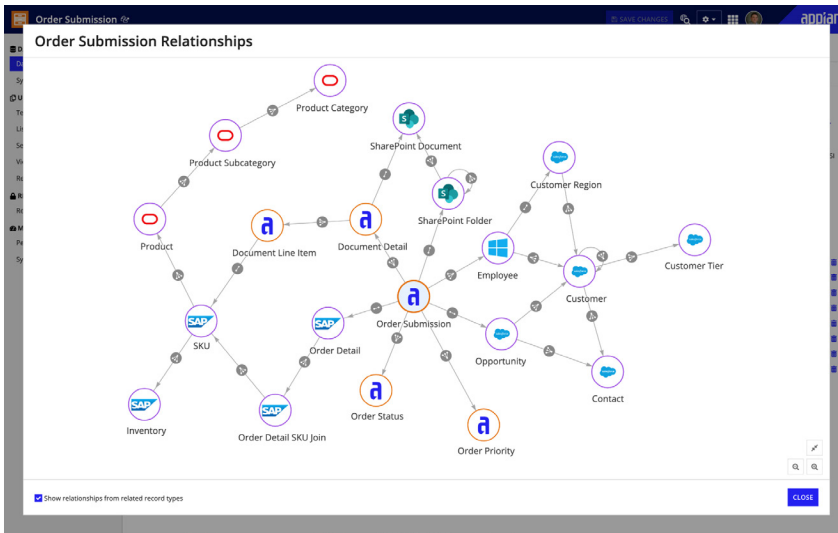# Data Fabric

Unified data, informed decisions, smarter processes.

Modern data platforms are the key to unlocking hard-to-find information and establishing a competitive digital strategy. Businesses that can unify their data and use it to make informed decisions will be set up to succeed in the age of digital transformation.

How Appian's data fabric does it.

Appian's data fabric unifies, secures, and optimizes enterprise data. It lets organizations use their data to build impactful and data-rich digital solutions combined with automation, AI, and low-code design.

It works by connecting and unifying data across enterprise systems in an integrated data layer. And because of Appian's low-code controls and auto-optimized performance, data fabric reduces the burden of integration and data management, so you can democratize data access and make smarter decisions faster.

Appian's critical capabilities for data fabric include:

- **Data discovery and unification.** Discover and unify enterprise data from any system and create new data models with codeless modeling.

- **Data democratization.** Empower users to explore data in real time and access AI insights through self-service analytics.

- **Data security.** Implement row-level security rules to enforce access controls across composite data.

- **Auto optimized.** Automatically optimize data with Appian's patented architecture for any digital need.

NatWest

National Westminster Bank (NatWest) is the UK's largest business bank and second-largest retail mortgage provider.

For NatWest, transformation is more than a strategy—it's an ethos centered on customer outcomes.

But they were struggling with inefficiency processes. Before departments could start a project or launch a product or application, they had to go through multiple layers of policy checks and approvals—a process that could take up to 73 days. By the time something new reached an external portal or a service rep's screen, a frustrated customer might have moved on to a competitor.

To create better outcomes for customers, they needed a single front door that securely unifies data and streamlines workflows. With Appian, Natwest developed a new risk-management solution and reduced the change journey time from 73 days to 73 minutes.