

Increase Compliance and Consolidate Financial Results for Faster Time to Insights

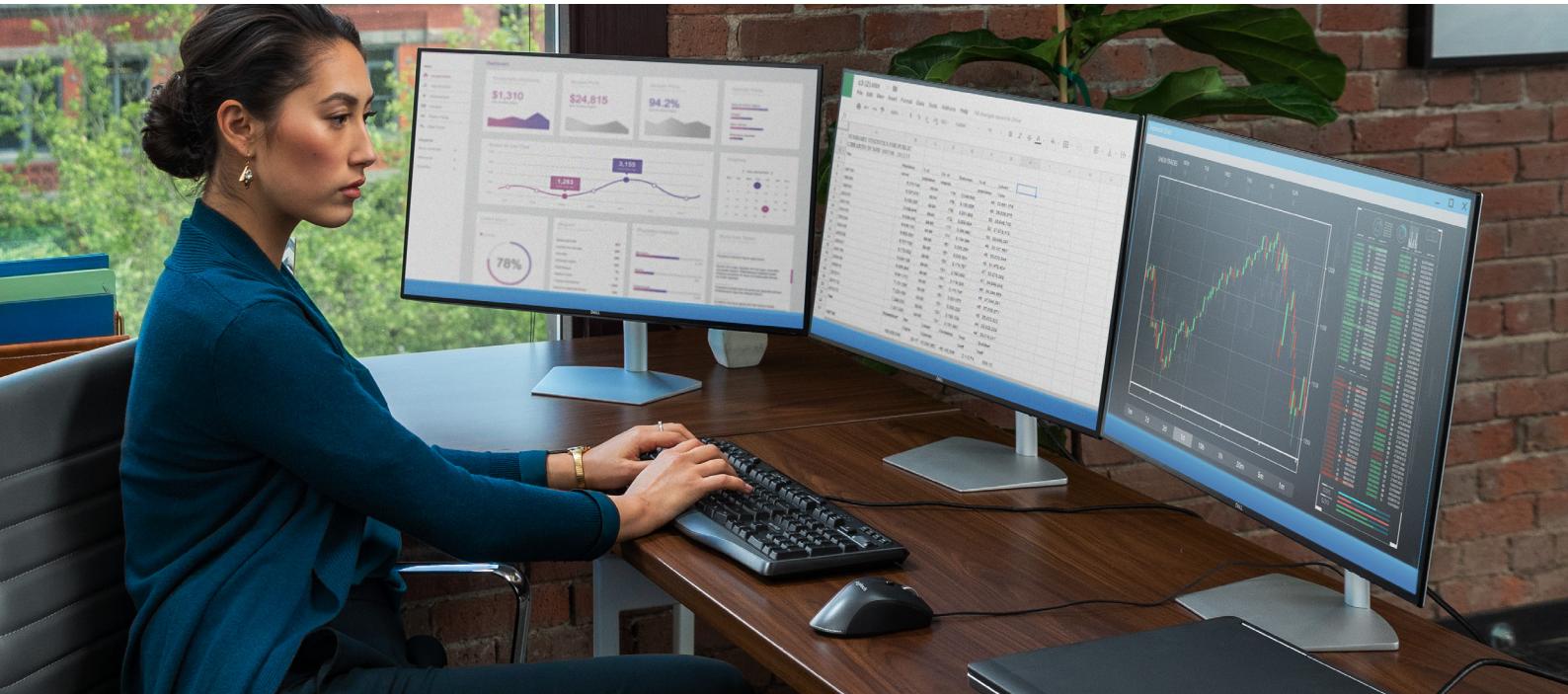
Intel, Capgemini, and VMware deliver a comprehensive consolidation and reporting solution that centralizes SAP S/4HANA Finance processes.

Capgemini  + intel  + SAP  + vmware 

Building a better approach to financial reporting

Today, enterprises are future-proofing their businesses as they adapt to fast-changing markets and an uncertain path ahead. Those enterprises that are migrating to SAP S/4HANA and adopting next-generation operational structures have already taken substantial steps toward a more future-proof business posture by increasing efficiency and optimizing costs. But even with those operational advances, a better approach to financial consolidation and reporting is needed if these enterprises are to quickly get the most value from their data. This is especially true for larger companies with more demanding financial-system performance requirements.

