

About Oniqua

With operations in the Americas, Africa and Asia-Pacific regions, Oniqua is the world's leading MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Operations) analytics software company. Oniqua helps organizations maximize profits, savings and efficiencies by minimizing MRO waste, and delivers a positive return on investment in as little as three to six months. Oniqua Analytics Solution (OAS) leverages customers' transactional data by applying advanced analytics to identify inefficiencies and ensure that their maintenance, inventory and procurement operations run as efficiently as possible. Oniqua is proud to serve the world's leading companies in the oil and gas, mining, utilities and transportation industries, including BHP Billiton, ConocoPhillips, BP, Hawaiian Electric, Bermuda Electric Light Company, Orange County Transportation Authority, Vale, Rio Tinto, Anglo Coal, Newmont Mining, Alcoa, Xstrata, Drummond Company, Freeport McMoRan and many others.

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ONIQUA MATERIAL DEFINITION



Transform SAP Material Descriptions from free-form text into structured Materials Data

ONIQUA
MRO ANALYTICS
Driving Asset Performance

The SAP Catalog Data Transformation Challenge

The SAP Materials system which is the default functionality used to perform catalog-related tasks within SAP provides only free format text for description and purchase order text. This provides significant challenges to productivity, resources and budgets due to the effort in maintaining free format text. However the SAP Classification system can be leveraged to provide much richer catalog maintenance capability by using the Oniqua Material Definition (OMD) product to provide a bridge between SAP Classifications and SAP Materials functionality.

With the SAP Classification system, users have the capability to efficiently record a hierarchy of Classes and associated Attributes sets (tables) to create a basic standard for the catalog. Each instance of a Class in a Material Master record attracts a unique set of Attribute Values providing an item's descriptive data. However, the data in SAP Materials only supports free form text.

As a result, the cataloger is required to copy and/or retype the data and create the required 40-character Material Definition, and the Purchase Order Text – all of which must be done every time Classification tables and/or Attribute Values are added, changed or modified. This is a slow, labor intensive process and one highly prone to errors, resulting in:

- ◆ significant increases inventory and maintenance costs;
- ◆ poor performance in search and select (not all fields are searchable);
- ◆ potential lack of uniformity in data presentation (free-form text fields);
- ◆ frequent errors due to human error;
- ◆ very slow response in making widespread changes (such as globally changing a 'name' or the format/content of texts).

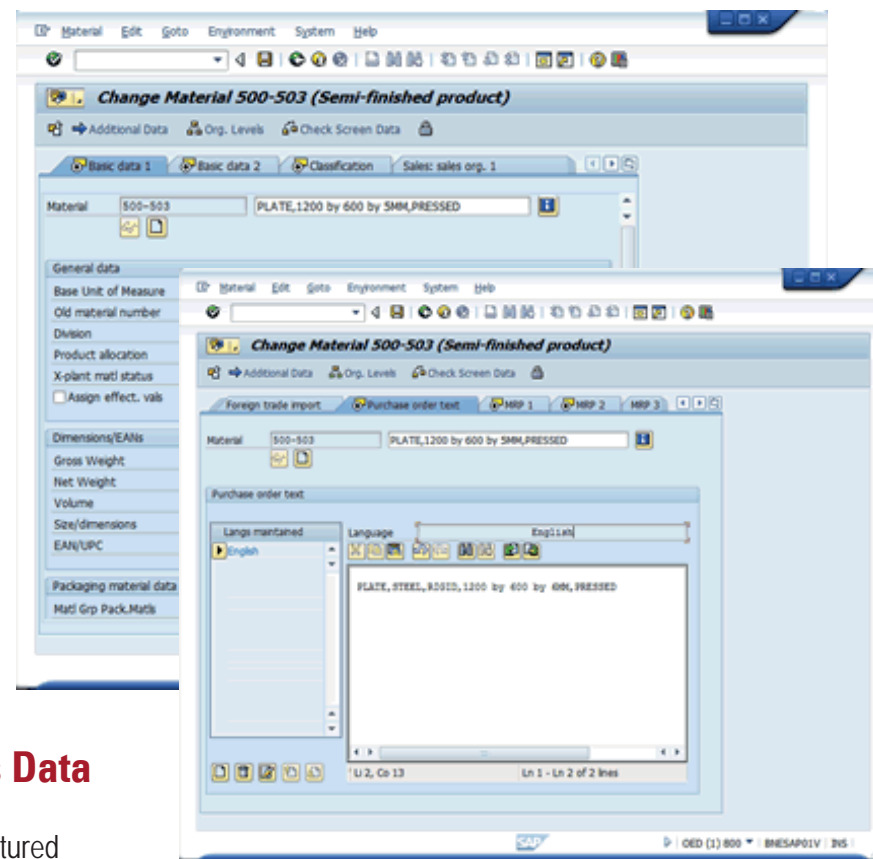
Oniqua Material Definition – Transform SAP Material Descriptions from free form text into structured Materials Data

