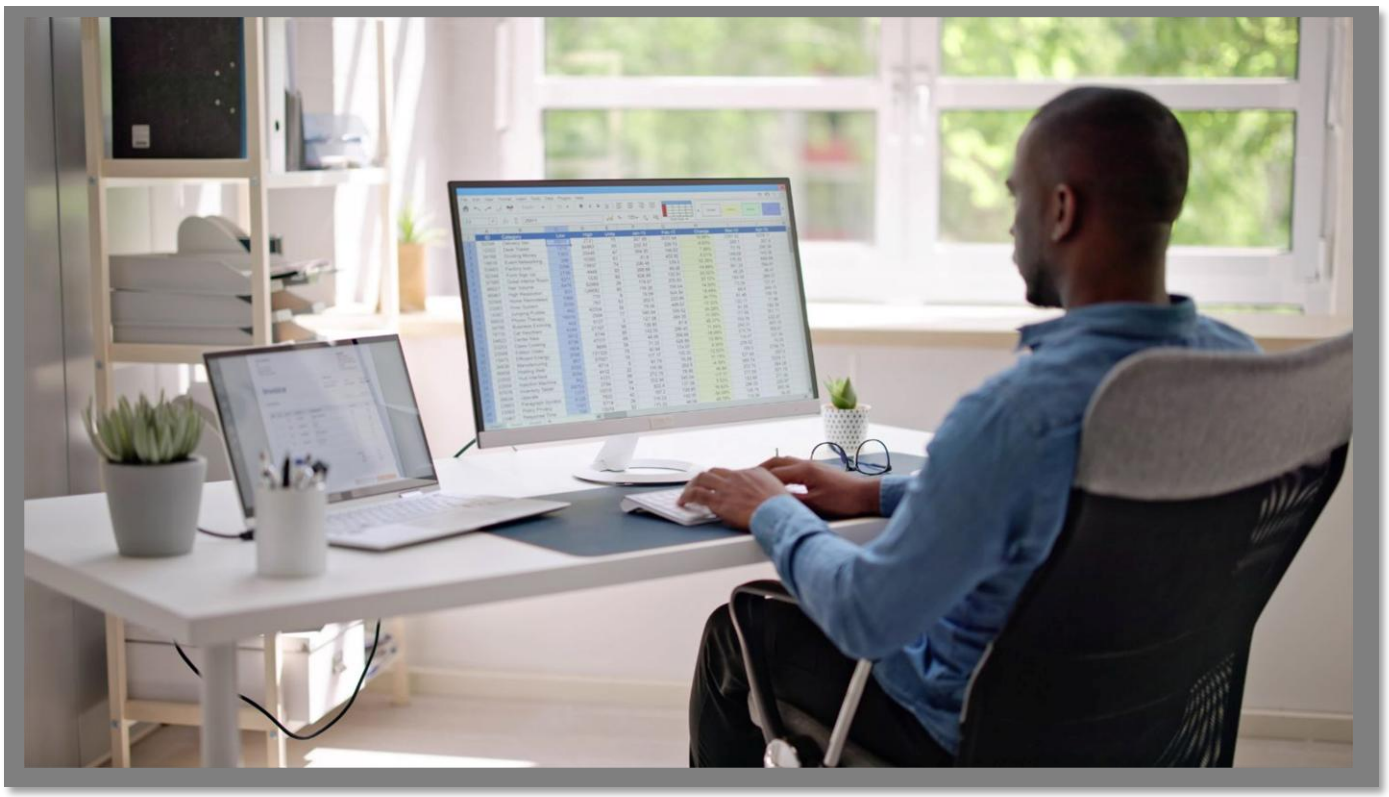
Arbutus Connectors

SAP ERP
CONFIGURATION GUIDE



ARBUTUS
Powerful Analytics Simplified

Contents

Arbutus Connector – SAP ERP

A. Introduction

The purpose of this Guide is to provide assistance with configuring the Arbutus SAP ERP Connector using the ODBC Data Source Administrator. The configuration process can involve several technical steps that require a good understanding of IT systems and database management.

