

SLACK IMPLEMENTATION

Service Definition
G-Cloud 15

REPLY

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SERVICE DESCRIPTION

Reply are a pure-play Salesforce Summit Consultancy partner solely based in the UK. We focus on enabling our customers, not embedding technology that makes them dependant on partners. We understand in the public sector, customer engagement and operational efficiencies are paramount. Our Salesforce implementation services offer a comprehensive suite of solutions tailored to government agencies and public bodies. These encompass the strategic planning, customised implementation, and ongoing support of Salesforce platforms.

Arlanis will supply a wide range of Salesforce offerings, supporting from business analysis and requirements capture, through to early life support and managed services. Our implementation services are fitted for all customers, from just starting their Salesforce journey, to large enterprises who require whole business transformations. From improving citizen services, to enabling interdepartmental collaboration, our services aim to transform public sector entities into more agile, transparent, and responsive organisations.

Features	Benefits
- Implement Free, Pro, Business+ and Enterprise Grid Slack Orgs. - Integrate Slack to external systems like Salesforce, Atlassian ticketing systems, HR systems, etc. - Deploy experts in Salesforce & Slack. - Deploy experts in the Public Sector. - Slack training - train the trainer and end user. - Automate common tasks. - SC Cleared staff and onshore talent. - Align with Slack & industry best practices.	- Increase efficiency with less context switching. - Enable employees to find the information they need. - Accelerate implementation with quick starts. - Agile Iterative Working Practices. - Fast identification of value from Salesforce. - Adoption-first approach.

Reply are specialist in the majority of Salesforce Products, including Sales Cloud, Service Cloud, Marketing Cloud, MuleSoft, Commerce, Industry Cloud, Data Cloud, Heroku, Experience Cloud, Slack etc.

What is our Slack Implementation?

Work with our dedicated Slack professionals to implement Slack for your business. We have a few different Slack offerings depending on where you are in your journey, which can include:

- Traditional Slack implementations following a presales process and bespoke pricing for implementation
- Quick start offerings – great for companies wanting to stand up Slack and get started as soon as possible – Quick start tiers follow functionality offered in the different Slack licenses
- Slack health check – Great for existing customers who want to see how they are using Slack currently, and how they could be using it
- Slack Free – for companies who are using the free version of Slack, and want to enable their team to use it, with free training sessions.

For companies that are wanting a traditional Slack implementation, you can expect to follow some of the following processes:



Presales

Work with our dedicated presales team free of charge, to capture high level requirements, turning business processes and pain points into Slack functionality. We find a lot of our clients aren't too sure what Slack can look like for them, or what their requirements are, this is where our presales team will help you understand how you can take all your current business processes to the next level. This process can be in person or remote and after discovery workshops with you, the presales team will produce a proposal for implementation. The proposal will be played back to yourself, showing some of the following:

- Business value for senior level stakeholders & decision makers
- Recommended Slack Licenses based on system requirements
- Recommended roles from yourself for a project
- High level solution we are proposing to implement
- Indicative timelines and costs

Discovery

Discovery is where we will take the presales process a lot deeper, using industry and product specialist Business Analysts and Architects to dive into your requirements and pain points. The aim of discovery is to not only have a north star for the implementation, but to fully understand all the business units using Slack and the expectations for Slack. You can expect to see some of the following outcomes from the discovery:

- Introductions to senior level technical team
- Discovery workshops, defining & extracting business requirements
- Translating business requirements into Slack functionality
- Bridging the gap between current state, and possible future states
- Design options with benefits and drawbacks
- Slack consultancy & best practice recommendations
- Epics & User Stories
- Project plan
- Playback sessions for signoff

Implementation

As a Summit Salesforce Partner, our approach to implementation is driven by a commitment to excellence and a deep understanding of both Slack and public sector needs. We initiate every project with a thorough discovery phase, ensuring that we grasp the unique challenges and objectives of each public sector client. Our all-onshore UK team, which includes public sector specialist roles, works to build, and integrate the Slack platform with existing systems, maintaining data integrity and security throughout. We drive our projects with a configure first approach, leading with our of the box functionality, reducing tech-debt and unnecessary complexity. Our development phase includes:

- Customisation and Configuration: Tailoring the Slack environment to align with your specific workflows, user roles, and data models.
- Application Development: Building custom applications with Slacks to address unique challenges that off-the-shelf solutions cannot meet.
- User Interface Design: Crafting user interfaces that are intuitive and aligned with GDS guidelines, ensuring accessibility and ease of use.

