Aker BP: SAP Fiori Apps for Finance

How we work, Accrual Generator and Reconciliation in Fiori

Linn and Anette

Agenda

From ways of working to concrete SAP Fiori apps for Finance

01	**Introduction**	About us
02	**How we work with Fiori apps**	DevOps, sprints and agile ways of working
03	**AI as a sparring partner**	Prototypes and faster decisions
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Introduction

Linn and Anette



Linn

Lighthouse

- Lighthouse Consulting
- 10 years experience as SAP FI/CO/JVA consultant
- Worked together with AkerBP since 2020

Enjoy turning business needs into great IT solutions



Anette

- Almost 30 years in finance – shipping, start-ups and oil companies
- Joined Aker BP in 2022, from Lundin merger
- Over a year in the Digital Finance Team

What used to be a side interest – keeping our systems tidy and improving our tools – has become my main job

How we work together

Ways of working, roles and rhythm

It always starts with a need – never with technology

The need comes from the people who feel the same problem every month

Who raises the need?

- Controllers and business teams who know exactly where it hurts
- Needs that surface during month-end close, reporting and audit
- Ideas from our own colleagues in Digital Finance who see the same problem in several places

What do we ask first?

- Who is the user, and what is the task or process they would need to improve?
- How is this done today – what is manual and what is automated?
- What is the desired process, not just the desired tool?

What comes next?

- If the Digital Finance team needs technical assistance or advice, they reach out to the SAP team
- We help them judge what is feasible in the standard solution
- Asking early saves rework later in the delivery

Project team for new development

Four core roles, plus the wider business, with one shared responsibility for delivery

1 **Customer lead / project manager**

Prioritizes and coordinates

2 **Functional consultant**

Clarifies needs and tests

3 **Backend developer**

Builds logic and data services

4 **Frontend developer**

Builds the Fiori user interface

✓

The wider team around the project

- Superusers and business experts from the affected processes
- They help scope the need and set what is in and out of the sprint
- They answer clarifications along the way, so the team keeps moving
- They test the solution and confirm it works in real everyday use

From development to production – who tests when

Every change passes the same three gates

1

Development environment

- The developer builds and tests their own work
- Functional consultant does a first functional check

2

Test environment

- Digital Finance runs functional and integration testing
- Super-users in the business run the user acceptance test
- Nothing moves on without sign-off from here

3

Production

- Digital Finance and the business verify together after go-live
- A quick check that everything works as it should in live operation

Building new and caring for what we have

The balance shifts through the year – with needs and priorities

1

Building the new

- New needs keep arriving from the business, and they rarely wait for a quiet month
- Every new app takes design, build and testing before it reaches production
- This is the work that is easiest to see – and easiest to promise too much of

2

Caring for what is live

- Apps already in production need maintenance, updates and small adjustments
- Changes in SAP, in the processes or in the organization have to be followed up
- Users ask for improvements once they have lived with the solution for a while

3

Juggling the two

- Capacity is the same whether we build or maintain – every choice costs something else
- Priorities shift through the year, with month-end, year-end and new business needs
- We re-prioritize openly in the portfolio review, so everyone sees what moves and what waits

