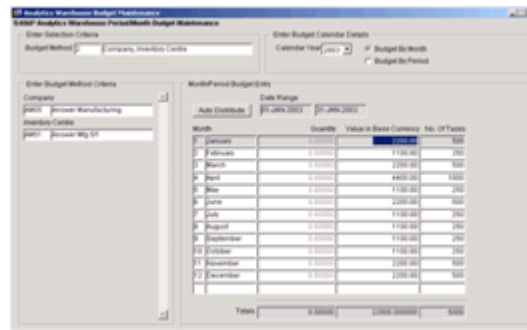


Effective control of products and storage space

- ▶ High level of space optimisation
- ▶ Minimal movement of stock
- ▶ Reduce time spent locating stock
- ▶ Flexible cycle counting facility
- ▶ Manage high volume situations
- ▶ Improve inventory accuracy
- ▶ Use concepts of zones, logical locations and physical locations

Control packed products in units of pallets, cases and each. Make the most of your storage facilities and perform detailed management of Inventory details, Warehouse Equipment and Labour requirements.

Based on the concept of random storage, Answer Warehousing helps provide a high level of space optimisation while being governed by user defined rules applicable to the various processes of putaway and picking.



Month	Quantity	Value in Base Currency	No. of Pallets
1 January	11,000	11,000.00	550
2 February	11,000	11,000.00	550
3 March	11,000	11,000.00	550
4 April	11,000	11,000.00	550
5 May	11,000	11,000.00	550
6 June	11,000	11,000.00	550
7 July	11,000	11,000.00	550
8 August	11,000	11,000.00	550
9 September	11,000	11,000.00	550
10 October	11,000	11,000.00	550
11 November	11,000	11,000.00	550
12 December	11,000	11,000.00	550
Total	132,000	1,320,000.00	66,000

As an integral component of Answer Enterprise, Warehouse Management integrates with Inventory Management and Purchasing, Manufacturing and Planning, Sales Order Processing and Plant Maintenance modules to ensure a seamless operation across the whole of your business.

Deployment options

As a fully integrated module, Answer Warehouse is able to work in a Distribution Centre or in a Manufacturing Warehouse environment, or any combination of the two.

Warehousing can also be defined to run with a minimum configuration only, and contains all of the necessary interface facilities for host machine interfacing, enabling stand-alone running or as part of a third party configuration.

If it is installed as apart of the fully integrated application it extends the Inventory Management Functions that are available.

Answer Warehousing is comprised of two modules:

- ▶ Base Warehousing
- ▶ Advanced Warehousing utilising Hand Held Terminals

Minimal movement of stock

This module provides many benefits in the detailed management of Inventory, Warehouse space, equipment and labour utilisation. This should lead to an overall reduction in space requirements, or the increased utilisation of existing space.

Minimal movement of stock means there is also a reduced risk of damage to stock and equipment.

Efficiency is further increased by reducing the time spent locating stock and taking advantage of any cross docking opportunities.

Improve Inventory accuracy

Answer Warehousing is extremely flexible, able to manage high volume situations with a flexible Cycle Counting facility. Additional validation techniques give an all round improvement in Inventory accuracy.

Maximum flexibility for Warehouse space

Answer Warehousing uses the concept of Zones, Logical Locations and Physical Locations to improve the physical organisation of the Warehouse.

Physical Locations are organised into Logical Locations, and Logical Locations into Zones, providing a three-tier structure.

Physical Locations are the only locations with defined space requirements or restrictions. This method of processing provides maximum flexibility in the space definition of a Warehouse.

The ability to group Physical Locations into a Logical Location and then into Zones is sometimes referred as 'Rubber' or 'Elastic' Warehousing.

Receipting check in

Receipting of goods is the process where deliveries are optionally logged in and then formally checked into the Warehouse into a Receipting Zone.

A wide range of Receipt Types are catered for, i.e. Purchase Orders, Works Orders, Customer Returns, Unplanned or Blind Receipts etc.

The Receipts process can also be Integrated into the Delivery Slot Booking process which enables predetermined Time Slices to be allocated to specific incoming Orders, Carriers, Customers, Vendors, etc.

The Receipting Check In Process is where all of the necessary data is gathered and/or generated for each individual Part.

This information on a Part-by-Part basis could encompass:

- ▶ Lot Control Details
- ▶ Serial Number Tracking Details
- ▶ Shelf Life Date Details
- ▶ Best Before Details
- ▶ Other User Required Date Tracking
- ▶ Country of Origin Tracking
- ▶ Date/Code Date Tracking
- ▶ Up to Five User Definable Tracking Dimensions, Quality Management and Sampling Methods

Receipting also provides the facility to print Goods Received Notes, Goods Received Tags with or without Bar Codes.

