UNIT4 BUSINESS SOFTWARE

QL Finance - Purchase Order Processing

Improving the purchase order process.

Purchase Order Processing

The Purchase Order Processing module is fully integrated with all relevant Agresso QL modules and caters for commitment accounting as standard. Various types of purchase orders can be processed including devolved purchase order entry, providing devolved budget holders with the benefit of checking their budget availability so that managers can prevent budget overspending. A full three-way matching facility is provided, with accrual values for goods received but not invoiced automatically calculated at period ends.

The Agresso QL workbench enables users to design and define their view of data entry screens, enquiries and reports, subject to access and authority levels. Utilising the set up grid enables users to pick the fields they would like to display and the order in which they appear. The information displayed in the grid can be easily "dragged and dropped" to a third party desktop product for further analysis. A whole host of standard reports are available in addition to the on screen analysis that can be achieved. Full drill-down to related modules and transactions is available throughout the system. For example, users can track documents, from a purchase order to the associated transaction, on the supplier account in the purchase ledger simply by double clicking the transaction.

Purchase Order Request

Devolved purchase ordering is becoming an increasingly important task for every institution. Allowing departmental users to enter purchase requests or orders online can help to minimise the paper trail. Utilising parameters and the set-up grid, the purchase request screen allows end users to enter as much or as little information as required. Look-ups and 'wild cards' are available throughout the screen to help users select supplier codes, product codes etc. If product codes are used, most of the required information is defaulted - such as tax code, general ledger code, price - leaving the user with just the quantity to enter. If purchase requests are to be used, users cannot generate an order number - this is only generated once the budget spend has been authorised by the budget holder.

Commitment Accounting and Budget Checking

During order entry, if the committed value of the order causes a relevant budget to be exceeded, then either a warning can be given or further input prohibited for that order. If budgets are to be used, the budget to be checked can be a period budget, a year-to-date budget or a complete year budget. The invoice of goods or services causes the relevant committed balance in the General Ledger to be down-dated.

Purchase Order Authorisation Hierarchy

An authorisation hierarchy, defined specifically by the institution, can be set up. This takes into consideration both user and workgroup spend limits. When a budget holder (or finance dept) enters this screen they will be presented with the orders they need to authorise. The user can then use the features of the grid to sort by any of the fields. If the user needs to look at the order in more detail they can do so by clicking on the edit button. The user can then amend, edit or add to the order as required. For example, they might want to change the supplier or quantity ordered - all the data entered by the originator can be amended if necessary.

Alternatively the budget holder may wish to decline the request or authorise it without making any changes. If the order is over the budget holder's spend limit the order can be passed on to be authorised. Once the request has been declined or authorised, an email can be sent to the originator informing them of the outcome.

Purchase order Entry

Direct orders can be entered without the need for a request to be authorised. Direct purchase orders are subject to the same budget checking processes.

Look-ups and wild card search facilities are available throughout the data entry screen to help users select supplier codes, product codes etc. Orders can be entered in foreign currency with the ability to enter up to four references in addition to adding a note to the whole order. Not only can the purchase order contain multiple general ledger codes but each line can contain multiple codes if required.

Agresso QL provides users with a VAT module, which allows any number of VAT codes to be created within it. VAT codes can be defined and defaulted against a supplier, product code and project code. Depending on the parameters these can be over-ridden and users can select a code from a look up.

Copy Order Facility

A copy order facility is available which enables users to copy previous orders to create new orders. These orders can then be amended as required, dramatically reducing the work load where similar orders for suppliers are placed on a regular basis.

Purchase Order Numbers

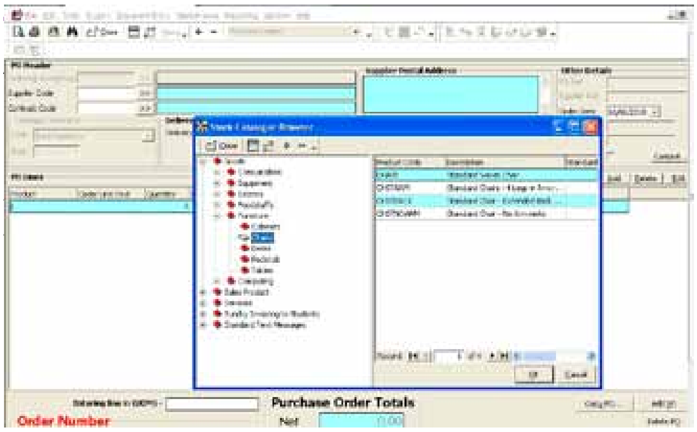
Each workgroup can have a different order number prefix and sequence if required. Numbers can be system generated or entered by the user. Purchase order numbers can be reserved for emergency orders and the order detail entered at a later date.

