

SAP® Certified

Integration with SAP NetWeaver®



ADVANCED SUPPLY CHAIN PLANNING

Overview

This Junot Systems partner company delivers advanced supply chain planning solutions designed specifically for process manufacturers. Their supply chain solutions are used throughout the global process industry, providing a broad set of visualization, decision support, and optimization tools that address the unique challenges found in managing complex supply chains. The company has an established track record of deploying its supply chain decision support and optimization technologies across a wide variety of process manufacturing markets including polymers, chemicals, CPG, pharmaceuticals, and oil & gas refining. The company and its worldwide partners also provide a full range of consulting, support, training and implementation services.



NLINK® is embedded in this advanced planning and scheduling software providing a comprehensive set of real-time bi-directional interfaces with SAP. NLINK downloads a variety of information from SAP, including customers, sales forecasts, formulations, inventory lots, etc., and updates or creates planned orders, process orders, purchase requisitions and/or purchase orders in SAP.

The Challenge

Although this software company already had an SAP certified interface to SAP, they found through experience that it frequently required modification to support unique customer implementations. The variety of data needed to support this supply chain planning system goes well beyond “standard” SAP interfaces, which caused them to have to write additional custom code during their deployment projects. This resulted in extended project timelines, unique and hard to maintain deployments, and higher project risk. They realized that they needed a way to unify all of the product’s potential SAP interfaces into a single technology, allowing them to focus their in-house product development efforts on their core strength: delivering superior advanced supply chain planning solutions for the process industry.



The Solution

A number of SAP interfaces have been developed to provide a comprehensive but easy to deploy solution for connecting to SAP. Today NLINK is deployed with this product at a variety of companies throughout North America, Europe and Asia.

SAP Interface Descriptions

NAME	TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION
Download Customers	This download from SAP includes all active customer ship-to locations. It is unique on customer-ship-to number, but also contains parent customer names and codes. If sales representative assignments are assigned by customer only, then they are included in this download.
Download Sales Forecast	In many installations, sales forecasts are created and managed within the supply chain planning product's Demand Management module. If, instead, forecasts are created and managed in an external application, this interface loads forecast volumes by product, supply location, package, and customer ship address.
Download Formulations	This download from SAP contains all formulations for all materials produced or assembled by the business unit. These formulations reflect components to produce the materials themselves and not the containers or packaging in which the materials might ultimately be shipped. Formulations are included for packages themselves. Optionally, Sales Order BOMs may be included.
Download Inventory Lots	This format is used for Inventory of all finished, intermediate and raw materials.
Download In Transits	This download from SAP contains all in-transit stock transfers for products managed in the supply chain planning product. These are transfers that have shipped but have not yet been received.
Download Locations	This download from SAP includes all locations that have inventory or are shipped from.
Download Orders	This download from SAP contains all open (unshipped) customer orders for products managed in the supply chain planning software. This interface also includes recently shipped customer orders to permit calculation of total month-to-date shipments at any time during the month.
Download On-Hold Orders	This download from SAP contains all on-hold customer orders for products. On-hold is currently defined as having a billing hold at the header or line item level.
Download Packages	This download from SAP includes all package codes used in the supply chain planning software. Examples of package codes are: BULK, BOX, BAG, 1500, RC, HT, DRUM.



NAME	TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION
Download Products	All materials that are to be managed in the supply chain planning product are loaded through this interface.
Download Purchase Orders	This download from SAP contains all open purchase orders. These are product purchases from outside suppliers and vendors only. Excluding purchases of MRO items (valves, pumps, etc.) This does not include transfers between warehouses and/or plants, even if those are modeled as purchase orders in the SAP system.
Download Sales History	This download from SAP contains the previous month's sales history (shipped customer orders).
Download Suppliers	This download from SAP includes all active supplier ship-from locations. It is unique on Supplier number, but also contains parent supplier names and codes id appropriate. If purchasing representative assignments are assigned by supplier only, then they are included in this download.
Download Transfer Preferences	This download from SAP includes Stock Keeping Units defined in the database, how to resupply them and targets used to maintain them.
Download Production Standards	This download from SAP contains production characteristics such as rate, yield and equipment assignments for finished and intermediate products produced on any equipment assets to be modeled.
Download Inventory Lots	This download from SAP contains all customer consignment inventory that is currently in transit.
Download Customer/Transfer Preferences	Customer preferences establish how a customer prefers to receive a particular product in the future. It includes information such as the customer's preferred package and the preferred stocking location from which to ship this customer-product combination. If these data are not available in the SAP system, the supply chain planning software can automatically populate a draft version of this table using heuristics which predict the customer's preferences based on shipment history.
Download Product Hierarchies	This download from SAP includes product hierarchy codes and descriptions for all levels.
Upload Orders	This interface reads production run and stock transfer information from the supply chain planning software and updates/creates planned orders, process orders, purchase requisitions and/or purchase orders in SAP.
Clear Planned Orders	This interface finds all planned orders for each of the plants (and materials) within a date range in the supply chain planning software and then deletes all found planned orders in SAP.



Benefits

This manufacturing software company now has a standard SAP connectivity solution, (that comprises 20+ standard SAP interfaces), that can be used regardless of industry, SAP version, or the end customer's unique SAP customizations.

Junot Systems trained this company's professional services team to be able to modify and extend the existing SAP interfaces or to build completely new SAP interfaces if necessary. In fact, their professional services group has, over time, taken on more and more of the services required to successfully deploy their product in a SAP environment which allows them to take further control of the SAP integration challenge.

There is no doubt that the ability to rapidly, and cost-effectively deploy their products at SAP customer locations has been an enabling factor in this company's recent sales success and company growth.

About Junot Systems

Junot Systems, Inc. is a specialist provider of SAP integration solutions for the manufacturing and process industries. Headquartered in Houston, Texas, Junot Systems, Inc. has deployed and supported its NLINK product suite for over 20 years in a variety of vertical markets, both in the US and overseas.

About Junot Systems' Solutions

NLINK® is a configuration-based product suite that installs in minutes and requires absolutely no custom coding to be deployed. NLINK's patented and SAP Certified Interfaces work with any version of SAP and require no additional SAP components to be purchased or installed into the SAP landscape.

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