Business One in Action - Why 'In Stock' Quantities Become Negative?

Applies to:

SAP Business One, Logistics, Stock

Summary:

This article explores & explains the different settings in SAP Business One which control whether or not the stock is allowed to in negative quantities.

Author: Lorna Real, Senior Support Consultant, GSC, SAP Business One

Company: SAP

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Author Bio:

Lorna Real joined SAP in 2007 and is currently active as Senior Support Consultant for SAP Business One. She has worked as both technical and business consultant. She authored this article as a direct response to a partner enquiry during the Expert-on-Phone project, where she consulted on mainly logistics and Finance related topics.

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Why 'In Stock' Quantities Become Negative?

The 'In Stock' quantities of an item may become negative if the 'Block Negative Stock' option in the Document Settings -> General tab is not selected. When this is not ticked, the system allows the release of stock items even if the quantities in the system are not sufficient to fulfill the requirement in the document.

This flexibility is specifically helpful in business scenarios where physical quantities are available but there have been delays in updating of the stock in Business One (e.g. updates are only done at certain hours of the day).

Note: When this option is un-ticked, the total monetary value of the item also goes into negative together with its quantity. These negative values are offset when subsequent receipts are posted for the item.

Even when the 'Block Negative Stock' option is ticked, it is still possible that some items show negative quantities in the 'In Stock' column in Item Master Data -> Stock Data tab.

The 'Block Release' and 'Block Negative Stock' options ensure that the stock quantity does not go negative. This setting however refers to the total 'In Stock' quantity of the item after considering all the warehouses. Hence, it is possible that a specific warehouse has a negative 'In Stock' quantity but the total 'In Stock' remains at positive values.

To prevent quantities in any of the warehouses from going negative, tick the 'Manage Stock by Warehouse'.

The 'Manage Stock by Warehouse' option is available in the 'Document Settings' window. When this option is ticked, new item records created in the system will automatically have this option ticked in the 'Item Master Data' window.

Related Contents

- [SAP Business One in Action Catalog Page](#)

- [Link to DRC](#) documentation

- Note [863791](#)

- For more information, visit the [Business One homepage](#).

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