Putaway processing

The Putaway Process is the facility where Goods are moved from the Receipting Zone to their Final Destination, the Final Destination being defined via the available rules and/or overrides.

This Putaway confirmation then validates that the goods have been accurately assigned and accounted for.

Putaway processing will also cater for the situation where an interim or Two-Stage Putaway Strategy is being used.

Picking process

The Picking Process facility enables the Sales Orders, Stores Requisitions, Works Orders etc. to be selected for Picking and the allocation of suitable Items of Inventory assigned. The Rules that determine and will cater for Customer Shelf Life and Best Before Date preferences, if and where applicable

The Picking Process also interacts with the Delivery Route/Round Maintenance facilities within the Sales Order Processing Module.

Picking Task confirmation confirms that the required actions have been performed and also determines the next process that the particular Picking Group will need to go through. This next process could be Sorting, Packing or moved directly to Shipping.

Sorting, packing, shipping

The Sort facility will Sort any objects that have been picked via the Batch Pick Method. Batch Picking will lose individual Order/Part identities, Sorting re-establishes this identity.

The Packing Facility provides the user with the capability to identify individual Parts that need to go through Packing procedures. Packing can be a Wrap, Labelling or any other procedure defined by the user.

The Shipping Process is where the Shipping Documentation is produced and a Shipment Confirmation of goods leaving the Warehouse is performed. At this point, the Inventory is down dated from the Shipping Zones and all the necessary updating of the other Answer Modules takes place.

Replenishments can be either manually generated or automatically generated. This process is a request to move Stock from one Physical Location to another based on pre-set parameters. For example, a parameter could be; when the Stock of a Part in Location 1 drops to below 20, top it back up to 20.

Physical/Cycle Count Processing allows the user to Freeze Inventory, Generate Documentation, Count and produce Variance Reports.

The Variance Valuation process is fully integrated at Transactional Level to the General Ledger for Accountancy purposes. Unplanned Cycle Counts are also catered for, where perhaps only a limited number of Parts and/or Locations are to be counted.

All the Transaction processing within the Answer Warehousing Module where the following changes are made require User Authorisation and User Defined Rules:

- ▶ Quantity Adjustments
- ▶ Inventory Status Adjustments
- ▶ Location Transfers
- ▶ Date Adjustments, Shelf Life, Best Before
- ▶ Inventory Centre Transfers
- ▶ Change Part Number Transactions

Miscellaneous Adjustments

- ▶ Vendor Batch/Lot Number Changes
- ▶ Licence Plate and Date Code Changes
- ▶ Country of Origin Changes
- ▶ Batch Lot Splitting Facilities
- ▶ Unit of Measure Split Changes etc
- ▶ User Tracking Requirement Changes

Delivery Slots

- ▶ Define timed Delivery Slots for each Receipting Zone
- ▶ Enable Multiple Slots per time per Receipting Zone
- ▶ Generate Delivery Slot details for future booking purposes

Total Warehouse Control

- ▶ Define Physical Locations, with attributes of Space, Stackable, Ranks, Pick, Put, Replenishment and Cycle Count Path Numbers
- ▶ Define mixing rules for Physical Locations for Lot Numbers, FIFO Dates, Best Before Dates, Part Numbers and/or Units of Measure
- ▶ Group Physical Locations into Logical Locations for ease of use
- ▶ Group Logical Locations into Zones to define Warehouse space, control and flow
- ▶ Define Zone Flow, i.e. from Picking to Sorting, to Packing to Shipping, all User defined
- ▶ Define preferred Putaway by Physical and Logical Location
- ▶ Define Replenishment details by Physical and Logical Location
- ▶ Define Equipment to be used and where it can be used
- ▶ Define Tote/Container (Pallets, Bins, Skips, Cages etc) details, together with any weight and volume restrictions

Receipt Defaults

- ▶ Enable Unplanned or Planned Receipting
- ▶ Enable Early Receipting, if so, how many days
- ▶ Enable Late Receipting, if so, how many days
- ▶ Enable Over Receipting, if so, by what percentage up to a maximum value
- ▶ Enabling Under Receipting, if so by what percentage up to a maximum value
- ▶ How to manage Unplanned Receipts
- ▶ Whether to put any Unplanned Receipts on Hold and what Inventory Status to assign
- ▶ Which Inventories are to be defined as Discrepant
- ▶ What is necessary for Receipting Quality Management Sampling
- ▶ Define Receipt Type Overrides to enable different defaults for Purchase Orders, Works Orders, Unplanned etc

System Defaults

User Definable Defaults for the following areas:

