

PassPort™ – R/3 Integration

General

A comprehensive EAM solution requires seamless baseline integration with industry-leading financial applications. By pulling together the key elements of Work Management, B2B Supply Chain, and Financials, businesses realize the benefits of a Best of Class solution. Namely, benefits will assist in maximizing returns on assets, throughput, workforce efficiencies, and satisfy regulatory compliance while assuring proper financial accounting. InfoPrag™ has developed an SAP Financials baseline integration with Indus International Inc.'s PassPort solution that satisfies this critical business need.

Technical Architecture

SAP R/3 Integration Methodology

SAP has developed Application Link Enabling (ALE) to enable customers to integrate non-R/3 strategic applications. ALE is SAP's strategic direction for distributed computing and provides the architecture for linking R/3 with a vast array of non-R/3 applications, which complement the SAP environment. This integration takes advantage of the ALE capabilities of R/3 by using Intermediate Business Documents (IDocs). IDocs are the standard data containers, or formats, which provide the basis for both ALE and EDI interfaces with SAP R/3. ALE technology provides the following benefits over other technologies when integrating with SAP R/3:

- ALE supports the communication across versions of both SAP and Indus
- ALE maintains independence between the technical and communication environments and the content (IDoc)
- ALE provides upward compatibility with future releases

Since ALE is SAP's intersystem communication methodology, InfoPrag™ Inc. has adopted this technology to integrate Indus™ PassPort with / SAP R/3 systems.

Business Connector

SAP Business Connector (SAP BC) is a middleware product based on webMethods' B2B Integration Server. It allows integration with R/3 via open and non-proprietary technology. SAP BC uses the Internet as the communication platform and XML/HTML as the data format. Thus it seamlessly integrates different IT architectures with R/3.

SAP BC allows for full bi-directional communication to and from R/3. On the one hand all SAP functionality accessible via BAPIs and IDocs can be made available to business partners over the Internet as secure XML-based services. On the other hand applications and information running on a remote Web site can be instantly invoked by a simple SAP function call; thus making the information of the Web available to an R/3 system.

SAP BC provides an XML layer on top of R/3 functionality so that other applications do not need any understanding of R/3 internal data structures or protocols. SAP BC can be deployed to simply but effectively achieve business-to-business integration between trading partners, thereby extending the reach of businesses' SAP infrastructure to customers, partners and suppliers. Examples for applications may include real-time integration between supplier inventories and your SAP system; or multi-vendor product, price and availability information and your purchasing application.

Deployment of SAP BC happens in a matter of days rather than months. By reusing existing infrastructure and know-how the cost of deployment is low. SAP BC allows for increased efficiency across the supply chain as well as customer loyalty by tightly integrating B2B business infrastructures.

SAP BC will be shipped bundled with SAP's mySAP.com product and is also available separately to SAP customers. It is a vital part of the mysap.com portal infrastructure.

Functional Highlights:

- Complete R/3 Integration
- Web Automation
- XML enabling of SAP solutions
- Flexible and extensible architecture
- Comprehensive Internet security

x2x.swap

x2x.swap is an extension of functions to the Business Connector. Developed by InfoPrag this tool provides the following three fundamental services:

1. Mapping

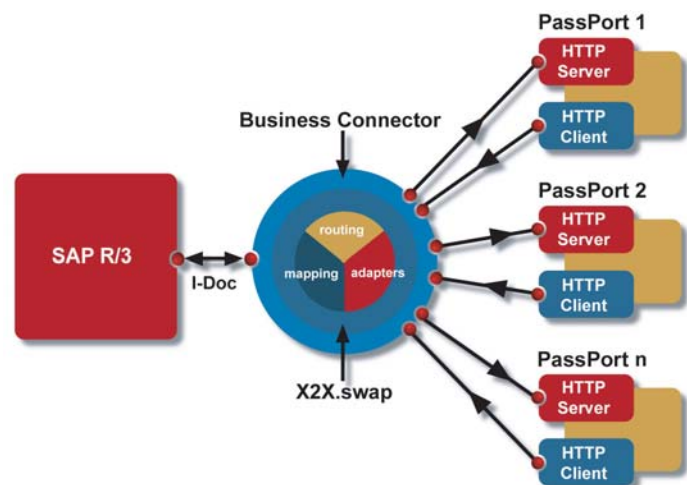
The mapping services are a collection of functions that support string manipulation. XML structure manipulation and functions are necessary for the mapping of the XML IDocs to the required PassPort XML structures.

