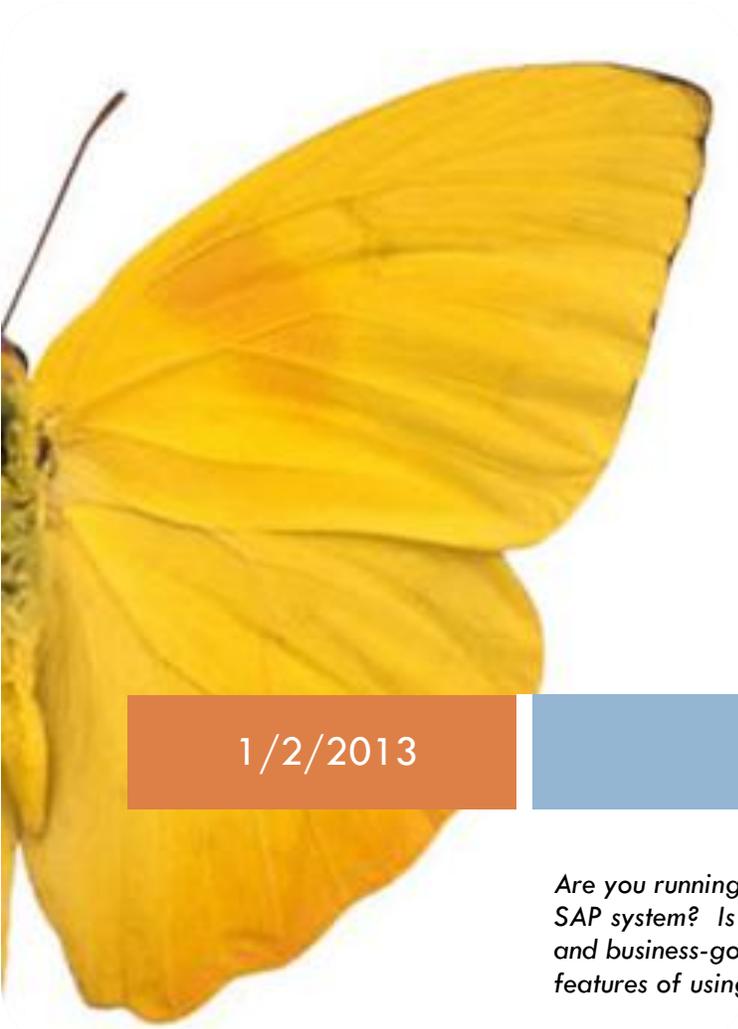# IS YOUR DATA READY?

1/2/2013

Pre-validation Tool
Delivering accurate and quality data.

Are you running a pre-validation process before data gets loaded in your SAP system? Is it an automated process that follows SAP configuration and business-governed logic? This paper describes the benefits and features of using an automated pre-validation tool.

Introduction

As part of any data migration strategy, data monitoring or validation is important to ensure data accuracy and completeness. This is one area that could potentially take a long time to accomplish and with great difficulty. Data validations can be done in different stages with their respective rigor. This paper focuses on data pre-validation, a method that provides a preliminary quantitative assessment of data quality prior to loading. A thorough check on data validity and accuracy saves companies valuable time, money and resources.

The Pre-validation Tool

This pre-validation tool will aid the business in performing data checks based on SAP configuration, and can manually adopt business rules before loading data in the system.

Master Data Scope

This pre-validation tool covers Customer, Vendor and Material Master Data. Each master data will follow SAP configuration created by Ascentia's business analysts.

Tool Objectives

- Validates large quantities of data prior to loading
- Lessens data loading issues
- Shortens the time needed for data patches in preparation for transactional testing
- Eliminates technical data requirements
- Allows more focus on client-specific validations and unique requirements
- Lessens data monitoring and data validation effort
- Ensures data accuracy and completeness

The tool supports the following pre-validation:

Mandatory field checking.
     If there are missing keys, columns with null values will be found in the validation report. Optional ones can be set based on the selection criteria.

Duplicate Check
     If a certain key combination shows duplicates, it is reported as error.

Checking for field length
     The tool makes sure that the field length does not exceed the definition found in the configuration table.

Checking valid ranges for each account group.
     All customer/vendor numbers to be uploaded to SAP should have valid ranges. This check will analyze if the column is within the range of each account group.