To make the most of this guide, it's advisable to have a good understanding of database connectivity, driver installation, and system settings. The ODBC Data Source Administrator, which is used as part of the configuration process, allows for the setup and management of data sources, enabling applications to access data from various database systems.

Due to the complexity and potential impact of these configurations, it is recommended that only those individuals with IT or database expertise undertake this task. In addition, it should also be understood that each client's network environment is different. A one-size-fits-all approach is rarely effective, as what works well in one environment may not be suitable in another.

B. About SAP ERP System

SAP ERP is a comprehensive enterprise resource planning (ERP) software system developed by the German company SAP SE. It streamlines processes, improves productivity, and provides real-time insights across an organization. It offers solutions across various operational areas, including manufacturing, procurement, sales, finance, and human resources.

SAP ERP typically uses relational database management systems (RDBMS) to store its data. Common databases include SAP HANA, Oracle, Microsoft SQL Server, and IBM DB2.

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For analytical purposes, SAP ERP data can be stored in data warehouses such as SAP BW (Business Warehouse). This allows for efficient data analysis and reporting.

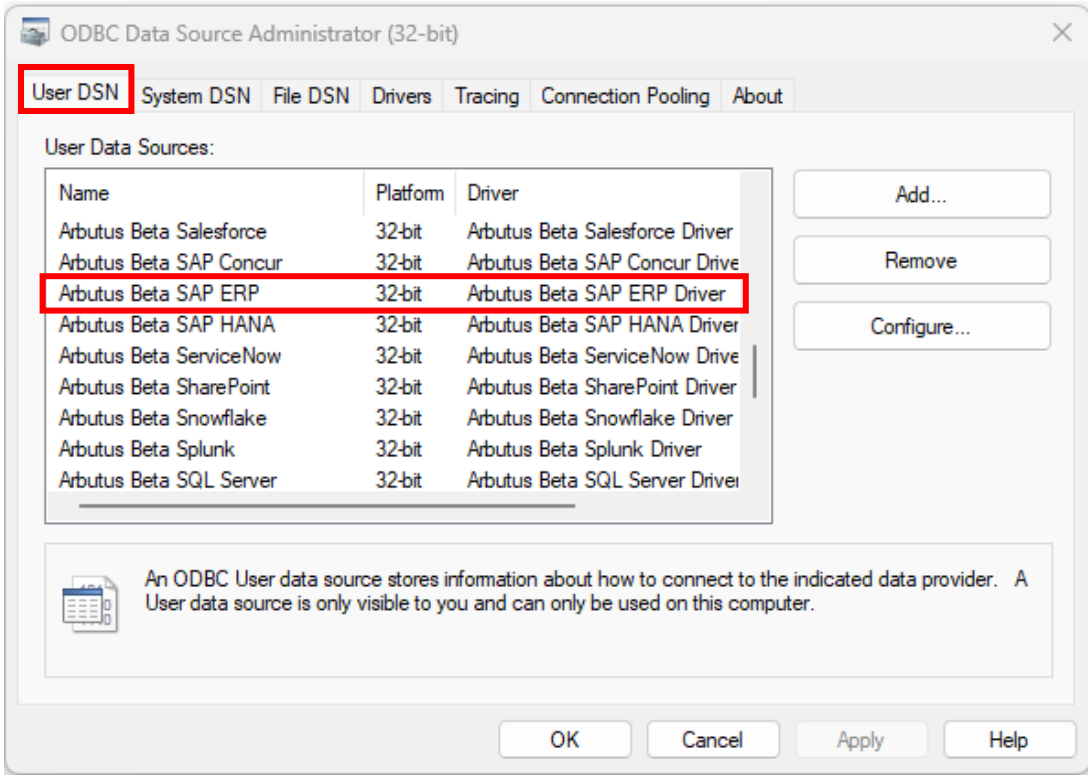
With the growing adoption of cloud technologies, SAP ERP can also store data in cloud storage solutions like Azure Blob Storage. This is particularly useful for storing unstructured data, such as documents and images

C. Determining if the Connector exists prior to configuring

Installation of the Arbutus SAP ERP Connector is done at the time of installing the Arbutus software. For more information on this, please see the **Overview Guide Document**.