Printing Purchase Orders

The layout of the purchase order is available to define by the institution. Output can be to any network/local printer, to a file or to a third party desktop tool.

Product Catalogue

Agresso QL maintains a product catalogue that can be printed. This catalogue can be used during purchase order and request entry to ensure that only authorised items are purchased. Products can be placed into categories or various search facilities, including partial name searches, are available. Associated with items in the catalogue can be sole suppliers, preferred suppliers, or an open list to allow any valid supplier. In addition, default text, tax code, purchase price and general ledger codes can be assigned to the product - reducing the amount of data that needs to be entered.



Contract Orders

Agresso QL financials provides a separate enquiry option for contract statistics, giving the user important information with regards to financial and movement statistics in addition to the actual products that are included in the contract. Within the contract maintenance set up, the user can enter the valid dates for the contract and a reference number with the actual contract being attached to the file - giving the user immediate access to any other information that may be required. The products that can be purchased can be added with a default price and nominal code if required. Default workgroups can be set up so that only designated users can purchase items on a contract and would be subject to all security access and authorisation procedures.

Purchase Ordering Batch Control

Each time a user enters a document the batch is given a User ID and date stamped for audit trail purposes. Users can partly enter an order, recall it when needed and continue adding lines or amending before it is posted.

In addition to a purchase order, authorised users can enter the following:

- Purchase order amendment
- Purchase order completion
- Purchase order cancellation
- Receipt from supplier
- Receipt cancellation
- Returns to supplier
- Internal purchase order
- Internal credit
- Internal completion

Goods Receiving / Service Acceptance

Goods can be received and services accepted in this module. If users do not know the order number there is a variety of fields to help them find the correct order to be received. Users can enter a goods received note without any corresponding purchase order. There is great flexibility in this process, so that the numerous exceptions that occur can be handled quickly and easily. Services (and goods) can be received by value rather than by quantity. A mixture of both can be used on any one goods receipt. As with all the screens within the system users can choose to display all or a selection of the fields available to them.

Document Tracking

Within the purchase order enquiry screen a full audit trail of transactions relating to the purchase order is formed. If users require more information regarding a transaction they can simply double click the transaction line which takes them to the document tracking screen. Users can then enquire about the entries made in the related modules. For example, users can track documents to the general ledger, and see the commitment, and to the suppliers account for further analysis.

If a part invoice has been entered the system will automatically 'down-date' that part of the commitment and leave the remaining outstanding.

In addition, if the system is used in conjunction with a third party document imaging package users can view the scanned documents from within this screen

Enquiries and Reports

In addition to standard reports, both core and devolved users can benefit from the functionality of the enquiry workbench. The Agresso QL workbench enables users to design and define their view of enquiries and reports, subject to their access and authority levels.

Utilising the set-up grid enables users to pick the fields they would like to display. Further analysis can be carried out using the features of the grid. All of the information displayed can be sorted and grouped by any field displayed. Tailoring the data entry screens institutionally or individually can help both the data entry and enquiry process. Once the content has been chosen, users can sort by and group by particular fields. These views can then be emailed to other users or saved to their desktop, saving time and effort defining the view again.

Utilising a series of tabs, users can enquire about the following relating to an order:

- Quantities received, invoiced, returned etc
- General ledger analysis
- Outstanding commitment
- Order line text

Analysis

Purchase order enquiries detail all information relating to an order, including:

- purchase by product type,
- purchase by supplier by product type,
- value of purchases by supplier by product type,
- purchase by product type by customer,
- orders by received/invoiced status,
- purchase orders by workgroup.

Searches can also be made by item, by text, by goods received, invoice, credit note etc. In summary, all information relating to a supplier and all movements relating to that supplier can be accessed from one point of enquiry in the system.

Reports

Every time a user produces a standard report from the system they are presented with two templates. The first template is the data selection template, which allows users to specify the data to be included. The second template is the output selection template. Users can decide whether to display the results in the grid, and therefore benefit from the features of the grid,
on the screen in the report viewer, to spool the results, or to actually print the results

Contact Us

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About UNIT4

UNIT4 is a global business software company that creates, delivers and supports adaptable software and services worldwide, to help dynamic organisations manage their business needs effectively. We strive to set the global standard for business solutions that help dynamic organisations to embrace change – simply, quickly and cost effectively.

We have a broad portfolio of solutions that address different markets, requirements, technologies and types of organisation; the UNIT4 group incorporates a number of the world's leading change-embracing software brands, including the Agresso Business World ERP suite and CODA financial management software. UNIT4 has offices in 13 European countries and 6 countries across North America, Asia Pacific and Africa (as well as sales activities in several other countries) for easy, local access to service and support.

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