

Sage 500 ERP



Product Configurator

Advanced Product Configurator for Manufacturers and Distributors

Sage 500 ERP (formerly Sage ERP MAS 500) Product Configurator module was designed for use in either distribution or manufacturing environments. Customer service personnel benefit from an easy-to-use interface for feature/option selection, and integration with Sales Order Entry.

This advanced solution is easy to set up and maintain. The intuitive user interface helps the user configure base products quickly using a double mouse-click or search function to choose preconfigured options for each customer order.

Product Configurator builds new parts by starting with a base item and adding features or options to it. New items can be created on the fly using customized item masks, new long and short item descriptions, and other options.

Finished configurations contain unique routings and bills of material built during the configuration process. Product Configurator also builds the item cost and suggested price.

Popular configurations are saved and reused as standard parts. All configurations are based on standard rules that limit or require certain features or options if another feature or option is selected. Final configurations can be validated to make sure that the final item can be produced.

BENEFITS

- Easily define base units and maintain the list of available features and options to add to the base unit
- Quickly configure and build new items from customer specifications
- Increase accuracy with user-defined configuration rules that enforce whether configuration options are required, optional, or not applicable
- Link multimedia files to configuration values to view visual representations of the item as it is being configured
- Finished configurations contain unique routings and bills of material
- Improve productivity by converting configured routings to part estimates, customer quotes, and work orders
- Configure new item cost and suggested price, and automatically create a new price sheet for each unique configuration

SAGE 500 ERP SOLUTIONS

- Financials and Project Accounting
- Manufacturing and Distribution
- CRM and E-Business
- Human Resources and Payroll
- Customization and Integration
- Business Intelligence

Sequ	Opt Req	Option	Value	Price	Add Price	Incl Seg
010	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PC Workstation	GW500S	1599.000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Segment Q
050	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Monitors	NEC15	319.000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(none)
060	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hard Drive	HD	360.000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(none)
070	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floppy Drive		0.000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(none)
080	<input type="checkbox"/>	CD Read/Write Capabilities		0.000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(none)
090	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Operating System	MS2000	219.990	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Segment T
100	<input type="checkbox"/>	Modems	28.8	190.000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(none)
110	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-Media Stereo Speaker System	Altec	169.000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(none)
120	<input type="checkbox"/>	Workstation Backup Kit		0.000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(none)

“The Product Configurator module tells us exactly what to manufacture, so that everything can be built without paper. Because it’s a visually based system, it eliminated about 70,000 work orders, drawings, and routing documents that had been sent to the shop each year.”

Craig Neuhardt
Vice President of Manufacturing
Power Curbers, Inc.

Options

Engineers can easily set up and maintain features and options.

- Engineers choose whether an option, such as color, is displayed during configuration. Options may or may not be required. Engineers also choose whether or not they want to display the price, short description, or long description during configuration.
- Two options or values may be added to the item code, as segments, to identify an item as being new.
- Options may be tied to a configuration rule. For example, require (option) color if (option) fabric is selected.
- Rules are user-defined to require or skip a certain option if another is either selected or omitted. Users can also enforce the opposite of any defined rule.
- Options may have virtually unlimited values. For example, the option “color” may include values for blue, light blue, red, pink, black, and so on.
- Values may also be linked to options using configuration rules. For example, require (option) arms if (option) color (value) red is selected.
- One value may be set as a default for each option.
- Values may be linked to multimedia such as audio, video, bitmaps or TIF images, and CAD drawings. The multimedia options change as the user builds the final configuration. For example, when configuring a chair, the image may show a black chair, but when the user selects the red value for the color option, the image changes to show a red chair.
- Each option and its values are linked to a unique routing and bill of material that are used to build a configured routing and bill of material for new items.
- The first level bill of material and configuration options can optionally print on quotes, order entries, and acknowledgements.

Creating New Items

Product Configurator is very useful for building items on the fly from base models.

- Configured item IDs may include up to four item segments. The first segment uses the base model ID. This ID is set up in inventory as a standard part. The second and third segments can include option and/or value descriptions. The fourth segment is an item counter that is used to define unique configurations. For example, ChairA-Red-Wheels-000000000001.
- Configured items may be up to 30 characters long (and can include dashes or other segment separators).
- Product Configurator may be integrated with manufacturing and sales orders.
- Users can select the base item from inventory and choose each option that applies to the item.
- Product Configurator not only configures the new item ID, cost, and suggested price, but it also creates a new price sheet for each unique configuration. This price sheet is stored in Sage 500 ERP and can be reused if the same configuration is made in the future.

Base Item

Configuration data entry personnel can quickly build new items from customer specifications.

- Base items may be configured through the product configuration activity or through Sales Order Entry.
- Product Configurator is also useful for configuring routings, which can be converted to part estimates, customer quotes, and work orders.
- When configuring an item to meet customer specifications, the base item is chosen from inventory, and each option and value is selected from an easy-to-use grid.
- Final configurations are stored and reused if the same item is configured again.
- Distributors can use Product Configurator as an item selection tool or to group items together for a customer’s order.

Formulas and Calculations

Options may be defined as ranges and used in calculations.

- Define valid ranges for an option such as length so that valid configurations fall within a range. For example, the length can be 1 to 8 inches and defined to four decimal places. A length of 10 inches is not valid, but a length of 5.0025 is valid.
- Create formulas using basic arithmetic expressions to calculate square feet (length x width), volume (length x width x height), diameters, and other formulas.
- Use formulas to determine material requirements and item costs.

About Sage

Sage is a leading global supplier of business management software and services for small and midsized businesses. The Sage Group plc, formed in 1981, was floated on the London Stock Exchange in 1989 and now employs more than 12,300 people and supports more than 6 million customers worldwide. For more information about Sage in North America, please visit the company website at www.SageNorthAmerica.com. Follow Sage North America on Facebook, <http://www.facebook.com/SageNorthAmerica>, and Twitter, <http://twitter.com/#!/sagenamerica>.