Once the Connector has been installed, the next step is to configure it.

Prior to configuring it, you can check to see if the Connector has been installed by opening the **32-bit ODBC Data Source Administrator**, pictured below, and clicking the **User DSN** tab. Included below is information on how you can access the **ODBC Data Source Administrator**.



- If the Arbutus SAP ERP Connector appears in the list, it can be considered as installed.
- If it is not listed, it is likely that you did not select it during the installation or modification of the Arbutus software. In this case, it is recommended to reinstall the Arbutus software and choose the **Modify** option when prompted. For more details, please refer to the **Overview Guide Document**.

Below is the file path to access and run the **ODBC Data Source Administrator** application:

C:\Windows\SysWOW64\odbcad32.exe

Alternative, you can also try locating and opening the **ODBC Data Source Administrator** application by doing a search on your desktop application.

D. Configuring the Connector after it has been installed

Once you have verified that the Arbutus Connector has been installed, it is time to configure it.

This process is done using the **ODBC Data Source Administrator**. It can be described as "**editing the DSN configuration"**.

DSN, Drivers, and Data Sources
What is a DSN? DSN stands for Data Source Name, and is a unique name used to create a data connection to a database using open database connectivity (ODBC). A DSN is a data structure that contains the information required to connect to a database. It is essentially a string that identifies the source database, including the driver details, the database name, and often authentication credentials and other necessary connection parameters. DSNs facilitate a standardized method for applications to access databases without needing hard-coded connection details, enhancing flexibility and scalability in database management. • ***Drivers*** are the components that process ODBC requests and return data to the application. If necessary, drivers modify an application's request into a form that is understood by the data source. The **Drivers** tab in the **ODBC Data Source Administrator** dialog box lists all drivers installed on your computer, including the name, version, company, file name, and file creation date of each driver.

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- ***Data sources*** are the databases of files accessed by a driver and are identified by a data source name (DSN). You use the ODBC Data Source Administrator to add, configure, and delete data sources from your system.

All ODBC connections require that a DSN be configured to support the connection. When a client application wants to access an ODBC-compliant database, it references the database using the DSN.

The types of DSNs are:

- **User DSN** – User DSNs are local to a computer and can be used only by the current user. They are registered in the HKEY_Current_USER registry subtree.

- **System DSN** – System DSNs are local to a computer rather than dedicated to a user. The system or any user with privileges can use a data source set up with a system DSN. System DSNs are registered in the HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE registry subtree.

- **File DSN** – File DSNs are file-based sources that can be shared among all users who have the same drivers installed and therefore have access to the database. These data sources need not be dedicated to a user nor be local to a computer. File data source names are identified by a file name with a .dsn extension.

User and system data sources are collectively known as *machine* data sources because they are local to a computer.

Each of these DSNs has a tab in the **ODBC Data Source Administrator** dialog.

The Arbutus ODBC Driver for SAP ERP enables real-time access to SAP ERP data, directly from any applications that support ODBC connectivity, the most widely supported interface for connecting applications with data.