Integration

At Arlanis Reply we have a dedicated team of MuleSoft and integration experts, understanding the intricacies of legacy systems and the importance of a unified approach. We have over 15+ years of Salesforce integration experience, working with new and old solutions, point-to-point, middleware, bulk



uploads etc. With the unmatched power of Data Cloud, or Mulesoft you can seamlessly get data inside Salesforce & Slack. Our integration solutions are secure, compliant, and designed to enable a single source of truth within your organisation. This can include:

- **Data Synchronization:** Ensuring that data flows seamlessly between Slack and other mission-critical public sector systems.
- **API Development:** Creating robust APIs for complex integrations that demand real-time data exchange.
- **Middleware Solutions:** When direct API integration is not viable, we utilize middleware to securely connect disparate systems.

To integrate Slack with other systems, we have several different ways this can happen, including point to point, or a middleware like MuleSoft, our team will support you in creating these integrations to make sure all required processes and information flows through Slack – offering a single pane of glass for your employees to access everything they need.

Testing and Validation

Our Testing and Validation stage is the safeguard to ensure the robustness, reliability, and security of the Slack solution before it goes live. Our commitment to excellence as a summit Salesforce partner is demonstrated through thorough testing protocols that encompass every facet of the implementation.

Functional Testing: Our quality assurance starts with rigorous functional testing to validate that every feature operates according to the specifications agreed upon with the client. This includes:

- **Unit Testing:** Conducted by developers to ensure that individual components function correctly in isolation.
- **System Testing:** Ensuring the integrated system functions cohesively, adhering to all functional requirements.
- **User Acceptance Testing (UAT):** Facilitated sessions where end-users test the system against real-world scenarios to confirm the system's effectiveness and user-friendliness, aligning with public sector service standards.

Performance Testing: We conduct performance testing to evaluate the system's stability and responsiveness under various load conditions, which includes:

- **Load Testing:** Simulating typical and peak loads to ensure the system performs well under expected public sector usage scenarios.
- **Stress Testing:** Pushing the system to its limits to identify breakpoints, which is crucial for public sector applications that must perform reliably under all circumstances.

Security Testing: Adhering to the highest standards of public sector data protection and cybersecurity, we perform:

- **Vulnerability Assessments:** Identifying potential security vulnerabilities within the Slack solution.
- **Penetration Testing:** Ethical hacking techniques are used to assess the security of the system against potential breaches, ensuring compliance with NCSC guidelines.

Integration Testing: A key differentiator for us is our thorough integration testing, which ensures that:

- **API Connectivity:** Validates the reliability and security of API connections between Slack and other public sector systems.
- **Data Integrity:** Confirms that data is accurately mapped, transformed, and transferred between systems without loss or corruption.

Accessibility Testing: In line with GDS principles, we ensure that all user interfaces are compliant with accessibility standards, allowing all members of the public, including those with disabilities, to interact seamlessly with the system.

Regression Testing: Any time changes are made; a comprehensive regression test suite is run to ensure new code hasn't affected existing functionality.

Compliance Testing: We rigorously test the solution against relevant public sector compliance and regulatory standards, ensuring the system adheres to all statutory obligations.



During this stage, we work closely with our public sector clients, ensuring full transparency and enabling a collaborative approach to address any issues. Our testing and validation stage concludes with a detailed test report and a validation certificate, affirming the readiness of the Slack implementation for deployment in the public sector environment.

