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Stuff I'd like removed from the #ABAP roadmap

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May 19, 2024

📖 Open Immersive Reader

SAP provides roadmap information at **https://help.sap.com/docs/abap-cross-product/roadmap-info/abap-cloud-roadmap-information** for the potential upcoming features in ABAP.

Looking through it a few things comes to mind,

Outbound RFC: Connectivity Enablement

SOAP Service Provider

Providing full RFC and SOAP support was probably bound to happen sometime, but I'd consider both approaches deprecated, instead of providing additional features in this direction, I think both SAP and Partners should help customers to move in a direction towards more open and modern protocols.

SOAP doesn't have to be built into the core, calling and consuming HTTP requests is possible, so customers can implement this. Partners(or SAP) can provide SOAP tooling separately from the core, allowing this part to move(upgrade) independently from the core, keep the core clean?

Email Templates

Again, this doesn't strictly need to go into the core and be supported and released forever and ever, the core needs to support sending emails. Then add-ons can be provided by SAP or Partners, having a possibility for email templates will be legacy for some customers before its released, and core-process for other customers.

> REST Service Consumption Model, The consumption of REST services is very similar to OData services and is based on the import of an OpenAPI file.

This sounds like development tooling, i.e. not something that belongs in the core? In the outside ecosystem, there is a ton of tooling like **https://github.com/OpenAPITools/openapi-generator** to generate client and servers for OpenAPI specifications, this tooling only exists on local developer PCs, and is not installed in productive core systems.

Having worked with OpenAPI combined with ABAP for more than 6 years(**https://community.sap.com/t5/application-development-blog-posts/abap-and-swagger-openapi/ba-p/13380910**), different scenarios will need different workarounds.

And, why not provide this to all customers across all versions? Like **abap-openapi** already exists since 3 years ago, and is open plus **runs in the browser**, and in CI/CD pipelines without ever touching the core. Its not perfect, but has a setup where it can move independently, openly supporting the full customer base, potentially supporting any scenario.

Why can't we just have something nice?

But what instead?

The ABAP core should be extended with functionality that helps customers build great solutions on top of it, not eye-candy tools that customers and partners can build themselves.

Below are some of my whishes for the ABAP roadmap,

TCP/IP support

If TCP/IP support is released for the ABAP Cloud Programming model, then the core will support any(UDP?) protocol that is used in the cloud, this will make it future safe, not having to wait years for built-in support of some strange protocol.

Shift/rotating bits

I haven't found any easy way to rotate and shift bits in bytelike ABAP variables,

I'd wish something like

```
SHIFT xstr LEFT BY 2 PLACES IN BIT MODE.
SHIFT xstr RIGHT CIRCULAR BY 4 PLACES IT BIT MODE.
```

to be possible. This is low level programming that only SAP can provide, and should be part of the core.
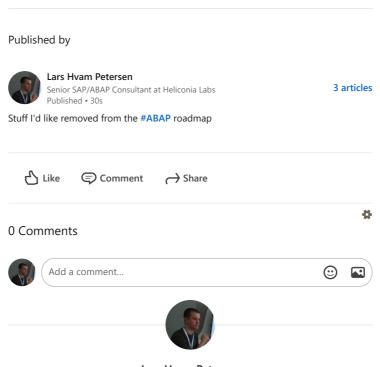
Generics

Generics could solve some problems and help developers build cool stuff. Like RAP breaks some basic OO concepts, that potentially could have been solved with Generics. Its probably a lot of work to implement for SAP, but would also be a great feature for customers.

ARM support

ARM support for ABAP application servers has been on my wish list since 2020, this can potentially reduce TCO for the

full customer base, everyone wins.

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