Optimize Governance of Material Master Data
Govern Data Creation, Quality, and Consistency

The SAP® Master Data Governance application centralizes the management of material master data across the enterprise. Through native integration with SAP S/4HANA®, it offers fast time to value for the master data in SAP software. It can also manage master data for third-party applications. Companies can use it to maintain, validate, and distribute material master data; improve data accuracy; and facilitate compliance.

Manufacturing and logistics organizations face complex material master data governance challenges. Integrated, centralized data governance is necessary for data processes to be well controlled and guided. Data collection must be efficient, not slow and error prone. The ideal solution provides the flexibility required by business units from finance to procurement – and avoids a high total cost of ownership (TCO).

To optimize material master data governance, you need to establish "maintain once, use everywhere" best practices and reduce costs by eliminating redundant maintenance efforts and duplicate entries. You can increase the quality of material master data through centralized management and governance. Gain consistent insight into sales, manufacturing, and procurement volumes. Accelerate availability of up-to-date master data across the business network. Improve transparency into material data creation and changes and leverage existing enterprise software investments.
Without a sophisticated governance solution, material master data is often maintained in different systems, and a variety of time-consuming transactions are required to perform data maintenance tasks. Requests and reasons for new or changed data may be communicated by phone or e-mail to specialists, who must then gather further information from other experts and stakeholders. Follow-up processing must be triggered manually. Approval processes with a two-person rule – for example, business decisions and transactions that require sign-off from both the CEO and CFO – often cannot be accommodated. Furthermore, planned changes may not be visible to other applications and users throughout the organization.

SAP Master Data Governance centralizes management of material master data and simplifies the way companies like yours create, maintain, validate, approve, replicate, and adapt this data. With this application, you can:
- Improve the consistency of material master data across the entire business network
- Document changes along the lifecycle of a material to help ensure compliance
- Enable collaborative and traceable material master data management
- Provide a single version of material master data, for greater efficiency and higher quality

Simplified Material Master Data Management Across the Business

Centralized, Integrated Governance
Process and Data Standardization
Data Creation, Change, and Approval
Data Staging and Duplicate Checks
More-Empowered Business Users, Increased Productivity
Data Replication and Extensibility
SAP Master Data Governance enables centralized governance of your material master data so you can create and maintain data in a single location while allowing the data to be safely and reliably used and reused throughout the organization. Standardized, workflow-driven processes allow flexibility while helping ensure efficiency. A user-friendly interface provides business users across the spectrum with role-based access to the information they need when they need it.

Natively integrated with your existing SAP software, SAP Master Data Governance is fast and straightforward to implement. Its data model and business logic follow the best practices supported by SAP S/4HANA. The application reuses existing data structures, business validations, and various services, and it uses existing logic and configurations to help ensure material master data quality and facilitate data validation and enrichment. This reuse also helps you implement more quickly. However, if you prefer a custom model, SAP Master Data Governance also enables you to extend the data model to meet your needs.

Increase efficiency and quality with a single version of material master data.
With SAP Master Data Governance, you can eliminate the need for manual maintenance of material master data in multiple systems while still allowing for the use of controlled, localized applications. You can use central governance functionality for identifying and selecting descriptive data, while process-controlling attributes, such as plant or sales data, can be maintained locally. Integrated staging, approval, and central audit-trail functionality facilitates compliance and transparency, and the application enables consistent definition, authorization, and replication.

**Eliminate** the need for **manual maintenance** of your material master data.
Process and Data Standardization

SAP Master Data Governance coordinates and controls all activities for managing material master data. The application provides the structure to enforce process and data standardization and authorization while allowing the flexibility needed to meet the requirements of your company’s various business units, groups, and users.

Built-in guidance, monitoring, and reporting functionality, using a standard workflow tool, enables coordinated process and data governance. Data, process, and issue resolution information is kept in a single location, giving business users fast access to all relevant information. Upload functionality increases the speed of updates and streamlines integration between systems. Governance functionality avoids the creation of duplicates and helps ensure the completeness and accuracy of data.

With integrated rules-management functionality, the application has the flexibility to meet your organization’s needs. You can employ workflow-based governance processes, either linear or distributed, with defined roles and responsibilities for creating, changing, and approving material data. You can extend governance processes by adding business logic, so you can manage data quality as well.
Data Creation, Change, and Approval

When creating or making changes to material data, users from different business units across the enterprise are involved. Without an integrated governance solution, material items become immediately available in the system as soon as the first user saves the entries, which can create problems. Incomplete material items and partial changes often exist, and planned changes are usually not visible to business users. Users can create a new material item even when the material master already exists in the system, resulting in poor data quality and generating unnecessary costs.

