

# KDD011 - Material Master Numbering Alignment

<b>Status</b>	Approved
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## Issue

Currently Syensqo has multiple SAP systems (WPX, WP2 and PF2), and a single material can be represented in different systems with a different Material Master number.

## Recommendation

To balance global standardization with critical business constraints, Syensqo will adopt a hybrid material numbering approach (Option 3):

- All material masters, except those belonging to the Composite Materials GBU (ZDIR: raw, semi-finished and finished products), will be assigned new material numbers from the global number range as part of the migration to S/4HANA.
- Composite Materials will retain their legacy material numbers to avoid triggering regulatory or customer requalification processes.
- A robust mapping and governance framework will be established to ensure seamless integration and traceability between legacy and new material numbers.

This approach enables the program to advance with standardization for the majority of materials while mitigating significant business risk for qualified Composite Materials.

## Background & Context

Currently Syensqo has multiple SAP systems (WPX, WP2 and PF2) and a single material can be represented in different systems with a different Material Master number.

## Assumptions

Qualification constraints are non-negotiable for Composite Materials within the current project timeline.

## Constraints

- Regulatory product qualification processes limit immediate renumbering for Composite Materials.
- Dual numbering requires additional governance and control.
- Integration and reporting layers must accommodate both numbering strategies during the transition.

## Impacts

### Legacy Data – Master data

All dependent master data ex: BOM's etc.. will be updated with the new material numbers.

### Legacy Data – Transactions

Any historical data that is migrated to the new S/4 system will be updated with the new material numbers

Any catalogs (internal / 3rd party hosted on Ariba network) will be updated with the new material numbers

### Legacy Data – Interfaces

Mappings to the customer / vendor material numbers will be updated with the new material numbers

### Stock Valuation

There might be an impact on the stock valuation when there is de-duplication of materials with different valuations

### Downstream systems

Any downstream system using the material master numbers will be updated with the new material numbers or by creating a mapping table with the old and new material numbers

### Change Management

Training material will describe how the users can search and find the material using the old material number

### Communication

Communication will be sent to customers / vendors / 3rd party system owners using material master number

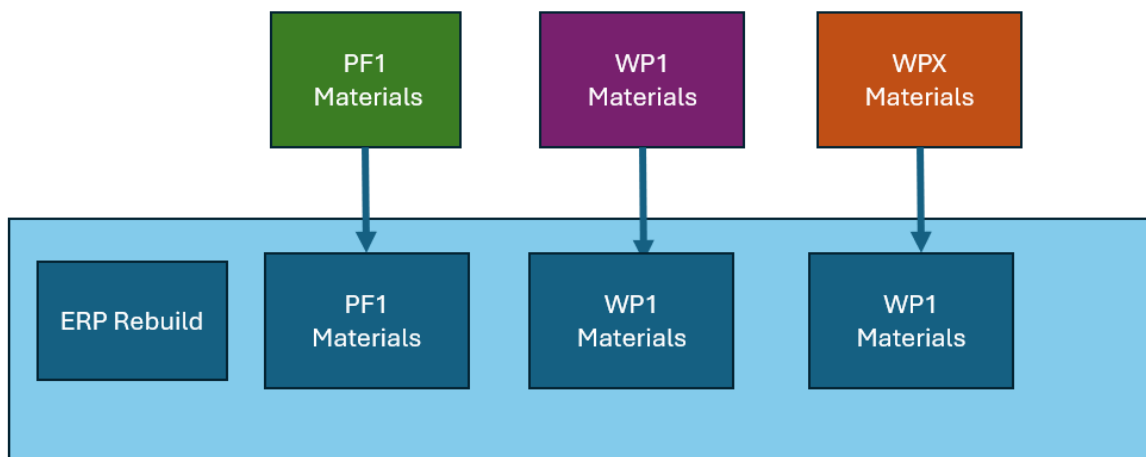
## Business Rules

- Material numbers will be system-assigned with no intelligence.
- Legacy numbers will remain traceable through mapping structures.
- Governance will ensure consistent treatment of dual numbering throughout the transition.

## Options considered

### Option 1 – Do not change the legacy material numbers

Materials from the legacy systems are copied into the new S/4 system without de-duplication.



### Advantages:

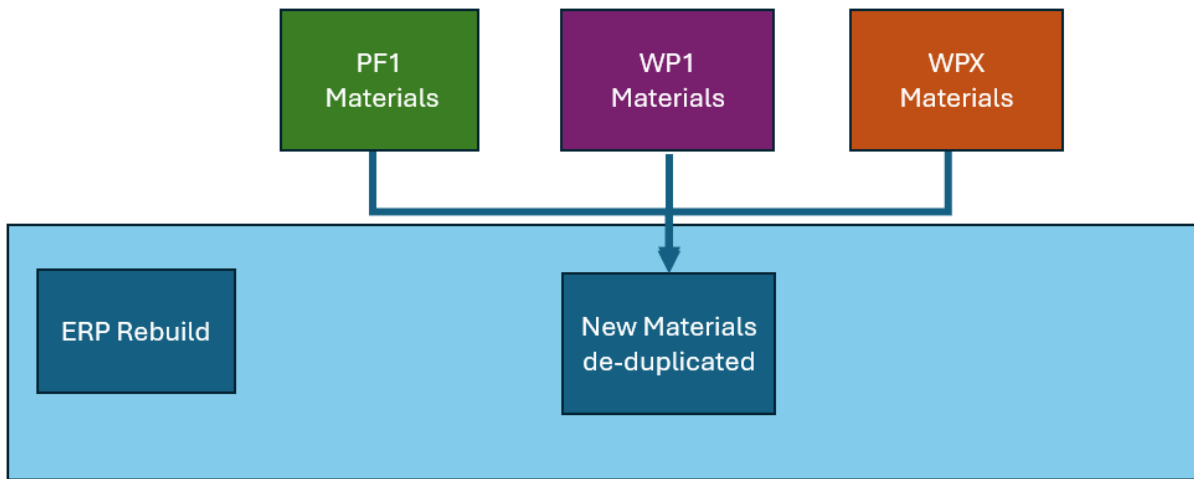
- No impact on legacy data
- No impact on vendors and customers as material numbers don't change