Many of these enterprises are still facing traditional financial bookkeeping issues because they are running legacy solutions on legacy systems. Financial reporting has been one of the biggest of those issues because it can involve error-prone, time-consuming processes. What is needed is a comprehensive consolidation and group reporting system for SAP S/4HANA Finance processes that can manage complex global requirements. The system must address compliance, a key issue for finance, while also lowering the total cost of ownership (TCO) to support competitive differentiation. To meet these needs, Intel, VMware, and Capgemini collaborated to develop an SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting solution for deployment with Capgemini Path solutions.



Transition to SAP S/4HANA

Before partnering with Intel and VMware, Capgemini already had a longstanding partnership with SAP, and it was transitioning to SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting for use with Capgemini Path industry solutions. Capgemini's first priority for the solution was to reduce implementation time and accelerate time to value. VMware has a long history of supporting SAP HANA deployments—including a focus on cloud and hybrid-cloud environments. With VMware vSphere now supporting Intel® Optane™ persistent memory (PMem), Intel, VMware, and Capgemini began developing the SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting solution for use with Capgemini Path industry solutions. SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting addresses many of the problems noted by minimizing data replication and eliminating the need for periodic data extractions to disconnected tools.

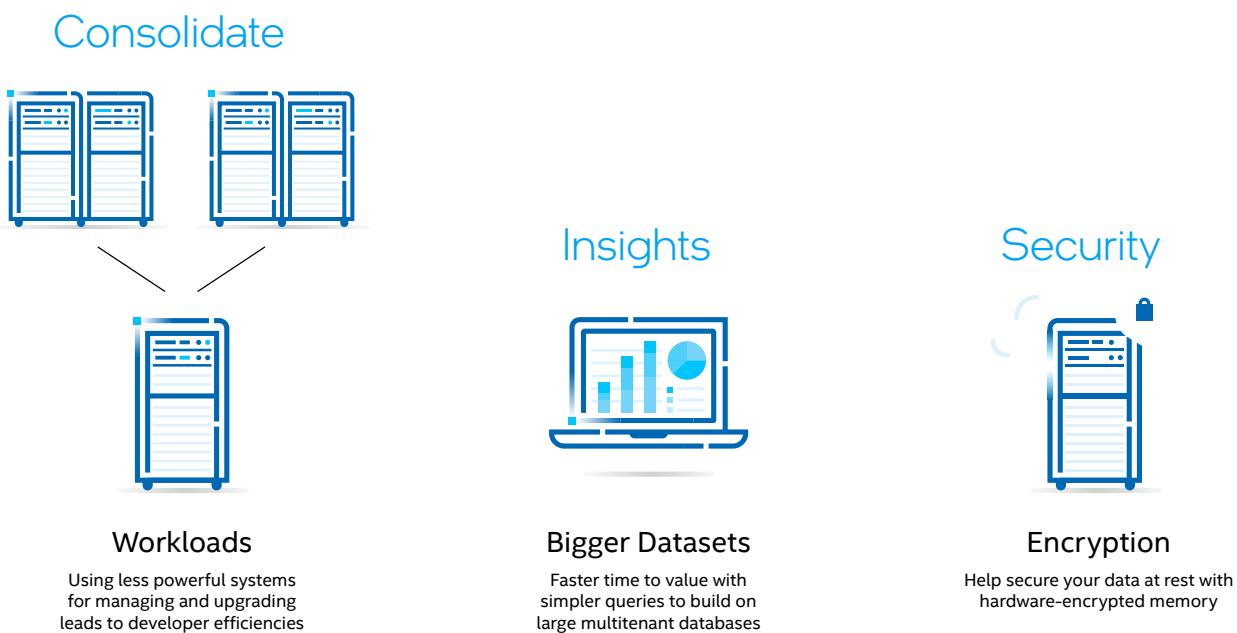


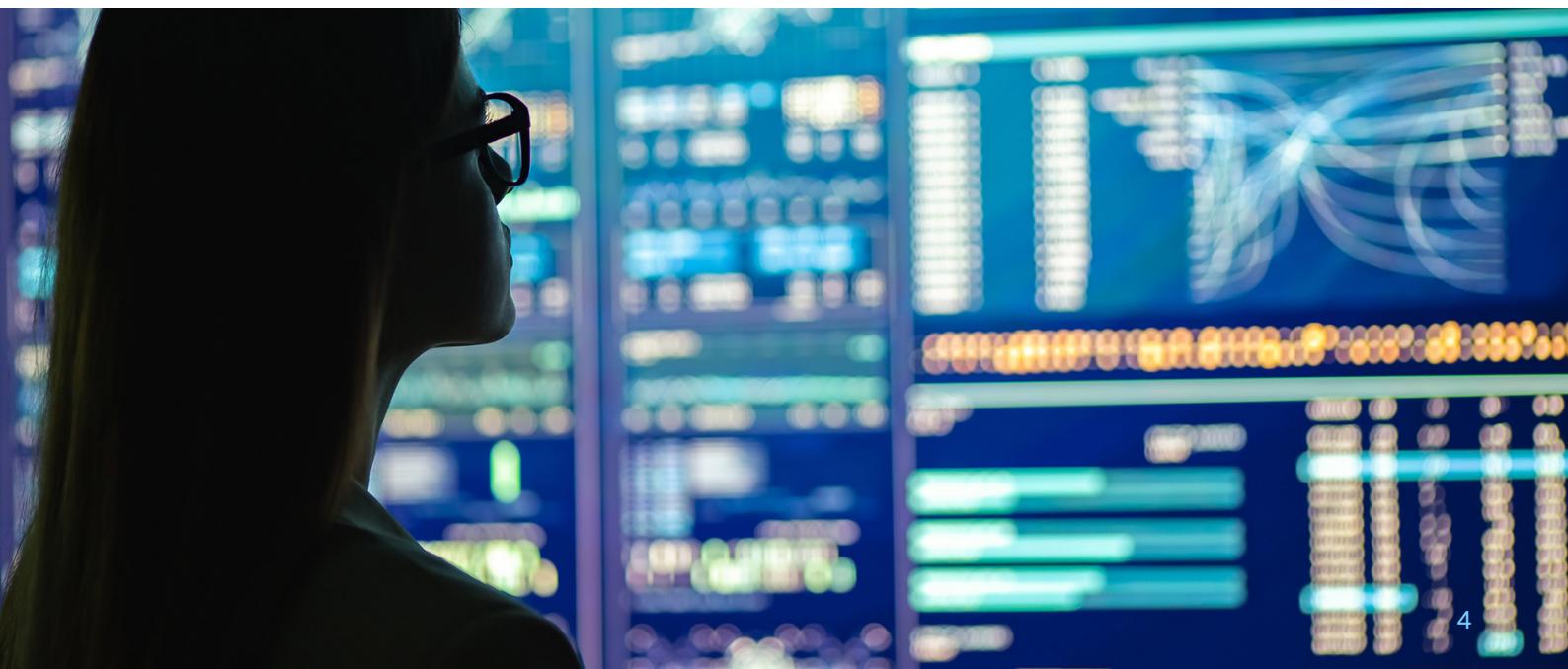
Figure 1. Benefits of Intel Optane PMem with SAP HANA

Get more from SAP S/4HANA with Intel Optane persistent memory

