SAP BusinessObjects™

SAP Solution Brief
SAP BusinessObjects Governance, Risk, and Compliance Solutions

SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services

SAP® BUSINESSOBJECTS™ GLOBAL TRADE SERVICES

ENABLING A SECURE, INTERNATIONAL SUPPLY CHAIN

The SAP® BusinessObjects™ Global Trade Services application helps you minimize trade compliance violations and accelerate the supply chain to improve customer experience. It facilitates compliance, speedy trade and customs clearance, reduced duties and landed cost, and higher efficiency through automation.

If your business is increasingly sourcing, manufacturing, and distributing goods on a worldwide basis, you're not alone in trying to balance the incredible opportunities this affords with the many challenges that come with global trade. New regulations and enforcement tactics, fluctuating transportation costs, complex cross-border regulations, and extensive filing and documentation requirements combine to make global trade inherently risky and volatile. At the same time, the growing body of new regulations, e-filing mandates, free trade agreements, and penalties and fines for noncompliance steadily add to the complexity and risk of international trade.

Consider the scope and complexity of a typical cross-border shipment, which involves multiple parties (such as suppliers, shippers, government agencies, and brokers), numerous trade and industry-specific documents, various country-specific laws and regulations, and a vast number of trade agreements. If your business is still managing the countless communications and handoffs involved in such shipments manually, it can lead to regulatory violations, fines, and penalties; and ultimately, this will slow down your supply chain, damage your brand and customer relationships, and hurt your bottom line.

One of the biggest reasons for these challenges is the rapid increase in global trade regulations, which is in part a response to the continuing threat of global terrorism. In order to protect their own interests and maintain control over the materials that flow across their borders, governments are scrutinizing export and import processes more closely than ever before. Another factor complicating global trade is trade liberalization around the world, which is accelerating as bilateral and regional free trade agreements continue to proliferate. For many companies, participating in preferential trade programs, such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and European Union (EU) trade agreements, is essential to gaining and maintaining a competitive edge. But if your company relies on manual, paper-based processes to manage participation and demonstrate the eligibility of products for reduced or zero tariffs, it can be an incredibly time-consuming and expensive task.

Looking ahead in 2011 and 2012, you can expect new regulations requiring compliance. These include the export control reform, which will create a single, combined export regulation, and the National Export Initiative, which will improve conditions that directly affect the private sector's ability to export.

Given these changes and challenges, how can you accelerate trade within new and existing markets around the world while minimizing trade violations? SAP can help – with the SAP® BusinessObjects™ Global Trade Services application. This proven, comprehensive solution will help you automate and monitor complex export, import, and other processes in real time.

Single, Complete Solution for Global Trade Management

The SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services application gives you a single, complete solution for global trade management that automates global trade processes so you can accelerate your supply chain and minimize trade violations. Now you can centrally manage, rapidly execute, and monitor the five major areas of trade:

- **Export management** – Automate complex export and all compliance processes to minimize violations, accelerate document preparation, and e-file documents in most countries that require them. This functionality can be integrated with the SAP Transportation Management application so you can create one set of papers for an entire container of orders, minimize delays at national borders, and accelerate your supply chain.
- **Import management** – Expedite customs clearance for import shipments, automate compliance with all regulatory requirements, and streamline electronic communication with customs authorities; this allows you to mitigate risk, reduce costly buffer stock, and enable just-in-time inventory management. You can also efficiently manage letters of credit and comply with the Importer Security Filing ISF 10+2 reporting requirements.
- **Special customs procedures** – Reduce operational costs by automating the execution of processes such as customs warehousing, processing under customs control, and inward and outward processing relief. This automation increases productivity as you import components and complete manufacturing in a free trade zone to avoid paying export duties – savings that go right to your bottom line.
- **Trade preference management** – Fully leverage multiple international trade agreements by soliciting vendor declarations, determining the eligibility of products for preferential treatment, and issuing certificates of origin to customers.
- **Excise Movement and Control System (EMCS)** – Automate the process for deferring excise taxes with functionality that supports the EMCS regulatory requirement and keeps you in compliance.

SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services empowers managers and employees to safely manage and monitor a vast number of shipments without compliance violations; this is possible because communications are handled electronically.

Automate Global Trade Operations to Boost Your Bottom Line

Manual, paper-intensive processes can bog down your supply chain, increase the risk of human error, and drive up costs – in terms of both day-to-day process inefficiencies and fines. But with SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services, you can automate the full range of international trade functions and vastly reduce their associated cost, time, and resource requirements. You'll find that most shipments can be processed with little or no human intervention, freeing your staff members to focus on the exceptions routed to them for special attention.