A meeting rhythm – and one shared place for status

A fixed rhythm and one source of truth keep the work moving

Regular meetings

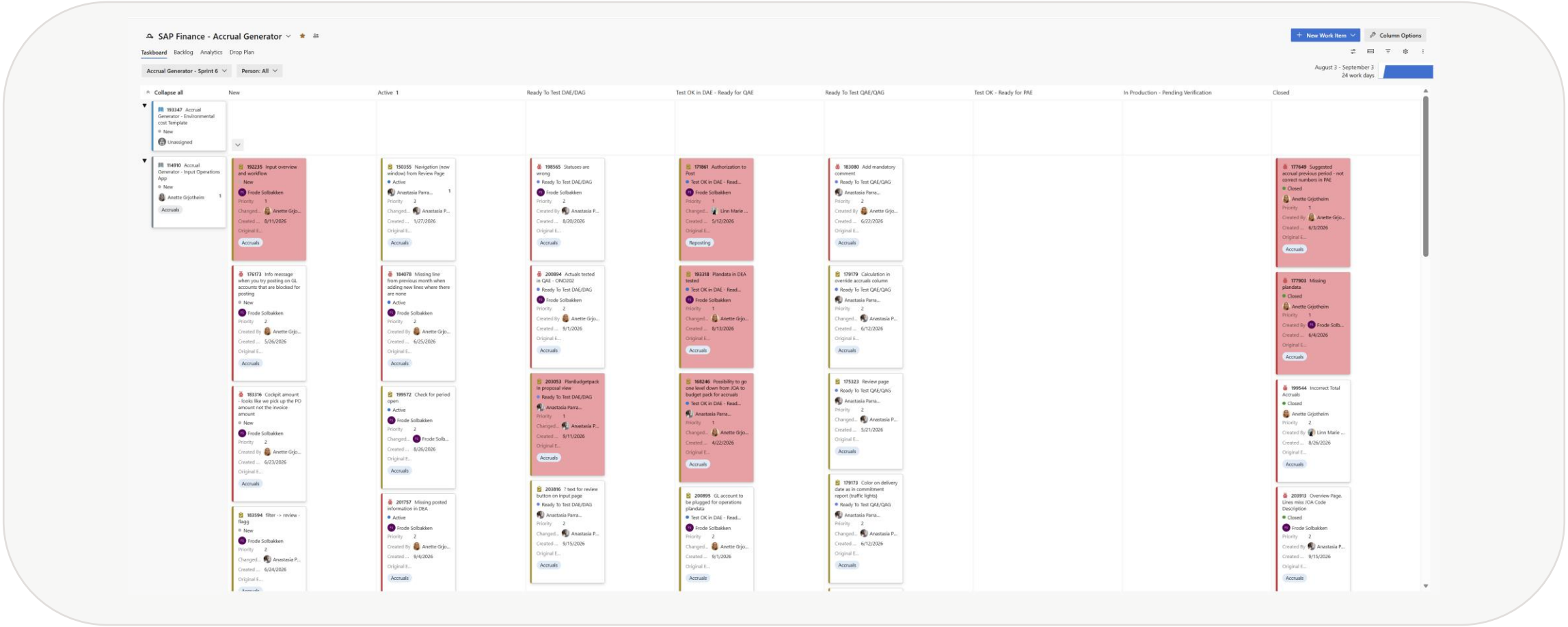
- Weekly DevOps meetings: status, what is stuck, and what moves on next
- Monthly steering and portfolio review: priority, scope and release timing
- Design workshops when needed, where we work through the solution together
- Weekly check-ins both with the business and/or developers for the bigger solutions

One shared place

- All work lives as items in the same system – requirements, tasks and progress
- Traceability all the way: need → specification → build → test → production
- One single truth about status, shared by the team, the business and the developers

Our DevOps board

Where every need, task and status lives. Example from the DevOps board for the Accrual Generator



Standard first – custom-built only when we have to

We only build our own when standard cannot do the job

We started with SAP standard

- Before starting development, we go through SAP's standard
  - Is the process already covered?
  - Do we need additional functionality?

The conclusion

- Accrual Generator App: The standard did not support the level of detail we wanted to work at
- Reconciliation App: The functionality we needed was not covered
- This settled the decision – and it was well justified to everyone involved
- The assessment is documented, so we never have to reopen the discussion

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AI as a sparring partner

We use AI to find the right path – before we spend the developers' time

The prototype is our shared language

A clickable version of the app, built with AI – before development starts

We describe the need

With the business in the room – role, tasks, fields and workflow.

AI builds a clickable version

A working demo with realistic data. No developer hours spent.

The business clicks and reacts

“I don't need this column” and “something is missing here” comes immediately.

We change it and try again

Changing a prototype takes minutes. Changing an app in test takes weeks.

