



Geneva Business Management Systems® Microsoft Business Solutions Interface

White Paper

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Updated 09/10/02

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Overview

Geneva Systems introduces the Geneva Business Management Systems® (GBMS) Interface for Microsoft Business Solutions (MBS), merging complete accounting functionality to GBMS' bar code-based business management system. The GBMS solution provides customers with a system for Warehouse Management (WMS), Sales and Purchasing Processing (SOP & POP), Shop Floor Control/Manufacturing (SFC), Labor and Attendance Tracking. By partnering with MBS and providing an interface to eEnterprise and Dynamics software packages, GBMS is out-of-the-box ready with an accounting solution delivered as a complete system.

Configuring the GBMS-MBS Interface is easy – customers choose the scenario that is best for them, GBMS Front Office or MBS Front Office. The choice between the two front office options provides a unique opportunity for customers to select solution that best fits their requirements. Typically, existing MBS customers wanting to enhance their system with WMS, or other GBMS modules, change would opt for the MBS Front Office configuration to minimize training impact. Customers new to MBS and GBMS can most benefit from the advanced GBMS features by implementing GBMS Front Office. In both scenarios GBMS would handle all inventory transactions: receiving, put-away, picking, shipping, inventory control all enabled with bar code technology and mobile computing.

The GBMS-MBS Interface runs in a dedicated Windows session, allowing information to transfer real-time between the two systems. Its architecture guarantees data integrity, even if the two systems are not communicating with automatic recovery when communication is reestablished. The interface program provides data required by MBS while providing additional data critical for better customer service, inventory control and critical business decisions. Each transaction captured in GBMS or MBS interfaces in seconds. A set of parameters allow flexible configuration of how data is interchanged between both systems.

GBMS Front Office

With the GBMS-Intensive interface package, only accounting data (such as GL accounts, payment terms and tax codes) are entered in MBS. Information such as customers, vendors and products are entered in GBMS and automatically interfaced to MBS. Working documents that don't have a direct relationship to accounting transactions (such as Sales Orders, Purchase Orders and Work Orders) are entered in GBMS without interfacing to MBS. Inventory transactions are also entered in GBMS, with transactions that have an accounting impact being automatically interfaced to MBS.

Benefits of Adding MBS to a GBMS System

- Ability to track and analyze your business information and interconnect with other business applications, improving productivity throughout your business
- In addition to AR, AP and GL, MBS offers powerful functions such as inter-company processing, accounting level security, multicurrency and enterprise-level reporting and analytics

MBS Front Office

The MBS-Intensive package limits interaction with the GBMS program to inventory transactions. Accounting data, customers, vendors and items, as well as working documents (such as Sales and Purchase Orders) are entered in MBS and interfaced to GBMS when necessary. With the aid of bar code readers in GBMS, users perform inventory transactions, including adjustments, shipments, inventory movement and PO receipts. Inventory transactions that have an accounting impact are automatically sent to MBS.

Benefits of Adding GBMS to an MBS System

- Bar Code-Based Inventory Transactions: Picking, Shipping, Receiving, Inspection, Put Away, Location and Warehouse Movement, Work-In-Process Tracking and Inventory Counts
- Added Warehouse Control with Location and Zone Tracking
- Detailed Serial and Lot History by Order and Customer

Functional Description

GBMS Front Office

Accounting Information

Accounting parameters are set up in MBS. To interface data to GBMS, run the interface program and select the item to interface on the To-GBMS menu. The data elements that interface to GBMS are:

Currency ID

Currency ID's are entered as part of the Currency setup in MBS. Once ID's are interfaced, codes entered in MBS appear in the Currency ID drop-down list of GBMS' Customers and Vendors screens.

Customer Classes

Customer Classes are entered in MBS as part of the Sales Setup. All customers entered in GBMS must be assigned a Customer Class; the Customer Class provides critical information required for MBS that is not provided by GBMS. When Customer Classes are interfaced to GBMS, the defaults are brought over for Account Rep, Sales Territory, Sales Tax Code, Ship Via and Payment Terms. To view the details of the Customer Classes in GBMS, click on the Customer Class field label in the Customers screen - this opens the Customer Classes window where you can view the defaults and add GBMS-specific defaults for Order Priority and Sales Category. When a new customer is assigned a Customer Class, it inherits these default values.