### Disadvantages:

- Significant duplication of material masters
- No global view of material data
- Sub optimal supply chain planning
- Incorrect inventory levels
- Incorrect reporting

### Option 2 – Create all valid Material Masters with new number ranges

As a part of this option, the material masters are de-duplicated, and one material master is created per valid material. The material numbers are automatically assigned by the system and are sequential with no intelligence.



- Clean set of de-duplicated material masters
- Optimal supply chain planning
- Correct inventory level across the globe
- Correct reporting

**Disadvantages:**

- Additional one-time effort for de-duplication
- Additional one-time effort by the downstream system to adopt the new material master numbers or to incorporate a mapping table between old and new numbers

## Option 3 – Hybrid Numbering Approach

This approach recognizes the unique regulatory and qualification requirements associated with Composite Materials, where changing material numbers would directly trigger product requalification, involving both internal testing and third-party regulatory approvals.

Under this hybrid model:

- All materials except those from Composite Materials GBU (ZDIR: raw, semi-finished, finished) are assigned new S/4HANA material numbers from the global number range.
- Composite Materials retain legacy material numbers to avoid triggering requalification.
- Mapping tables are implemented to manage mixed numbering in S/4.
- All new materials created after go-live will follow the standard global numbering approach, including for Composite Materials

**Advantages**

- Maintains compliance and avoids costly qualification impacts for Composite Materials.
- Enables global standardization for the majority of materials.
- Reduces overall implementation risk while maintaining project momentum.

**Disadvantages**

- Increased complexity in data migration (dual numbering strategy).
- Additional effort in interface mapping and reporting structures.

## Evaluation

Based on the evaluation of the options, Option 2 is recommended. All Syensqo’s materials (finished, semi-finished, raw materials, spares etc.) will be represented by a unique material master number which will be assigned from a new number range. For ease of search, the newly created material number will have the reference to the old material numbers.

Factor	Option 1 - Do not change the legacy material numbers	Option 2 - Create all valid Material Masters with new number ranges	Option 3 Hybrid Numbering Approach
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Alignment with project charter - Standardization and Simplification	⊖ No standardization and simplification	⊕ Aligns with the standardization and simplification principle	⊕ Achieves standardization for most materials while maintaining exceptions for qualified products.
Operational Efficiency	⊖ No Operational efficiency	⊕ Increased operation efficiency e.g. supply chain planning etc..	⊕ Standardized material base enables streamlined operations and global planning.
Reporting	⊖ In accurate / fragmented reporting	⊕ Accurate global reporting e.g. stock etc..	⊕ Accurate reporting benefits will be ensured through material cleansing and standardization
Regulatory & Qualification Impact	⊕ No renumbering avoids requalification.	⊖ Composite Materials may trigger extensive requalification effort	⊕ Hybrid approach isolates impact and avoids qualification issues while enabling progress elsewhere.
Change Impact	⊕ Low, data must still be migrated	⊖ High due to the reasons above mentioned	⊖ Focused change for most materials, with minimal impact for Composite Materials GBU.
Integration Impact	⊕ Low	⊖ One time cleansing or mapping activity in downstream systems	⊖ Dual numbering requires more complex migration mapping and processes

## See also

File	Modified
PDF File Approval for KDD055 and KDD011.pdf	Feb 02, 2026 by CHIEW-ext, Yock Sang
PDF File Workspace Mail - Fwd_ ERP Rebuild SteerCo Sept 2024 - Decisions and Actions.pdf	Sept 30, 2024 by FALL-ext, Cheikh

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## Change log

Version	Published	Changed By	Comment
<b>CURRENT (v. 42)</b>	<b>Nov 05, 2025 10:05</b>	<b>WENNINGER-ext, Sascha</b>	
v. 41	Oct 24, 2025 14:42	LEIGHTON-ext, Dean	
v. 40	Oct 24, 2025 10:28	LEIGHTON-ext, Dean	
v. 39	Oct 23, 2025 17:04	LEIGHTON-ext, Dean	
v. 38	Nov 04, 2024 09:08	WENNINGER-ext, Sascha	
v. 37	Aug 29, 2024 15:24	NARAHARI-ext, Bhargavi	
v. 36	Aug 29, 2024 15:21	NARAHARI-ext, Bhargavi	
v. 35	Aug 29, 2024 15:13	NARAHARI-ext, Bhargavi	
v. 34	Jul 24, 2024 16:34	MCCARTNEY-ext, Stephen	
v. 33	Jul 24, 2024 16:28	WENNINGER-ext, Sascha	

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## Workflow history

Title	Last Updated By	Updated	Status
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There are no pages at the moment.