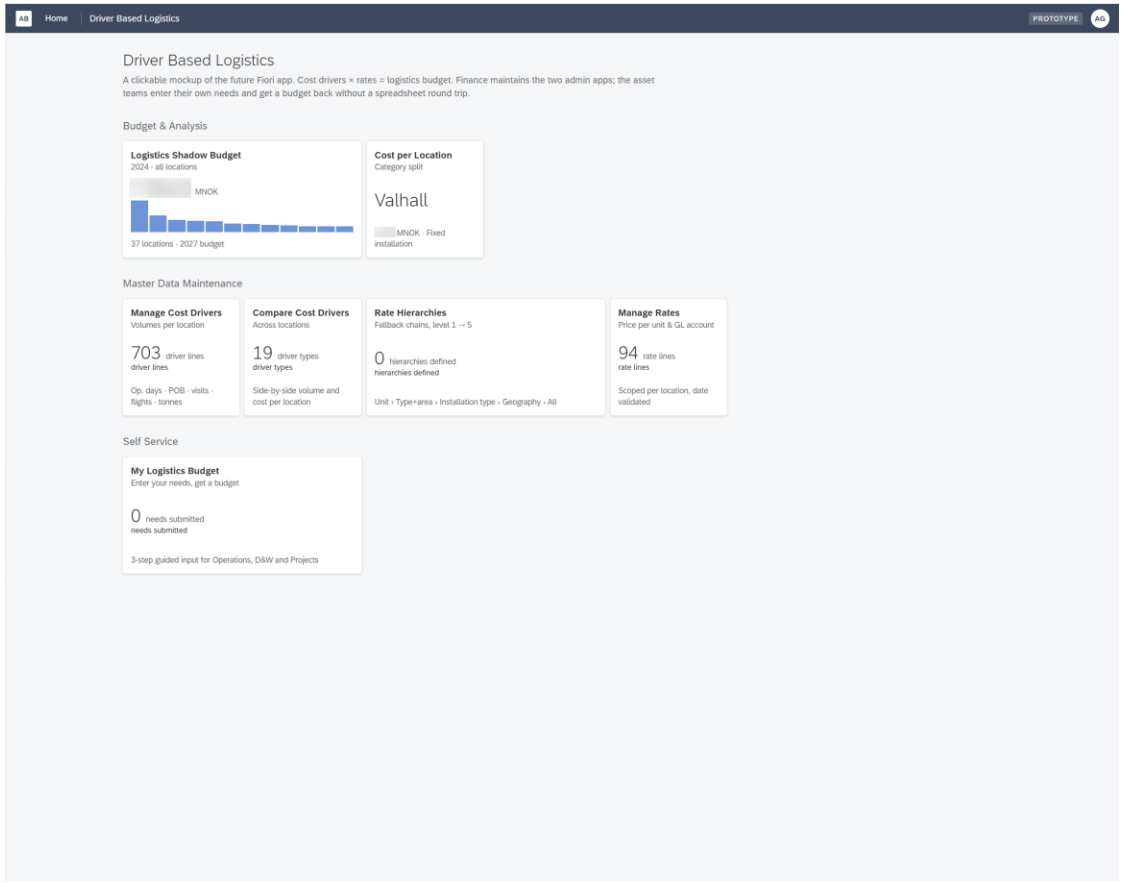
The developer gets a precise brief

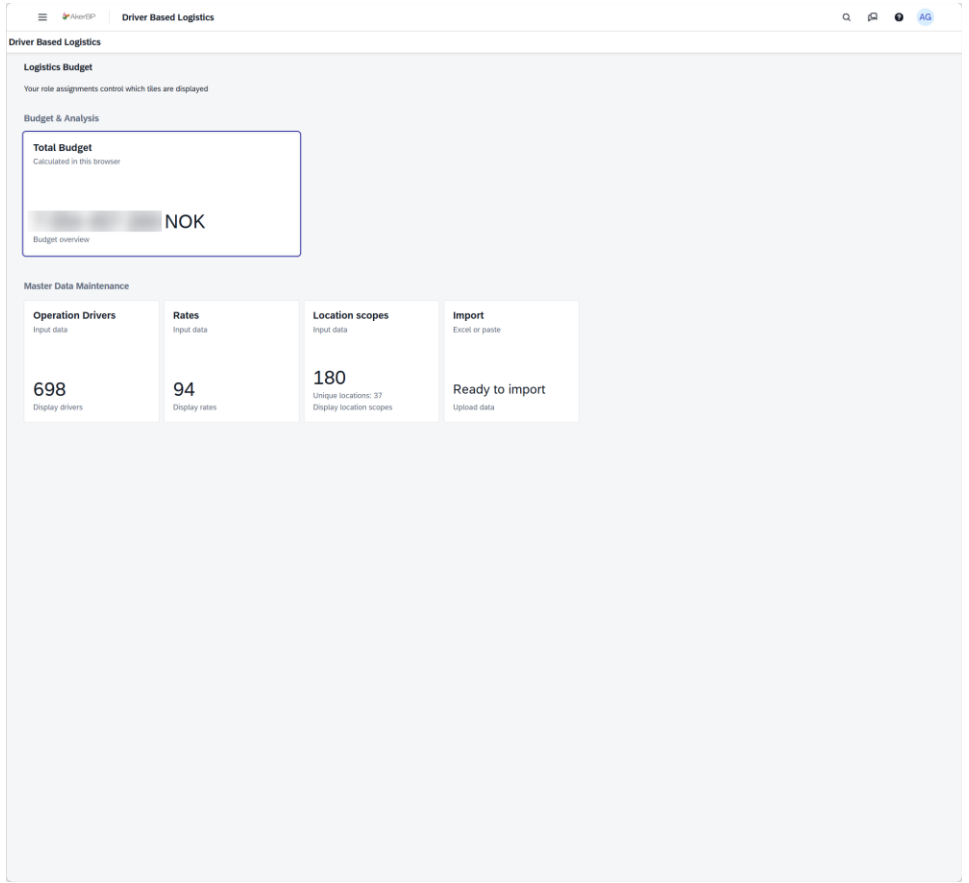
The developer starts on something the business has already said yes to.

