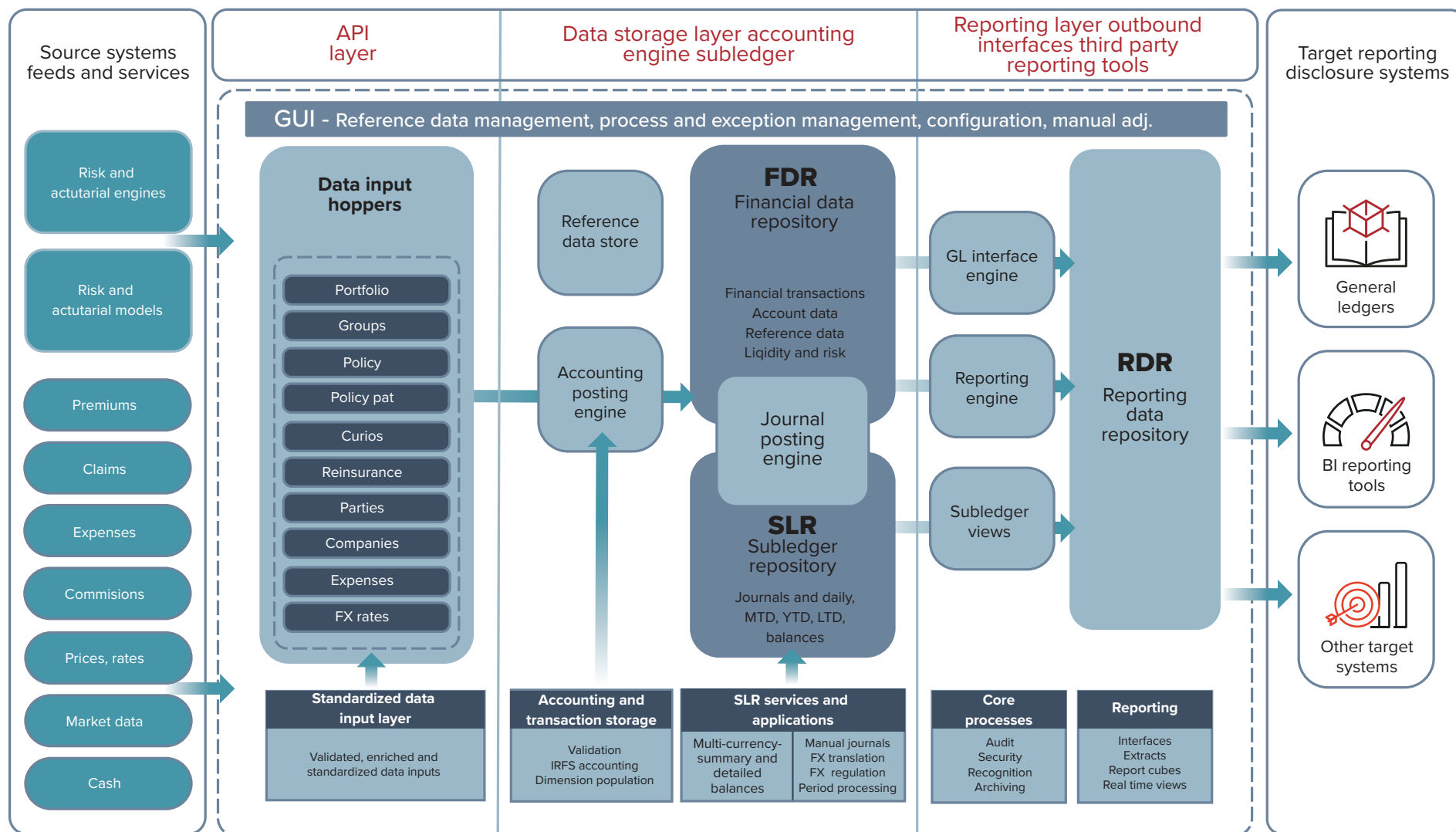
Drill down reporting back to granular levels allows for deep analytics and insights on balance changes, and cross basis analysis



Configurable period end processing including P&L sell-down, intercompany eliminations, accelerated close accruals and more

Core offering

Aptitude Accounting Hub (AAH)



Key components explained

Solution API

- Data validation, enrichment, standardization and transformation
- Rules-driven, correction and exception processes, acting as a quality data gate
- Standard target tables (“hoppers”) for process and store financial transactions and reference data
- Exception management and workflow correction screens

Financial data repository (FDR)

- Mature finance data model
- Covers detailed transactional and reference data

Accounting engine

- Accounting engine derives debits/credits for all transactions at a highly granular level
- Configurable creation of debits/credit patterns with full user controls and audit trails
- Visible, auditable accounting logic, easily adapts to business change
- Implementation accelerators such as
 - › Product lifecycle templates for a wide range of financial products
 - › Templated accounting for multi-GAAP including IFRS

‘Thick’ subledger capability

- Creation of journal lines from accounting events
- Journal lines directly update subledger balances
- Balances are maintained in the subledger which are equivalent and reconciled to the GL
- Multi-entity, multi-currency, multi-GAAP, multi-period
- Subledger balances maintained at summary and detailed supporting highly granular, transaction level information
- Configurable FX translation and revaluation
- Event-based or debit/credit manual adjustments
- Period end processes

Other process engines

- Supporting complex calculation logic e.g. cash flows, cost allocations and amortisations

Reporting and data feeds

- Cube engine extracts and retains data to provide pre-configured reporting views and dashboards
- Embedded adhoc and bespoke reports
- Configurable extract engine for the production of GL interface feeds (e.g. SAP, Oracle)

Reconciliations

- Standard internal reconciliations

A subledger provides a solid foundation for using transaction, contract and reference data at the most granular level of detail - providing agility and robustness. It enables a clean separation of accounting and actuarial elements and helps to simplify processes, hand-offs, and actuarial models.