2. Routing

The routing functions support the routing of XML documents from/to several PassPort and SAP R/3 instances. The routing is based on semantic data values within the IDoc such as plant numbers, company codes, purchasing organizations etc.

3. Adapters

The adapter functions provide the Business Connector with the capability to connect to various transport message systems. The current version of x2x.swap supports MQSeries, FTP and http.



Passport / SAP R/3 BaselineTouch Points

The touch points for the SAP integration utilize the Indus Solution Series Work Management and B2B Supply Chain modules, integrated with SAP's Financial applications. The touch points are defined in this manner to provide the supply chain functionality needed by large maintenance-driven organizations while providing all of the transaction detail required for complete financial control. A typical business processes scenario includes:

- Requisitions are created in PassPort on Direct and Stock Items; these requisitions are approved and forwarded to PassPort Purchasing.
- Indus Purchasing receives the Requisitions and places them on a Purchase Order (PO) or Blanket PO. Once a PO has been approved, the Requisition and Stock Item Details are updated appropriately, and the SAP controlling module is notified that a purchase commitment has been made.
- Receipts are processed within PassPort and SAP is notified of the release of the corresponding commitment.
- Invoice matching occurs within PassPort and payment authorization is sent to the SAP treasury function so that payment can be transmitted by check or electronic transfer.
- Work Order costs created in Indus are passed to SAP via the integration.
- Master Materials Catalog items are managed internally within Indus, while SAP blanket orders (i.e., corporate purchase agreements and service agreements) may be managed in PassPort or created in SAP and reflected in PassPort.

In addition to the Procurement Life Cycle, static data (i.e. data that does not change very frequently) needs to be shared between the two systems. The static data includes:

- Buyer information
- Supplier or Vendor Information
- Chart of Accounts or Valid General Ledger Account Information
- Units of Measure
- Locations
- Fiscal Periods

Touch Point Modifications for Procurement in SAP R/3

Based on purchase requisitions initiated in PassPort and sent to SAP R/3 a purchase order would be created in SAP R/3 and released. Subsequently, SAP R/3 releases the delivery of the purchase order to PassPort. At this point two options are available to handle goods movements.

Goods Movements Processing in SAP R/3

Goods movements such as goods receipt, returns and adjustments on inventory items, for PassPort initiated purchase orders, are sent to PassPort available as inventory items for work management and commitment processing.



Goods Movements Processing in PassPort

This option may require a uniquely identified storage location for PassPort inventory items. Goods movements such as goods receipt, returns and adjustments on inventory items, for PassPort initiated purchase orders, are sent to SAP R/3. This integration may require that invoice receipts based on PassPort initiated purchasing are sent from SAP R/3 to PassPort. In addition, baseline touch points for GL accounts and commitment processing are obsolete.

Note: Service receipts based on purchased services have to be sent from PassPort to SAP R/3

Corporate Office

1917 - 20th Avenue NW Suite 202 Calgary, Alberta T2M 1H6
Toll Free: 1-877-247-8224
Telephone: (403) 284-0200
Fax: (403) 284-0220
E-mail us at webmaster@infoprag.com

www.infoprag.com

USA Office

9505 Hillwood Drive Suite 100
Las Vegas, Nevada 89134
Telephone: (702) 880-0780
Fax: (702) 877-0956