The gain: we find the right path early – without spending developer time on trial and error.

From clickable prototype to a real Fiori app

Left: the clickable AI prototype. Right: the same design live in Fiori, with real data.





What the sparring gives us

Three effects we see in every project

1

The business dares to say no

- It is easier to have an opinion about something you can click than about a requirements document
- The feedback arrives while it is still free to act on

2

The developers get peace to work

- They start once the direction is settled, not in the middle of the discussion
- Fewer reopened decisions and less rework along the way

3

We understand each other

- The prototype makes business and technology talk about the same picture
- Disagreements become visible early – and can be resolved instead of papered over

Accrual Generator

How the controller's working day changes

What month-end close used to look like

Before the Accrual Generator, calculation of accruals lived outside SAP

The controller's day

- The controller exported an SAP report to Excel for further processing
- Individual calculations were made in Excel and further transferred to an Excel template
- The file was then emailed to Finance for posting
- And then the controller would need to wait for somebody else to post it before the numbers could be checked
- If any errors, the process or at least a part of it would begin again

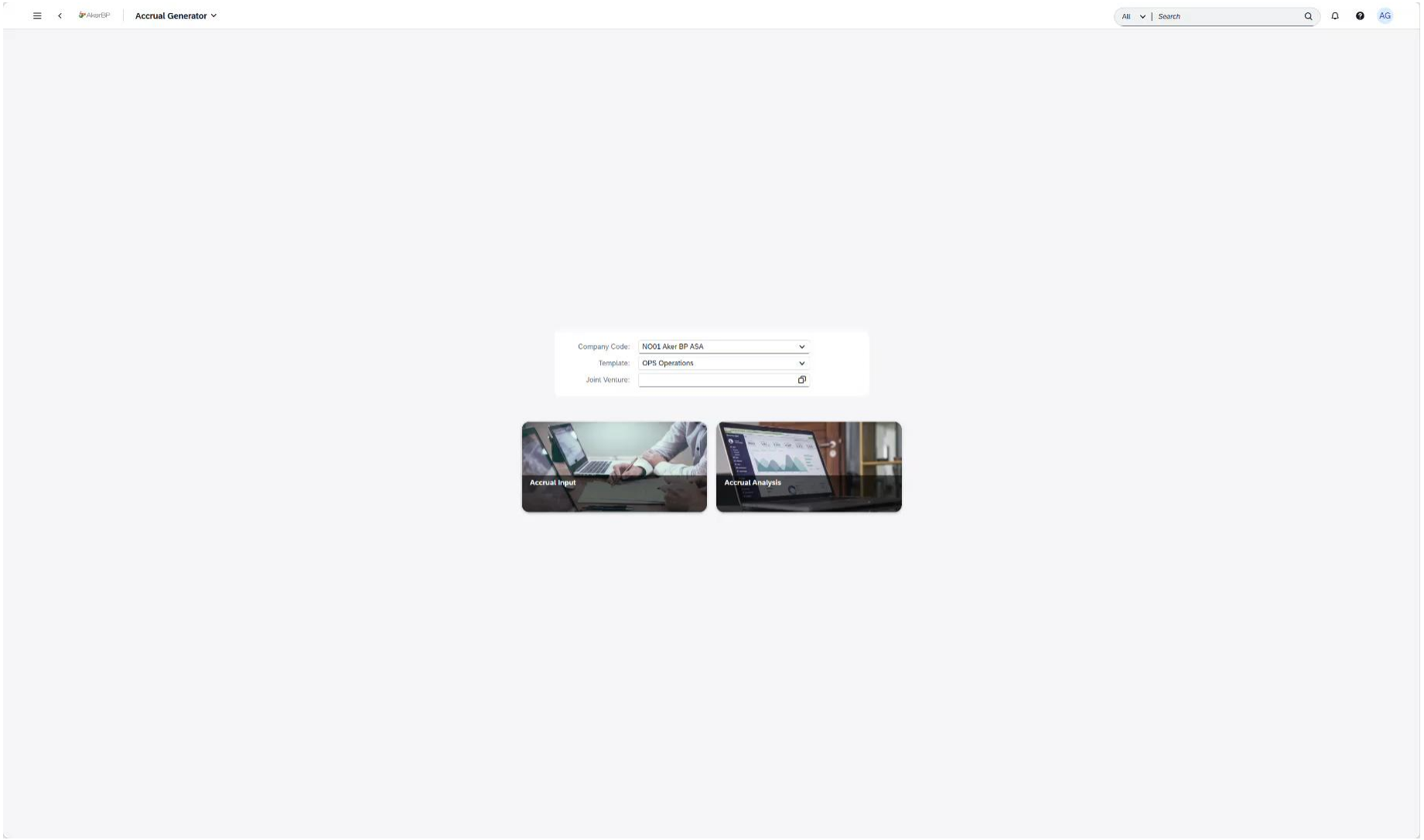
How the controller does it now

Six steps, all inside one app

1. Opens the app and selects period and the type of accrual
2. Sees all their cost areas with a status: not started, partially done or complete
3. Sees a suggested amount, calculated from the basis they chose themselves
4. Adjusts where needed – and justifies the change in the same screen
5. Reviews everything in one confirmation screen and posts it directly to SAP
