

Sage ERP MAS 500 Version 7.4

New Features Help You Save Time, Do More, And Grow Faster

Sage ERP MAS 500 Version 7.4 is scheduled for release this summer. In the last issue, we reviewed the extensive enhancements for Advanced Manufacturing and Accounts Receivable that are included in this release. In this article, we highlight the performance and usability enhancements added for the Business Insights, Inventory Management, Purchase Order, and Sales Order modules.

Faster Business Insights

Several customer-requested enhancements are added to the Business Insights module to improve performance and usability. Metadata has been optimized and the response time to return filtered and selected results is improved.

In System Manager, an option was added to the Maintain Business Insights Views/Context Menus allowing you to limit output to only the Top N results. This option provides you with a quick view of your top performers. You also will have the option to export only the selected data from views to speed the process of exporting to Excel® for advanced analysis.

Landed Cost Flexibility

New flexibility in entering Landed Cost allows you to apply, change, and generate



landed costs from the Enter Receipt of Goods screen. You can now define, override, and apply landed costs on an individual receipt basis. The landed cost can be applied to a receipt line using a per-unit percent of cost or a flat amount per unit, or it can be applied to a receipt total and allocated by cost, quantity, weight, volume, or manually.

When a landed cost is being allocated by receipt total, the allocation method can be changed and the landed cost amount can be modified even if using a predefined landed cost. The calculated line unit cost also can be overridden if the user has security event permissions.

(continued on page 2)

Sage ERP MAS 500 Version 7.4

(continued from cover)

Inventory Unit Of Measure Refinements

A number of enhancements have been made to Inventory Unit of Measure capabilities to improve the accuracy of converting from one unit of measure (UOM) to another and to allow more flexibility in using alternative UOMs.

The accuracy of conversion from one UOM to another is greatly enhanced by expanding the decimal precision in data tables, creating flexible rounding methods for the base (smallest) UOM, and adding user-definable conversion types. The system also stores the conversion factors used with the transaction. Amounts less than the displayed decimal precision will adjust automatically, and you will be able to print inventory reports in an alternative UOM other than Stock.

Expanded decimal precision in the display of physical counts and the ability to perform bin transfers in alternative UOMs increases usability. A BIE view for UOM also is added in Version 7.4 for ease in tracking and viewing UOM settings.

Preferred Vendor Override For Replenishment And MRP

Version 7.4 includes the ability to change the primary vendor for replenishment and MRP. Previously, the Preferred Vendor was automatically set based on the setting in Set Up Warehouse Replenishment. The addition of a checkbox in Maintain Inventory on the Replenishment tab allows you to choose whether to use the default primary vendor from Warehouse Replenishment or set the Primary Vendor separately for replenishment purposes. In either instance, the vendor can be overridden at the individual item level in Replenishment or MRP.

When the checkbox is selected, the Primary Vendor is View Only, and displays the default vendor. These options are not available if the source for replenishment is Warehouse.

Sales Order

In Sales Order you now can enter negative line items for non-inventory items; this gives you added flexibility in applying credits and discounts on customer orders.

Helping Sage Improve Sage ERP MAS 500

The new product enhancement program, introduced in a Version 7.3 product update, also is included in the Version 7.4 release. This first-stage enhancement monitors your Sage ERP MAS 500 system, gathering platform and operating system information, and tracking usage information on the local client installation. These statistics assist Sage in determining what are the most used tasks. The information gathered is then used to prioritize the areas of the software that will get the most attention.

When installing the new release, you have the option to opt-out of installing the product enhancement program software, and the feature can be disabled at any time in the Administrative Tools window. The periodic uploads of data to Sage are automatic and require no action on the part of the user. **Note:** The product enhancement program does not gather any confidential or company-specific data, such as financial information or customer lists.

Smart Updates

Smart Updates first were included in a Version 7.3 product update and are


continued in Version 7.4. Smart Updates simplify software updates and upgrades and protect customizations.

The current Smart Update program detects the current updates that have been applied and installs only those objects that have changed since the last update was applied. It also alerts the user to customizations that exist and the objects identified as having changed since the last update was applied. Phase 2 is planned to apply the same detection capabilities to server-side updates and the ability to automate client-side updates by pulling them down from the server.

Support Retirements

With the release of Sage ERP MAS 500 Version 7.4 there are several platform, module, and version retirements.

- SQL Server 2000, and Windows 2000 server and client no longer will be supported.
- Support for Sage ERP MAS 500 Version 7.05 will end as of September 2011.
- Microsoft FRx, replaced by Sage MAS Intelligence, will no longer be supported with the release of Version 7.4.
- eCustomer, eSalesforce, and eOrder have been retired and are replaced by the eBusiness Suite for Sage ERP MAS 500 powered by RKL eSolutions.

Give us a call for assistance in planning your upgrade to Sage ERP MAS 500 Version 7.4. 

Tips And Tricks—Making Global Changes In Inventory

Sometimes you may want to change the way your inventory is organized in the Sage ERP MAS 500 Inventory Management module. Here we provide some tips for the use of the Global Item or Global Inventory Change Utility task.

The Global Item or Global Inventory Change task is found under IM/Activities/Utilities. You can use it to make changes to inventories or all items in an inventory according to the criteria selected so that the replenishment, stocking, and reporting characteristics in each warehouse can be customized.

