

Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL

Version 4.45 Initial Pre-Release Guide

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OVERVIEW

Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL version 4.45 will provide a superior ERP solution that combines Microsoft SQL Server's efficiency with Sage ERP MAS 200 robust features and functionality. Optimized for Microsoft SQL Server, version 4.45 will offer scalability, flexibility, integration and reporting. Based on the 4.4 code base, Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45 will leverage the ease of use, simplicity, and maturity of the Sage ERP MAS 200 product line.

Core Sage ERP MAS 200 modules that have been converted to the Business Framework will be available for 4.45 as well as some third party solutions. Non-Business Framework modules and some third party solutions will not be compatible with 4.45. A SQL Server license will be necessary for Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL, and will be offered by Sage, but will not be required to be purchased from Sage.

Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL is based on the current version of Sage ERP MAS 200, version 4.4, which streamlines processes and enhances workflows by dynamically linking processes, information, workflows, and communication channels. Highlights of 4.45 features include: the ability to easily access business-critical information the way customers want to see it, and turn data into actionable knowledge. Save time, money, and the environment by going green with Paperless Office features and utilize electronic document e-mail, fax and document storage capabilities. Access up-to-the-minute key performance indicators (KPIs) from the desktop, and drill down into details. Personalize the system with customizations that survive upgrades. Efficiently process Federal and State eFiling and Reporting. Effectively manage inventory, securely process credit cards, optimize shipping costs, track shipments, and process returns. Coordinate the whole business from finance and sales, to manufacturing and distribution, through business intelligence and integrations. Sage ERP MAS 200 will be consolidated into a single code base as of the next major release, version 4.5, which will include the ability to choose ProvideX or SQL Server.

Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45 customers and Business Partners will be able to use Microsoft SQL Server capabilities, including scheduling, and maintenance. Compared to previous versions of Sage ERP MAS SQL, 3.x, data will be stored and processed more efficiently, and searches will be faster. Integrations will take place at the application level, using eBusiness Web Services or Business Objects to ensure smooth and successful updates and upgrades for customers.

Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL will combine the ease of use, simplicity, and maturity of the Sage ERP MAS product line with the power of SQL Server to provide better reporting and Online Transaction Processing to prospects looking for an ERP solution. New customers will be able to benefit from the new SQL offering. Sage will continue to listen to our customers and partners and provide the functionality that is most important to them.

PRODUCT AVAILABILITY

Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL version 4.45 is scheduled for release in the fourth calendar quarter of 2010. New customer shipments and the Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL-certified Business Partner auto shipment will begin soon after the product is released.

AVAILABLE MODULES

Sage ERP MAS 200 modules that have been converted to the Business Framework will be available for 4.45. Non-Business Framework modules, and some third party solutions will not be compatible with 4.45.

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL

The core accounting modules, General Ledger, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, and Bank Reconciliation, will be available for Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL. Additional accounting and financial modules offering more advanced and specialty functionality such as Federal and State eFiling and Reporting and Paperless Office will also be available. Fixed Assets is not expected to be available until the 4.5 release.

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE AND REPORTING

Business Insights Dashboard and Business Insights Explorer will be provided with every Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL system. We will continue to support Crystal Reports 11.5 with the 4.45 release. Standard GL financial reports will be available in 4.45. FRx and F9 will not be available.

The new FRx replacement, Sage MAS Intelligence, is under evaluation for compatibility at the time of this publishing. Additional information on Sage MAS Intelligence will be provided in an update to this pre-release guide.

CUSTOMIZATION AND PERSONALIZATION

Sage MAS 200 SQL 4.45 will support the ease and power of the Business Framework built-in customization and personalization tools. Personalize screens to streamline data entry on an uncluttered and user-friendly grid, launch related tasks, and establish smart memos that attach to information and follow a process through the system. Add user-defined fields (UDFs), custom buttons, and more. Custom Office will allow you to make customizations that survive upgrades and to program events to run with or without user interaction, such as clicking a button. Using standard scripting, automatically change the available choices that are presented or automatically enter information. For example you can write a script to automatically change Sales Order Quote Expiration Dates depending on the type of order or quote that is chosen.

DISTRIBUTION AND MANUFACTURING

Inventory Management, Sales Order, Purchase Order, Bill of Materials, Credit Card Processing by Sage Payment Solutions, StarShip Freight, Return Merchandise Authorization, and Sales Tax powered by AvaTax will be available for Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45 at release. StarShip Parcel is under evaluation at this time to determine availability with 4.45.

INTEGRATION AND DATA IMPORTS

In order to keep the total cost of ownership (TCO) low and to ensure minimal impact from applying updates, or when upgrading, successful integrations with Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL will

take place at the application, or middle tier, where the application logic is stored and enforced. Therefore, the product integrations will take place using Business Objects and eBusiness Web Services to ensure enforcement of the customer's business rules, security settings, and consistent API interfaces for integration with third party applications.

Data imports for customers will be provided for Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45 through Visual Integrator.