Item Classes

Item Classes are entered in MBS as part of the Inventory Setup. At least one Item Class must be defined, as all items entered in GBMS require an MBS Item Class. In GBMS, Item Classes appear in a drop-down list in the General Information section of the Products screen.

Payment Terms

Payment Terms are entered as part of the Company Setup in MBS. Once Payment Terms are interfaced to GBMS, they appear in the Payment Terms screen. When the MBS Interface is active in GBMS, you cannot edit or delete Payment Terms codes or descriptions, however, you may add notes.

Tax Schedules/Codes

Tax Schedules are part of the Company Setup in MBS. Once interfaced to GBMS, the Tax Schedule ID's, descriptions and rates appear in the Tax Codes screen. You cannot edit or delete Tax Codes in GBMS, however you can set the "Certificate Required" flag to turn on the exempt customer warning offered by GBMS.

Vendor Classes

Vendor Classes are entered in MBS as part of the Purchasing Setup. At least one Vendor Class must be defined in MBS, as all Vendors entered in GBMS require a Vendor Class assignment. Vendor Class provides details critical to MBS that are not provided by GBMS. When Vendor Classes are interfaced to GBMS, the defaults are brought over for Sales Tax Code, Ship Via and Payment Terms. To view the details of the Vendor Classes in GBMS, click on the Vendor Class field label in the Vendors screen. This opens the read-only Vendor Classes window. When a new vendor is assigned a Vendor Class, it inherits these default values.

Warehouses

A GBMS “Warehouse” is the equivalent of an MBS “Site.” In GBMS, all inventory transactions include both a Warehouse and a Location ID. MBS only tracks the Site. Sites are entered in MBS and automatically interfaced to GBMS. The interface requires that Sites entered in MBS include both a Sales and Purchasing Sales Tax Code. Sites entered in MBS appear in the Warehouse Settings screen in GBMS. You cannot edit or delete any information about the imported Warehouses, with the exception of the automatic put-away and auto-break containers options. When a Warehouse is imported from MBS, GBMS automatically adds the system Locations of INSP, RECV, SHIP, WIP and XFR-IN, as well as an editable location with the same ID as the Warehouse ID. You define Locations and Zones just as you would for a regular GBMS installation – when transactions are interfaced back to MBS, only the Warehouse ID is sent.

Static Tables

Static tables contain the data that is used to create working documents. They are entered in GBMS and automatically interface to MBS. SQL Triggers tell the interface which records to synchronize. To interface the data, simply add or edit information in GBMS.

Customers

When the MBS interface option is turned on in GBMS, the Customers screen changes to accommodate fields required by MBS. With the interface active, the Customer Class field, on the General tab, is a required field. A drop-down list displays all available Customer Class ID's - clicking the field label opens the Customer Classes screen where you can view the default data associated with each Class – notice that only the Order Priority and Sales Category fields may be edited, the others are all imported from MBS. On the Sales Info tab, you will find the Currency ID field added – select an ID from the drop-down list.

Ship To Customers

Ship To Customers are found in the Addresses section of MBS. Enter Ship To Customers in the standard manner – there are no added fields.

Items

Activating the MBS interface in GBMS enables two MBS-specific fields in the Items maintenance screen. On the General tab of the Items screen, you must select an Item Class and Tax Code. Default Item Classes and Tax Codes can be assigned to Item Categories. To assign these defaults to a category, go to the Accounting tab of the Item Categories form. Items set up for serial or lot tracking in GBMS do not have tracking information sent to MBS; items appear with “None” in the Track field of MBS’s Item Maintenance Options form. Serial and lot history must be queried in GBMS.

Account Reps and Sales Territories

A GBMS Account Reps is the equivalent of MBS’s “Salespeople” There is no change to the Account Reps or Sales Territories screens when the MBS interface is active – enter reps and assign them to territories as you would in a non-interface environment.