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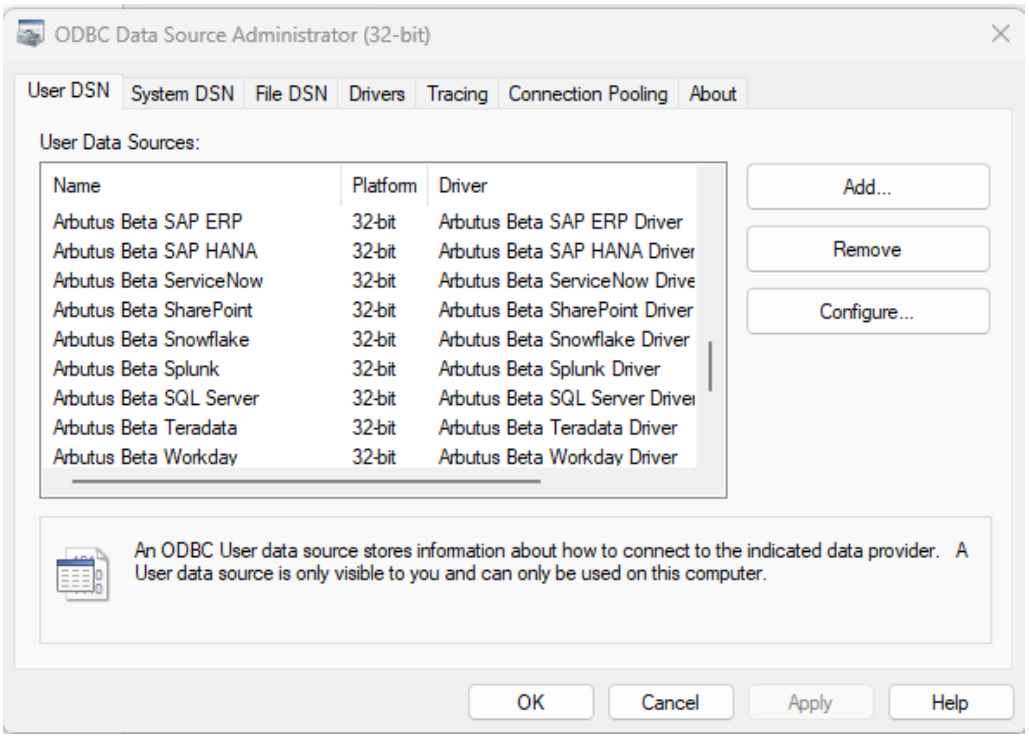
Follow these steps to edit the DSN configuration and configure the Connector.

1. First open the **ODBC Data Source Administrator**.



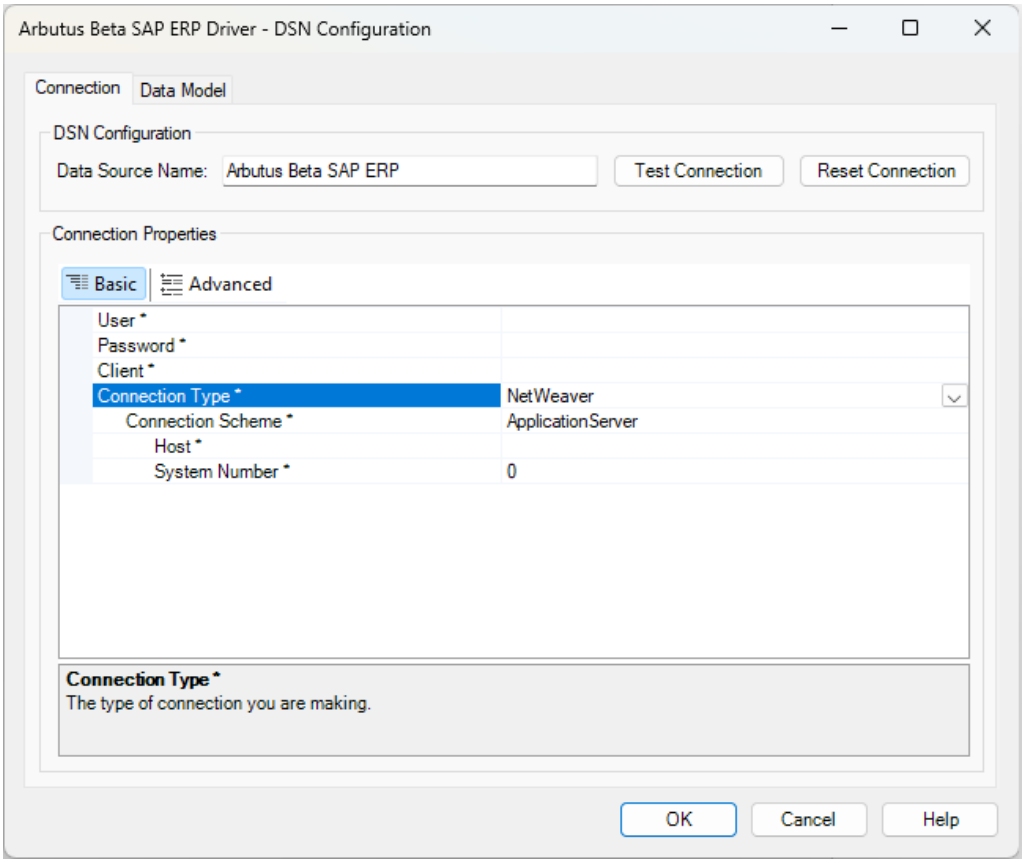
2. Click the **User DSN** tab.