PAYROLL AND CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

A Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL compatible Payroll module is under investigation and more details will be provided in an update to this pre-release guide. SageCRM is not expected to be available for Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL at time of the 4.45 release, but is currently planned to be available with the 4.5 release. A version of Extended Enterprise Suite will not be available for SQL, EES 1.4 will continue to be available using ProvideX.

Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45 Available Modules Summary

- Accounts Payable
- Accounts Receivable
- Bank Reconciliation
- Bar Code*
- Bill of Materials
- Business Insights Dashboard
- Business Insights Explorer
- Common Information
- Credit Card Processing
- Custom Office
- eBusiness Web Services
- General Ledger
- Inventory Management
- Library Master
- Paperless Office
- Purchase Order
- Return Merchandise Authorization
- Sage MAS Intelligence*
- Sales Order
- Sales Tax powered by AvaTax
- StarShip Freight
- Starship Parcel*
- Visual Integrator

**For these modules, the exact date of version 4.45 availability has not yet been confirmed.*

Summary of Modules NOT Available in 4.45

- Payroll (*Sage ERP MAS 90 and 200 Payroll*)
- Job Cost
- Work Order
- eBusiness Manager
- Business Insights Reporter
- FRx & F9
- CRM Integration
- FAS Integration

NEW DEMO DATA

A new company code, MFG Computer Services, Inc (MFG), will be available in Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45. MFG will use a fully integrated suite of modules including Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Bill of Materials Custom Office, Inventory Management, Purchase Order, and Sales Order. Set up as a manufacturer of computer systems, computer parts and accessories can be sold individually or assembled as complete computer systems and peripheral devices, which can be tracked as bill of materials.

LIFE CYCLE SUPPORT PLAN

As stated earlier in this document, the initial Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45 code base is expected to be rolled into a single code base with the release of 4.5 in calendar year Q3 2011, with SQL Sever as an option. Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45 is planned to be supported with defect fixes through December 2011, which is approximately one year after general availability release. Phone Support is expected to be provided through December 2012, approximately two years from the 4.45 release date, and through the anticipated 4.6 release date.

After 4.5 is released in 2011, Sage ERP MAS 200 4.45 SQL customers will be strongly encouraged to upgrade to 4.5. Once they upgrade to 4.5, these customers will get the additional value of Product Update enhancements, additional module availability such as CRM and Fixed Assets, and more.

SAGE ERP MAS 200 4.45 COMPARISON TO PRIOR 3.X SQL RELEASES

The following table represents a summary of the benefits of the new Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL product compared to the previous 3.x versions of the product. A more detailed comparison will be provided in the future.

Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 3.X	New Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45	Main Benefit
Legacy Modules	New Business Framework Modules	Dual grid entry, right click, personalization, memos, hyperlinks, Customizer, etc.
De-Normalized Schema	Normalized Schema	Data stored and processed more efficiently
Link List Indexing	Keyed Indexing	Search faster and more efficiently – no cross-linked orders
No Data Dictionary	Data Dictionary (Meta data driven)	Enforce business rules
No Base Class (Fix at each occurrence)	Base Class (Change Once Fix Plenty)	Master fixes optimize changes
Record Structure (Concatenated Columns)	Record Structure (No Concatenated Columns)	Well defined columns and fields – no variant records, no field mappings

ODBC connection to SQL Server	OleDb / ADO connection to SQL Server	Native connections efficient use of cursors and result sets, optimized data access layer including multiple caching techniques
Report optimization via SQL Server Stored Procedures	All optimizations are done at Application Layer. No SQL Server Stored Procedures	Maintain single code base, preserve Development Partner and user customization model

INITIAL PLATFORM SUPPORT

Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL 4.45 will support SQL Server 2008 32- and 64-bit, and Windows Server 2008 32- and 64-bit. On the client side, 4.45 will support Windows 7 32- and 64-bit, as well as XP and Vista.

- **Server**
 - SQL Server 2008 32- and 64-bit
 - Windows Server 2008 32- and 64-bit
 - Windows Server 2008 R2 64-bit
- **Client**
 - Windows XP
 - Windows Vista
 - Windows 7 32- and 64-bit

INITIAL MINIMUM SYSTEM CONFIGURATION

The following specifications show the initial system configuration in order to achieve the intended performance for the new Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL product. More details will be published in the Sage ERP MAS 200 SQL Supported Platform Matrix, as the product is finalized.

Minimum System Configuration for Combined ERP MAS 200 Server and SQL Server			
	Minimum		
Application Servers	Processor	Memory (RAM)	Additional Requirements
Windows Server 2008 Standard (32-bit) Windows Server 2008 Enterprise (32-bit)	Intel Quad Core class processors or better	8 GB + 200MB per concurrent user	100 Mbps network connection
Windows Server 2008 Standard (64-bit) Windows Server 2008 Enterprise (64-bit)	Intel or AMD 64-bit capable.	8 GB + 200MB per concurrent user	100 Mbps network connection
Terminal Services and Citrix	Processor	Memory (RAM)	Additional Requirements
Windows Server 2008 Terminal Services (32-bit & 64-bit) Citrix Presentation Server 5.0	Intel Quad Core class processors or better	Recommended minimum and as required by Terminal Services or Citrix, plus 128 MB per concurrent user	100 Mbps network connection