Shipping Methods

Each Shipping Method setup for a Carrier is interfaced to MBS. There is no change to the Shipping Methods screen when the MBS interface is active.

Vendors

When the MBS interface is active, a Currency ID field is enabled in the Vendors screen. Select the appropriate Currency ID from the drop-down list.

Working Documents

A working document, such as a Sales Order or Purchase Order, is the basis for an inventory transaction. Working documents are entered in GBMS and do not interface to MBS. The working document allows the system to associate information such as Customers and Vendors with the resulting inventory transaction that is interfaced to MBS.

Sales Orders (and all Sales Related Documents)

Use standard procedures to enter Sales Orders, generate PO's, Pick Lists and Work Orders.

Purchase Orders (and all purchase-related documents)

Use standard procedures to enter regular and drop-ship Purchase Orders.

Work Orders

Use standard procedures to generate Work Orders from Sales Orders, or create Work Orders in the GBMS SFC module. Document and operation completions do not interface to MBS. When inventory is created by a Work Order Delivery transaction, a positive inventory adjustment is sent to MBS.

Material Worksheets

Use standard procedures to generate any of the five types of Material Worksheets: Kanban Material Issue, WO Requests, Move BOM, Adjust BOM and Warehouse Transfer. For Kanban Material Issues, WO Requests and Move BOM's, processing the Put Away transaction triggers the interface to record a Transfer in MBS. For the Adjust BOM worksheet, posting the worksheet sends the adjustment to MBS. In the case of Warehouse Transfers, transactions for the shipment from the originating warehouse and the receipt of the goods in the destination warehouse are both sent to MBS.

Inventory Transactions

Inventory Transactions are entered in GBMS. The following transactions have an accounting impact and are automatically interfaced to MBS:

Inventory Adjustments

Inventory adjustments are sent to MBS after processing an adjustment in the Inventory Adjustments screen, posting an Adjust BOM worksheet, or processing a delivery against a Work Order.

Shipments

Shipments reduce inventory in the shipping warehouse and allow you to generate invoices, which can also optionally interface to MBS.

Warehouse Moves

Warehouse Moves are sent to MBS after processing a transaction between warehouses in the Inventory Movement screen, or processing the Put Away for a Material Worksheet.

Receipts

Receipt transaction information is sent to MBS as soon as the Receiver status is set to "Closed" in GBMS.

MBS Front Office

Accounting Information

Accounting parameters are set up in MBS. To interface data to GBMS, run the interface program and select the item to interface on the To-GBMS menu. The Accounting Information is the same as it is for the GBMS-intensive interface. The data elements are:

Currency ID

Currency ID's are entered as part of the Currency setup in MBS. Once ID's are interfaced, codes entered in MBS appear in the Currency ID drop-down list of GBMS' Customers and Vendors screens.

Customer Classes

Customer Classes are entered in MBS as part of the Sales Setup. All customers interfaced to GBMS must be assigned a Customer Class; the Customer Class provides critical information required for MBS that is not provided by GBMS. When Customer Classes are interfaced to GBMS, the defaults are brought over for Account Rep, Sales Territory, Sales Tax Code, Ship Via and Payment Terms.

Item Classes

Item Classes are entered in MBS as part of the Inventory Setup. At least one Item Class must be defined, as all items interfaced to GBMS require an MBS Item Class. In GBMS, Item Classes appear in a drop-down list in the General Information section of the Products screen.

Payment Terms

Payment Terms are entered as part of the Company Setup in MBS. Once Payment Terms are interfaced to GBMS, they appear in the Payment Terms screen. When the MBS Interface is active in GBMS, you cannot edit or delete Payment Terms codes or descriptions, however, you may add notes.

Tax Schedules/Codes

Tax Schedules are part of the Company Setup in MBS. Once interfaced to GBMS, the Tax Schedule ID's, descriptions and rates appear in the Tax Codes screen. You cannot edit or delete Tax Codes in GBMS, however you can set the "Certificate Required" flag to turn on the exempt customer warning offered by GBMS.