The key component that made SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting possible was Intel Optane PMem. Uniquely combining affordability, large capacity, and data-persistence support, Intel Optane PMem can help increase developer efficiency by letting them consolidate workloads. That means fewer resources are required for management and upgrades. SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting delivers better insights from bigger datasets, and it can help users experience faster time to value because it enables simpler queries for large, multitenant databases. SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting also uses native SAP S/4HANA security features, with data at rest protected by hardware-encrypted memory.

SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting stores SAP HANA columnar data in Intel Optane PMem. That lets users write bigger queries or consolidate multiple SAP HANA workloads with increased memory density. The financial result is that many original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) are offering 50 percent more memory for the same cost with Intel Optane PMem. For example, enterprises can now buy a 6 TB all-DRAM SAP HANA system or an SAP HANA system with 3 TB DRAM plus 6 TB Intel Optane PMem for roughly the same price.¹

Because SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting runs on the latest version of vSphere—supported by Intel Optane PMem—Capgemini's customers can deploy an SAP HANA virtual machine (VM) once, then use the same SAP HANA VM as a template for deployment of any other system.



Seamless, more efficient financial consolidation

The SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting solution unifies Capgemini's customers' entity-close and group-close processes on a single physical system by taking advantage of the performance and security capabilities of Intel® Xeon® Scalable processors. Being on a single system lets these customers drill directly down to the document level for fast analysis, better decision making, and a faster financial-close process.

Capgemini has also enhanced SAP best practices for group reporting, offering its customers a seamless process between local and group financial closing activities. And because both use the same database—instead of multiple databases and systems—and the same user interface (UI), the closing process is faster, giving Capgemini's customers more time to analyze and act upon the results.