Upon completion of testing and validation, we ensure that all stakeholders, including IT staff and end-users, are confident in the system's functionality, performance, security, and compliance. This diligence sets us apart, reaffirming our position as a trusted Salesforce partner.

Go-Live & Transition Support

As the culmination of our development and training phases, the 'Go-Live' stage is carefully orchestrated to ensure a smooth transition. Our preparation includes:

- **User Verification:** Ensuring all users can access the system with the correct permissions and roles.
- **System Health Check:** Performing a full system review to confirm that all customisations and integrations are functioning as intended.
- **Go-Live Rehearsal:** Conducting a mock go-live event to ensure every team member is prepared for the actual transition.

Go-Live Execution:

The transition to Slack is closely managed to minimise disruption. Our approach can include:

- **Phased Rollout:** Introducing the Slack system in phases, if appropriate, to mitigate risk.
- **Real-Time Monitoring:** Monitoring system performance in real-time to identify and address any issues promptly.
- **Stakeholder Communication:** Keeping all stakeholders informed with regular updates throughout the go-live process.

Post Go-Live Support:

In the days following the transition, our team remains on high alert to support any immediate needs:

- **Hypercare Support:** Providing intensive support immediately after go-live to quickly resolve any teething problems.
- **Issue Resolution:** Establishing clear processes for logging and resolving any issues encountered by users.

By providing a safety net during this critical phase, we ensure that you are not just launching a new system but are also laying the foundation for ongoing improvement and success.

Transition Support & Managed Service

As users settle into the new Slack environment, we provide ongoing support to ensure sustainable success in the form of a Managed Service:

- **Dedicated Support Desk:** Setting up a dedicated support desk for users to contact with questions or issues.
- **Support Workflows:** Implementing clear workflows for escalating and resolving support requests.
- **Post-Implementation Review:** Conducting a thorough post-implementation review to assess the project's success and identify areas for improvement.

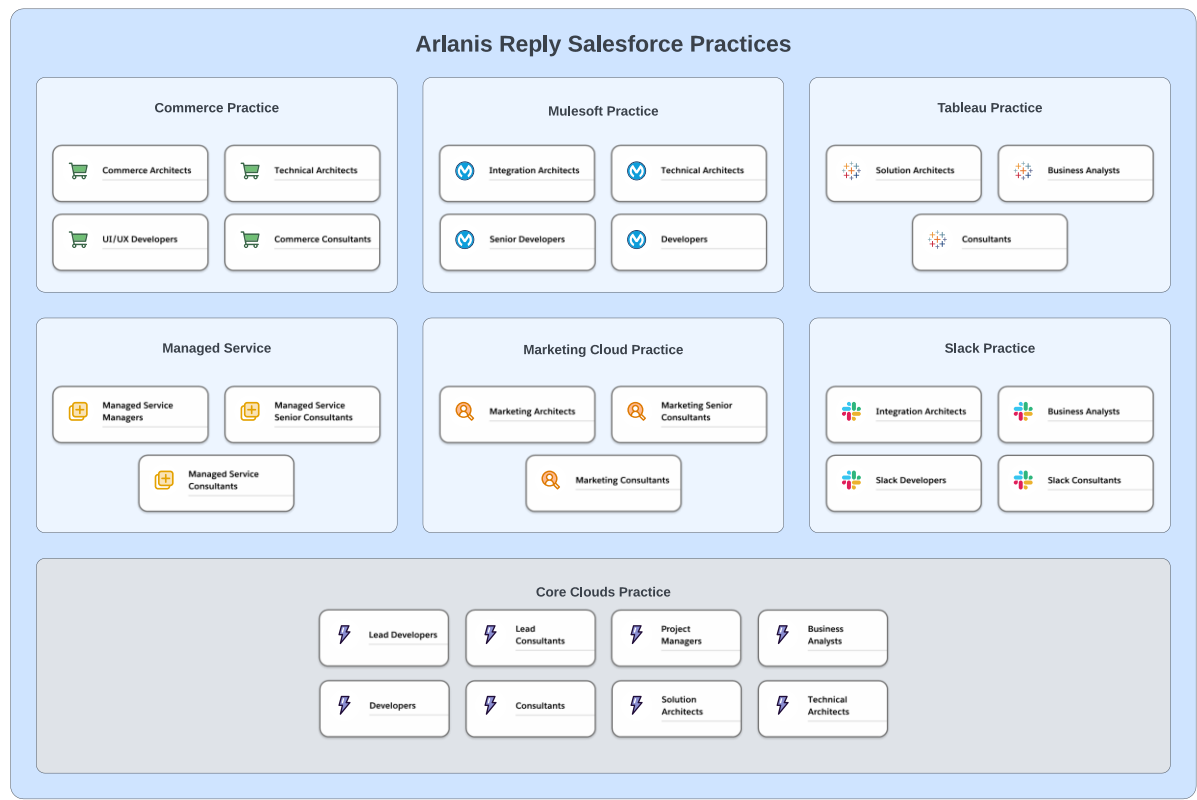
Continuous Improvement:

