

Stilo Product Change Management Suite

Managing Product Change in SAP® ERP

Enable rapid decision making by planning teams ▪ reduce manufacturing lead times ▪ improve logistical support

Even a very small change to a product or a component can have huge implications for a manufacturing business. New suppliers may need to be sourced, purchase orders amended, stock reviewed, technical specifications redrawn, new product images produced, manuals updated, customers informed and lots more besides.

Are you in control?

Stilo's Product Change Management Suite helps organisations to cut through all this complexity. Developed specifically to work in SAP® Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) environments, and alongside any Product Data Management (PDM) or Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) application, this modular suite of solutions can directly impact the profitability of any manufacturing business.

Stilo's Product Change Management Suite enables managers to fully analyse and better understand the potential impact of product changes. They can then make more informed decisions and take steps to minimise costs. At the same time, our integrated solutions reduce the risk of manual errors, retain product data integrity and speed up internal processes to reduce the time to market for new or updated products.

Our Product Change Management Suite has been developed as a result of client projects and is proven to enhance the effectiveness and value of SAP applications. The suite comprises four modules, with the Product Change Impact Analysis module at its core. Our experienced consultants can help you implement these solutions on a stand-alone or fully integrated basis, as required. Offering excellent value for money, each module can be deployed in as little as 5 days, resulting in minimum disruption and delivering an extremely rapid return on investment.

Stilo has a strong reputation within the SAP market for helping organisations to address the many challenges associated with product change management. Over more than a decade, we have delivered advice and consulting services to organisations in industry sectors including aerospace and defence, retail, manufacturing, high tech, electronics, automotive and chemical. Our customers include AugustaWestland, BAE Systems Insyte, EADS DCS UK and Waters.

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Benefits

Use Stilo's Product Change Management Suite to:

- ▶ Speed up time to market for new or updated products
- ▶ Reduce costs, by minimising stock obsolescence
- ▶ Enable critical analysis of time/cost product change implications upon design, sales, manufacture, logistics and service
- ▶ Streamline the process for the set-up of new SAP material masters
- ▶ Improve data integrity and accuracy of product changes
- ▶ Automate the distribution of documentation changes with partners, suppliers, customers and employees
- ▶ Gain a full audit trail of the product change lifecycle
- ▶ Reduce documentation review and approval times with workflow driven digital signatures

Solution Overview

Stilo's Product Change Management Suite comprises four modules, which can be used in isolation or as a complete solution. They integrate fully within your SAP ERP environment to improve the speed and accuracy of the product change process.

The following diagram illustrates a typical product change process workflow aligned with Stilo's Product Change Management Suite.



Impact Analysis

This core module helps organisations to identify and address every conceivable impact of a product change. It draws together all relevant information from different areas of an enterprise SAP system, such as the bill of materials, routings, drawings, specifications, manuals, purchase orders, purchase requisitions, sales orders and inventory statistics. It then allows an assessment and cost analysis to be performed and provides managers with all the information they need to decide when, how and indeed if a change should be introduced. If the change is authorised, the module also supports the implementation of that change.

New Product Set Up

When new parts are implemented in a business as many as 500 different SAP fields may require updating. If this task is not performed correctly, the SAP Material Master will generate a plethora of error messages across the business. Stilo's New Product Set Up module provides a standard process for updating Material Master data following the introduction of a new part. It ensures that data is entered quickly and accurately by the correctly assigned department.

Document Review and Approval

Just a small product change can impose the need for updates to a vast number of documents, from design specifications to marketing brochures. Based on a standard SAP workflow template, this module supports the complex process of updating, reviewing and approving changes to existing documents, as well as the creation of new ones. It increases speed, improves document accuracy and ensures that the right people approve all documents prior to release.

Document Distribution and Change Notification

The final stage in any product change cycle is to notify employees, customers, suppliers and partners. This module automatically notifies all relevant parties about product changes and distributes new or revised documents held within the SAP Document Management System (DMS).

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