Vendor Classes

Vendor Classes are entered in MBS as part of the Purchasing Setup. At least one Vendor Class must be defined in MBS, as all interfaced Vendors require a Vendor Class assignment. Vendor Class provides details critical to MBS that are not provided by GBMS. When Vendor Classes are interfaced to GBMS, the defaults are brought over for Sales Tax Code, Ship Via and Payment Terms. To view the details of the Vendor Classes in GBMS, click on the Vendor Class field label in the Vendors screen. This opens the read-only Vendor Classes window. When a new vendor is assigned a Vendor Class, it inherits these default values.

Warehouses

A GBMS "Warehouse" is the equivalent of an MBS "Site." In GBMS, all inventory transactions include both a Warehouse and a Location ID. MBS only tracks the Site. Sites are entered in MBS and automatically interfaced to GBMS. The interface requires that Sites entered in MBS include both a Sales and Purchasing Sales Tax Code. Sites

entered in MBS appear in the Warehouse Settings screen in GBMS. You cannot edit or delete any information about the imported Warehouses, with the exception of the automatic put-away and auto-break containers options. When a Warehouse is imported from MBS, GBMS automatically adds the system Locations of INSP, RECV, SHIP, WIP and XFR-IN, as well as an editable location with the same ID as the Warehouse ID. You define Locations and Zones just as you would for a regular GBMS installation – when transactions are interfaced back to MBS, only the Warehouse ID is sent.

Static Tables

Static tables contain the data used to create working documents. They are entered in MBS and are automatically interfaced to GBMS. SQL Triggers tell the interface which records to synchronize. To interface the data, simply add or edit the appropriate transaction in MBS.

Customers

Customers are sent to GBMS when a Sales Order is interfaced. Enter the customer information in MBS as per standard procedure, being sure to fill in all information that interfaces to GBMS, including the Class ID.

Ship To Customers

Ship To Customers are sent to GBMS when a Sales Order is interfaced.

Items

Items are interfaced to GBMS real-time when they are saved in MBS. When items are flagged for lot or serial number tracking in MBS, this information is sent to GBMS where tracking numbers are recorded for each inventory transaction. All lot and serial number tracking then remains in GBMS – when transactions are sent back to MBS, the tracking number is omitted.

The MBS U of M Schedule ID controls the Packaging settings in GBMS. All U of M Schedules must be set to a minimum of 2 decimal places.

Salespeople and Sales Territories

Salespeople are referred to as Account Reps in GBMS. Enter Salespeople and Sales Territories according to MBS's standard procedure – the records interface to GBMS when a Sales Order is interfaced.

Shipping Methods

Shipping Methods are sent to GBMS when a Sales Order is interfaced.

Vendors

Vendors are sent to GBMS when a Purchase Order is interfaced. Enter the Vendor information in MBS as per standard procedure, being sure to fill in all information that interfaces to GBMS, including the Class ID.

Working Documents

Working documents are entered in MBS and interfaced to GBMS real-time. As described in the Static Tables section, interfacing a working document brings into GBMS the associated records for Customers, Shipping Methods, Vendors, etc. The resulting inventory transactions are then performed in GBMS.

Sales Orders

Use standard procedures to enter Sales Orders in the Sales Transaction Entry screen of MBS. Orders are interfaced to GBMS as soon as they are saved.

Purchase Orders

Only Standard Purchase Orders are interfaced to GBMS. PO's are interfaced to GBMS as soon as the status is changed to Released (by printing the document).

Inventory Transactions

Inventory Transactions are entered in GBMS. The following transactions have an accounting impact and are automatically interfaced to MBS:

Inventory Adjustments

Inventory adjustments are sent to MBS after processing an adjustment in the Inventory Adjustments screen, posting an Adjust BOM worksheet, or processing a delivery against a Work Order.

Shipments

Shipments reduce inventory in the shipping warehouse. Companies also have the option of generating an Invoice from GBMS or MBS. Invoices generated in GBMS are sent to MBS.

Warehouse Moves

Warehouse Moves are sent to MBS after processing a transaction between warehouses in the Inventory Movement screen, or processing the Put Away for a Material Worksheet.

Receipts

Receipt transaction information is sent to MBS as soon as the Receiver status is Closed in GBMS.