   Selected data connectors are installed as **User DSN's** in Window's 32 Bit **ODBC Data Source Administrator**.

   Also, each of the data connector's names is prefaced with Arbutus, for example, **Arbutus SAP ERP.**

3. Select the Arbutus Connector, in this case it is **Arbutus SAP ERP**.
4. Click **Configure**.

This opens the **Arbutus SAP ERP Driver – DSN Configuration** dialog.



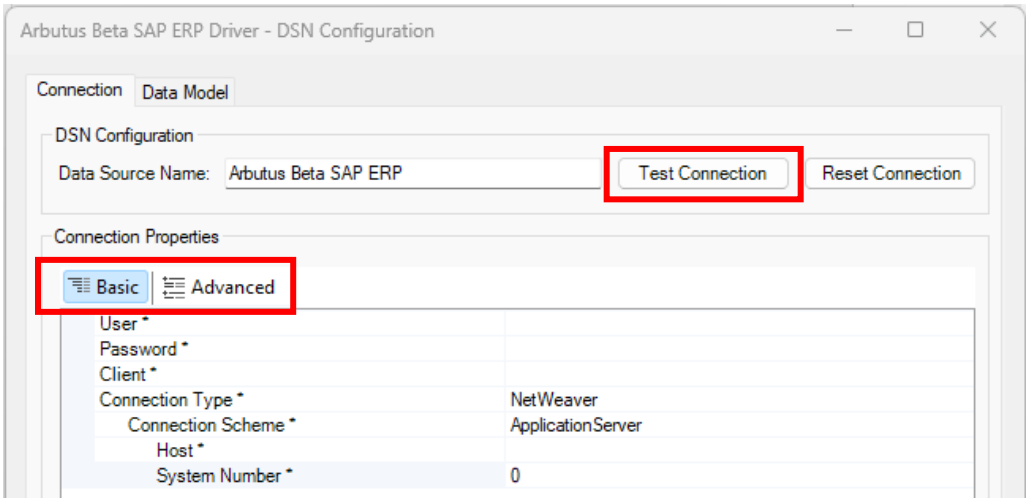
E. Editing the DSN properties – the Basic and Advanced tabs

With the DSN Configuration dialog open, the next step is to edit the DSN properties, where necessary, in the **Basic** and **Advanced** tabs. For example, editing the **0** entry for the **System Number** (per screenshot below) to match the number by which the target system is defined.

E1. Editing the DSN properties in the Basic tab

The properties listed in the **Basic** tab are typically the ones that are most commonly used, and as such are designed to be more user-friendly and straightforward, allowing you to quickly make changes without needing in-depth technical knowledge.

Once you have completed editing the properties on the **Basic** tab, you can go ahead and try testing the connection to the SAP ERP system by clicking the **Test Connection** button, as highlighted in the screenshot below.



On the **Basic** tab, there are **four** main properties to review:

1. **User** – enter the name of the user that is authenticating to the SAP system.

   Client (see below), **User**, and **Password** (see below) are needed for authentication to the R/3 server.

2. **Password** – enter the password used to authenticate to the SAP system.

   Client (see below), **User** (see above), and **Password** are needed for authentication to the R/3 server.

3. **Client** – enter the client authenticating to the SAP system.