As the only software tool that leverages standard SAP Classifications to provide structured materials data, Oniqua Material Definition (OMD) addresses these challenges by enabling you to perform catalog related tasks via a menu in SAP, and automates the build of the 40-character Material Description; and Purchase Order Text of either an individual Material or range of Materials with speed, efficiency and absolute accuracy.

In addition to simplifying and greatly accelerating the maintenance of Materials Classification, OMD displays the complete set of Classification data related to each Material record on one scrolling screen for easy reference. By using OMD's structured classification capabilities, a consistent global standard can be applied to SAP catalogs quickly and easily, and allows you to:

- ◆ save hundreds of hours and countless errors every year;
- ◆ maintain a consistent global specification standard for all materials in SAP;
- ◆ reduce duplication costs related to unnecessary inventory;
- ◆ eliminate maintenance costs related to manually typing every item's description in its material description field.

OMD also eliminates potential inconsistencies over time due to staff turnover, multiple catalogers, varying description rules and different locations.



Free-from text in SAP for Material Description and Purchase Order Text



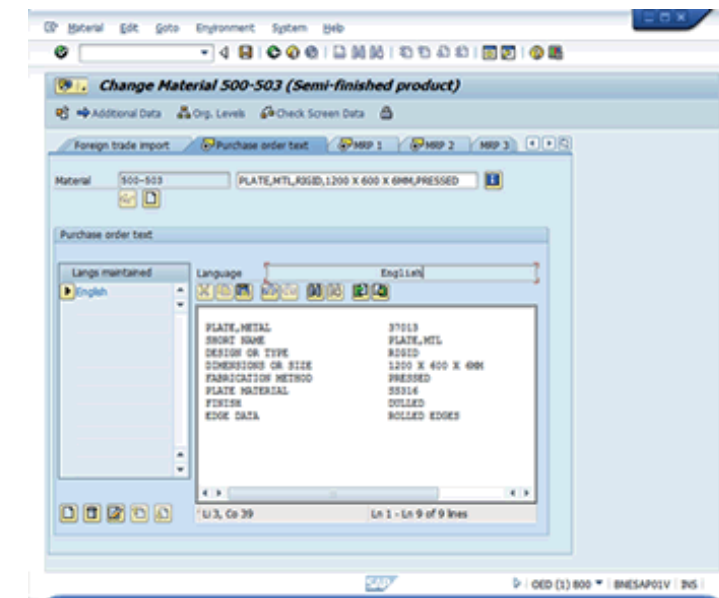
How OMD Works

OMD uses your existing data in SAP Classification tables and leverages:

- ◆ Class and Class descriptions;
- ◆ Characteristic and Characteristic Values (language neutral);
- ◆ Characteristic Value Descriptions by language (any number);
- ◆ A look-up table relating a Value Description to an alternate string (using an abbreviation rather than a full description).

By taking advantage of this data in your existing SAP system, OMD enables you to:

- ◆ define and maintain classes and attributes within SAP classifications;
- ◆ define the presentation standard of the catalog item for building material short descriptions and purchase order text;
- ◆ build the Material Definitions and Purchase Order Texts from the structured classification data according to the configurable build rules – and do so for one or many items;
- ◆ display a consolidated view of all classification data for a material item;



Result of using Oniqua Material Definition in SAP. Purchase Order text is built based on the OMD build rules and class/characteristic values

As Characteristics are maintained or Materials are reclassified, OMD can be applied so that a consistent standard is adhered to by all users. The cataloger can then assign 'build rules' or perform updates of many materials through batch processing.

OMD is not just for existing SAP users – it's also perfect for organizations considering migrating to SAP, as it takes advantage of any past investment made in the classification of your inventory and adds appropriate weighting to provide a well-defined Classifications system.

For more information on Oniqua Material Definition, visit our website at <http://www.oniqua.com/mro-optimization-solutions/oniqua-materials-definition.html>

⇐ SAP ONLY VERSUS SAP AND OMD ⇒