Adherence to expected data types

The tool validates if the data type defined in the configuration table is followed, for data types such as DATS, LANG, DEC, CUKY, CURR, NUMC and CHAR.
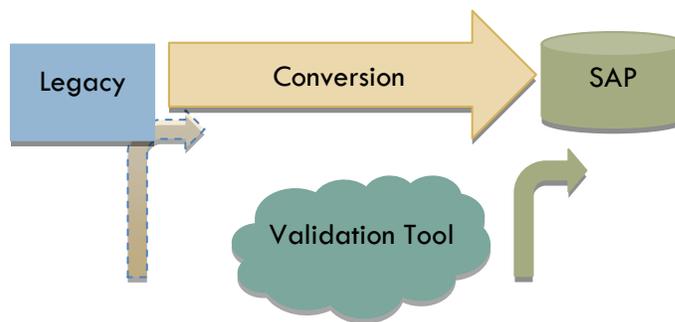
Validating acceptable ranges or values and data elements (Check table).

There are tables that describe fields which can only contain specific data ranges or values. Functional teams indicate how each field should be validated and what keys to use, using the configuration table as the basis for the check table validation.
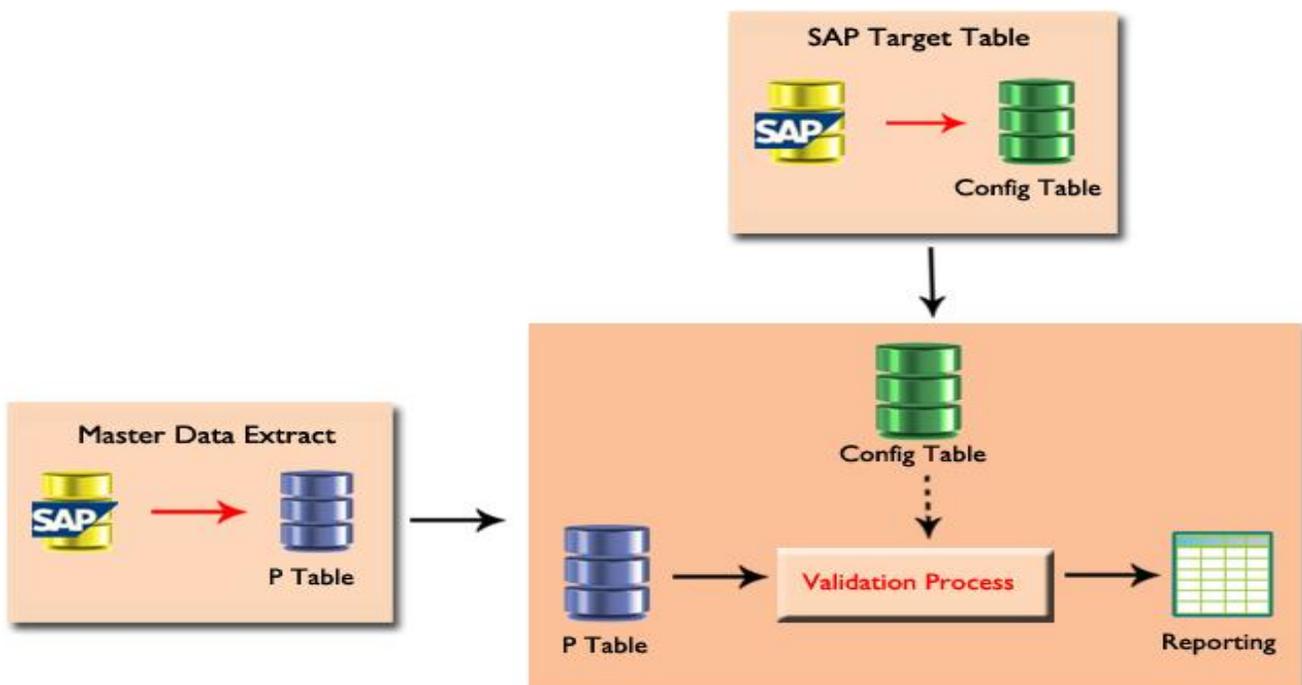
It also supports validating business rules outside of the standard validation.

How Does it Work?

1. Download SAP configuration setup files
2. Manual configuration adjustments
3. Load data into the tool for evaluation
4. Generate reports

Process flow of the Pre-Validation Tool

ASCENTIA CONSULTING

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Ascentia Consulting offers the following staffing mix:

- Specific Project Roles: independent contractors
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