- ▶ Part Tracking information
- ▶ Receipt Enabling Details
- ▶ Putaway Enabling Details
- ▶ Picking Rules
- ▶ Replenishment Rules
- ▶ Replenishment Processing Rules
- ▶ Miscellaneous Warehousing Rules
- ▶ Task Priority Setting
- ▶ Cycle Count Defaults

Putaway Processing

- ▶ Enables Manual or fully Automatic Putaway Processing to be performed
- ▶ Putaway Task Generation determines where Parts will be located, in physical locations, based on pre-defined rules
- ▶ Putaway completes the Receipt Processing functions
- ▶ Putaway will deal with the Interim or Two-Stage Putaway Mechanism, if it is implemented
- ▶ Putaway Confirmation also deals with the Actual Quantity Putaway and what should be done should there be any discrepancies from the Receipting Zone to the Actual Physical Location
- ▶ Putaway Confirmation deals with the confirmation of which Serial Numbers are in which Location, Tote Codes, etc.
- ▶ Putaway utilises User Definable rules such as Closest Space, Closest Partial Quantity, Closest Full Quantity, FIFO in Zone and the priorities in which these rules are to be applied

Sorting

- ▶ This provides the facility to Re-Establish the Order/Part/Quantity relationship where Products have been Batch Picked
- ▶ This works on the basis that items will be removed from the Bulk or Batch Picking Tote/Container and Sorted into Multiple Order Based Tote/Containers

Packing

- ▶ Packing is the process for those individual Part Numbers that require Wrapping, Labelling or any other process to take place
- ▶ Packing works on the basis that a specific Picked Tote/Container and its contents will be Repacked into other Tote/Containers together with any other Packing information if so required

Picking

- ▶ Enables Picking Groups to be defined which can be a collection of those Items required to be picked i.e., Sales Orders, Stores Requisitions, Works Orders, Outbounds etc.
- ▶ Picking Generation calculates the Number of Man Hours and Labour associated with a particular Pick Request and provides Basic Modelling Facilities to change the number of Personnel, Hours available, etc.
- ▶ Pick Groups can be defined as being Batch Picked or not, and if not, the method of Picking, i.e. Single Order or Cluster Picking is determined by the picker
- ▶ Picking utilises User Defined rules such as FIFO, Pick Full Quantity, Pick Part Quantity, Pick to Deplete together with options to determine whether Picking can access the Receipting Zone, Replenishment Zones directly or not thus providing Cross Docking opportunities
- ▶ Picking can be User Defined to only Pick in integer quantities, thus prohibiting any Unit of Measure breaks
- ▶ Picking can also be User Defined to Pick from different Units of Measure and also to use Unit of Measure Ranking which ensures the minimum number of Picks are generated.
- ▶ Pick Groups can also be allocated to be specific Routes/Rounds and Delivery Dates
- ▶ Pick Groups have default Sorting, and Packing and Shipment Zones Assigned
- ▶ Pick Groups generate Statistics of Number of Orders to be Picked, Number of Lines to be Fully Picked, Number of Tasks, Number of Employees required, etc for user review
- ▶ Pick Groups generate weights and volumes of the constituent elements
- ▶ Pick Groups can have Delivery Route/Round details assigned to them such as Vehicle ID, Trailer, Seal Number, Driver and Drivers Assistant
- ▶ Pick Task Confirmation provides confirmation that the Quantity as Reserved by the Pick Generation Process has been located and Issued to a Specific Order
- ▶ Pick Confirmation will also generate the next Move for a particular Order. This may be to Sorting, if Batch Pick Rules have been utilised, to Packing if one or more Parts or Items require to be Packed or direct to Shipping if Sorting and Packing are not required
- ▶ Each of the generated Transactions is a Movement Task
- ▶ Picking works on the basis that Products are placed into Delivery Totes/Containers and How-Packed information is a By-Product of this process
- ▶ Tote/Containers can be defined with weight and volume constraints which will be enforced by Pick Confirmation

Shipping

- ▶ Shipment Confirmation is the process by which Inventory is downdated and all other details in the appropriate modules updated
- ▶ Shipment Confirmation optionally enables the entry of Vehicle, Driver, Trailer, Seal ID etc
- ▶ Shipment Confirmation enables confirmation to be made by Sales Order, Sales Order Line, a specific Tote/Container or Complete Pick Group
- ▶ An Un-Shipment Facility for those Sales Orders which are not going to be finally Despatched is available
- ▶ Shipment Documentation such as Despatch Notes, Vehicle Load Lists etc, can also be produced
- ▶ Shipments can be confirmed by the whole Picking Group, Selectively by Order, Tote/Container etc