For example, you can electronically generate and send communications to trade authorities and cost-effectively stay current with ever-changing global trade regulations and agreements. Support for automated trade preference management – including support for trade agreements and preferential origin determination – enables you to monitor your entire product catalog and receive automatic alerts when opportunities arise to reduce duties and lower landed cost. And automation of customs processes enables you to track inward and outward processing relief and manage customs bonded warehousing with less effort – and therefore less cost.

Minimize Compliance Violations

Avoiding compliance failures is essential to business profitability and sustainability. Governments worldwide are stepping up enforcement activities – complete with high fines and other penalties. These consequences can cut deeply into your bottom line, delay shipments to customers, lead to confiscated goods, and damage your company's brand.

With SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services, you can essentially automate compliance – even as regulations change. Its comprehensive, automated compliance check functionality speeds the compliance process. And exception-based management functionality alerts employees about any transaction that fails to meet global trade compliance regulations. SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services also supports e-filing mandates worldwide; the application is certified for numerous import and export customs systems worldwide.

At the same time, SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services empowers managers and employees to safely manage and monitor a vast number of shipments without compliance violations. This is possible because communications are handled electronically, appropriate regulations are automatically enforced, and every shipment is monitored in real time. Executives have dashboards that provide a centralized view of trade operations so they always know the state of trade and can intervene in any transaction, if required. You'll find that your business can scale up the volume of its global trade without having to hire additional staff to manually handle compliance.

Accelerate Your Supply Chain

By automating and streamlining complex export processes, SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services minimizes delays at national borders so you can deliver goods to customers more quickly. For example, using the software's comprehensive, automated compliance check functionality, you can speed up the compliance process. The software includes an extensive array of certified electronic customs communication interfaces and compliant, global trade forms that accelerate the creation, delivery, and tracking of communications. Through its exception-based management functionality, the software increases productivity by alerting users of any transaction that fails to meet global trade compliance regulations and requires action. SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services helps reduce lead time and expedite customs clearance by integrating your logistics process from start to finish and enabling the integration of logistics with other business functions, including sales, purchasing, HR, and transportation.

Bottom-Line Benefits

A large number of customers in a wide variety of industries – including some of the world's best-known brands – are already reaping the benefits of SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services. Powered by the SAP NetWeaver® technology platform, this state-of-the art application enables enterprises of all sizes to gain a wealth of advantages and capitalize on the growth opportunities of global trade. At the same time, you can:

By automating and streamlining complex export processes, SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services minimizes delays at national borders so you can deliver goods to customers more quickly.

- Automate global trade compliance with high-integrity compliance checks, support for e-filing, and a centralized view of activities. This enables you to increase efficiency, reduce costs and risk, and scale global trade without having to hire more people.
- Accelerate your supply chain by leveraging timely insights into filing status and integrated processes that reduce lead times and minimize delays at national borders.
- Minimize violations and boost your bottom line by staying compliant with global regulations and agreements, reducing duties and landed cost, and lowering inventory carrying costs.

Learn More

To find out more about how the SAP BusinessObjects Global Trade Services application can help your organization minimize violations and accelerate your supply chain, call your SAP representative or visit www.sap.com/sapbusinessobjects/global_trade_services.

QUICK FACTS

www.sap.com/contactsap

Summary

The SAP® BusinessObjects™ Global Trade Services application provides a single, complete solution for global trade management that automates processes so you can accelerate your supply chain and minimize trade violations.

Business Challenges

- Increasing volume of cross-border trade
- Greater compliance complexity
- Growing body of international trade regulations
- New requirements for electronic communication
- Limited internal resources
- Pressure to lower costs and accelerate shipping

Key Features

- **Export and import management** – Classify products, comply with regulations, manage embargo checks and export and import licenses, calculate duties, generate documentation, handle customs warehousing procedures, track inventory, streamline electronic communications, and manage letters of credit
- **Support for specialized customs procedures** – Carry out complex tasks, such as managing customs warehouses and inward and outward processing relief
- **Trade preference management** – Manage and request vendor declarations, determine product eligibility for preferential treatment, and issue certificates of origin while taking advantage of free trade agreements to maximize profitability
- **Restitution management** – Automate processes associated with the European rules regarding the import and export of agricultural goods, manage securities and restitution procedures, calculate restitution amounts, and gain insight into restitution activities

Business Benefits

- **Automate global trade compliance** with high-integrity compliance checks, support for e-filing, and a centralized view of activities
- **Accelerate trade** – and your supply chain – with timely insights into filing status and integrated processes that reduce lead times and minimize delays at national borders
- **Minimize violations** – and boost your bottom line – by staying compliant with global regulations and agreements, reducing duties and landed cost, and lowering inventory carrying costs

For More Information

Contact your representative, or visit www.sap.com/sapbusinessobjects/global_trade_services.

50 076 155 (11/02) Printed in USA.

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