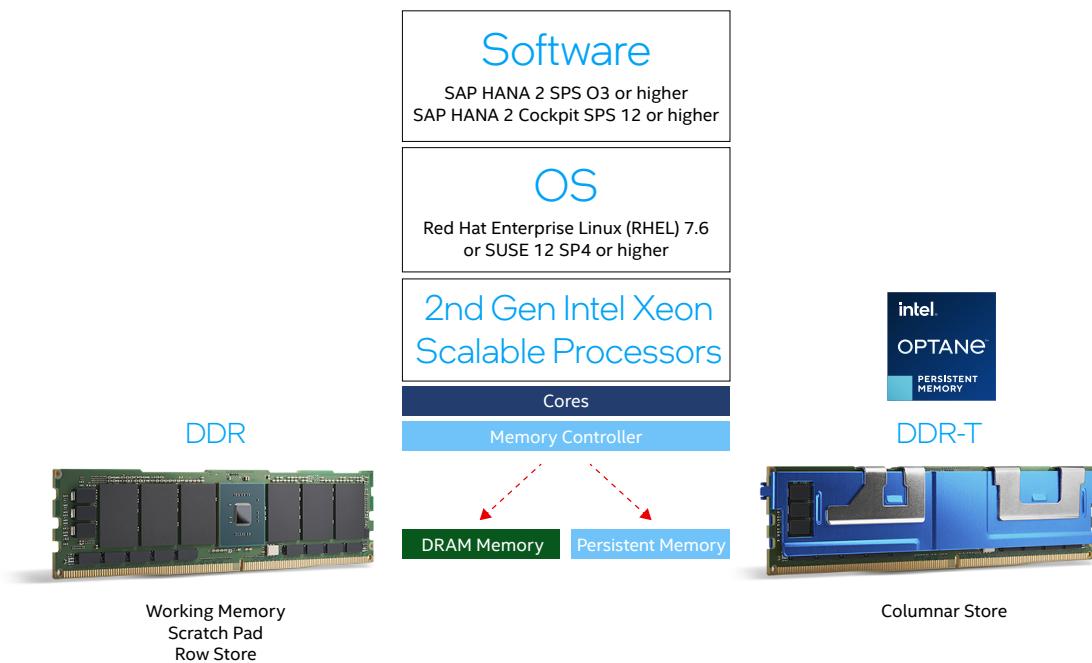


Figure 2. Software and hardware stack for an SAP HANA workload

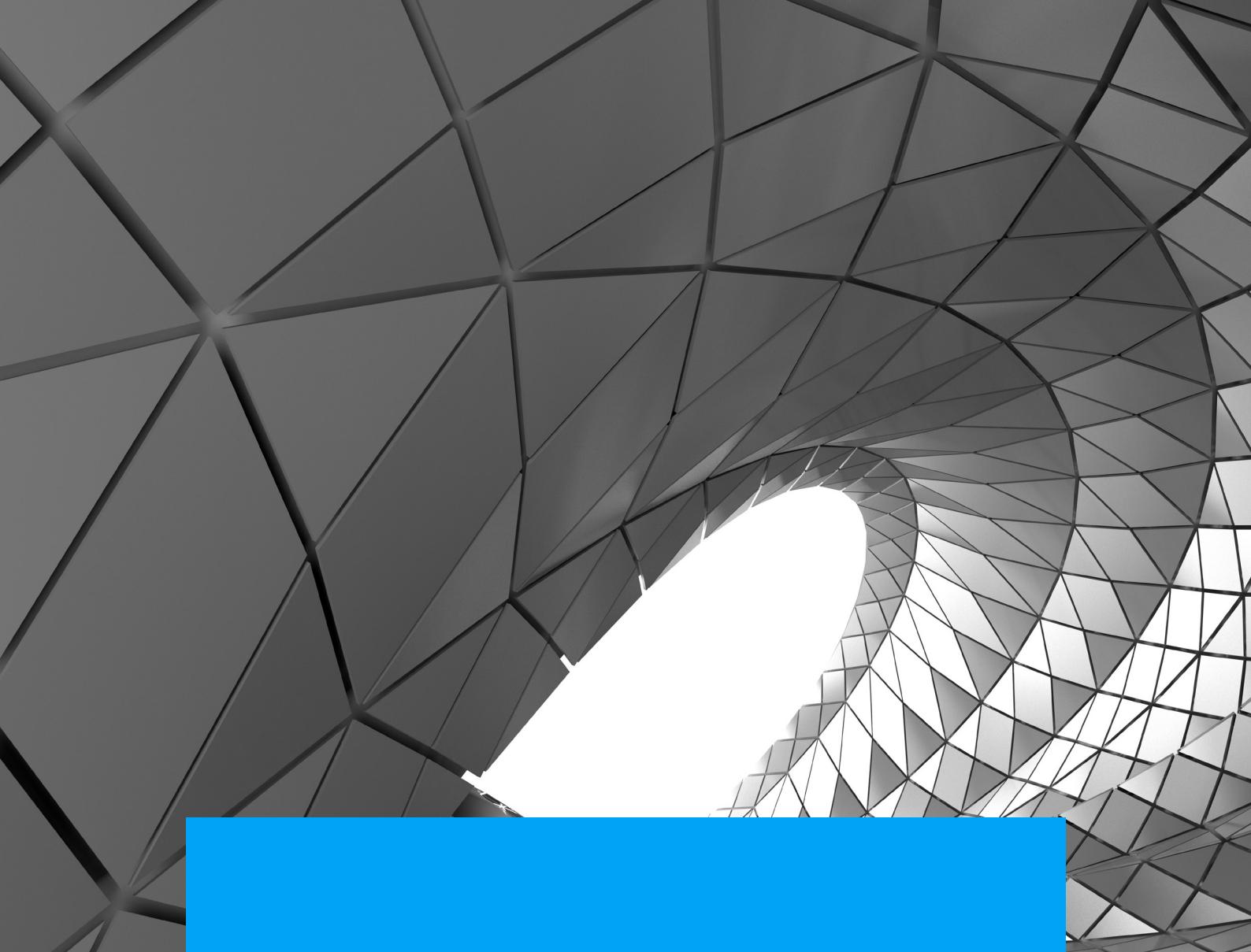
Complete, cost-effective solution

With the streamlined processes offered by SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting for use with Capgemini Path industry solutions, its customers are able to take advantage of automated controls validation that verifies accounting logic, while including detailed audit logs that reflect data changes, increasing compliance, and traceability.

SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting gives Capgemini the comprehensive solution its customers need, with integrated governance for compliance. The system also gives Capgemini full control of, and transparency into, the entire financial-consolidation process, all without adding to its costs.

By integrating financial consolidation and the entity close—including integration of master data—and delivering near-real-time transaction data integration for general ledger (GL) data, financial data can be quickly loaded into consolidation tables. That gives Capgemini's customers visibility into their finances and the ability to drill down all the way to actual GL documents. SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting even handles currency-translation processes, and it can take advantage of new functionality for intercompany matching and reconciliation with SAP S/4HANA Finance.





Faster time to value

With SAP S/4HANA as its foundation, SAP S/4HANA Finance Group Reporting for use with Capgemini Path industry solutions lets the company's customers consolidate their financial results and get the most value from their data more quickly. Built with Intel Optane PMem and VMware vSphere, the solution delivers a new class of technology that is revolutionizing finances for enterprises.