Our support extends beyond the initial go-live with a focus on continuous improvement:

- **Feedback Loops:** Establishing channels for ongoing user feedback to inform system enhancements.
- **Performance Analytics:** Utilising Slack's analytics tools to monitor system usage and performance, ensuring the platform continues to meet the organisation's needs.
- **Regular Health Checks:** Scheduling periodic Slack health checks to optimise system performance and security.



Who might you be working with?





ONBOARDING

Onboarding to our Slack Implementation service is designed to be a seamless and collaborative journey. We recognise the intricacies of public sector operations and tailor our onboarding to meet the stringent demands of public service delivery.

Initial Engagement: Our onboarding commences with a thorough initial engagement process where we:

- **Conduct Workshops:** Lead discovery workshops to understand your organisational goals, challenges, and processes.
- **Define Objectives:** Clearly define the project objectives in alignment with public sector mandates and your strategic goals.
- **Establish Governance:** Set up a project governance structure to ensure oversight and successful delivery in line with the GDS framework.

Account Setup: Following the initial engagement, we proceed with:

- **Secure Data Handling:** Establish protocols for secure data handling, adhering to the UK GDPR and public sector standards.
- **System Environment Setup:** Configure the Slack environment to align with your operational structure and security requirements.

Team Formation: A dedicated project team is assembled, comprising:

- **Certified Salesforce & Slack Professionals:** A blend of roles including project managers, business analysts, Salesforce & Slack architects, and consultants, all bringing a wealth of experience and over 900 Salesforce certifications to the project.
- **Public Sector Specialists:** Advisors who understand the nuances of public sector work and can ensure that solutions are fit for purpose.

Stakeholder Engagement:

We engage stakeholders throughout the onboarding phase by:

- **Identifying Champions:** Working with you to identify internal champions who will drive the Slack project within your organisation.
- **Communicating Expectations:** Clearly outlining roles, responsibilities, and expectations to all project stakeholders.

Customised Solution Blueprint: Our team crafts a tailored solution blueprint which includes:

- **System Design:** Architecting a Slack solution that is customised for your public sector needs.
- **Integration Plan:** Developing a comprehensive plan for integrating existing systems with Slack.

Knowledge Transfer and Training Plan: An integral part of our onboarding is the knowledge transfer:

- **Training Schedule:** We establish a training schedule that aligns with your team's availability and project milestones.
- **Resource Allocation:** Allocating resources such as user manuals, best practice guides, and access to our online training portal.

User Adoption Strategy: To ensure high levels of user adoption, we:

- **Develop Communication Plans:** Crafting internal communication plans to keep all users informed and engaged.
- **Create Adoption Metrics:** Setting up metrics to measure adoption rates and user engagement.

Support Structure Establishment: A robust support structure is established, providing:

- **Dedicated Support Channels:** Offering dedicated communication channels for any enquiries or support needed throughout the onboarding process.
- **Early Life Support:** Implementing an early life support system to swiftly address any challenges that arise as users start interacting with the new system.

