

Organizational Structures

The flexibility of organizational units in the SAP System means that even the most complex organizational structures can be reproduced in the system. In addition to the generally valid organizational units defined in the system required for legal or organizational structuring purposes, the PM System contains a number of organizational units specifically for representing maintenance processes.

General Organizational Units

The client is the highest level of organizational units defined in the system. It is used, for example, to represent a company with several subsidiaries. The system accesses the same basic data for all the units assigned to a particular client. The company address, for example, is defined at client level.

Client

The plant is an important organizational unit in logistics. It represents both a production site within a company and a location at which operational systems are installed from a maintenance perspective. Maintenance tasks can be planned by location on a plant basis. Furthermore, several plants can be allocated to a planning unit (planning plant).

Plant

The organizational units relevant to plant maintenance and their allocation to maintenance and planning plants are described in greater detail below.

Location-related Organizational Units

The plant where the operation systems in a company are installed is described as the maintenance plant. If the maintenance plant undertakes its own maintenance planning, then it is also the PM planning plant.

Maintenance Plant

Locations divide a maintenance plant according to locational/spatial criteria, for example, area, hall, surface coordinates and so on.

A maintenance plant can be divided into application areas from the perspective of the responsible areas in production. The person responsible for the application area is also the contact person who coordinates between the production and maintenance departments.

Application Areas

The existing operational systems and technical resources implemented, for example, production resources/tools, test equipment and so on are managed as functional locations and pieces of equipment. A functional location represents a functional unit in an operational system, and forms the location at which the task is carried out, whilst the piece of equipment represents the object carrying out the task.

Operational Systems

Functional locations and pieces of equipment are allocated to one maintenance plant only at any one point in time.

Planning-related Organizational Units

- PM Planning Plant** The PM planning plant represents the organizational unit at which maintenance requirements are planned. These requirements can either arise internally or be directed to the PM planning plant from another maintenance plant.
- PM Planner Groups** The planners in a PM planning plant are defined by their planner group. Depending on the size and organization of a company, this may be a separate department (central work scheduling) or a foreman's or shop floor area (workshop).
- PM Work Centers** The capacity units in maintenance are managed as work centers in the PM System. Maintenance work centers are usually allocated to the PM planning plant; however, it is also possible to employ PM work centers from other plants to carry out maintenance tasks.

What are the advantages of the SAP organizational structures?

- Complex company structures can be represented in the system using flexible organizational units.
- The planning and performing organizational units are represented within plant maintenance by their own organizational terms.
- The maintenance organization is integrated in Production and Controlling