In Sage ERP MAS 500, the term inventory refers to the warehouse-specific information for a particular item and warehouse combination. In contrast, item refers to the product information that remains constant for the item regardless of its location. You can select records to change based on: item, item class, item type, commodity code, track method, buyer, purchase product line, sales product line, warehouse, cost of goods sold rank, gross margin rank, quantity sold rank, and hit rank. When you select a field for change, you can enter or select the new value. These changes are applied to all items or inventories for the current company that meet the change criteria. The available fields to change and the circumstances in which you can change certain fields are different for each type of record.

Item Considerations

An item record must meet all the selection criteria to be included in the update. For example, if both an item status and purchase product line are specified as selection criteria, only items that are both assigned to the specified status and

belong to the specified purchase product line are included in the change. If you select one of the following fields for change, you must adhere to the conditions described to complete a successful update:

- Allow Cost Override: You can change the value of this option to deselect for only non-inventory items.
- Allow Decimal Quantity: This option is not available for pre-assembled and build-to-order kits, or items with serial or serial/lot numbers tracked. For other items, you only can change the value of this option to selected.
- Allow Drop Ship: You cannot change the value of this option for expense items, or for pre-assembled or build-to-order kits.
- Returns Allowed: You cannot change the value of this option for build-to-order kits.
- Internal Delivery Required: You only can change the value of this option for inventory items.
- Receipt Required: You only can change the value of this option for expense and miscellaneous items.
- Seasonal Item: You only can change the value of this option for inventory items.
- Item Type: You only can change raw materials to finished goods. No other item types are available for change.
- Freight Class: You only can change the value of this field for inventory items.
- Purchase Product Line: You only can change the value of this field for inventory items except pre-assembled and build-to-order kits.
- Sales Product Line: You only can change the value of this field for

inventory items.

- Commodity Code: You only can change the value of this field for inventory items.
- PO Match Tolerance: You cannot change the value of this field unless you select Match Invoice to PO and Match Receiver to PO in Set Up PO Options in Purchase Order.
- Product Price Group: You only can change the value of this field for inventory items.

Inventory Considerations

An inventory record must meet all the selection criteria to be included in the update. For example, if both an inventory status and purchase product line are specified as selection criteria, only inventories that are both assigned to the specified status, and belong to the specified purchase product line are included in the change. If you select one of the following fields for change, you must adhere to the conditions described to complete a successful update.

- Maximum Stock: This value must be greater than the value for the minimum stock.
 - Minimum Stock: This value must be less than the value for the maximum stock.
 - Use Min/Max Until: This value must be later than the current business date.
- Note:** You can change either the Lead Time Formula or the Lead Time, but not both at the same time.

Please call us with your questions. ✨



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: Sage Abra SQL HRMS Payroll

Organizations using Sage ERP MAS 500 have access to an integrated SQL Server-based human resources and payroll system, designed to help achieve greater accuracy and control—Sage Abra SQL HRMS. Managing your payroll and HR processes in-house can save you money while giving you tools that support compliance with regulations, greater control over costs, and the ability to increase employee satisfaction, and help retain your top-performing workers. Here we focus on the capabilities of Sage Abra Payroll.

Payroll Designed For Midsized Organizations

As part of an overall Sage Abra SQL HRMS solution, Sage Abra Payroll includes the payroll functionality needed by midsized organizations to process their payroll accurately and on time, every time. It supports the needs of most industries, including manufacturing, services, retail, wholesale, financial, transportation, high-tech, government, education, construction and agriculture.

The Sage Abra Payroll module supports a wide range of tax management requirements, and offers flexible pay plans, including sales commission and piece-rate plans, and a variety of pay frequencies to meet the needs of organizations such as governments and schools.

Powerful And Flexible Payroll Features

You can set up an unlimited number of earnings and deduction codes with a wide variety of calculation methods. Flexible Accrual & Overtime Schedules make it easy to manage employee paid time off and overtime payments.

Sage Abra Payroll uses a simplified and flexible four-step payroll process. You can create templates and set up selection lists of employees for whom you can calculate payroll as a group. You can process by date without being tied to pay periods or required openings and closings.

You can run an unlimited number of payrolls to ensure data accuracy prior to printing checks. It is easy to preview checks before printing, print test checks, and further simplify check printing with MICR and laser signature options.

Sage Abra Payroll streamlines the entire payroll process by making it easier to produce paychecks on demand and make adjustments when necessary. Direct deposit is also available, and offers the ability to assign an unlimited number of direct deposit accounts for your employees.

Tax Management, Compliance And Reporting

With Sage Abra Payroll, it is easy to meet federal and state tax management and compliance needs with automatic quarterly updates of tax tables

and electronic media reporting where required. Stay on top of state and federal regulations and requirements with the Sage Compliance Center.

You can meet government and management reporting requirements with built-in standard reports, Crystal® Report Writer, and electronic media reporting.

We recommend a Sage Abra SQL HRMS bundle that includes Abra HR, Abra Payroll, Abra Attendance, and the integration. Call us for details. ✨

CONTACT INFORMATION

ESC Software

1620 W. Fountainhead Parkway
Suite 507

Tempe, AZ 85282

(480) 784-1622

(866) 248-3241 toll free

(480) 784-1623 fax

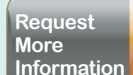
info@escsoftware.com

www.escsoftware.com



sage

Authorized Partner



Request
More
Information