Transition to Project Delivery: The onboarding phase concludes with a smooth transition to the project delivery phase, which involves:

- **Project Plan Sign-off:** Obtaining formal sign-off on the project plan, ensuring all parties are aligned



on the delivery timeline and outcomes.

- **Kick-off Meeting:** Hosting a kick-off meeting to mark the beginning of the project implementation phase, bringing together all stakeholders.

Our onboarding process is designed to ensure that your transition to Slack is well-planned, secure, and sets a solid foundation for a successful implementation. We partner closely with your team to not only onboard the technology but also to foster a culture ready to embrace digital transformation.

Offboarding

The offboarding process from our Slack services is approached with as much diligence and attention to detail as our onboarding. We ensure a structured and transparent transition, whether moving to another phase of the project, handing over to an in-house team, or transitioning to another supplier.

Transition Planning: We initiate offboarding with a detailed transition planning phase, which involves:

- **Transition Workshops:** Conduct workshops with all relevant stakeholders to discuss the scope and timeline of the offboarding process.
- **Documentation Review:** Ensure that all documentation is up-to-date, comprehensive, and easily understandable for the succeeding team or supplier.
- **Data Extraction and Handover:** A critical component of offboarding is the secure and orderly transfer of data.
- **Data Extraction:** Extract all relevant data from the Slack system, following the highest standards of data security and integrity.
- **Data Handover:** Transfer data to the designated system or team, ensuring compatibility and usability, accompanied by detailed data maps and schemas.

Knowledge Transfer: We conduct a thorough knowledge transfer to the succeeding team or supplier, which includes:

- **Debrief Sessions:** Detailed sessions explaining the system architecture, configurations, custom developments, and operational processes.
- **Handover of Materials:** Provision of all training materials, system manuals, and user guides to the incoming team.

Offboarding to Another Supplier: Should the service be transitioning to another supplier, we ensure:

- **Supplier Engagement:** Engage with the incoming supplier throughout the offboarding process for a seamless transition.

Final Audit and Closure: We conclude offboarding with:

- **Offboarding Audit:** Perform an audit to ensure that all contractual and service obligations have been fulfilled.
- **Closure Meeting:** Hold a final meeting with all stakeholders to confirm the completion of the offboarding process and to formally close the project.

Our offboarding process is designed to be comprehensive, secure, and considerate of future public sector needs. It ensures that there is no loss of service quality or data integrity, and that your team or the succeeding supplier is fully equipped to take over the Slack environment with confidence.

Access to Data

Ensuring uninterrupted access to client data upon exit is a critical component of our offboarding process. We adhere to strict protocols to guarantee that your organisation maintains full control and accessibility to all its data, aligning with public sector standards and data protection laws.



SECURITY

Personnel Security

As a Specialist Cloud Service, the capability being offered is not limited to specific Impact levels (as it is not infrastructure, software or a platform) and can be used, subject to personal Security Clearance levels. Reply consultants are mostly Security Cleared (SC), some have higher-level Developed Vetting (DV) clearances. We also have a pool of NPPV3 Consultants for Policing work. The majority of our work for both public and private sector clients is at IL2 but we work in the Official, Secret and Top-Secret domains. Our hard and soft information security processes have been designed and approved by independent CESG CLAS accredited consultants.

Information Security

We are ISO27001, Cyber Essentials certified and our Quality Assurance processes are based upon and compliant with our ISO 9001 accreditation. Our Information Security processes are directly guided by our ISO27001 accreditation. We shall adhere to local information and other security policies and will apply local Security Operating Procedures (SyOPs) as may exist. If such do not exist we shall apply our own SyOPs.

Physical Security

The Main Reply Office (London, UK) is a Police Accredited Secure Facility (PASF) with access controls for each point of entry. All Laptops/Phones must be stored securely overnight. When working on a client-site our consultants adhere to client security policies.



