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Reporting for SAP[®] Asset Accounting

- ▶ Basic Asset Accounting Reporting Features
- ▶ Balance Reports
- ▶ Transaction Reports
- ▶ Asset History Sheet
- ▶ Specialty Reports
- ▶ US Tax Reporting

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1 Basic Asset Accounting Reporting Features

As a preparatory step to learning about the most commonly used asset accounting reports in the chapters that follow, let me explain in detail in this chapter some of the basic reporting features for fixed assets. Understanding and making good use of these features is the basis for understanding and efficiently using any reporting solution.

1.1 Logical Database ADA

Before we get into the details of Asset Accounting reporting let me get a little technical for a moment and talk about a feature in SAP products called *Logical Databases*. A Logical database (LogDB) is a group of complex ABAP programs designed to perform efficient data retrieval from various database tables. In simpler terms, the LogDB reads all asset information, including master data, values and transactions and it does so in a very efficient manner.

In the years working as a consultant I have met many people, mostly from technical teams, that consider Logical Databases the root of all evil. Nothing, however, could be further from the truth since the Logical Database plays a critical part in asset reports. In fact, most, if not all, standard Asset Accounting reports use the logical database ADA (which is the asset-specific LogDB) for data selection, amount calculations and reporting output.

Most modules in SAP products have their own LogDB; for example, the logical database for the Investment Management module is IMA or for the Project System module it is PSJ.

1.1.1 The Importance of the LogDB in Asset Accounting

For the purpose of using the Asset Accounting reports LogDB is the tool of choice for all standard asset reports. Why? Because it is the means for asset information selection and, most importantly, it calculates all asset values (i.e. net book value at the beginning of the fiscal year, total annual depreciation amount, etc.) for you automatically.

1.1.2 Other Uses of the LogDB

You might be surprised to learn that the most commonly used asset values, such as the acquisition cost or the net book value, are not stored in the asset database tables but are calculated at run-time. The LogDB is responsible for all of these calculations.

Should you ever consider creating a custom ABAP report or an ABAP Query, make sure to use the LogDB as the basis for all selections and amount calculations. This way you ensure that the amounts calculated in your custom report match the corresponding amounts in the standard SAP reports because you are using the same formulas stored in the LogDB.

1.1.3 Accessing the LogDB

If you want to learn more about the logical database for fixed assets, do the following:

1. Go to transaction SE36 and enter “ADA”.
2. Click DISPLAY to see the structure of the LogDB.

Figure 1.1 shows you what tables are included in the LogDB and their relationship to each other.

Display Logical Database ADA

Source code Selections Sel.Texts Documentation

Management Structure Search help Currency/quantity fields

Node name	Table / Type	Node type	Short text
ANLA0	ANLA0	Table	Intro. Table Logical Database ADA
ANLAV	ANLAV	Table	Asset Reporting: ANLA Fields Plus Cost Center...
ANLAV_ADDR	ANLAV_ADDR	Table	Address Data for Asset on the Report Date
ANLT	ANLT	Table	Asset Texts
ANLV	ANLV	Table	Insurance Data
ANLZ	ANLZ	Table	Time-Dependent Asset Allocations
ANLB	ANLB	Table	Depreciation Terms
ANLCV	ANLCV	Table	Asset Reporting: ANLC Fields, Extended
ANLK	ANLK	Table	Asset Origin by Cost Element
ANLP	ANLP	Table	Asset Periodic Values
ANEK	ANEK	Table	Document Header Asset Posting
ANEPV	ANEPV	Table	Asset Line Items (ANEP + ANEA + ANEK)

Figure 1.1: Logical database ADA structure

More info about LogDB



You can find more information about LogDB on SAP's help website at <http://help.sap.com> • mySAP ERP • SAP ERP Central Component • English or by following this link: http://help.sap.com/saphelp_erp2005vp/helpdata/en/4f/71e1d0448011d189f00000e81ddf/frameset.htm.

1.2 The Basic Selection Screen

As I explained in section 1.1 the logical database is used in just about all asset reports. In addition to master data selection and amount calculations, the LogDB also provides the basic selection criteria screens for all reports.

The selection screens used for the various standard Fixed Asset reports are very similar—many of them are actually identical. In fact, the logical database ADA for Asset Accounting includes just a handful of variations of the basic selection screen.

Every report starts with a basic selection screen to allow users to limit reports to certain selection criteria, such as assets, asset classes, date ranges, etc. In this section I will explain the basic selection screen and its features.

Selection Screen Features



In Chapters 2 and 3, I'll go through the details for each asset report and will point out any specific selection screen features that are different from the basic screen.

1.2.1 Short (Abbreviated) and Full Version of the Basic Selection Screen

It is important to know that each selection screen has two versions:

- ▶ A full version
- ▶ A short (abbreviated) version

Figure 1.2 shows the basic selection screen in its short version. This version includes a limited range of selection fields. For example, in this case only the ASSET CLASS field is available as a selection criterion in the SELECTIONS box.

Asset Balances

Company code 0005 to

Selections

Asset class to

Settings

Report date 12/31/2007

Depreciation area 01 Book deprec.

Sort version 0001 Co. code/bus. area/bal. item/B/S acc

List assets

... or main numbers only

... or group totals only

Display options

Display variant

Use ALV grid

Further selections

Accumulated depreciation to

Book value to

Figure 1.2: Basic Report Selection Screen—short version

You can switch easily from a short selection screen to its full version by clicking on the button labeled ALL SELECTIONS.

Figure 1.3 shows the basic selection screen for most Asset Accounting reports in its full version which includes all basic selection fields. Notice that the SELECTIONS

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