SAP Master Data Governance provides functionality for change requests with built-in approval processes. Automated, regulated processes speed and provide visibility into decision-making activities, keep all relevant information in one place, and help you improve data quality and ensure that compliance requirements are met.

Requests are automatically routed to the proper stakeholder, with functionality allowing for commenting by different expert users and stakeholders. The change process is completed upon the approval or rejection of the authorized business user or master data specialist.
Data Staging and Duplicate Checks

Material data that is still awaiting approval is stored in a separate repository for transfer to the operational database after approval. Incomplete data is stored in an inactive version, which helps ensure that material data can be used in business processes only when it is approved, improving process quality. Rejected change requests are placed into a staging area and don’t create a material number in your productive SAP ERP application, which improves data quality. Pending data changes can be made available to concerned users and groups for review before they are released to the organization as a whole in the production system, increasing transparency and helping you become more agile and proactive while reducing errors and duplications.

The application automatically performs duplicate checks to avoid creation of already existing material items. Information on potential duplicates is provided during searches for material data and when checking change requests. A final duplicate check is performed when a change request is released.

Eliminate the creation of duplicate master data records with automated checking functionality.
More-Empowered Business Users, Increased Productivity

A user-friendly interface and sophisticated functionality empower business users across the enterprise. They can search for material data stored in the active area as well as the staging area – unlike typical solutions with functionality that allows searches of only operational or active data. Search functionality is comprehensive, simplifying and improving the efficiency of daily activities. Integration into change-request processing enhances productivity, and the inclusion of inactive data from the staging area reduces parallel change processes.

Business users can display data for a single material, toggle between active and inactive areas, and edit and copy material master data. They can access other information such as change documents, key mapping data, and duplicate-check results, and display replication logs. They can review changes and check the consistency of inactive data. And they can validate to ensure consistent updates of active data, add and enhance data, and approve new and changed data.

An intuitive interface makes it simple for users to access the information they need when they need it.

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With SAP Master Data Governance, you can replicate material master data for your SAP software environment as well as third-party solutions. The application gives you the flexibility to replicate data to specific client systems using defined filters, and it supports the use of different material IDs and different customizing keys between hub and client systems. SAP Master Data Governance integrates with data quality solutions for cleansing, matching, and consolidation activities.

You can reuse business logic and functionality in your existing SAP software environment, improving efficiency and TCO. And you can use predefined content fields, such as plant or sales data, or create specific extensions and custom applications to suit your organization's requirements.

Replicate data easily to your heterogeneous landscape.
Greater Efficiency, Higher Data Quality, and Lower TCO

SAP Master Data Governance enables you to centralize the creation and maintenance of your material master data. The master data can then be distributed to your enterprise applications.

With the application, you can improve the consistency of material master data and increase business process efficiency across the organization. You can facilitate collaborative and traceable material master data management and provide a single version of material master data for higher efficiency and quality. And you can document changes along the lifecycle of a material to help ensure compliance.

Reduce TCO using an integrated, process-centric application that enables centralized governance for material master data domains and through native integration with SAP enterprise software, using existing business logic and infrastructure. Improve the ROI on your IT investment by reusing existing processing logic. The application adapts to your needs with configurable workflows and extensible data models.

Improve the consistency of your material master data for **greater business process efficiency** all across your organization.
Summary
The SAP® Master Data Governance application centralizes the management of material master data across the enterprise. Through native integration with SAP S/4HANA®, it offers fast time to value for SAP master data. It can also be extended to manage master data for third-party applications. Companies can validate and distribute material master data to enterprise applications, improve its accuracy, and facilitate compliance.

Objectives
• Centralize material data creation and management to improve data quality and related processes
• Automate data maintenance activities to eliminate errors and duplication
• Manage master data for the entire enterprise, meeting business requirements and reducing total cost of ownership (TCO)

Solution
• Ability to create and maintain material master data in a single location
• Management of master data for SAP and third-party applications
• Standardization with integrated rules management and workflow-driven processes
• Role-based access to information for business users
• Documentation of changes along the material lifecycle for compliance

Benefits
• Increase business process efficiency with better data quality
• Reduce TCO by automating data management tasks
• Facilitate compliance through traceable data management
• Improve ROI on IT investment by reusing existing processing logic

Learn more
To find out more, call your SAP representative today or visit us online.