6. Gets the document number back immediately. No email, no waiting

Accrual Generator

SAP Fiori app supporting the Finance process



A word of caution

What the app does – and does not – decide

There is no AI inside the app.

The suggestions are calculated from rules the controller chooses – and it is the controller who judges, justifies and posts.

One main app, several needs

Built once, extended with templates

1

Today

- The first version is built for the Operations controllers
- Different ways of calculating an accrual, depending on the cost
- The link to forecast and the invoice solution is already in place

2

Next steps

- Other smaller functions that need smaller adjustments are next
- Further ahead we are looking at Expres, Corporate, D&W and PRO
- Each area gets its own templates – built on the same solution

3

The principle

- New needs are solved with new templates, not with a new app
- The next group can be connected without anything having to be redone
- It costs a little more at the start – and much less over time

Reconciliation

Reconciliation: why we built it

One of Aker BP's first custom SAP Fiori Finance apps

BEFORE

Large amounts of SAP data were exported to Excel. Calculations varied by GL account type.

Files were emailed to different people for approval

OUR SULTION

With no suitable standard SAP solution, Aker BP built a tailored solution instead of buying a third-party system.

Reconciliation Apps

Used during closing

1 **Reconciliation Setup**

Configure the reconciliation structure and rules.

2 **Reconciliation**

Perform and follow up the reconciliation work.

Reconciliation: layouts and calculation rules

Support different reconciliation scenarios

Regular GL Account

For regular general ledger accounts.

Open Item Management

For accounts managed through open items.

