



**DEPRAG**

## BUSINESS PARTNER CONVERSION SAP ECC SYSTEM

In brief ...

### Implementation Highlights

- Business Partner Conversion ‚in time‘ und ‚in budget‘
- Error-free conversion and smooth system operation after conversion
- Significant improvement of readiness for the upcoming S/4 project



**100 %**  
In time &  
in budget



**30.000**  
Business Partner  
converted



**3**  
Months  
project duration



**1**  
Day productive  
conversion

## INITIAL SITUATION

An important part of the S/4HANA conversion is the changeover to the SAP Business Partner, also called Business Partner or BP. In order to simplify an S/4 brownfield project (technical update to S/4HANA) at this point and reduce complexity, this conversion must be carried out in advance in the ECC system.

In order to complete this „preliminary project“ for the upcoming system changeover at an early stage, DEPRAG SCHULZ GMBH u. CO. 2022 decided to introduce the BP. CONSILIO's experts provided support during the conception and technical implementation up to the go-live.

Why already in the „old“ ECC system? Although the SAP Business Partner is not a mandatory requirement until S/4HANA, the conversion must already take place in ECC. Otherwise, a technical upgrade to S/4HANA is not possible. Vendors, customers and contact persons will continue to be created via the familiar transactions in ECC.

The changeover has no impact on an end user, as the business partner is only created and updated in the background. If, for example, the master record of a customer is changed, the business partner is also changed accordingly. This happens technically in the background and does not mean any change to the system externally.

The use of the transaction for creating the Business Partner „BP“ is not mandatory under ECC and is also not recommended.



## CHALLENGE

Because the S/4HANA conversion was planned for the following year, the decision was made at the beginning of 2022 to introduce the Business Partner in collaboration with CONSILIO.

After defining the Business Partner concept (number assignment, role definition, etc.), this was implemented in a sandbox via the necessary customizing settings.

The most important goal was that both the current customer and supplier numbers were reflected in the new business partner number. In order to keep the project duration as short as possible, on the one hand the necessary master data cleansing was carried out on the production system, which is relevant for a BP conversion. Secondly, two development clients were converted in parallel.

The productive conversion then took place within a runtime of a few hours. During this time, only no vendor or customer master records could be created or changed. No other effects on ongoing operations occur during such a conversion.

With a total runtime of three months – from concept creation to go-live – it was once again proven that a business partner implementation can also be implemented within a very short time.

## PROJECT GOALS

- Introduction of the Business Partner to set the course for an S/4HANA implementation
- Fastest possible implementation to tie up as little capacity as possible
- Error-free conversion and smooth system operation after the changeover

## BENEFIT OF THE SOLUTION

After the completed Customer-Vendor-Integration (CVI) DEPRAG benefits from an improved readiness for the following S/4 project.

The term Customer-Vendor-Integration is used synonymously with Business Partner Conversion and describes the permanent update between business partners and classic ERP vendor and customer.

As soon as S/4HANA is introduced, the business partners as well as corresponding vendors and customers are created in the background via the CVI with the new transaction „BP“ – thus vice versa as under ECC.

Basically, supplier and customer master records are kept in the old tables in addition to the new business partner data, but maintained via the central transaction BP for management and standardization.

CONSILIO supported DEPRAG throughout all project steps. Starting with a basic introduction to the topic of Business Partners, through concept development, to the conversion of all systems. Due to the close cooperation of both parties, the conversion was carried out smoothly and without any problems.



CONSILIO implemented the Business Partner within a very short time, so that we had hardly any impact on our internal resources.

Kurt Wagner, Leiter EDV  
DEPRAG SCHULZ GMBH u. CO.



Concept

- Check customizing
- Identify process dependencies
- Define BP number concept
- Analyze interfaces
- Identify Z-Reports & Z-Fields
- Check master data quality



System Readiness

- Import SAP Notes
- Activate business functions
- Carry out customizing
- Activate Customer-Vendor Integration (CVI)
- Run Customizing Check Reports
- Run consistency check



Conversion

- Repetition
- On ECC test system or sandbox – perform mass run
  - Constant repetition and reworking of:
    - Defects
    - Customizing
    - Master data



Go-live & Hypercare-Phase

- Test acceptance
  - Transport of settings
  - Mass run on productive system
  - No-downtime approach
- Go-live ✓
- Before and after comparison
  - Hypercare Phase

SAP Business Partner Conversion



**DEPRAG SCHULZ GMBH u. CO.**

- Industry: Manufacturing
- Business segment: Manufacturer of screwdriving technology, feeding technology, automation, air motors and air tools including worldwide service
- Employees: 760
- Web: [www.deprag.com](http://www.deprag.com)
- Solution: Business Partner Conversion in SAP ERP
- Consulting partner: CONSILIO GmbH



**WHAT DO INTELLIGENT AND ELEGANT SOLUTIONS HAVE IN COMMON? THEY ARE SIMPLE.**

We'll be happy to find out together what that might look like in your case. **What do you want to optimize? >**