TRAINING & KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Our approach to training and knowledge transfer is built on the foundation of empowering public sector organisations to maximise their investment in Slack. As a summit Salesforce partner with a commitment to delivering exceptional public sector solutions, we offer a comprehensive training programme designed to cater to all levels within your organisation.

Customised Training Programmes: Understanding that different roles within your organisation require different levels of Slack knowledge, we offer customised training programmes:

- **Administrator and Developer Training:** Comprehensive training for Slack administrators and developers, covering system configuration, custom development, best practices, and security to ensure your team can fully support and extend the Slack platform.
- **End-User Training:** Role-specific training designed to ensure that all users can efficiently utilise Slack in their daily tasks, enhancing productivity and service delivery to the public.

Methodology: Our training methodology is inclusive, engaging, and designed for maximum knowledge retention:

- **Blended Learning Approach:** Combining instructor-led training, hands-on workshops, e-learning modules, and interactive webinars to cater to different learning styles and schedules.
- **Train-the-Trainer Model:** Equipping selected staff members with the knowledge and tools to train other users, ensuring sustainable Slack expertise within your organisation.

Knowledge Transfer: Our knowledge transfer process ensures your team has the information and confidence needed to manage and optimise Slack long after our formal engagement concludes:

- **Documentation and Resources:** Providing comprehensive documentation, including user manuals, configuration guides, and best practices, all tailored to your specific Slack environment.
- **System Handover Workshops:** Conducting detailed sessions to transfer knowledge about the customised Slack solution, including the architecture, custom code, integrations, and operational procedures.
- **Q&A Sessions:** Regularly scheduled Q&A sessions during and post-training to address any lingering questions and ensure clarity and confidence in using the system.

Our training and knowledge transfer services are designed to empower your organisation with the skills and knowledge to leverage Slack to its full potential. We aim to foster a culture of continuous learning and improvement, ensuring that your investment in Slack continues to deliver value long into the future.



ORDERING AND INVOICING PROCESS

To begin the process, please contact glue.frameworks@reply.com with details of your organisation, role and high-level requirements.

Our Framework Manager will connect you to our experts and from here we will organise an introductory discussion to go into more detail and shape a proposed engagement that suits your needs.

We invoice for both fixed price and time and materials engagements one month in arrears. For fixed price engagements, this takes place upon completion of the deliverable(s), or in stages, if the size of the engagement is greater than £40,000 excluding VAT.

Payment terms are 30 days net of receipt of invoice.



ABOUT REPLY

Reply is a company that specialises in Consulting, Systems Integration and Digital Services with a focus on the conception, design and implementation of solutions based on the new communication channels and digital media.

Reply partners with key industrial groups in defining and developing business models made possible by the new technological and communication paradigms such as Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, Cloud Computing, Digital Communication, the Internet of Things and Mobile and Social Networking. In so doing, it aims to optimise and integrate processes, applications and devices.

Reply's offer is aimed at fostering the success of its customers through the introduction of innovation along the whole economic digital chain. Given its knowledge of specific solutions and due to a consolidated experience, Reply addresses the main core issues of the various industrial sectors.

Through its network of specialist companies, Reply supports some of Europe's leading industrial groups in Telco & Media, Industry & Services, Banks & Insurance, and Public Administration to define and develop business models, suited to the new paradigms of Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, Cloud Computing, Digital Media and the Internet of Things.

We make innovation happen.

We started with a small team and a purpose: to help the digital revolution happen. Today, we are a team of more than 14,600 people in 16 different countries but we still have the same DNA, made up of agile, vertical task forces and an inner passion for innovation.

We are a decentralised network of specialised companies.

Among Replyers, you will find passionate geeks, visionary strategists, and creative minds, each with sharp skills in a specific business, who cooperate together and never stop learning from each other.

Make forward, act sustainably.

We know a sustainable future is possible and technology can be a strong asset to reach it. As leaders in digital transformation, we push for change and operate in full accordance with the highest ethical standards and with respect for the rights of future generations