Replenishment Processing

- ▶ User defined Replenishment Rules by specific Part Number i.e. when quantities drop below a level, Replenish up to or by a quantity
- ▶ Manual Replenishment can be entered
- ▶ Fully Automatic Replenishment suggestions can be generated
- ▶ Replenishment can take priority over all other activity if deemed necessary by User defaults
- ▶ Replenishment Confirmation is the process by which a location Transfer is Confirmed

Physical Cycle Count Processing

- ▶ Facilities to perform a Full Cycle Count or Partial Cycle count as directed by the User
- ▶ User definable Cycle Count Periods
- ▶ Provides for Zone/Logical Location and/or Physical Location selection
- ▶ Valid cut Off Analysis reporting in order to reduce the number of Items to be Counted
- ▶ Provides Full Cycle Count Worksheet Count facilities
- ▶ Quantity and Tag Entry facilities including the abilities to count Zones, Parts, with Serial Numbers etc.
- ▶ Tag Analysis reports
- ▶ Valuation and Variance reports
- ▶ Worksheet Recount reports where Item counts do not match
- ▶ Provides Full Valuation and Variance Update facilities which will generate all necessary Inventory Adjustment Transactions and associated General Ledger Account Postings
- ▶ Unplanned Cycle Count facilities

Transaction Processing

- ▶ Quantity Adjustments facilities
- ▶ Provides Inventory Status Change facilities based on the Status Change Mapping Rules previously defined
- ▶ Location Transfer rules previously defined
- ▶ Provides Maintenance facilities to adjust Shelf Life, Best Before, Display Until, Sell By, Consume By dates
- ▶ Facilities to maintain any one of the four user Definable Dates
- ▶ Facilities to maintain the User Defined Tracking Characteristics
- ▶ Facilities to Add, Change and Delete Serial Number details
- ▶ Provides facilities to change Date Code/Code Date, Vendor Batch/Lot Number, Country of Origin details and Licence Plate
- ▶ Facilities to split Lot Numbers into several Lots
- ▶ Facilities to change Unit of Measures, i.e. redefine 1 Pallet as 150 cases
- ▶ Provides a Change Part Number Transaction
- ▶ Inventory Centre Transfers
- ▶ All Transactions are security controlled by user and with appropriate value restrictions

Charging

- ▶ Ability to levy charges for storage movement activity
- ▶ See Warehouse Charging documents

Inbound and Outbound Processing

- ▶ Allows Answer Warehouse Management to operate in a minimal stand alone environment
- ▶ Create Inbound documents that can be from Vendors (Purchase Orders), Customers (Customer Returns), Internal (Manufacturing Receipts) plus many more
- ▶ Create Outbound documents that can be for Customers (Sales Shipments), Vendors (Vendor Returns), Internal (Manufacturing Component Issues) plus many more
- ▶ No need for dummy Purchase Orders or Sales Orders
- ▶ Process Receipt and Putaway against Inbounds
- ▶ Process Pack and Ship against Outbounds

Enquiries and Reports

Examples of some of the Enquiries and Reports available within the Answer Warehousing Module:

- ▶ Radio Frequencies or Hand Held Terminal Logging Enquiry
- ▶ Hand Held Activity Enquiry
- ▶ Sales Order Enquiry
- ▶ Inventory Enquiry
- ▶ Part Numbers Held Review Enquiry
- ▶ Physical Location Enquiry
- ▶ Zone ID Breakdown Enquiry
- ▶ Receipts Enquiry
- ▶ Licence Plate/Label Enquiry
- ▶ Physical Locations with Available Space Enquiry
- ▶ Putaway Tasks Enquiry
- ▶ Picking Tasks Enquiry
- ▶ Sorting Tasks Enquiry
- ▶ Packing Tasks Enquiry
- ▶ Shipping Tasks Enquiry
- ▶ Replenishment Tasks Enquiry
- ▶ Transfer Tasks Enquiry
- ▶ Tote/Container Review Enquiry
- ▶ Cycle Count Enquiry
- ▶ Warehouse Inventory/Task Combined Enquiry
- ▶ Pick Group Enquiry
- ▶ Delivery Slot Bookings Vs Actual Arrivals Enquiry
- ▶ Task History Enquiry
- ▶ Receipts Checked In Awaiting Putaway Enquiry
- ▶ Object Where In/Where Located Enquiry
- ▶ Stock In Program Enquiry
- ▶ Transfer Task Report
- ▶ Tote/Container Report
- ▶ Planned Receipts Report
- ▶ Planned Despatches Report
- ▶ Shortage Note Print Report
- ▶ Despatch Note Print Report
- ▶ Combined Despatch Note/Shortage Note Print Report
- ▶ Shipping Labels Print Report
- ▶ Vehicle Manifest Bill of Lading Print Report
- ▶ Packing List Report
- ▶ Actual Receipts Report
- ▶ Planned Receipts Report With Bar Codes

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