

The Process Pipeline Analysis...

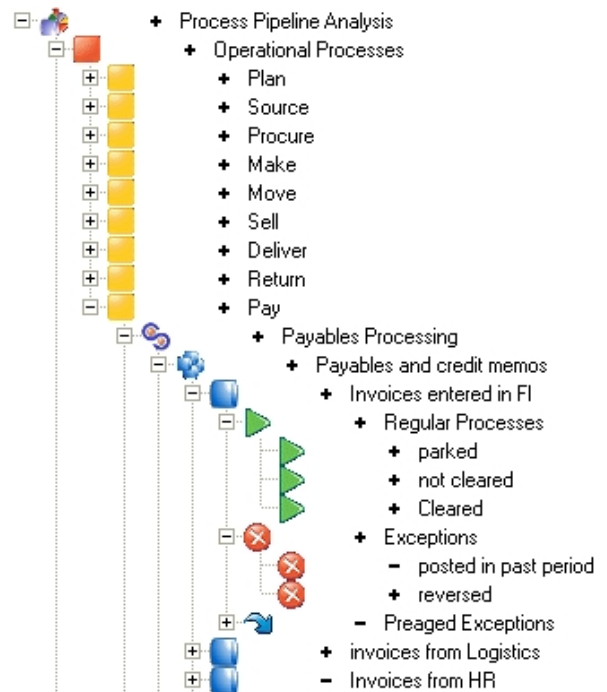
... facilitates continuous, systematic examination and improvement of processes

The Process Pipeline Analysis enables automatic and dynamic evaluation of the processes operating on an SAP system. The innovation of this product is its analysis method. In contrast to conventional analyses of this kind, you do not receive a static record of actual transaction data on a specific key date. Rather, you receive a clear visual diagram of the dataflow within each of the different processes (pipelines), with individual processes sorted according to diverse criteria (standard procedures, procedures with exceptions). This type of visual overview facilitates the **continuous, systematic examination and improvement of processes**.

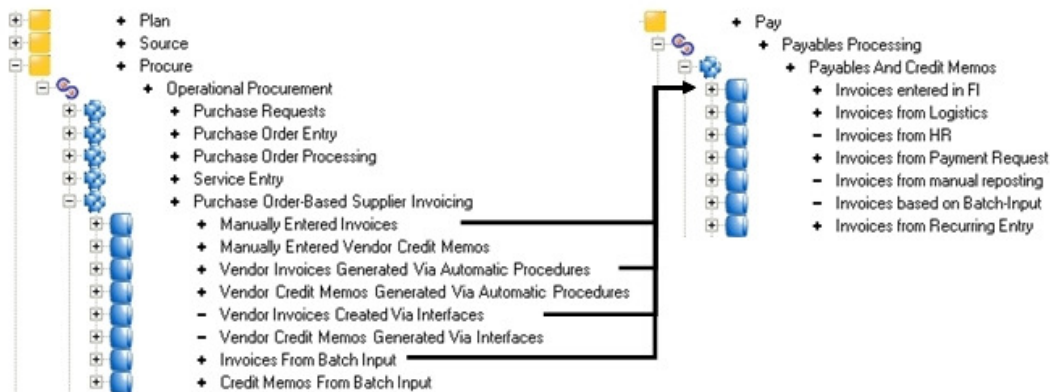
What method is the Process Pipeline based on?

By analyzing different types of management data, such as log files, the transaction data accumulated in the SAP system is sorted into business cases. This granularity prevents the abstraction dilemma posed by process modeling. Common processes are thus transformed into tangible case procedures. So, for example, instead of having the generic process of Accounts Payable Invoice Processing, you have "Invoices from Manual Entry in FI" or "Invoices from Procurement", examined and categorized into various different groups, such as routine, problematic, exceptions and "accidents".

The clear distinction made among different case procedures within the "Accounts Payables Invoice Processing" process is of utmost importance for the continuous analysis of processes. From the Accounting perspective, both case procedures "Invoices from Manual Entry in FI" and "Invoices from Procurement" obtain the same results: Both create payables in the accounts payable ledger. Their origins, however, are completely different. The case procedure "Invoice from Procurement" is created in Materials Management. This process is based on procurement with logistical processing, i.e. involving system-supported requirements procurement, ordering and posting of goods receipts. If accounting process anomalies occur, such as several unpaid and overdue or cancelled invoices, the causes for this need to be sought in Materials Management processes (e.g. late posting of goods receipts). In this case, the person in charge of the warehouse would be the one to confront about these "accidents". The Process Pipeline Analysis also supports this type of research by the **"backward" and "forward" linking** of all case procedures (within a pipeline). The case procedure "Invoice from Manual Entry in FI" originates in Accounting, when payables are entered directly on a vendor account. The processes which precede this (i.e. determining the invoice amount) occur outside the system. These may be manually calculated trip expenses or internal documents manually entered for payment in the accounts payables ledger.



Business transactions within the accounts payables invoice processing



Dataflow within the Pipeline

If accounting process anomalies are discovered in the manually entered vendor invoices, it is essential to first identify the preceding processes as well as those performed outside the SAP system. The Process Pipeline Analysis determines the existence of exceptions as well as the quantity structures and key figures for these exceptions in master and transaction data, and pinpoints the precise case procedures in which these occur. Tracking down the exceptions enables you to take the **cause and effect analysis** all the way to the single document level. Depending on how case procedures originate, the same effect may be based on different causes and so, require different means of correction.

What advantages does the Process Pipeline Analysis offer?

The “backward“ and “forward“ linking of all case procedures enables the Process Pipeline Analysis to generate a **visual overview of dataflow across all application areas**.

It should be conducted every three to four months to achieve a **consistent reduction in the number of process anomalies**, and to provide systematic **answers to the following questions**:

- When do exceptions occur most frequently? What’s the trend?
- Which organizational units have a significantly higher number of exceptions?
- Which employees (groups, roles, regions) are affected most?
- Is there one organizational unit in which more than, say, 10% of all processes are blocked?
- Do more changes occur in certain document types?
- Are manual price changes performed frequently in process X?
- Which case procedures have especially high cancellation rates?
- Which processes are affected by changes?
- What distinguishes an out-performer department from an under-performer department?

Product Scope

The Process Pipeline Analysis includes case procedures for the following business processes:

- **Operative Processes**
 - Plan
 - Source
 - Procure
 - Make
 - Move
 - Sell
 - Deliver
 - Return
 - Pay
- **Management Processes**
 - Accounting

Contact



Please contact us for further questions regarding the Process Pipeline Analysis. We’re happy to help!

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