- Australian wealth management company

Business benefits

AAH provides a modern architecture and rich data model providing a rock-solid foundation for digital finance and progressive transformation – delivering long term, strategic value beyond compliance.



Aptitude
**Accounting
Hub (AAH)**

 **Control**
 highly flexible and configurable giving
 finance full control

- Deliver multi-entity, multi-currency, multi-GAAP, multi-period reporting at a single point
- Rationalize posting patterns, accounting rules and business logic across all source systems
- Drill-down from reported results to underlying transactions and business logic - source-to-post auditability and traceability supporting both finance and regulatory needs
- In multi-GAAP environments, support for audit trails between GAAP's
- Ensure comparability of reporting and dramatically reduce reconciliations
- Create and deploy business rules reducing the reliance on IT and empowering finance
- Self-service, on demand reports and MI dashboards with capabilities to drill through to underlying accounting and business events data





Data

rich, highly granular level data model
ripe for exploitation

- Consolidate and standardize vast amounts of data from multiple, siloed sources
- Automated identification, capture and management of bad data
- Scalability, speed and capacity to handle vast amounts of transactional level data
- Create multi-dimensional, 'ledger-certified' data foundations for management reporting and analytics - feed into BI tools, AI and ML tooling
- Use finance data for financial planning, analysis, predictions and forecasting
- Provide business with finance data for analytics down to a granular level including down to customer/transaction/channel
- Provide insight for pricing and product strategy, new business models



Operational efficiencies

enabling resources to be redeployed
on value added tasks

- Dramatically reduce financial monthly and quarterly close with a dynamic continuous close model creating the required set of financial statements on demand at any time
- Fully automated 'touchless' accounting from source-to-post
- Streamline financial, management and statutory reporting with significant time savings dramatically reducing or eliminating:
 - › manual data collection and preparation of analysis
 - › manual adjustments
 - › manual interpretations, calculations and reconciliations
 - › manual preparation and production of management and financial reports
- Consolidation of multiple GL systems
- Increase forward-looking, strategic planning rather than backward reporting



Agility

modern finance architecture that
can embrace change

- Simplify finance with a single view and control point – giving finance teams power and control
- De-risk cloud GL migration projects - feed a 'thin' cloud GL from a 'thick' subledger
- Integrate new business divisions and geographies quickly and account for new products easily
- Access daily balances to understand financial positions within monthly reporting cycles

Why Aptitude Software

Aptitude Software's vision is to empower finance communities to transform business with smart compliance, operational intelligence, control and strategic foresight to optimize performance, reach goals and be future ready.

We understand finance

Aptitude Software is dedicated to developing finance management software. Aptitude solutions are designed by finance experts who speak the language of finance. We understand how finance works and the expectations of a finance function and the challenges that today's finance function faces.

Low risk and speed of deployment

Aptitude's solutions come pre-packaged with rich industry IP, project accelerators such as finance templates, pre-defined business event models and disclosure templates. The accelerators are continually enhanced as best practice emerges through Aptitude's Centre of Excellence (CoE). This enables implementation to be efficient and accelerated so clients achieve fast time-to-benefit and lowered risk.

Our delivery team is made up of 120+ consultants located across the globe with deep technical and finance expertise. Together with a vast, global partner network of certified specialists and our Centre of Excellence which provides rich guidance and oversight on projects, Aptitude's delivery teams have implemented over 75+ instances of its solutions across four continents.

Proven enterprise scalability and performance

Aptitude Software has proven expertise in delivering solutions for small/mid-size businesses to global organisations. Solutions are easily scalable to the size of the business.

Aptitude Software adopts a 'cloud-first' software development methodology and all products can be deployed to the cloud, or on-premise, providing our clients with choice and flexibility.

Future ready solutions

Aptitude is 100% committed to the on-going development of finance management solutions. Aptitude solutions are built on modern IT architectures so that they can embrace emerging innovative technologies whilst having the agility to respond to fast changing regulatory and market conditions and new opportunities.

Aptitude is continually evolving its products, people and delivery processes and invests 34% (2018) of software revenue into research and development.

Strong pedigree

Aptitude Software has an enviable, global customer base with combined revenues approaching \$1 trillion. Aptitude has a strong, proven track record across all industries with specific, in-depth domain expertise in financial services (insurance and banking), telecoms, media and technology and has been helping companies with their digital finance journey for over 20 years.





On 'go live' day

One global insurer completed both its month and quarter-end reporting processing



generating over



End to end the process completed in under



a leading bank was able to decommission

5 legacy systems which included **2** general ledgers

AAH provides a central accounting rules, reporting and control environment for all transactional systems feeding summarised balances to a Cloud GL. The implementation of AAH was strategic and de-risked the GL migration to the cloud.

A global telecoms company that manages over

44m
contracts

reduced by **66%**
its financial close

140+
source systems

consolidated by one global insurer by implementing AAH

Aptitude Software provides software solutions that enable finance professionals to run their global businesses, forecast decision outcomes, and comply with complex regulations. Uniquely combining deep finance expertise and IP rich technology, Aptitude gives finance leaders the tools they need to transform their business and achieve their ambitions.

Aptitude is proud to have served the offices of finance for over 20 years, delivering financial control and insight to create a world of financial confidence for our global clients.

Aptitude Software supports businesses with combined revenues approaching \$1 trillion and over 500 million end customers. Headquartered in London, Aptitude Software is an operating company of Aptitude Software Group plc.

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