

# Central Master Data Management: An Overview



## Applies to:

SAP NetWeaver 2004s/ MDM 5.5 SP 06. For more information, visit the [Master Data Management homepage](#).

## Summary

Disparate system landscape for any medium or large enterprise hinder the global view of Master data and also restrict the scope of standards maintained in the satellite systems operating distinctly. This article explains the importance of MDM in the described landscape and the way MDM can be leveraged for central data maintenance.

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**Created on:** 20 July 2008

## Author Bio



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## Introduction

Central Master Data Management (CMDM) is one of the cores of IT scenario of MDM and can be considered as the nirvana stage for data maintenance. It means data maintenance and creation will be done at a central place or centralized repository which will be the central governing centre. CMDM always include the other two scenarios namely Consolidation and Harmonization. This scenario differs from other two scenarios in the respect that the data creation and maintenance is done centrally rather than the data getting created disparately.

Duplicate Masters across **satellite systems** (Local Systems) around different geographic location lead to redundancies and inconsistencies in Business processes; which cost money, disrupt business, adversely affect the quality of customer service and obscure flawless business decisions. Lack of single data ownership is one of the root causes of the problem.



Figure 1: Disparate system Landscape.

Accurate and consistent master data with strong governance is the only solution, if smooth running of Business Process is to be ensured. Central Data creation will ensure uniqueness and uniformity of Master data across the satellite systems and will help avoiding any discrepancy in the landscape.

## Approach of MDM

SAP Master Data Management enables the system to store, augment and consolidate master data ensuring the consistent distribution of master data to all application and satellite systems within an IT landscape. By ensuring cross-system data consistency, MDM accelerates the execution of Business process and improves data maintenance.

Before Implementing CMDM it has to be ensured that the existing data is in place and taken care of. Thus CMDM should be implemented upon consolidating and harmonizing the existing data. That's the ideal way of implementing it.

Implementation can be done without pre consolidation also, provided the data is getting created for the first time and customer's interest is ensuring the new data created. But for a Data migration project or for any customer going global Consolidation and Harmonization is must prior to implementation of MDM.



Figure 2: Consolidating Data.



Figure 3: Harmonizing Data to target systems.

In this process data problems like enrichment and other data related problems can be taken care. Only the General data is created centrally and upon approval is migrated back to the target systems where the local information is still retained and can be continued to be enrich locally.

### Landscape

The technical landscape is shown below which shows the entire data flow in a complete cycle. The central repository is realized in MDM. Upon its realization data is imported in to MDM using PI. MDM consolidates the data and harmonizes it back to the target systems. Once this is taken care the next step is the central creation getting done.

From the MDM front the success of this scenario depends on the strength of governance, strategies and workflow implemented. A stable workflow will ensure a proper hierarchical process flow and data validation. It can also be done through a front end like EP and guided procedures may be implemented to make it possible.

It also requires a stable chain management process to have a stronghold on this because a lot of process and people will be involved for creation of a single master record.

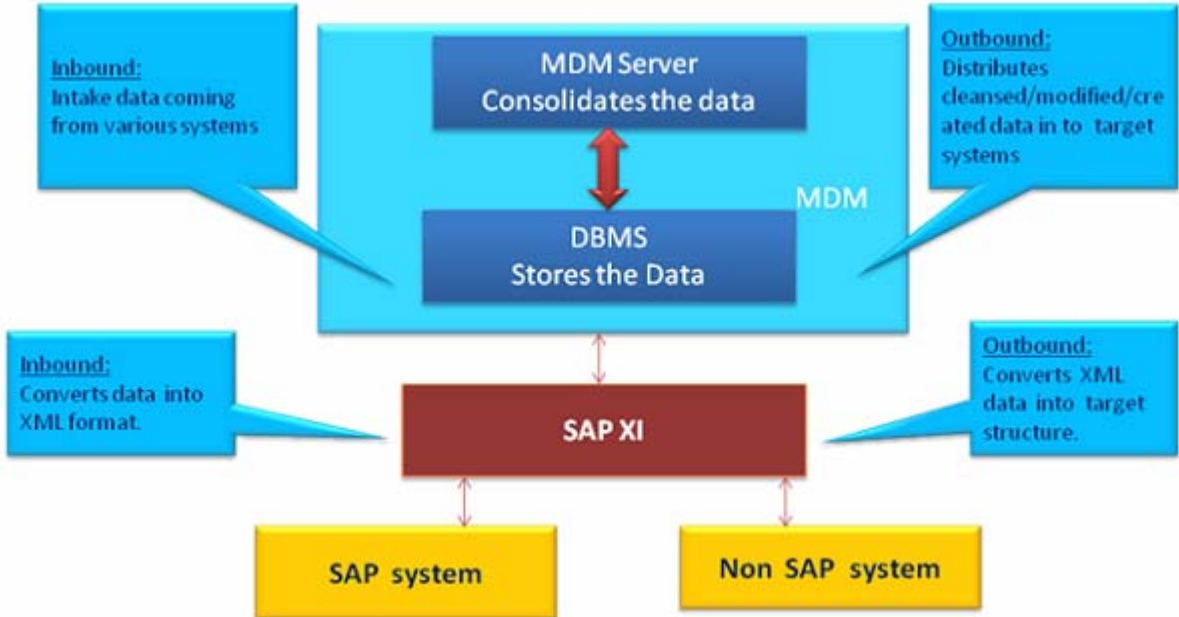


Figure 4: Landscape diagram with process flow.

## Benefits

### Role-Based Access

- Portal content can be implemented for occasional users to create, read, update, and delete master data objects with proper authorizations and Validations.
- Data Stewards and Data analysts can now monitor the end to end operations and complicated changes can be governed.

### Data Maintenance

- High Performance complex searches will be made easier.
- Data quality and standards will be uniform across the landscape through iterative data validations and monitoring.
- Ensures central control of master data as soon as the data is created.
- Dynamic creation and maintenance of product variants (Matrix Product).

### Synchronization

- Periodic outbound of new/updated objects via MDM Syndicator.
- Port mechanism and remote client system will help maintaining unity in diversity while syndicating data to target systems.
- Business process will be smoother and synchronized data will also lay out a platform for the ESOA architecture that can be implemented in future.

## Summary

While implementing this as a solution a precise planning has to go ahead, where Data stewards will help determining the governance strategies and putting data creation in sync with the business process. Implementing a solution of this stature needs lot of Business maturity and a strong governance model.

## Related Content

<https://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/go/portal/prtroot/docs/library/uuid/20c5eb85-f070-2910-6e9f-c8c97cb93638>.

<https://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/go/portal/prtroot/docs/library/uuid/50d249b3-7216-2a10-4e9c-e7abceb0856c>.

[www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/mdm-elearning](http://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/mdm-elearning).

[For more information, visit the Master Data Management homepage.](#)

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