   Client, **User** (see above), and **Password** (see above) are needed for authentication to the R/3 server.

4. **Connection Type** – select from the dropdown the type of connection you are making. There are four options available for selection:
   a. NetWeaver - use NetWeaver to indicate you are using the sapnwrfc.dll

   b. Classic - use Classic for the librfc32.dll

   c. Classic Unicode - use Classic for the librfc32.dll

   d. SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) - use SOAP to indicate you are using SOAP and setting the RFC URL

   The default is **NetWeaver**.

   Please see the section below **Connection Type** for more information on the four properties listed above.

   - **Connection Types: NetWeaver, Classic, and Classic_Unicode**

     These three connection types all have the same three properties, as described below.

     - **Connection Scheme** – specifies whether you are connecting to a SAP system with a message server (GroupServer) or without one (ApplicationServer).

     - **ApplicationServer** – the connection to the SAP system is set up directly without using a message server.

- **GroupServer** – the connection to the SAP system is set up using a message server. In this case, load balancing can take place.

  Depending on the above, select from the drop-down either **GroupServer** or **ApplicationServer**.

  The default is **ApplicationServer**.

- **Host** – enter the host name of the target system.

  Host names can be regular host names defined in a hosts file, an IP address like 123.123.123.123, or an SAProuter address such as "/H/hostname/S/port/H/host/S/port/ ..."

  This property is required when connecting through the SAP librfc32.dll interface. The "librfc32.dll" is included in R/3 (NetWeaver) and RFC API installations or may be acquired directly from SAP.

  This property is necessary only when not using the RSBSAP_p_RFCURL (see the bullet below **RFCURL**) property to connect with SAP.

- **System Number** – enter the number by which the target system is defined. Used when setting the Host connection property. The valid range is 0 to 99.

  The default value is **0**.

○ Connection Type: SOAP

For the SOAP Connection Type, there is only one property.

- **RFCURL** – enter the URL of the SOAP interface to connect with SAP. If connecting to SAP through the SOAP interface, this property must be set to the SOAP URL of your SAP system.

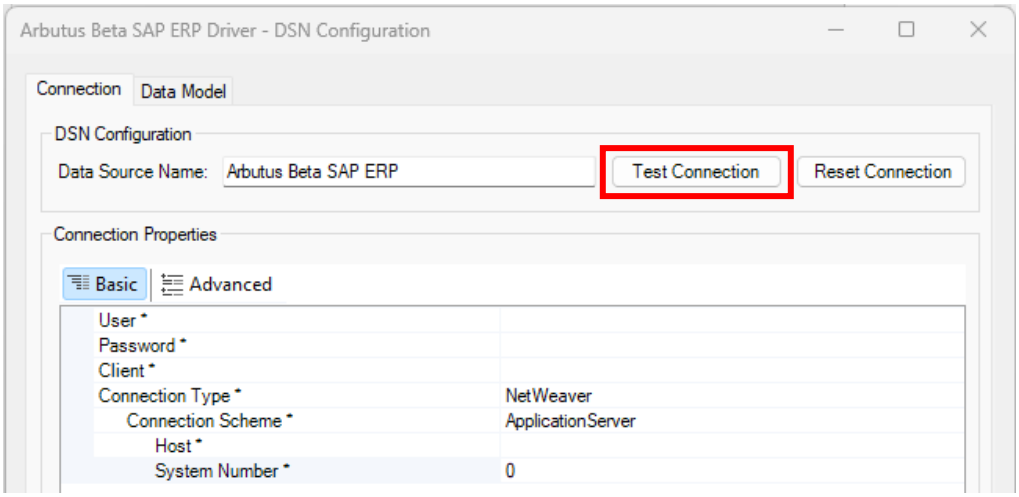
  An example of this is *http://localhost:8000/sap/bc/soap/rfc*.

  The SOAP service must be enabled in your SAP system for this type of connection to work properly.