To learn more about Intel and SAP innovations, visit intel.com/sap.



¹ Performance results are based on Intel testing as of 5/8/2020 and may not reflect all publicly available security updates. **Baseline configuration** (2 systems, separate landscapes, 2 nodes each) per node: 4 x Intel Xeon processor E7-8880 v4 on Broadwell (4S) with 3,072 GB (DDR 96 slots/32 GB/2,400) total memory, ucode 0xb000037 running SLES 12 SP4; SAP HANA: 2.00.036, and Intel IT workload, storage is GPFS, approximately 21.8 TB of formatted local storage per node, SAN storage for backup space only, 10 gigabit Ethernet (GbE). Total cost: \$352,546. **New configuration** (1 consolidated system, 2 nodes) per node: 4 x Intel Xeon Platinum 8260L processor on Lightning Ridge CLX (4S) with 1,536 GB (DDR 24 slots/64 GB/2,666) + 6,144 GB Intel Optane PMem (24 slots/256 GB/2,666) with only 3,072 GB activated for SAP HANA use, for a total memory of 4,598 GB, ucode 0x400002c running SLES 15; SAP HANA: 2.00.045, and Intel IT workload, storage is XFS, 9 TB; 800 GB Intel SSD DC S4600 Serial ATA (SATA), 8 TB Intel SSD DC P4510 PCIe, 10 GbE Intel Ethernet Converged Network Adapter X710. Total cost: \$168,742. Intel Optane PMem pricing and DRAM pricing referenced in TCO calculations is provided for guidance and planning purposes only and does not constitute a final offer. Pricing guidance is subject to change and may revise up or down based on market dynamics. Please contact your OEM/distributor for actual pricing.

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