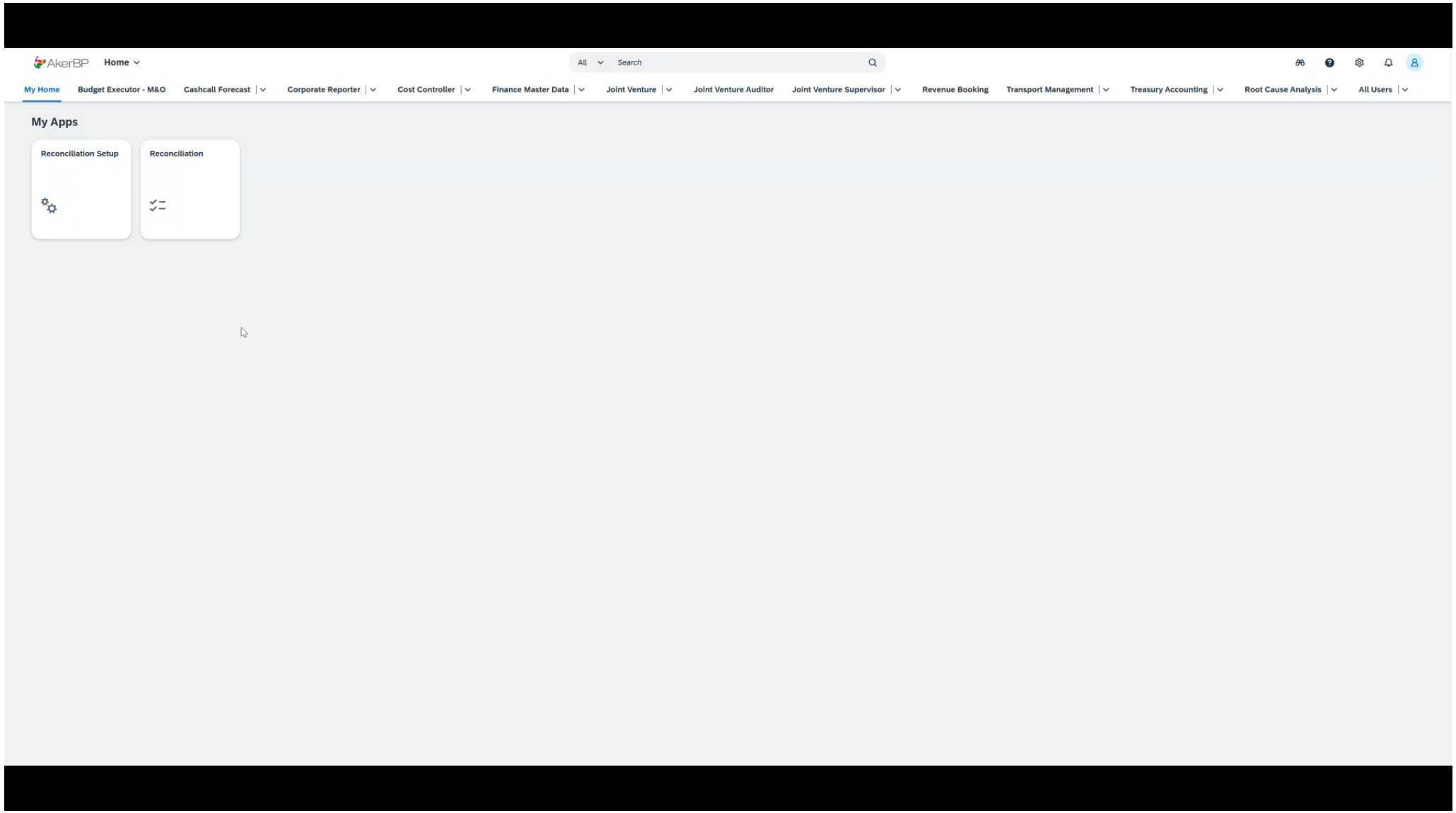
Revaluation Accounts

For accounts requiring revaluation calculations.

Other

For reconciliations that are not related to a GL account.

Reconciliation: app demo



Fiori apps we have built

Other apps supporting Finance and business operations



Wrap-up

What to take with you from today

WHAT WE BUILD

Fiori apps that take manual steps out of everyday Finance work – accruals, reconciliation, WBS and forecasting.

HOW WE WORK

One team across business and IT. Short sprints, and something working to show every time.

WHAT KEEPS IT GOING

User feedback decides the next step, and AI helps us test an idea before we commit to it.

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE

More apps in the pipeline
driver-based forecast and extensions to what is live today

If a task in your day feels heavier than it should – that is where the next app starts.

Questions?

Thank you



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