E2. Editing the DSN properties in the Advanced tab

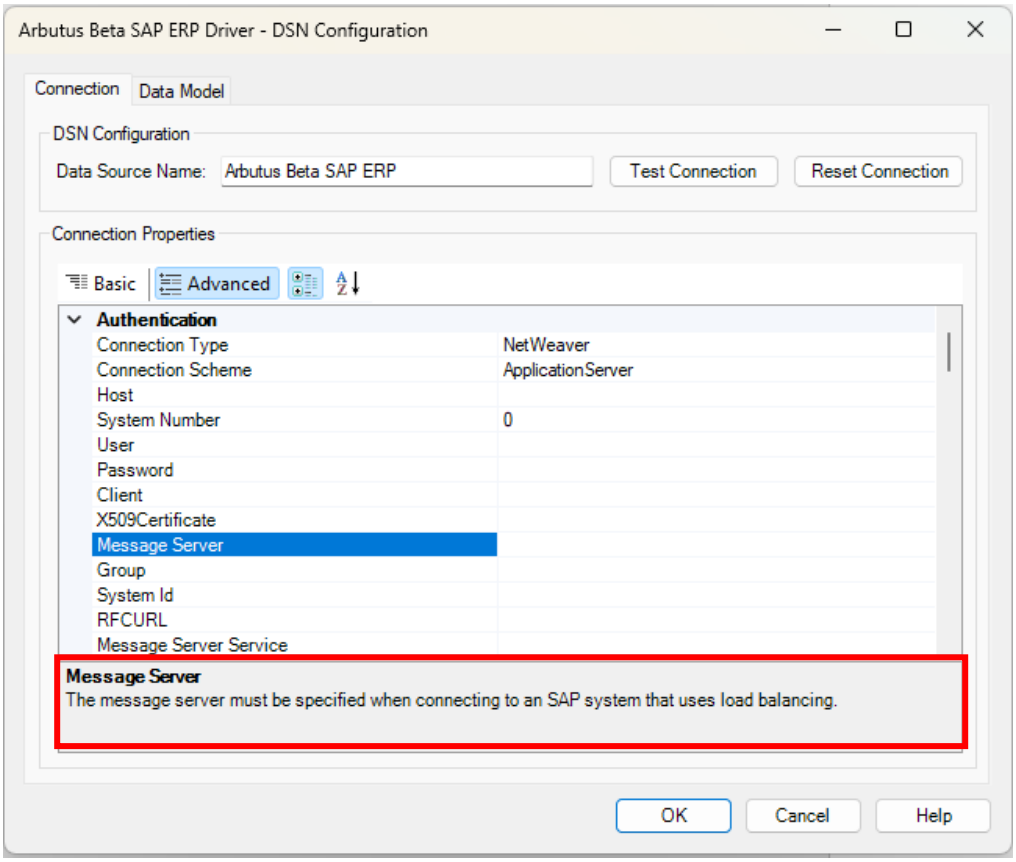
This tab includes more detailed and technical properties. It is intended for those users who need more control over the configuration and are comfortable with more complex options. The **Advanced** tab often includes properties that can fine-tune the behaviour of the system feature.

If you have already completed editing the properties in the **Basic** tab, as required, you do not necessarily need to also complete editing the properties in the **Advanced** tab. Instead, once you have completed editing the properties in the **Basic** tab, you may opt to proceed to testing the connection to the SAP ERP system by clicking the **Test Connection** button.



There are a lot more properties included for editing in the **Advanced** tab.

However, it is useful to know that each property does provide a short description of it and as such serves as a guide in terms of what to edit and/or enter. This short description can be seen at the bottom of the **DSN Configuration** dialog box, as seen in the screenshot below.



If it is deemed necessary to complete some/all the properties in the **Advanced** tab, it is recommended that you refer to the description shown for any of the properties being edited and/or entered.

If required, more information on the properties listed in the **Advanced** tab can also be provided.

F. Other questions and/or request for assistance

There may be times when you need to consult with the technical support team at Arbutus Software. If so, please send an email request to support@ArbutusSoftware.com.

For more information, please refer to the CONTACT US page on our website.