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Transforming Fund Planning for a

U.S Private Equity General Partner with Anaplan



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Client Overview

A leading U.S.-based private equity firm managing approximately $13 billion in assets faced challenges in financial planning and management reporting across complex fund structures.

Our client faced challenges like inconsistent fund structures, lack of scenario planning , manual calculations, multi-currency reporting requirements, and Excel-dependent budgeting.

To streamline these processes, Polestar Analytics implemented its Private Equity (PE) App on Anaplan, connecting management reporting, budgeting, forecasting, capital availability, and waterfall calculations in a unified planning environment.



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Challenges

Where private equity planning faced bottlenecks

The firm faced five interconnected challenges across management reporting, investment forecasts, capital availability, and fund calculations.

Fund Reporting

Inconsistent fund structures affected reporting accuracy; multi-currency needs and manual cost allocation complicated monthly reviews.

Budgeting & Forecasting

Excel-centric budgeting constrained collaboration, scenario planning, and long-range planning. The budgeting cycle took seven months.

Capital Availability

Lack of real-time visibility into capital availability; ad hoc projections relied on manual adjustments for fund manager requests.

Carry & Distributions

Complex waterfall calculations based on actual and forecasted capital flows.

Anaplan Adoption & Control

Unintuitive reporting interfaces limited adoption, while connected models needed stronger change governance.

These dependencies called for more consistent Anaplan reporting and an integrated approach to financial planning.

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Solution & Overview

Connecting growth partner's planning through Anaplan

The PE App connected the firm's reporting, investment forecasts, capital availability, and fund calculations within Anaplan, keeping financial assumptions consistent across planning activities.

Four connected capabilities supported the GP planning cycle:

01. Report fund performance

Actuals, budgets, rolling forecasts

02. Fund modeling

Forecast acquisitions and assets



03. FRE Planning

Management fees, advisory fees, closing fees, etc.

04. Distribution waterfall

American and European waterfall

Anaplan UX supported business users, while ALM governed structural changes and model enhancements.

See our PE App in action

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Solution & Overview

Anaplan reporting & investment forecasting

Built an Anaplan budgeting model from scratch and integrated it with management reporting, connecting acquisition and exit forecasts, FRE, and expenses to projected P&L.

01. Unified Fund Reporting in Anaplan

Five sources were integrated and fund structures streamlined to report actuals, budgets, and rolling forecasts consistently.

02. Automated Financial Reporting & Cost Allocation

Multi-currency reporting and automated cost allocation for actuals reduced manual monthly reporting work.



03. Integrated Anaplan Budgeting & Forecasting

A newly developed budget model linked acquisition and exit forecasts, fee-related earnings (FRE), and expenses to projected P&L.

04. Dynamic Scenario Planning & Reforecasting

Long-range plans, reforecasts, and scenario analysis supported changes to financial and investment assumptions.

Connected actuals, budgets, and forecasts provided a consistent basis for acquisition and exit planning.

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Solution & Overview

Anaplan capital availability & fund economics

Capital availability workflows and complex fund calculations were brought into Anaplan to reduce manual adjustments and support consistent fund planning.

05. Automated GP Carry & Waterfall Calculations

Actual and forecasted capital flows informed automated carry calculations, with American and European waterfalls supporting different fund distribution structures.

06. Anaplan Capital Availability Workflows

The CAS model supported request initiation, calculation review, and final approval for capital availability projections.

07. Anaplan UX & Application Lifecycle Management

Redesigned Anaplan UX dashboards to improve usability and adoption, while implementing Anaplan ALM to strengthen model governance and scalability.

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Solution Architecture

We established a unified source of truth in Anaplan for monthly management and reporting, integrating five data sources with Anaplan reporting, budgeting, forecasting, fund calculations, UX, and ALM.

Anaplan | Controlled structure model changes

5 Integrated data sources

Source-system names not specified

Connected anaplan pe planning models

Management reporting	Actuals, budgets, forecasts m names not specified
Budgeting & forecasting	Acquisitions, exits, FRE, P&L, carry, waterfalls
Capital availability projections	CAS requests, review, approval

Anaplan UX | Reporting & Workflows

Intuitive UX and management reporting dashboards for better user adoption

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How teams use the anaplan pe planning solution

Connected Anaplan models and workflows support financial reporting, investment forecasts, capital availability reviews, and fund calculations.

Fund Modeling	→	Acquisition and exit planning, waterfall calculations
Monthly management reporting	→	Anaplan view of actuals, budgets, and rolling forecasts
P&L Projections	→	Forecast FRE, expenses, and projected P&L
Reporting adoption and change control	→	Anaplan UX dashboards and ALM governance
Capital availability requests	→	CAS workflow for initiation, review, and approval

Related reporting and planning activities now operate in one Anaplan environment with less manual coordination.

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Impact of the anaplan pe planning transformation

The implementation delivered measurable improvements in reporting efficiency, budgeting timelines, data integration, and adoption.

~90%

Fewer manual reporting tasks
Approximately 90% reduction in manual reporting tasks.

~57%

Reduction in budgeting time
Budgeting shortened from 7 months to 3 months.

5

Data sources integrated
Five sources consolidated into the planning environment.

4

Teams onboarded
Four teams onboarded, supporting wider solution adoption.

Integrated reporting, forecasting, and fund planning on Anaplan reduced manual effort and supported scalable planning.

See the PE app in action

Watch the demo →

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About

Polestar Analytics

Polestar Analytics is a leader in Data, Analytics, AI, and Enterprise Planning helping organizations to unlock intelligent outcomes through our proprietary products like 1Platform, accelerators, and services. Our expertise spans data engineering, data science, agentic and generative AI, and advanced planning for CPG/Retail, Pharmaceuticals, Manufacturing, IT/ITeS, and Financial Services.

Reach out to us today!