

# SAP Plant Maintenance



For any enterprise involved in manufacturing, maintenance costs are a significant portion of business expenses. Often, this cost is reluctantly accepted as necessary, and not afforded the same level of scrutiny applied to capital plans. Activating the SAP Plant Maintenance functionality can provide a proven, highly effective means to properly control maintenance costs and improve business efficiency.

## **Maintenance Challenges**

Many maintenance departments have no reliable method for relating spare parts to the equipment and systems they maintain.

In addition, poorly-supported maintenance activities may cause:

- Inefficiently deployed maintenance craftspeople
- Excessive and obsolete spare parts inventories
- Expedited delivery of repair parts (to minimize unanticipated downtime)
- Production disruptions due to product or utilities equipment failure
- Low production operation efficiencies

# **Functionality & Capabilities**

SAP Plant Maintenance is the only system that offers state of the art maintenance functionality with the capability to integrate with internal programs, such as: materials management, project management, finance and control, asset management and human resources.

SAP Plant Maintenance functionality begins with organizing production and utilities systems into logical structures that mimic physical installations, called functional locations.

#### Spare Parts

Spare parts can be organized into Bills of Material (BOM) related to either equipment or functional locations to determine what parts are needed or overstocked. With spare parts inventories rationalized, it is possible to specify a minimum and maximum for each spare to ensure maintenance and production efficiency, optimize procurement, and minimize inventory holding costs.

### **Cost Information**

Labor and material costs can be recorded with respect to maintenance orders, functional locations, and equipment. Cumulative maintenance costs show the true cost of breakdown maintenance and indicate when replacement should be considered instead of ongoing maintenance. This information can be used to determine when equipment should be allowed to run to failure and when maintenance techniques should be applied.

## Maintenance orders

Maintenance orders can be automatically generated on the basis of elapsed time, cumulative counts or a combination of both. Reliable, ongoing generation of preventative maintenance orders ensures maximum production uptime and continual inventory replenishment.

### Additional Capabilities

- Task lists to pre-define actions and materials required for repetitive maintenance work.
- Notification functionality can document actual conditions, which can be compared to estimated conditions.
- Establish refurbishment materials and track costs.
- Manage instrument calibration and testing work.
- Associate functional locations and equipment with financial assets, enabling effective asset capitalization and retirement.

# **Practical Applications**

## Life Science Companies

SAP Plant Maintenance is a vital tool for ensuring that pharmaceuticals, biologics and biomedical devices are produced in accordance with validated manufacturing and quality assurance processes and specifications. In particular, the instrument calibration capabilities of SAP Plant Maintenance, combined with SAP Quality Management integration, provide the foundation for accurate measurement and quality assurance.

Follow-on maintenance orders can be created based on earlier orders, thereby creating an audit trail to prove that deficiencies are truly identified and corrected.

Equipment and functional location master data records can be flagged as GXP relevant. Additionally, GXP identification is automatically entered into maintenance orders created for such equipment and locations, providing guidance for applicable procedures, including the need for electronic signatures prior to performing maintenance work. Audits can also be facilitated by uploading files or URLs to maintenance orders.

## **Consumer Products Companies**

With the importance of quality and product integrity to industry and consumers, consumer products companies can leverage similar applications.

The high volume production of many consumer products companies puts heavy demand on manufacturing process equipment. SAP Plant Maintenance provides a comprehensive, reliable and accurate system that will ensure equipment runs at peak efficiency, eliminating unscheduled downtime due to preventable breakdowns.

# **Implementation & Integration**

Along with thorough knowledge of SAP Plant Maintenance, Clarkston consultants have extensive experience implementing SAP systems for leading life science and consumer products companies. Their practical maintenance and integration expertise will enable your company to realize the significant cost savings and improved efficiency that SAP Plant Maintenance can provide.



For more information about SAP Plant Maintenance or integrating enterprise systems, contact us at (+1) 800-652-4274 or info@clarkstonconsulting.com.



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## About Clarkston Consulting

Clarkston Consulting provides management and technology consulting services for life sciences and consumer products companies. Clarkston has achieved a 12-year average client satisfaction rate of 97% by continuously pushing for success for our clients, our consultants, and our company.